

Malvern Hills Branch Newsletter

July 2017



Welcome to the July edition of the branch newsletter

Dates for the Diary for 2017

Tuesday 13th June

Our regular 8pm evening social meeting at the Huntsman PH, Green Street near Kempsey.

Sunday 9th July

Branch day out at the vintage car and vehicle day being held at the Radway Bridge garden centre, Whitestone, Hereford. (see www.radwaybridgegardencentre.com for location details or you can ring them on 01432 850009.)

Tuesday 11th July

Our Summer BBQ, 8pm at the Huntsman PH, Green Street near Kempsey. Bring something to cook.

Tuesday 8th August

Our regular 8pm evening social meeting at the Huntsman PH, Green Street near Kempsey.

Sunday 20th August

We are planning to go to the Tewkesbury Car Show.

Tuesday 12th September

Our regular 8pm evening social meeting at the Huntsman PH, Green Street near Kempsey.

As I write this the longest day has passed, and the temperature has dropped somewhat, yes the country side need some rain to freshen things up but I hoped not to be wearing thick jerseys until later on in September not in June and July. A bit of news from the National Rally, it looks like the Areas liaison have been restarted so look out for some regional events to go to in the future. It looks like every weekend now there is something to go to. The first of these is the Branch Day out to the Radway Bridge garden centre, Whitestone, Hereford. (see www.radwaybridgegardencentre.com for location details or you can ring them on 01432 850009.) Can any member planning to come please advise Chris or myself as Chris is planning to go early and reserve places for us. Please can you aim to be on site by 10.00 am. There is no entry charge. Its next weekend and before our branch meeting which will be a BBQ. More info in Dave's report. Sorry I missed the last branch meeting we were off on holiday to Northumbria, doing some walking, site seeing and bird watching. The

highlights being coastal walking around Lindisfarne and a boat trip to the Farne islands. It was great travelling along quiet roads for a change, but the drive back through Newcastle was a bit of a culture shop with the heavy traffic.

Treasurer's trivia

Hello everyone,

I am starting to write this having just done a round trip of 600 miles to Penzance on the train from Great Malvern. I never tire of crossing Brunel's magnificent Royal Albert bridge into Cornwall; what an incredible engineer he was. I did see one Morris Minor in Penzance; a late Trafalgar blue saloon near the station that was generally quite good but unfortunately some of the paintwork had faded. **Shropshire rally**- Clive and myself attended the Shropshire branch rally at the Cosford air museum on June 4th along with others from our branch. I met up with Clive at his home and we went in his Series 2. It seemed strange initially being a passenger in a Morris Minor as I am, of course, always driving mine. After Shifnal we did lose our bearings a bit but were soon back on track and arrived just after 9.30. The rally was held in between two of the exhibition hangers and attracted a large number of cars. We were parked next to an exceptional Series MM on our right. If you have not been to Cosford I can thoroughly recommend it even if your interest is only marginal in aircraft. Of particular note, I felt, was the Cold War exhibition. I think what is so overwhelming with many of the aircraft is the sheer size of them particularly the wing span. The cockpits seemed very cramped to me on many aircraft, obviously not designed by Issigonis! The weather turned chilly at times with a cool wind and intermittent rain but it was still a very enjoyable event. Indeed we had rain at times coming home but, unlike my MM, Clive has two windscreen wipers on his splitscreen which does help. We both enjoyed our day out and well done to Shropshire branch.



Convertible wanted- One of the open class entrants to our branch rally has been in contact with me. He is looking out for a convertible if anyone knows of one possibly for sale. He is less concerned, to a certain extent, about the mechanics as he has a brand new engine available he could fit. I think he would like the bodywork to be reasonably good. If you can help contact me and I will give you his details.

Membership- Most members have now renewed. I have endeavoured to contact those who have not. If you have not renewed now I am afraid your membership will lapse after this month.

Flexible brake hoses- Over the years of Morris Minor ownership I have read a number of times how a hose can collapse internally. It has never happened to me before but it has now. I had initially binding rear brakes on the Series MM and thought it was a wheel cylinder problem. After that proved fruitless I thought the master cylinder was in trouble as I seemed to be not getting any brake through when bleeding. It was only after proving there was no brake fluid flow problem on the front brakes that it started to dawn on me what had happened. After fitting a new rear hose I immediately solved the problem. The hose externally looked perfect so it goes to show that even if there is no sign of cracking on the outside things can be very different internally. I cut the old hose in half and it was immediately apparent what had happened. So be warned; if you are in the slightest doubt on the condition of your hoses get them renewed without delay.

Greenfingers charity- Members will know we donated to the charity from funds raised at our branch rally. I was delighted to receive a lovely letter of appreciation from the charity confirming how the money will be spent and further information on the work they do. I will bring it to our next meeting for members to see.

July branch meeting- Weather permitting, this will be our annual barbecue which will be held on the lawned area outside the Huntsman at 8.00pm. Jonathan and Mary are bringing their barbecue along so just bring your food.

Branch day out July 9th – As most of you know we are visiting the vintage car and vehicle day being held at the Radway Bridge garden centre, Whitestone, Hereford.(see www.radwaybridgegardencentre.com for location details or you can ring them on 01432 850009.) Can any member planning to come please advise Chris or myself as Chris is planning to go early and reserve places for us. Please can you aim to be on site by 10.00am. There is no entry charge. It had originally been envisaged to visit this show as part of having a picnic out and visiting another attraction. At the time of writing this has not been possible to arrange in order to fit in with the requirements of the vintage show. Bear in mind also that they would like us to remain on site until 4.00pm. Like most members, I believe, I have not been to this show before so it will be a bit of an unknown quantity but we have received good reports from previous years.

See you all next month

Dave

Look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting.

Dave

Other info

Newbury Dolphin Motor Club will organise a Charitable Classic Tour on Sunday, 24th September 2017 in aid of the British Heart Foundation, see flyer for more info.

Remember to bring something to eat and cook for the July branch meeting.

All the Best and Happy Motoring.

Use Full contacts

Chairman Chris Perfect

Treasurer Dave Smith

Secretary Bob Prophet

Branch Contact Dave Bennett 07816 134009

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