



Malvern Hills Branch Newsletter

March 2020



Welcome to the Malvern Hills Branch March newsletter.

Dates for the Diary for 2020

Saturday 8th February

Meeting at Rowberries Chaddesley Corbett about 12ish

Thursday 12th March

Evening meeting at the Huntsman at 8pm with a talk by Mr. Max Hunt who is going to give us a talk on Herbert Austin and the Longbridge Works.

Thursday 9th April

Evening meeting at the Huntsman at 8pm with a talk by the Air Ambulance.

Thursday 14th May

Evening meeting at the Huntsman at 8ish

Sunday 17th May

Our Branch Rally at Burford House near Tenbury Wells

With the extensive floods effecting parts of Worcestershire at the moment I hope that everyone is safe from the effects of the flooding. Locally for me there have been major problems in Iron Bridge, Bewdley and Worcester Though these places have attracted the headlines, as the ground is saturated now, local flooding can effect almost anywhere. So take care when driving around the country lanes as in places the roads are partly under water and are now generally in a poor state of repair with some very deep pot holes about.



At the moment this
Could well be the
Ideal mode for many
People in Shropshire,
Worcestershire and
Gloustershire.

We have arranged the venue for our branch rally, its Burford House again. Details and rally entry forms are on the Malvern Hills Branch web site.

Dave

Treasurer's trivia

Hello everyone,

If ever a branch struck lucky with the weather then it was us at our February meeting. Although on the chilly side, Saturday was dry and bright and perfect for our meeting at Rowberry's. In less than 24hrs we were hit with a ferocious storm that, had it come earlier, would have likely led to the cancellation of our meet up.

As it was a large contingent of Minors descended on Rowberry's and what a splendid display they made. There were saloons, Travellers and convertibles to peruse. Also joining us were our friends from Birmingham branch who had come in their Minors. One particular car that I was keen to see was that of new member Edward Redmond from Bromsgrove. It is a 1961 948 which he purchased last October. I know he is very pleased with the car and having seen it I can well appreciate why this is the case. Edward was telling me he had been considering purchasing a Bedford truck before the Minor; I would say he definitely made the right choice! Although fairly busy in the restaurant it was no problem for members to locate seating. This was despite the fact I worked out we had at least 25 Minor owners on site. One person who was missing was Richard Crane; Richard had rung me the night before to say, although originally hoping to come, he was now working on the Saturday. Not the same without Nicky and yourself Rich but see you next month. Members enjoyed a variety of meals from the menu. I was quite busy; besides the rebate form I dealt with regalia sales, rally entries, new membership requests and standing orders. All part of being treasurer! It was a great get together and afterwards some members visited the garden center including myself where one of the best displays of seed potatoes I have seen were on display.



Some of the Minors at Rowberry's. Photo courtesy of Bob Hancock

Auction- An interesting sale is coming up on March 7th that some members might like to attend. H. J. Pugh of Ledbury have a sale at Evesham of a private collection of cars, tractors, motorbikes and spares. It is a real trip down memory lane with what is on offer. Remember the Bedford HA Beagle camper? How about a Standard 10 estate? The vehicles have been

stored outside or covered. Condition varies greatly. There are 2 cars that have caught my eye. One is a 1950 lowlight which apparently still has its original engine; from the limited amount you can ascertain from the picture it looks quite good. The one that really appealed to me from the picture and information provided was a 1956 4 door Series 2 the same as Bob's. There are invoices and history with it; it still has the 803cc engine and apparently drives well. Something to keep in mind from the auctioneer's details on the sale is that it sounds like it could be tricky to park if wet as a 4x4 is recommended. If you are internet connected the website is www.hjpugh.co.uk.

Malvern Car Show April 5th- This show has been very unlucky in recent times with very wet weather prevailing on a number of occasions. Clive and myself have decided though to give it a go again this spring and keep our fingers crossed for the sunshine. It is not a long day; we normally meet up in Hanley Swan about 10.00am before heading to the Three Counties Showground with the show concluding by 3.00pm. If sufficient members were interested I could book a club stand for us for which the branch would cover the cost. Please let me know if you are interested as I intend making bookings very shortly.

Rally- Plans are moving on apace. Entries are coming in and I have collected the mementos. The memento this year is a particularly attractive milk/cream jug with either a saloon or Traveller featured so don't delay getting your entry in to be sure of receiving one! I will have entry forms with me at the next meeting or you can download one. Alternatively, if you are stuck I am happy to send you one. Although we are still some time off, May will quickly creep up on us. Please can you keep in mind the need for some tombola and raffle prizes over the coming months. You may be interested to know that the branch will be supporting the Greenfingers charity that works on the construction of gardens for children's hospices from the rally proceeds.

Membership- As you will know membership renewal is due on March 1st. Please let me have your subscriptions as soon as possible. In order to assist members I intend being at our next meeting early on March 12th to allow extra time for members to renew membership and book for our rally. Remember we have our talk so I will be on site at the Huntsman not long after 7.00pm and by 7-15 at the latest. A reminder of rates; 5.00 pounds for an emailed newsletter and 10.00 pounds for a posted one. Rally entry is 6.00 pounds. Try to have the exact money if possible or I can accept a cheque payable to MMOC Malvern Hills Branch. I will accept membership payments for this year up to our May meeting after which I will issue the new membership lists to Bob and Dave and anyone who has not paid by then will, I am afraid, drop off.

Next meeting March 12th- Back to our evening meetings and as touched on above this will be our talk on Herbert Austin by Max Hunt. One slight error I made in my last trivia which I need to correct is that I stated the talk would include the Longbridge works. Although I am sure it will be touched on, the talk will be I understand, very much on the life of Herbert Austin himself. Please do come and support what should be an excellent evening. The talk starts at 8.00pm in the skittle alley at the Huntsman.

Events coming up- As I mentioned last month we are having a talk from the West Midlands Air Ambulance at our April meeting. This will include slides and will provide a real insight into the work of this life saving service. May will, of course, be our main event of the year, our branch rally on the 17th May. In June we are planning either of the following to be confirmed. Bob has put together a day out for the branch or we may do one of my evening run outs with an itinerary as we will be into the long evenings then. I will let you know in due course. As always, do not be afraid to make suggestions for places that the branch can visit.

Finally, I had a problem on the MM recently that members with early cars may wish to keep in mind if they have a similar issue. The needle valve in the float chamber was failing to shut off at times or sticking shut at other times resulting in fuel starvation. It is easy to think that it is the needle valve itself. However, on examination I found quite a bit of contamination on the copper float resulting in it not operating freely on the central spindle. A very thorough clean of the float has resulted in no further problem.

See you all at the next meeting.

Dave

For Sale

Good morning. I was once a proud owner of a 1959 Minor. Sadly, it gave up on me several years ago.

I still have two spare wheels, two workshop manuals and a user handbook. Is anyone in your Club interested?

Regards,

John Haywood

Anyone interested, contact me (Dave Bennett) and I will get in contact with John.

Dates for your Diary 2020

Note that all Branch events (in bold) take place at The Huntsman except where otherwise indicated. The committee is trying to arrange Speakers on Branch evenings: these will be notified as and when they become firm.

- Sat 7th Mar: H J Pugh of Ledbury have a sale at Evesham.
- Sun 8th Mar: Auto jumble, Three Counties Showground from 9.00 am-2.00 pm and costs £7 to enter.
- **Thurs 12th Mar: Branch Meeting at the Huntsman: Max Hunt speaks on Herbert Austin**
- **Thurs 9th Apr: Branch Meeting at the Huntsman**
- Sat 11 - Mon 13 Apr: Easter Vintage Gathering/Model & Collectors Show, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, B60 4AL, (Limited space). See www.shakespearesrally.com
- Sun 12th Apr: Easter Sunday
- Sun 26 Apr: Drive it Day: get your Morris Minor out and drive it – **anywhere!**
- **Thurs 14th May: Noggin 'n Natter**
- **Sunday 17th May Malvern Hills Branch Rally at Burford House**
- 2 Jun: Classic Cars at The Mount Pleasant Public House, Wombourne WV5 8BH.
- **Thurs 11th Jun: Branch Meeting at the Huntsman**
- 16 Jun: Classic Cars at The Mount Pleasant Public House, Wombourne WV5 8BH.
- **Thurs 9th Jul: Branch Meeting at the Huntsman**
- 21 July: Classic Cars at The Mount Pleasant Public House, Wombourne WV5 8BH.
- **Thurs 13th Aug: Branch Meeting at the Huntsman**
- 18 Aug: Classic Cars at The Mount Pleasant Public House, Wombourne WV5 8BH.

- 8 Sept: Classic Cars at The Mount Pleasant Public House, Wombourne WV5 8BH.
- **Thurs 10th Sep: Branch Meeting at the Huntsman**
- 19/20 Sept: Stoke Prior Steam Rally, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, B60 4LF. See www.shakespearesrally.com
- 22 Sept: Classic Cars at The Mount Pleasant Public House, Wombourne WV5 8BH.
- **Thurs 8th Oct: AGM at the Huntsman**
- **Sat 14 Nov: Noggin 'n Natter (tbc)**
- **Dec: Christmas Meal (tbc)**

Happy Motoring

Useful contacts

Chairman **Lester Stenson**

Treasurer **Dave Smith**

Secretary **Bob Prophet**

Branch Contact **Dave Bennett 07816 134009**

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