

Newsletter



Member of the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs

The last two months have seen two very sad events. The end of March saw the death of one of our longest serving members, John Dodman and in April was the funeral of Bill Little. Both will be sorely missed. As I have found out recently the best way forward is to remember the good times we have had with them in the past.



John Dodman in earnest conversation with Rob Bevan



What's Coming Up

Key:

- ⇒ Club event
- ◇ Club attendance as a group at a motoring or other event
- Everything else of interest. These items are shown for information only.

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Future Events
Reports

A Big Welcome to New Members
Alan & Abby Lees-Smith



Abby & Allan in their newly refurbished big Healey—formally the “Bunny Mobile”

MAY			
⇒	11 Lunch Run to Crofton Beam Engine	Ralph Morgan	ralphim2000@btinternet.com
◇	20 Abingdon Air & country Show	Malcolm Cutler	01285712173
•	29 Old Spotted Cow Classic Car Show		
JUNE			
◇	10 Watermoor Care Home Fete	Malcolm Cutler	01285712173
•	10 Southrop Fete		
⇒	15 June Lunch Run	Malcolm Cutler	01285712173
JULY			
◇	1 Bibury Hub Club Event website &	Malcolm Cutler	01285712173
⇒	15 Donninton Brewery Lunch Run	Steve Harding	01666 860119
⇒	18 Committee Meeting	Geoff. Tebby	01453 883821
⇒	27 Croquet & Cream Tea	John Airey	01793 873026
◇	29 Hunters Care Home Fete	Malcolm Cutler	01285712173
AUGUST			
◇	4/5/6 South Cerney Steam Show	Ken Hinton	01285 712522
◇	5 Longfield Hospice Fete	Rob Ambler	
◇	13 Swindon & Cricklade Railway	Rob Ambler	
⇒	16 Aunt Sally Event	Dave Chambers	01608658603
◇	19/20 Fairford Steam Fair	Malcolm Cutler	01285712173
◇	28 Pershore Plum Fair	Keith Handley	01285 658450

March Lunch Run

The March run took us through familiar countryside from Lechlade Garden Centre across Fairford airfield, through Latton to Ashton Keynes where the detour through a housing estate, due to a road closure, did throw us off track a little. After referring to the O.S.maps we were soon back on track to Hook and Lydiard Millicent to the Hongxin Oriental Buffet on the outskirts of Swindon.

An excellent and different meal especially for those who chose the soup which was truly “dragon’s breath”

Very good value for money and it was disappointing that we had so few members taking part. We are thinking of perhaps re-running this one later in the year. Many thanks to Dave Fletcher for organising another one with a difference.



Photos from our Chinese restaurant jaunt

St. George’s Day Run

A very different run from the previous one.

Starting at Timothy’s café in the Moreton in Marsh garden centre after the usual coffee , and in some cases large breakfasts, we set off in slightly cloudy weather for a trip through the highways and byways of north Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire.

After some striking views, classic north Cotswold villages and one or two very stately homes we arrived at the Merrymouth Inn in Fifield, although one or two did manage their own alternative diversions. Never- the -less a very enjoyable run.

Most of us had not visited the Merrymouth inn for a number of years and I must say we were impressed with the dining room and warm welcome that we received.

The problems only began when the meals started to arrive. The food was excellent but the system of distribution worked on an algorithm that was difficult to detect. Eventually after a quite protracted lunch time, during which we had plenty of time to chat, we all agreed we had had a very enjoyable day.

Many thanks to Ken and Jackie Hinton for organising this event and sympathies to Ken for the stress the kitchen at the Merrymouth caused him



A few hints on navigation



Nuff Sed



In the spirit of the day



The Merrymouth Restaurant



Time to catch up on the gossip



Morganattics

Bill Little

Bill, with his wife Lynn, were members of FCCC for many years but last year Bill was tragically diagnosed with Motor Neurone disease and sadly died in March. Bill was a long term 'biker' and lived for many years near Minety where he ran his classic bike 'emporium'.

He was a stalwart of the Vintage Motor Cycle Club, instigating the South Glos Branch where he was Chairman for many years. For a number of years he and Lynn organised an annual weekend meet and autojumble at his premises, with music and classic cars - many from the FCCC.

Bill used to come to our runs on a variety of bikes - I well remember the 6 cylinder Benelli he turned up on when we once visited Bob Houghton's Ferrari garage in North Leach!

Bill's funeral took place at Swindon crematorium on the 30th March, arriving in style in a motorcycle combination hearse, followed by many of his friends riding classic bikes.



FCCC Skittles Evening - The Fairford Plough - 30th March

Up until the Covid pandemic the club regularly organised an annual skittles match at the Fairford Plough pub. Sadly Mike Cox, who was the long time organiser of the event and who made the 'Bowling Ball' Trophy, is no longer with us, so this years event was very definitely in his memory. Mike was very proud of attracting a major sponsor for past events, but I very much doubt that Barclay's Bank ever realised they did so by contributing the handful of little blue pens that Mike had 'borrowed' from his local branch over the years!! Sadly we did not have a sponsor this year but this did not stop 26 FCCC members and their wives showing their expertise (or lack of!) by being able to knock down as few skittles as possible! But, hey, who cares when everyone had fun, chatting away, downing Arkell's finest ales and eventually devouring the generous helping of fish & chips purchased from the Fairford Chippy. Congratulations go to Rose Haynes for winning the event after a play off with Steve Harding and having the trophy presented by the previous winner, Geoff Tebby. Also thanks to Harry for doing the dangerous job of 'putter upper', everyone who brought 'puds' and for Jackie Hinton and Jill Cutler for their scoring and organisation.



Salt & vinegar anyone ?

Congratulations to Rose

Refreshment time