

Newsletter



Member of the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs

Well the season is off to a good start.

The “Carriages to Concorde” illustrated lecture, the trip to Castle Combe to visit the Chippenham College Motorsport group, a visit to Ridgeway Racing engines, the March Lunch Run and some of you went to the Motor Hub’s Easter Open Day.

Not bad for starters !



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.

If you have a question, call Bunny Lees-Smith, Event Coordinator, 01666 577 275

IN THIS ISSUE

- ◆ Future Events
- ◆ Reports

A BIG WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS
Nicholas & Margaret Howgego

April		
⇒	8 AGM & Founders Day Lunch Run	contacts Geoff. 01453 883 821 & Barry 01285 851 821
•	14 - 15 Prescott Bike Festival	website
•	15 Cirencester Car Club Corinium Run	contact Geoff. 01453 883 821
•	22 Drive it Day & “Sunday Scramble at Bicester”	see page 2 Feb. N/letter
⇒	23 St. George’s Day Run	contact Ken 01285 712 522
⇒	25 FCCC Skittles Evening	Postponed
•	29 Wheelnuts at St. Rose’s Stroud	website
⇒	30 FCCC Committee Meeting	contact Geoff. 01453 883 821
May		
•	5 Cirencester CC Corinium Stage Rally	Cirencester Car Club
◇	6 FCCC visit to Motor Hub Coffee & Classics	
		contact Malcolm 01285 712 173
⇒	16 FCCC Lunch Run	contact Barry 01285 851 821
•	19-20 Beaulieu Spring Autojumble	website
•	19-20 Thruxton British Touring Car Races	website
June		
•	9 - 10 Pied Piper Summer Show	website
◇	10 Churchill Car Show	contact David Chambers 01608 658 603
◇	17 GWSR Classic Transport day Toddington	contact Geoff. 01453 883821
⇒	18 - 24 FCCC Away Week	contact Martin Howard 01865 300 406
⇒	20 FCCC Lunch Run	contact Barry 01285 851 821



Visit to Chippenham College Motorsport, Castle Combe – 16th March '18

Over the past few years a number of Technical Colleges and Universities have introduced courses to encourage and train younger people to enter into the motorsport industry. One of these is Chippenham College and FCCC members (18 members attended) were fortunate to be invited by their director, Haydn Earle, to visit their purpose built premises at Castle Combe. This consists of a £1.25 million facility offering students the chance to work in an industry standard environment and on cars that compete on a regular basis.

The aim is to provide high quality, relevant training so as to give students the 'competitive edge' in the job market and to equip them with a range of transferable skills which will enable them to gain employment in many sectors of Engineering. It also provides them with the skill to work effectively for an employer and to experience the latest in technologies.

The Castle Combe facility has full computer design and modelling facilities, including a range of 3D printers and machine tools (including CNC lathes). In the 'garage' we were shown their competition vehicles which presently range from three Ducati motorbikes (for track day use), a kit car being built by the students and the last MG rally car (ZR) to come out of the old MG competitions department, through to a works run Honda Jazz (with a Civic R engine!), two Formula Ford single seaters being prepared for this season's racing and a (very) prototype electric single seater. The 'Lotus 7' type kit car enables students to not only build a car but also presents them with the challenge of having to design, build and fit components e.g. the Ford engine will only fit in the chassis with a modified sump, so the students have to design one and manufacture it. The Formula Ford cars are 'state of the art', run by paying drivers and therefore enable students to work at a high level of competitive motorsport – one of the cars is tipped to win a championship this year. The Castle Combe facility is also open every race weekend and for track days/testing and provides competitors with the facilities to tune and repair their cars, as well as helping them to meet the big Castle Combe problem of meeting the noise regulations!

Most FCCC members then adjourned to the nearby Bell pub for lunch and all agreed that this had been an incredibly informative and interesting visit. Hadyn has invited any FCCC member who is at Castle Combe on a race day to call in and look at their facilities, which can be found by the footbridge, next to the Scrutineering bay. Many thanks to Bunny for organising the visit, but commiserations to him for having to miss it due to a heavy cold.

Malcolm Cutler

Plenty to see and lots of technical details
Dave at least really enjoyed the experience.

Photos Keith



Brian Cole

It is with great sadness that we recently learnt of Brian Cole's death, after a prolonged illness. Brian was a long term member of FCCC, regularly appearing on runs and at shows in his rare, green, Jowett Jupiter, often with his son Richard. Sadly, serious back problems began to restrict his use of and doing work on, the car which he had largely rebuilt himself. I well remember the time, not so many years ago, when he had engine problems but quickly stripped it out to replace one of the pistons. It was therefore a very hard decision for him to make when he had to sell the car, but he was pleased and relieved, when it was bought by Bjorn Richardson in Poulton (FCCC member) and it is still to be seen on FCCC runs.

Prior to moving down to Hampshire to live with his son Brian spent some time in Ashley House in Cirencester where Jill and I were able to visit him. He still kept up to date with the club through the Newsletters and FC3, and was always interested in any news of the Jupiter including passing on old photographs.

Our condolences go to all his family and his name and spirit will live on through the 'Cole Jupiter'.

Malcolm Cutler



Brian and his beloved OLK 685
-always drew plenty of interest
And above - the Jupiter lives on
in the club with its new owner

