

# Newsletter



Member of the Federation of  
British Historic Vehicle Clubs

One of our members, Jeff Harrison, trying out a Triumph for size on the recent visit to their Hinkley factory. I understand he has put it on his Christmas present list. Well there's no harm in hoping. It's getting near the time for us all to drop hints to our nearest and dearest.



## 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

October	
◇ 6 Castle Combe Classic Race Day	now fully booked
• 7 Bicester Sunday Scramble	website
⇒ 17 FCCC Lunch Run	contact Barry 01285 851 821
⇒ 18 FCCC Visit to Concorde Museum	contact Bunny 01666 577 275
⇒ 29 FCCC Committee Meeting	contact Geoff. 01453 883821
November	
⇒ 21 FCCC Lunch Run	contact Barry 01285 851 821
December	
⇒ 14 FCCC Christmas Lunch	details much nearer the date

### IN THIS ISSUE

- ◆ Future Events
- ◆ Reports

Found on the website of Ian Cross - Auto electrician.

Good to see the combination of old and new technology. The laptop but the old faithful wooden bonnet prop.

Can you guess who's car it is ?



### John Shearer

We were recently told of the death of John Shearer by his friend and co-driver, Babs James. As Babs has written below, John had not been able to come to many recent club events due to his poor health. One of my lasting memories of John was of him following Jill and I back from one FCCC event in his Alvis (I can't clearly remember which) but they had closed the A417 from Cirencester through to Fairford and Lechlade, where John lived, and we had to take two diversions around the closure which meant a couple of 'U' turns on narrow roads, not the easiest in thing to do in the Alvis. This was followed by a cheery wave from a relieved John as we turned off into our road in Fairford and he carried on to Lechlade.

Malcolm



"It is with sadness that I have to inform you of the recent death of John Shearer. He had been a member of the Fairford Classic Car Club for some years but due to his failing health he hadn't been able to take part in many functions recently. He had a great interest in his vehicle collection; 1949 Triumph motorbike, 1979 MGB GT convertible, and his 1931 Alvis. I did attend some functions with him and was struck by the club camaraderie. He was a Reverend, semi-retired (Holy Trinity Church, Nuffield, Oxon), with many hobbies and friends. I know he did miss attending club functions, however his illness left him very frail.

Babs James"

### Fairford Classic Car Club at Sudeley Castle

"The orchard setting for Sudeley Castle's annual Classic Car event makes it one of the most attractive venues, together with the £5 fee giving you entrance to the house and exhibition. In the past the sun has also shone but sadly this year we were still feeling the effects of the storms from across the Atlantic, so the weather was mixed, but as the photos show, this did not stop 14 FCCC members enjoying themselves! Overall attendance to this years event was down on previous years, with almost half the numbers of cars present being accounted for by the Mazda MX5 and Chrysler Crossfire clubs - maybe the fact that entrants had to be there by 9.30 contributed to this, although the gates were eventually kept open until 10.00 for the Cotswold Club to arrive - but they never turned up! Of the other cars present the one's that caught my eye were the beautifully restored A40 Sport (and ex rally car would you believe) and an MGTF with an MGA Twin Cam engine, complete with Webers, squeezed under the bonnet.

The FCCC display was as eclectic as ever and the cars created a lot of interest and comments. Lunch was taken in style but also necessitated a dive under the nearby tree when the rain came down, and we are also now world authorities on Katherine Parr, the last of Henry VIII's wives!

Will we return next year (the Crossfire club said they doubted they would return)? That is a good question, but it was generally felt that Sudeley has to 'up its game' and improve the organisation of the event, be more flexible on entry/exit timings and be clearer on its pre-event information - not a concern for many entrants but in the past dogs have been allowed in the event area, but this year we were told we could not take them. On the day there were plenty of dogs around and we were informed that they were allowed in the event area - which cost us and Dave and Carol Chambers, addition hassle and cost (there now, we have got it off our chests!).

Malcolm & Jill

