



newsletter



Member of the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs

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Bunny Continues FCCC Wins

The Atwell Wilson Motor Museum held its **Annual Classic Car Show** on 7/8 July. **Bunny Lees-Smith** entered his 1929 Wolseley and was pre-

sented with the 'Best Restored Car of the Show' award.



At the same show in 2009, commemorating for that year the 50 years of the Mini, **Graham Young's** Riley Elf won a well deserved 'Best Mini of the Show' award with his Riley Elf.



What's Coming Up

- ⇒ **Secretary's Michaelmas Run - Sunday 30 September.** This will be a pleasant country drive to the **Mill Dene Garden** of Barry and Wendy Dare, open just for us, with a traditional Sunday roast lunch en route at a very nice pub. Garden entry is £5. So far we have the Bartons, Bevans, Biles, Bradleys, Chambers, Coopers, Cutlers, Goodfield, Hallidays, Henrys, Hingstons, Hintons, Moores, and Pickings which is getting us close to the pub's capacity. So Barry needs to close the list very soon and would especially appreciate confirmation from the others who have expressed an interest - Cole, Freith, Tebby and Springthorpe. Contact **Barry Cooper** 01285 851 821.
- **North Leigh Motor Show - Sunday 30 September.** From 10am to 5pm there will be a display of Classic and Modern Motors, Sports Cars, Bikes and Scooters at North Leigh FC, near Whitney, Oxon. OX29 6PN. As well, there will be a BBQ, bar, trade stalls and live bands. Entrance is £3 though kids get in free. For details, contact Jay 07909 490 504 or Dave 07599 183 473.
- ⇒ **Club Bi-Monthly Natter - Thursday 18 Oct.** This was something we used to do but haven't for yonks. We'd like to revive the custom and, as we are spread out a bit, move the location around each time. For the first one, we aim to gather at **The Crown at (Ampney) Crucis** about 7:00 PM. Contact **Malcolm Cutler** 01285 712 173 or **just turn up.**
- ⇒ **Avebury, Wiltshire - Wednesday 24 October. PROPOSED.** No details yet but Malcolm is considering a run for this day. Presumably this one will not "henge" on the weather?
- ⇒ **Skittles - Wednesday 31 October.** The **Annual Skittles Match** will be at the **Plough Inn, Alvescot** for 7:00 PM and bowl off starts at 7:30 sharp. As we are limited to numbers, the first 20-22 players to ring **ASAP after 1 October** will get the chance to take part in a great night out. Contact **Mike Cox** 01865 300 929.
- ⇒ **Greyhound Racing - Wednesday 28 November.** Malcolm has booked a table for 12 at the **Swindon Greyhound Stadium.** The cost is £12 per person and includes a three course dinner, entry to the track and a race card. The Stadium will only hold the table for a couple of weeks so get your names in ASAP please. Contact **Malcolm Cutler** 01285 712 173.
- ⇒ **Christmas Lunch - Thursday 20 December.** The Crown at (Ampney) Crucis. Details TBA.
- ⇒ **End of Year Run - Friday 28 December.** Details from Bunny in the fullness of time.



The priorities for attention are:

- ⇒ Michaelmas Run
- ⇒ Greyhound Racing

Key:

- ⇒ Club event
- ◇ Club attendance as a group
- Everything else of motoring interest.

If you have a question, call Barry Cooper, Club Secretary 01285 851 821. If he is not coordinating the event, he will know who is.

St George's Day Run

Mike Scott has stepped up and taken this one on. He advises that preparations are already underway.



“Les French say le MoT axe est très bonkeurs.”

- *Practical Classics*, September 2012, page 30

MoT Exemption for Pre-1960 Cars

Malcolm has received only 17 responses to date, though all express concern about removing the requirement for an MoT on pre-1960 cars. Nick Larkin of *Practical Classics* reports that the French Federation of Historic Vehicles (equivalent of the FBHVC) “can’t understand why the British

are doing this. In fact [we’ve] done the opposite”. They feel an inspection would spot defects the owner might not and think it’s a good thing for the classic movement in France. Nick points out that it will only take one accident in an MoT free classic and the repercussions will be far-reaching.

Wedding Cars



Proposals for a change of law regarding wedding car hire are looming. They include:

- Each classic car used for wedding hire would have to pass a rigorous private hire car test (i.e. taxi) every six months, overseen by the local authority.
- Cars under private hire rules could only be driven by licensed private hire drivers.
- £2000 Operators Licence for owners.
- Business-use insurance would have to include greater public liability cover.
- All drivers would need to pass a Group 2 Medical Test, the Driving Standards Agency taxi test and a CRB check.

Many who operate a wedding car business or those whose classics are occasionally hired, would be threatened as the demanding stipulations are either unachievable or financially crippling.

Malcolm has sent the following to the Law Commission:

I am writing to express concern as to the recently publicised, potential, changes to the regulations concerning the use of wedding cars. As classic car owners we like to help family and friends if they want us to use our classic cars at weddings etc. Where possible and within our insurance limitations, we are happy to oblige, but if in future the cars have to meet additional compliance regulations, as for private hire and taxi's, and the drivers undergo enhanced CRB checks, this will not be possible. Some owners will provide the service for free, or with a payment to charity, others may charge a small fee, but in either case, any enhanced legislation and costs could lead to a service which brings pleasure to many people, being lost, through what would seem to be ever increasing legislation for no good reason. I hope that the proposed changes will enable exemption for classic/vintage cars used in weddings and also funerals.

If you want to comment on how these proposals are likely to affect the operation of wedding car hire, you are invited to sign the on-line petition <http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/356691> and to make your views known to the Law Society at slr@lawcommission.gsi.gov.uk

Best of British 26-27 August



The Red Arrows came back to Kemble with a spectacular display but maybe they were overshadowed by the simulated explosions during the two Tornados 'attack' of the airfield! Watching the Lancaster land and taxi past was quite a sight but it appeared that the main 'Best of British' exhibits came from the classic



cars present (apart from the hilarious 'Lamb National' - British lamb?). Once we had got past the somewhat 'over the top' delays to get into the show, the FCCC put on a fine display of 15 cars and enjoyed the good weather window that the Sunday brought us. Other clubs included the Glos

MG club, Minis, a good display of early 'oily rag' condition motorbikes and around 18 Rolls/Bentleys of all eras. A thoroughly good day with the usual chat and camaraderie amongst the FCCC members present.



New Members



Our Secretary (on the left) tells us that we have new members (on the right). A hearty welcome to Joe and Carol Springthorpe. Looking forward to seeing you and your Jaguar XK120 on our upcoming outings.



The Away Week in Bude was a huge success! A tremendous thank you to **Maureen and Dave Apperley**. Watch the Autumn FC3 for a full report.

