



*Member of the Federation of
British Historic Vehicle Clubs*

Newsletter

Another sad event to record this month. Our long time and enthusiastic member John Airey has died. He will be very much missed and we send our condolences to Di and the rest of his family.

His Jowett Javelin, which has been a fixture at most of our events, will also be missed.



What's Coming Up

Key:

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

October

- ⇒ 30 FCCC Lunch and AGM 11.30 at the THAMES HEAD PUB
Malcolm Cutler 01285 712173

November

- ⇒ 26 FCCC Lunch Run Ralph Morgan 01793762937

December

- ⇒ 18 FCCC Christmas Lunch details to follow

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Many more photographs of all our events are on our website and our Facebook pages



John with another much missed member John Dodman

John at the wheel of his pride and joy

South Cerney Vintage Rally – August 2025

The Steam Fair seems to get bigger every year, this year there were over 500 cars to look round, with various clubs as well as the private entrants. The American cars this year had their own section along the main access road to the ring. The motor cycle display had a good assortment of motor bikes ranging from prewar up to the modern super bikes.

If your interests are in tractors, heavy goods vehicles or the army then you would not be disappointed.

The trade stands seem to sell everything you can think of and you could probably spend the day just looking round.

The steam area which you walk past when you come in had a large number of steam engines and a good working display area.

After a slow start we eventually had 26 entries spread over the three days.

The gazebo went up on the Friday which we used for lunch and a good bit of chatting each day.

It was a surprise to see at least twelve cars turn up on the Friday as this is quite unusual.

Saturday we had more cars than expected this I think was due to the weather forecast for the Sunday.

Sunday was disappointing as only one other car plus myself turned up, it was ment to be wet but after a bit of drizzle turned into a nice day.

The traffic management this year was greatly improved little hold ups getting in or out compared to previous years.

I look forward to seeing more members next year for a good day out.

Ken Hinton.



AUNT SALLY - 23rd July '25

It was a little strange this year not to have David & Carol Chambers organising this year's event and trying to keep us all under control. 'Retirement' comes to everyone in time and all who have come along to the Aunt Sally matches over the years send them all their thanks for their hard work - but, hey, they are still coming along and trying to hit that elusive dolly on a post! However, the mantle has been taken up by David & Liz Martin who organised this year's event at the White Hart in Minster Lovell (v good food), starting the run at the Burford Garden Centre. It was a great success, so they better start planning now for next year's 'competition'!

Due to personal reasons Jill and I could not do the run but, even though the weather was a bit damp, everyone enjoyed it and the scenery. Some people however may have seen more of the Glos/Oxon country side than others - not mentioning Steve and Pauline Harding who by their own admission got hopelessly lost but still arrived in time to chuck some sticks at the dolly!

Somehow Jill and I finished the night off in first place, but I reckon Dave's adding up must have gone astray as the dolly seemed perfectly safe from our amateur efforts!

Well done Dave & Liz.



FAIRFORD STEAM RALLY - Aug 16/17th

The sun shone, the crowds came, everyone polished up their steam engines, cars, bikes, trucks etc and it was judged a roaring success. Unlike South Cerney the Fairford event feels local, is not too big and has a wide variety of things to see and do. One of the highlights has to have been the Friday evening in the Market Place in front of the Bull Hotel. This year there were over 10 steam engines on display plus some different classic cars and the atmosphere was amazing. The smoke hanging over the Market Place was pretty choking at times, but who cared - well maybe a certain Mr Miliband!

As last year we offered to organise the Classic Car display and with around 160 cars entered each day this represented quite a challenge. The FCCC entry was around 18 cars each day, not bad, but it was our 'home event' and the Cotswold Classic car Club had even more cars present! . Even with all the pre event organisation (many thanks especially to Keith Handley and Chris Landa-Font) the fact that the organisers late change to the shape of the Classic Car area meant a last minute redesign of the parking did not help, but the biggest problem was that due to the drought we could not get any of the signs, made by the Fairford Mens Shed, into the ground. The use of white spray paint and some signs in gravel pots saved the day, but just made it harder to direct the 160 cars into position (MC - end of moan!).

This year we had more classic cars going around the ring, but it was difficult to get people away from their champagne and caviar lunches! I also apologise for my interviewing technique in the ring but the microphone was thrust at me at the last minute!

We will be back next year, hopefully the weather will be good, and we can have an even better turn out from the club, both on the day and in organising it.
Malcolm Cutler



HUNTERS CARE HOME FETE - 12 July

At least this year our annual visit to the Hunters Fete did not clash with the Fairford IAT, so getting there was easier. However, whilst not wanting to moan too much, the weather was very hot so most of the day was spent sheltering under the trees. The number of our classics was lower than usual but from comments made afterwards, a number of people did not come because of the heat. This also limited the number of residents who came out to the fete and see the cars.

The staff at Hunters certainly put on a good show for us with free coffee, burgers and cake, plus Morris Dancers (strangely none of the FCCC party joined in) and even a display of petting animals - including a pig!!

It was a good opportunity for those FCCC members present to catch up and have a good chat and it was particularly good to see Judy Dodman who came down from Cheltenham, together with her friend Ann.

A good day was had by all.

Malcolm Cutler



Oakridge Show

The weather gods certainly were on our side this year. A little breezy but sunshine throughout, so different from the day before and after.

All the usual attractions and an excellent turn out of classic vehicles organised as always by Mike Scott, including a good display of Morris Minors by the North Wiltshire Morris Minor Owners Club.



Morris Minors and the Morris Men



A wide variety of cars including a good turn out from FCCC



... and everyone enjoyed themselves

FCCC SEPT '25 LUNCH RUN

For once the weather gods did not shine on our run this month, meaning some nifty footwork by members to and fro from the carpark to the Dragonfly Café. Not that a bit of rain seemed to dampen the spirits as, with a warm cup of coffee in hand, FCCC members got down to the serious business of chatting amongst friends!

The run was the first to be organised by Alan and Abby Lees-Smith (with, as Abby admitted, a bit of heavenly guidance from Bunny) and took us around North Wiltshire, a nice change from our usual more northern Cotswold capers. Whilst the weather remained dull the route took us through some lovely scenery and villages, but some of the road surfaces and pot holes meant concentrating on the road was a necessity - maybe Gloucestershire roads are not so bad - only joking! The only blip that we and a few other encountered, was meeting the village rubbish collection truck which meant waiting for them to empty a number of bins, where no passing was possible, followed by manoeuvring past a couple of very frisky horses!

Lunch at The Winterbourne, Winterbourne Bassett, was excellent with good food, service and plenty FCCC chatter.

Well done Alan and Abby - now, which month in 2026 did you offer to organise your next run?

Malcolm Cutler

