

Newsletter



Member of the Federation of
British Historic Vehicle Clubs

As a club we have attended quite a number of enjoyable events through the summer and, weatherwise, we have been quite fortunate, despite the vagaries of the British summer. A few more events before Christmas so hope to see you at some of them.



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 member
John Manley

September

- ◇ 7 Oakridge Village Show Mike Scott 01285 760315
- ⇒ 14 Lunch Run Malcolm Cutler 01285 712173
- 21 Abingdon Air & Country Show website

October

- ⇒ 17 Lunch Run Mike Scott 01285 760315

November

- ⇒ Lunch Run Organiser Needed TBA

December

- ⇒ 19 Christmas Lunch Malcolm Cutler 01285 712173
- ⇒ After Christmas Bunny Run TBA

Longfield Hospice Summer Fête

Eight of us attended with five of our cars on show and they generated quite an amount of interest. Unfortunately, due to the fête clashing with the South Cerney event, there were many fewer other cars than previous years.

However the fête proved very successful with a band, many stalls and a very popular tea room.



Aunt Sally Rolled Again

Well what a lovely run and fun afternoon and evening we had at the “Aunt Sally” event, so ably organised by Dave and Carol Chambers. Thanks to both of you.

We met at the Cotswold Barn around 4pm (I was late as usual) however I’m assured from the “on time” members that the hospitality and cake were great. I’m sure Malcolm and Jill’s dogs enjoyed the tit bits as well.

Setting off in our usual staggered manner for our destination (The Golden Ball at Lower Swell) the route was interesting with some beautiful scenery on the way, thanks again to Dave and Carol.

Arriving at the Golden Ball, “Aunt Sally was already in attendance” - so let the Games (and the friendly banter) commence. I started well with a surprise score of 4 which put me in a commanding position for a win.

Unfortunately my game went rapidly downhill and I was eventually knocked out by “Kunning Ken” Hinton who, playing a blinder on the last throw, relegated me to an also ran and took first place and the prize of bottled alcohol. (Editors Note: he insisted on a VAR maintaining Ken’s feet were over the line but rapidly withdrew his objection when told that if he won his appeal he would have to pay for a round of drinks.)

Our overall performance was pretty dismal but the game enjoyed so many laughs, some at my expense , that it more than made up for it. We adjourned to the pub where the banter continued over a much enjoyed meal and a few electric lemonades. I am sure everyone who took part enjoyed it as much as I did and we look forward to our next “Merry Meet” wherever that may be.

Steve Harding



With intent



More ladylike



What glory !!



Croquet and Cream Tea.

Eleven members turned out for the annual Croquet and Cream Tea numbers down a little from last year. Daily checks being made prior to the chosen day which looked like the worst weather of the week with a high percentage of rain forecast. The worry was all in vain as it turned out a pleasant afternoon overcast then rain holding off until the drive home. Gary could not it make busying himself with Mini car club business. Jackie having a dental appointment and having to leave early leaving Ken looking for a lift home. Di and John treating members to a Pimms on arrival to make sure everyone was loosened up for the session. With nine members requiring a little instruction they were split into three groups and a coach added to each making up three games of Doubles. Ann one of the Croquet Clubs coaches taking on Wendy, Rose and Rob on lawn three. Diana coaching Kathy, Brian and Jackie who joined the Croquet world by turning out in 'whites'. John teamed up with Keith, Glenda and Ken to make up the third game of doubles. Coaching going well with a few mutterings about whether Johns 'Jump shot' was an allowable shot. Keith and Ken taking the honours with Keiths clever play of placing his ball in the jaws at nearly every hoop and Ken pushing Keith's ball through the hoop plus running long hoops. Plenty of laughter on the lawns before the call came that the Cream Tea was ready which was taken in the clubroom with the Croquet Cub ladies taking our drinks order. Ken did manage to get a lift home (he would have been OK as I did offer him a lift to the bus station!) but he did forget his hat, I seem to remember this happening somewhere before?

Hunters Care Home Fête

Eight of us turned up to this year's fête to provide our usual classic car display.

There would have been more but as this event was on the same day as RIAT so some members could not get through.

We arrived through an arch of coloured balloons which proved difficult for some of the later arrivals once the wind had increased.

There was the usual band, Morris Dancers, an animal show and even a very large inflatable cow who wandered around.

As usual we gathered together in a circle of chairs for a catch-up chat, in sunshine to start, then under the trees when the fine drizzle came.

Many thanks to Hunters for burgers and salad and tea and coffee



FCCC July Run and Picnic

The Lechlade Garden Centre is an ideal spot to start a run, as many of us have found in the past. However, this time Glos Highways and Thames Water tried very hard to isolate us with a burst main closing the A417 in Lechlade and a sudden closure of a minor rural road within a couple of miles of the start. This meant that a couple of members could not make the start and the rest of us were having to guess which was the best alternative route to take to get to Eastleach (no signposts!) which was the next village Gary had on the route card. We did meet Rob and June coming the other way at one point but amazingly, after a very pretty run, we all did get to our picnic destination at the picnic field near Shilton, even if Ken and Jackie were wondering where everyone had got to!

The weather forecast during the week was pretty dire so I suppose we should not complain that we had to put up with some grey sky and showers. Fortunately the worst of the rain came as we were packing up and at least we were able to shelter in Ken and Jackie's new barn conversion (OK Ken, I still believe it is going to be a classic car showroom!). Those of a mind could also pet a sheep, stare at a cow and even hunt the bears that members brought along and let loose in the woods - or were these just our two dogs being a nuisance? In any case everyone had a great time and many thanks for Gary and Rose for organising the run and for Ken and Jackie allowing us the use of their field and shelter!

Malcolm Cutler



Veterans' Corner

A very relieved expression

A gentle doze

Definitely a picnic

FAIRFORD STEAM SHOW - 17/18 AUG '24

Last year Steve Evans and his team performed a miracle in bringing back to Steam Show back to Fairford after 10yrs and making a success of it, even though the weather all weekend was iffy and the public car park flooded on the Sunday! The reaction to the show was so positive that many more exhibitors and visitors booked early for this year's show.

I believe there were around 29 full size engines at the show this year, plus an equal number of smaller ones, plus lorries, tractors, army vehicles, Wall of Death and on the Sunday, a guest appearance of Henry Cole and TV crew on his 'bric a brac' stall (Motorcycle Show, Shed & Buried etc).

This year the FCCC had the responsibility for organising all the Classic Cars and such was the interest that by February over 160 cars had entered. Sensibly it was decided that we should reduce this to 130, given the space available, which included around 20 FCCC cars on the Saturday. Thanks to Keith Handley a plan off action was drawn up and the Fairford Mens Shed made a large number of signs and marker posts (also for the whole show) and on Saturday we organised the parking of around 130 cars and 80 on Sunday - thanks especially to Keith, Steve/Harry Harding, Chris Landa-Font, Martin Blackmore and Ash/Pam Holmes for their 'parking patience'. The Classic Cars were in a prime position directly opposite the parade ring, with the FCCC display across from the ring entrance. Unfortunately the parade for the cars coincided with lunch time and many groups could be seen enjoying their 'champagne and caviar' lunch, however, with a bit more cajoling we did get a good turnout on the Sunday, which went down well with the spectators.

The feed back locally and on Social Media following the Fairford Steam Show has been very positive and I understand that the 16/17th Aug has been confirmed for 2025 - see you there!

Malcolm Cutler

