

June 2024 Newsletter

So here we are at the beginning of June, you know the one with the longest day, don't blink or it will be Autumn, is it because I'm old or are the months really skipping by, I think Simon R would agree with me, he's always surprised when it's newsletter time, wot already !!

As you will see the committee have been busy making sure there's plenty on through the Summer for you to enjoy so please make the effort and support the committee's hard work, rumour has it they're not even paid !

From our Chairman

Into our summer events now, not a huge amount to report for May. The Northgate Sporting Trial in the middle of the month, a very small entry, just enough to run realistically. I do try and keep the tone upbeat and positive and in fairness, our events and activities are this way, however the old questions around the sporting trials rear their head again. What can we do to make these more viable, whilst the small entry of course appreciate the day out and a relaxed atmosphere I am sure they would all like far greater competition. Are there enough willing competitors out there? Does going back-to-back days with Camel Vale work? Would it be of any extra benefit on a separate date? What can we do - we certainly aren't set in a way that won't change if competitors etc have suggestions to open the sporting trials up to more then please don't hesitate to let us know. We have the Spry in June so fingers crossed we can get a few more along.

We again had a stand at the Launceston Steam Rally over the bank holiday weekend. I went on the Saturday, a steady flow of general public, the weather wasn't too bad, driving home in the drizzle but luckily the day in general was dry. Again it's hard to know what impact this makes but we see it more as putting the club name out there and just letting more people we exist and that Launceston (and North Cornwall) does have a motor club!

The schedule does get busier now, following the Spry we have a bit of a shuffle in the calendar. Using farmland during the summer is of course influenced by their own activity so we have had to be a bit flexible but can confirm the following:
The Motor Traders Car Trial (ASWMC Round) on 7th July, that's as it was on the calendar, but at a brand new venue. Winsdon Farm near North Petherwin, then we are back at the same venue but in a different part of it for the Carr Cup Testing Trial now on 21st July. Both super friendly events so, why not come along and give them a go.

Hopefully see many of you over the upcoming summer events.

Simon R

2024 Future Events

15th June Spry Sporting Trial, this is a round of the ASWMC sporting trials championship to be held at Frankaborough Farm, Broadwoodwidge.

20th June Committee meeting at The Fox & Grapes, Lifton, 7.30PM.

7th July Motor Traders Trial, *new venue*, for cars only at Winsdon Farm, North Petherwin, regs are on the website. What 3 Words : Bluffs, Recount, Etchings

21st July Carr Cup Trial, this will also be held at Winsdon Farm, North Petherwin. Classes for Cars & Bikes, young competitors are encouraged to enter for an afternoon of fun.

Once again Simon Oates has been out abusing the little Liege

Tales of a Liege

38) **The Mike Tremayne Flora Classic Trial** *Sunday* *5th May 2024*

Organised by the Pendennis Motorcycle and Light Car Club, we consider ourselves so lucky to be one of the 15 cars entered in the event. The predominant (70) entries (as the club name suggests) were Bikes, Quad bikes, step thru's and Sidecars. Starting at the Vogue Inn at St Day in the rain, we had 7 sections and 2 Special Tests in the morning before returning for lunch and then a further 8 sections in the afternoon. The main trial of 'Bikes' were given in excess of 25 sections for the day and all seemed to be grinning from ear to ear at the end, which I think says it all. The overall feeling of the Trial would probably be described as 'laid back' which, make no mistake, is meant as a compliment. Let me make it clear, this is not an MCC type event. No easing into the trial with easy hills and level restarts. Your skills and mode of transport will be tested from the get go and you won't be disillusioned if you make a mistake as there is so much support and encouragement all around you to propel you through it all. The vibe was fantastic throughout the day. We departed a little after our due time and travelled a few miles up the road with many local residents standing in their gateways waving and photographing as we went past and on to the first sections, **Carn Climb 1, 2 & 3**. The first section was inspected by most of the car drivers whilst the bikes finished the three sections. My mistake was not to inspect the route and I was nearly caught out with a sharp left downhill early in the section. We managed a 2 after a sharp right over a slab and a further climb with one wheel in the air and lost grip (despite vigorous bouncing by Ashley Ruby to my left). The second hill had a right and left up a cliff, well that's what it felt like, super slippery and muddy and definitely not for the faint hearted. Five more points dropped and further up the hill to the next section where I couldn't turn left where I wanted to and lost 9 points. Not the best start with 16 dropped in 3 sections. Out to the lane and up the road to Bolivar House and **Dinky's Special Test (5a)** in the quarry behind. Tight and slippery which caught several cars out by going too fast and wide on tight

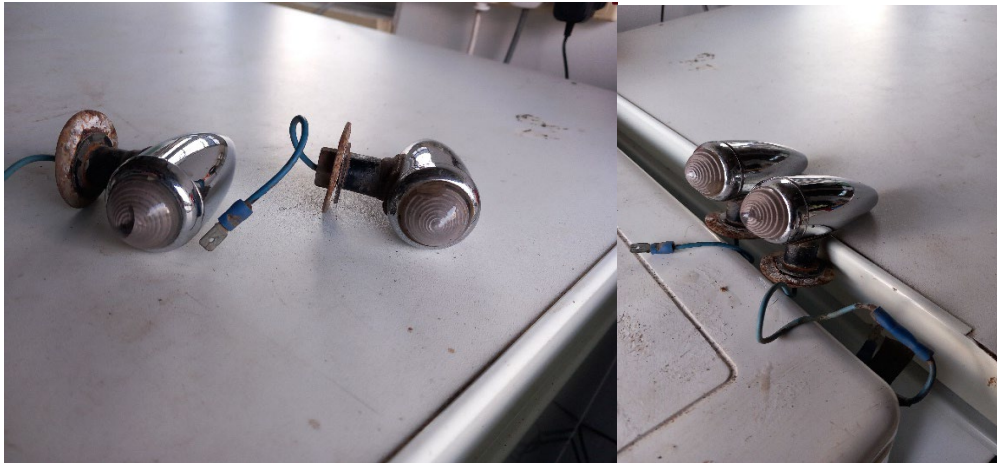
corners. Up the hill to **Dinky's Restart (4)** which had the start pulled back due to cars not able to get to the original start. The restart was for classes 7 & 8 only but I never arrived on the restart line, I was too enthusiastic and jumped over the wheel ruts and ended up spinning in an impossible position. The last section **Dinky's (5)** here was cleared by us to our amazement! Back on the roads, through Carharrack, over the A30, left at Smokey Joes and downhill to **Old Stoney (6)** with a restart for 7 & 8. My form continued with me stopping in the wrong place and totally cocking the restart up with another 6 points dropped to a grand total of 31. Ashley tried his best to get us going but not a chance from where I had stopped. Retracing our route, we re-crossed the A30 and on to **Todpool (7)** where the Liege seemed to have a flat battery and required a bump start before we could tackle the section on a steep stony spoil heap and another restart for us which we managed to clear! Off towards the King Harry Ferry and left through Penweley, down to **Wrinklin Lane (8)** for another restart on or near the slab. We pulled away as fast as we could and as the wheels began to spin up, eased off on the throttle to find grip to the top. Back towards the lunch break at the Star Inn but fitting in another Special Test in **Dave's Field (9)**. An extra section here for the bikes where a few may have fallen off for an instant baptism in the stream. After lunch we were off through Ponsanooth and back down the A39 towards Devoran and into the bluebell woods at **Frasers** for 3 sections. **Frasers 1 (10)** was a blast up another steep slippery precipice and a left and right on slippery roots. A special mention for Abbie Jeffery for her 1st real trial in her Beetle, who against all odds, sailed to the top with seeming ease - wow. She had done the Lands End five weeks before and achieved a Bronze with only an hours driving of the car but has never competed on hills like the Flora's. **Frasers 2 (11)** caught me out with the car pushing straight on instead of turning right up the track despite some tricks to try and turn, another 5 points dropped. **Frasers 3 (12)** had beaten all in front but I could see another straighter route to gather speed at the bottom. As I started I aimed at a tree at the bottom on the left and let rip (the engine!) and somehow just missed the tree which gave enough momentum for a trip to the top. We asked the marshal at the top which way to go and were sent the wrong way so the route instructions didn't fit where we ended up. Eventually we worked out the route to the next sections at **Blankednick**. The first was a blat up a steep hill which all but one conquered and then on to a snakey wobble up some rough ground next to a field of spring corn. Very slippery and a restart for us. Back to the main roads towards Falmouth, through Mabe Burnthouse and past the Argal & College Reservoirs towards Mawnan Smith and section **15 Slippery** for another clear. Off through Constantine, Gweek and on to **Blackdowns (16)** for a restart for classes 6, 7 & 8. After a successful climb we looked into Flambards as we continued our route towards Stithians Lake and the last section **Lanner Green (17)** which is situated in some old land workings with serious slopes and obstructions. A true challenge to finish with and the first hill of the section had no run up from the start which was quite a challenge in itself to a -ve camber downhill left corner and two offset hills to finish with. Three of us cleared the hill and the remaining 8 that finished gave the last bit their all, but to no avail. After staying to watch some of the last cars, we returned to the Star Inn to sign off and partake in refreshments and an excellent carvery. I think it fair to say that 5 or 6 of the car sections were epic and certainly wouldn't be included in some of the other 'Classic Trials' but they were definitely attacked and appreciated by all of the cars that took part – a true challenge. The usual heart felt "Thank You" to all involved that make this trial happen. You all are such heroes and

so appreciated by us all. I bet everyone that took part this year are already putting it in their diaries as their number one priority for next year. There's no other Trial quite like the Flora Trial, would we want it any other way – I don't think so!



For sale

A very nice little pair of sidelights to grace a suitably period car, as often seen on Austin 7's , MG's , Dellow etc. All working although one of them has a slight blemish to the glass (part of the patina) £25 UK posted. Contact J.T. 07971 249783.



Northgate Sporting Trial

We ran the Northgate trial on Saturday the 18th of May, the weather was lovely for the seven competitors, we had laid out the hills the previous day so all was set. I had my own hill to run for the morning session which ran well, after lunch we moved over to the other side of the field/woods, having run 4 rounds in the morning the plan was to do the same in the afternoon but things changed slightly.

We noticed that it was beginning to rain and then all of a sudden it did rain, heavily, followed by thunder and lightning which basically caught us all out, it was a case of abandon ship and head for shelter, by the time we all got under cover everyone was soaked, but at least we managed to get in two rounds. Mike Wevill quickly calculated the scores and it was very clear to say that Thomas Bricknell had given us a master class in driving leaving the rest of the competitors trailing somewhat, but everyone had enjoyed the day despite the weather.



The Northgate piccies before the deluge, it doesn't look it but the terrain is actually quite steep.

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Captain Caudle has donned his racing gloves



“As the MG Car Club continues the celebration of 100 years of MG in 2024, for the enjoyment of Club members and the wider general public, our goal is to link all regions of the UK and all parts of our Club in celebration with a groundbreaking event – the MG100 John O’Groats to Land’s End Cavalcade

I saw this and contacted my friend Andy Smith and suggested that we could take part. The route can be joined or left each day by MG enthusiast. As Andy lives in St Ives he suggested that we join the afternoon Touring Assembly from Hawkins MG dealership at Blackwater. The route was the last and finished at Land’s End. I understand that 2 other committee members, Mike Wevill and Adrian Booth took part in the Devon section of the route in Mike’s vintage MG PA.

The event was also raising donations through a JustGiving page for the Alzheimer’s Society which vows to end the devastation of dementia, Britain’s biggest killer, and for LUPUS UK which is the only national registered charity

supporting people with systemic lupus and discoid lupus and assisting those approaching diagnosis.

It was good to take part in Andy's FIA MGB BGS 821A, a special rally car the history of it includes competitive drives on the Pirelli Marathon by Roger Clark and Sir Stirling Moss. I managed to navigate us without getting lost (the roads were very familiar as I spent 2 summers driving them as part of my route when I drove an ice cream van). At Land's End it we caught up with many friends. Some of the organisers present who had the privilege of being photographed with their cars by the famous sign at Land's End.

Another vehicle featured in a photo was Colin Bird's well known and much trialled MG J2.

Joe Caudle

Picture of Andy and Joe being flagged off at the start by Bob Slatter.

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### **Launceston Steam Vintage Rally**

Once again our club had a stand at the Steam Rally at Altarnun, various committee members took it in turns over the three days to help out on the stand, the weather wasn't really playing ball but with our new club gazebo we at least had somewhere to take shelter, often with many members of the public, bit like playing sardines (explain to younger members) but once more we were able to raise awareness of the club.



Andy Prosser's Sporting Trials car created a lot of interest.



The Alpacas were out in force, although I don't think they're steam powered, maybe they exude it.



This little Fiat 500 driven down from Exmouth was one of my favourites on the classic car stand

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**Tailpiece.**

Now that Summer is officially here many of you will be going on your holidays, probably somewhere exotic, so why not take your club Beanie hat with you and send me a picture of it, we could call it "beanies around the world" or



something equally stupid, to kick it off I've got a picture of mine on the Isle of Man when we visited there last month.



Go on show your Beanie  
some love 😊

That's all for this month folks but please keep the contributions coming J.T.  
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