
NORCEMOG

NEWS

NORTH WEST AND CHESHIRE

September 2010

Many thanks to Peter Grange for sending a contribution, and to David and Una Haynes for most of the rest of the content. The website was updated during August, complete with pdfs of the previous 12 months Newsletters. The passwords were circulated in the April or May Newsletter. We are now looking for additional content, so send pictures, comments, whatever, to adrian.grant@taspartnership.co.uk

Responses for the Gymkhana on 19 September and the Scenic Run on 17 October are urgently required. Even if you are not attending, those who have gone to the trouble of organising them will be grateful to hear that you appreciate their efforts, so take a deep breath, and pick up the phone!

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Top Gear - The Demise of the Classic British Sports Car

By now you all will have had the opportunity to see the Top Gear programme on British sports cars aired on the 1st August. As I said in an earlier article in Miscellany the Northern Centre were asked to provide three cars for the filming of the programme at the old TVR factory in Blackpool and we were all less than impressed by our personal involvement. However when we saw the three presenters arrive after visiting a garden centre with various products sitting atop of the cars it jolted some far distant memory that it had all been done before in a Morgan!

We recalled collecting a Christmas tree with our two children in 1984 with the tree sticking out the back of our then 4-Seater. Una had our children draw the experience and the drawings were subsequently published in Miscellany. Don't ask why but Una had kept the drawings along with other childhood memorabilia. This was pointed out to Top Gear and Una & I and the 'artists' were invited to the filming of the programme in London. Alas vagueness of arrangements from Top Gear and family and holiday commitments prevented us attending but Top Gear did have the three presenters (four if you count The Stig) sign a copy of the drawings which was some consolation for the 'artists' who are now in their mid thirties.

David & Una Haynes (artists Andrew & Lyn)

Best Wishes,
x

James May

Tree mog.



By Lyn Haynes Aged 9.



Tree mog

STIG

Andrew Haynes, Aged 11

FREE OFFER

During a telephone conversation earlier this year Bill Rhodes offered to take a volunteer trialling with him on an outing in September. Volunteers must be fit, no bad backs, heart problems and with adequate nerve! Here is an opportunity to experience a different type of event in a different type of car. Take full advantage, and contact Bill to arrange dates and logistics on 07969 368385.

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Wigton Motor Club Rose and Thistle Classic Challenge August 23rd

Readers may well remember reading an article I did last year in Norcemog News about the Wigton Motor Club event and as we enjoyed it last year we thought we would give it another go this year. We entered both Morgans last year but this year we were driving the 2009 Morgan +4 only as the old 4/4 is currently being treated to a new clutch and gearbox.

The start was at the Houghton Hall Garden Centre just off Junction 44 of the M6 north of Carlisle. We checked in with some time to spare so it was off to the cafe for a brew for Anthea and I and sausage sandwiches for the boys. We had travelled with the hood up but the weather was improving rapidly so down came the hood and down it stayed for the rest of the day. We were blessed with very good weather for this event.

We were given our route which was very detailed and were due to leave at 1 minute intervals giving us a start time of 10.55 however there were a couple of no shows so we left slightly earlier than that. The oldest car taking part was a 1931 Ford Model A and the newest was my 2009 Morgan +4. There were 3 other Morgans, all Plus 8s, driven by Mike & Shirley Telford, Nigel and Ann Wright and Derek & Linda Martlew. The organisers had put the Morgans together so we all left at a similar time but soon got split up as some seemed to want to go quicker than others!



Once more the route took us through some really lovely countryside straddling the English Scottish border with the morning spent mostly running along the southern edge of the Solway Firth. Indeed we even had to get out and open and close the odd gate, drive through fields of cows and generally enjoy the very rural atmosphere. Having done the southern edge of Solway Firth we eventually crossed into Scotland and had a lunch stop at Hoddom Castle. This was soup and a sandwich along with a brew. Apart from a delay in providing soup bowls - and it does help to have a bowl, I can assure you - it all seemed to go very well. At this point we were warned that the afternoon directions might be tougher than the morning ones and they were not wrong! The morning run was 83 miles and the afternoon one was 86 miles but the odd gremlin had crept into the system so a T junction might actual be a right turn and such like so attention to detail such as sign posts was needed. We managed to stay on the right roads but it was not always easy or obvious.

The afternoon run was basically along the northern side of the Solway Firth but did include going through Dumfries as well. It took in parts of the Burns Heritage Trail and having taken in some lovely countryside and villages ended up at the Blacksmiths Shop at Gretna Green where tea, coffee, scones and cakes were provided.

All those that completed got a pair of mugs which had your car entry number on them. All in all a great day well put together and one that we intend doing again given the chance. There was a wide range of cars with a heavy MG presence but also including Jaguars through to Minis. The age range and the wide selection of makes made it very interesting what ever particular make of car takes your fancy.

Peter Grange

PS Regular Norcemog members might have noticed our absence recently. We are for various reasons having a very busy year so can only do so much. Some of the Norcemog events have clashed with other commitments so regrettably our attendance has not been good. We will not be able to do the Gymkhana in September either as we have entered the Highland Classic event which runs for 5 days ending on the Sunday night in Perth which is the same day at the Gymkhana. We will try and get to a Norcemog event sometime soon but in the meantime regards to you all.

Morgans at Oulton Park 29th August

Eleven cars and their intrepid occupants turned up for the Gold Cup weekend, Una & I arriving about 10am. Car and myself free but Una had the privilege of paying a reduced entrance fee as an OAP. Guess what? The weather forecast was spot on! Showers am. Sunshine and wind pm. What they didn't say was how heavy the showers and how strong the wind!

The Centre's gazebo could only be half erected due to the wind but this proved a blessing as those who had managed to fully erect theirs had the rain howling underneath and they got soaked. We only suffered a few wet bums - don't ask. During a lull in the weather Una treated me to a bacon butty thrusting it into my hand with the comment that 'at £3.50 each they beat even London prices'.

Afternoon saw strong winds but lovely blue sky and the racing got underway and for those interested I'm sure they enjoyed it, I was caught doing the Sunday Times crossword. Lunch was taken by all sheltering from the wind, an absolute necessity as a lack of attention saw part of your salad being blown across the track! I think Isobel was best prepared, see photo.



Walking the paddock area was interesting with £100,000 worth of motor-home and covered double deck trailer for some and nearby a 2 man tent and open single trailer for others. I'm not an expert on identifying older racing stuff but you could not fail to be impressed by the attention to detail and the hours of preparation that must have gone in to getting the cars to the standard they were in. As is the norm at our event most of us spent a very pleasant couple of hours chewing over past events and possible future ones finally leaving for home at 5pm. - in brilliant sunshine.

David & Una Haynes.

The date for the removal van is 31st August.

Due to the distance, the move will be over 2 days.

Our new contact details will be as follows:

Pat and John Faulkner
 14, Roe Close,
 STOTFOLD
 HITCHIN
 Herts
 SG5 4HX

Telephone number 01462 731406

For you engineering and racing boffins, it is the same village as 'Techniques'. Although, John assures me, that had no bearing whatsoever on our decision to move to Stotfold. As most of you know, the reason was to be nearer our 'children' and grandchildren.

Our new abode will have a permanently made-up spare bed, and we are proposing to start a

reservations book as soon as the removal boxes are unpacked. Stotfold is about half an hour along the A507 from the M1 Junction 13, and approximately 1 mile from the A1M Junction 10, so not difficult to find.

We shall welcome visits from friends and news of the members of Norcemog, as well as the monthly newsletter updates. We don't want to feel cut off from the many friends we have made in Norcemog over the years.

Kind Regards
John and Pat

NorceMog Diary of Events

19 September – Gymkhana, arranged by John Anderson, at the Red Lion, Lower Withington, near Jodrell Bank. 0161 973 0169. NOT the 12th as previously notified.

17 October - This years Scenic Run will take place in Wirral on Sunday the 17th October 2010 starting at the **Mollington Banastre Hotel (CH1 6NN)** on the **A540**, Parkgate Road near the village of **Mollington** at **10.30am**. It is a re-run of the cancelled event in February which was to take place the day after this year's Dinner Dance but which had to be cancelled due to the snow.

A coffee station will be laid on by the Hotel for early arrivals and orders for lunch will be taken at that time so that they will be available to serve as soon as we return, which will be at approx 1.30 to 2.00pm.

For those wishing to stay the night before and make a longer weekend of it we have negotiated a rate of £90 per couple B&B or £125 per couple Dinner B&B. Quote "Norcemog Scenic Run Weekend" when making a booking at the Hotel to obtain these rates. (Phone 01244 851471) Contact Roy Wilkinson on **01772 324134** or roy.wilkinson@yahoo.co.uk to advise if you wish to be included.

19-21 November - HIGH WRAY WEEKEND - Following popular demand at the recent AGM arrangements have been made for us to have a weekend away at the National Trust Basecamp, at High Wray. (Situated between Hawkshead and Ambleside). We are once again in the Longland Block. (The one with a separate sleeping block). The location provides the opportunity for gentle walking from the doorstep. (possibly with a pub visit at lunchtime). As well as more strenuous walking at the end of a short drive. Plus of course, many "shopping" opportunities. The plan is to go to the pub at Outgate for our evening meal on the Friday and to have a Jacob's Join on Saturday. Breakfasts and other basics will be provided, with a collection being made to cover the costs incurred. In addition the accommodation costs are £11 per person per night. We have paid a deposit to The National Trust and are therefore asking members to reserve their place by paying a deposit to Norcemog.

If you would like to join the party, please complete the form below and send it to:

John & Irene Anderson, 22 Abotts Close, Sale, Cheshire M33 2DD or ring 0161 973 0169

HIGH WRAY WEEKEND 19-21 NOVEMBER 2010 BOOKING FORM

Name(s)

Address

.....

Tel No

I have enclosed a cheque for £..... (£5per person) payable to "MSCC Norcemog"

Signed :

December – Norcemog traditional Christmas Party – at Barnacre Village Hall, organised by Brian Rawlinson on a “BYOB, and a contribution to the feast, and eat as much as you like” basis, with entertainment and carol singing. Details in the next edition.

January 2011 – Noggin at the Inn at Whitewell, organised by the Bleasdales. Date tbc.

February 2011 – to be organised.

March 2011 – Dinner and Dance weekend – see below.



The Northern Centre

Shropshire Weekend

4th – 6th March 2011

The Longmynd Hotel
Church Stretton

Shropshire Hills & Villages for the walkers or drivers.

Ironbridge, the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution, Cosford, RAF & Aerospace Museum,

Much Wenlock the home of the modern Olympics all close by for the historians.

Shrewsbury and famous Ludlow for the foodies or shoppers.

Saturday evening Ceilidh

Friday + Saturday DB&B £132pp. Saturday only DB&B £77pp.

Extend your stay, Sunday DB&B only £55pp.

Our previous event here was a sell out so reserve your place for £25pp. Booking forms from

David & Una Haynes 01630 652498 David.Una@btinternet.com

Geoff & Gill Mizon 01253 892733 Geoff.Mizon@btopenworld.com

Shropshire Weekend 4th- 6th March 2011

At The Longmynd Hotel, Church Stretton.

Please indicate what booking arrangements you would like for the weekend.

Name(s)	Friday	Saturday	Sunday

Any special requests?

Friday + Saturday £132 pp Saturday only £77 pp

Extend your stay with Sunday dinner, bed & breakfast for £55 pp. There are a limited number of single rooms available at no supplement. A deposit of £25 pp (£50 for a couple) is required by the hotel.
(Cheques payable to The Longmynd Hotel. I will not be presenting the cheques to the hotel until November.)

Please return completed form to,
David & Una Haynes,
Garthmyl,
Christ Church Lane,
Market Drayton TF9 1DZ