
NORCEMOG

NEWS

NORTH WEST AND CHESHIRE

December 2010

Contributions in November limited to those from the Mizons about the High Wray weekend, and if you had contributed as well, then the Newsletter would have been longer and might have been even more interesting. I am happy to edit what you send so that even if it arrives with mistakes, it will be distributed without them, so please send your contributions during November to adrian.grant@taspartnership.co.uk

Most of you are of an age to remember the Guinness advert that went "I don't like it because I've never tried it", and if that also applies to the Christmas Party, you need to order a Guinness, let it settle, and telephone Bryan to book in on 01995 604716. The details of the Party are below.

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Weekend at High Wray.

On a beautiful Friday afternoon 5 cars approached the National Trust's Base Camp at High Wray in the Lake District. Those intrepid walkers Dave and Una had completed at least 4 'Wainwrights' on their way. We were all suitably impressed. We arrived armed with sleeping bags or duvets, pillows, warm clothes, a myriad of food to cover all meals except Friday night, when we treated ourselves to 'pub grub', and the usual bits and pieces taken on a weekend away. Gill and Isobel moaning about the fact they had both forgotten to pack their walking poles – is this a sign of age, to be taken in both contexts? We didn't use the Morgans, not enough packing space!

After several cups of tea and slices of cake we claimed our bunks, unpacked and readied ourselves for dinner at the Outgate Inn. We all enjoyed some good food and were amazingly abstemious with the alcohol, but knew there was the promise of a bottle or two of wine when we got back to High Wray.... We have to admit that after a long day of adventures we were all glad to get to bed fairly early in order to be ready for our walking on the Saturday. There were great discussions about who was going to snore loudest and methods of stopping them, other than throwing them out of the dormitory. Next morning one member of the party admitted to 'vigorously' shaking someone's bed in the night and it hadn't made the slightest bit of difference but relieved their feelings slightly. The culprits will be relieved to find that their resonances will not be revealed to you, dear reader. We were lucky that the dormitories were centrally heated and lovely and warm, unlike the day quarters which relied on a wood burner which in past years has functioned very well. No such luck this year – the wood was wet. John had been presented with an axe by the National Trust ranger when he and Irene arrived. So he almost became the personification of the old saying that with wood fires you get warm twice, the first time chopping the wood and the second enjoying the flames, except it was very difficult to get it going really well and trust me, all the guys felt they were the ones to coax it into a fiery furnace. John did all the preparation of chopping the wood, Dave Haynes was the chief stoker, ably assisted by Dave Roberts.



After a huge breakfast, plans were laid for the day's walking. Geoff was kept under control and stopped from taking us up the highest and steepest hill he could find, and a pleasant walk to Near Sawrey to the Tower Tavern for lunch and liquid refreshment was planned, then on to the Bowness Ferry and to return along the lakeside to High Wray. Once again we were so lucky with the weather and had a gorgeous day of sunshine and the remaining autumn colours. The early morning had had a fantastic white frost which Gill had explored with a camera and had been so engrossed with the atmosphere that she managed to put her foot down a very wet hole even before breakfast. Dave R tried to compete later in the day by getting his foot stuck in a muddy bog by a stream and he had to be pulled out by his wife, Sue. The lake was calm and chocolate box picturesque as we tramped by imagining ourselves in 'Swallows and Amazon' adventures. The day was so lovely it felt too good to be true. When we arrived at High Wray we were met by Isobel and Irene who had opted out and spent the day in Hawkshead doing some of their Christmas shopping. They had probably walked as far as we had! We then enjoyed the sight of John and Peter wincing as they pulled out their buys to show us the results of their day of hunting and gathering! This was followed by more tea and cake and the consideration of showers in the cold shower block or a strip wash in the centrally heated dormitory block. It is up to you, reader, to decide who opted for which. The evening revolved around the compilation of the evening meal. Always a complicated event when at least 5 cooks are involved. Star dishes were Una's vegetable bake and Sue's hot fruit pudding – recipes needed. After the washing up more wine was opened to prepare for David's "intelligence" test before more wine and then another amazingly early bedtime. That walk must have been harder than we thought! (David's GPS providing all sorts of statistics for those who needed to know how hard we had tried).

Sunday morning wasn't as pretty as Saturday, no frost, and the weather was slightly warmer. After a different set of chefs had prepared another hearty breakfast we set off on a shorter walk to Wray Castle and then along the lakeshore path the other way. Gill, no sense of direction,

was convinced we were going the wrong way! We were back in time for lunch and then a clean up of the premises and we always think we have left it cleaner than we found it. Then it's off to our various parts of the country. Geoff and Gill have a short trip to the Blackpool area and David and Una do the long trek to Market Drayton. A great time had been had by all and thank you John and Irene for arranging it. I must emphasise that if you didn't go you don't know what a fun time you missed.

Gill Mizon

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Anne Thorne e mailed to notify of the cancellation of her membership, not having, as she said, been an active member for many years, though still enjoying her Morgan.

NorceMog Diary of Events

12 December – Norcemog traditional Christmas Party – at Barnacre Village Hall PR3 1UN, at **12 noon**, organised by Brian Rawlinson 01995 604716. The Christmas Party is a just that – a party with great food, and whatever you care to drink – because all those attending contribute to the feast, and bring along their own particular tippie, be it alcoholic or non. Because of this, there is a guarantee not only that you can eat as much as you like, but also that the buffet table will hold at least one of your favourite things to eat, most probably because you have brought it along! Sue Bleasdale on 01995 61718, and Isobel Moore on 01253 738201 are organising the feast, so please contact one of them to confirm which of your favourite sweet or savoury dishes you are going to bring with you.

And in addition to that, Brian is looking for volunteers to organise the entertainment, so cast your inhibitions to one side and introduce Norcemog to your unconventional side.

Directions to Barnacre Village Hall - From Preston, go north on the A6 towards Lancaster, through Broughton, Bilsborrow and Catterall, going past the windmill and the Crofters Hotel. After the Crofters Hotel, take 2nd right signed Trough of Bowland (Gubberford lane) and immediately over the bridge turn sharp right. Keep on this road over the railway and the M6, and the village hall is on the right before the church, with a (usually) muddy car park on the left. For the past three years at least, the weather has persuaded every attendee but one that bringing the Morgan is not the best idea, so you cannot use that as an excuse not to be there!

16 January 2011 – Noggin at the Inn at Whitewell, or possibly at Stoneyhurst College, organised by the Bleasdales.

13 February 2011 – **Noggin**, organised by Isobel Moore 01253 738201, possibly at Lytham Hall, and including a snowdrop walk there.

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

April 2011 – AGM

May 2011 – Noggin organised by Roy Wilkinson.

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

SUBSCRIPTION INCREASES

With effect from 1st January 2011

UK Member £36.00

EU/Overseas Member £42.00

The Club has suffered financially in the last few years, along with many other organisations going through the recession. With hindsight the subscription increases in January 2009 of £2 per member were not enough. Since then, the economy has worsened, interest rates have continued to fall, (we are earning £10k less per annum on interest than in 2008) and general overheads have continued to increase. The increase in VAT from 1st January 2011 to 20% will also have an impact on the Club's subscription revenue. A recent review of subscription rates charged by other Car Clubs of a similar size has confirmed that the MSCC has the lowest charges where a monthly magazine is supplied.

Many members may ask why the increases are necessary when the Club still has substantial funds on deposit. If subscriptions are not increased the Club's deposits will reduce year on year. The deposits are necessary to safeguard continuity of the Club's activities. As an example, if a MOG event had to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances such as the foot & mouth epidemic, the Club would suffer considerable financial losses.

The increase in subscriptions will not add to the cash deposits already in place, but will ensure the MSCC continues to provide a valuable service to its Members. Thank you for your understanding.

Vera Brown
Treasurer
