

# NORCEMOG

# NEWS

NORTH WEST AND CHESHIRE

September 2014

Welcome to this edition. Please can you let me know **THIS WEEK** if you are coming along to Dunham Massey on 14 September. More about this below. Andrew has circulated details of a Highland Tour next May, and Taffmog's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and I have not included these in the Newsletter.

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NORCEMOG REGALIA – Isobel Moore 01253 738201

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## NORCEMOG WEBSITE

Andrew Threlkeld has taken this over, and will welcome any contribution you want to make, especially photos.

## NORCEMOG COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2014 at 18:30  
TAS Partnership Office, Preston

### Minutes of Meeting

#### • Present

- Martin Cocks, Bryan Fearn, Adrian Grant, Bryan Rawlinson,
- Roy Wilkinson & Andrew Threlkeld

#### • Apologies

- John Alden, Andy Bleasdale, Isobel Moore

#### • Minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> March 2014 Meeting

- Accepted as a true record

#### • Previous Actions

##### - From Minutes

- Gymkhana venue for October - Bryan R
  - 3 venues reviewed but no suitable venue found yet.
  - See Diary of Events Review below
- Christmas Party organiser 2015 – Andrew
  - Harry Walker had offered to organise
  - **ACTION** – Andrew to contact Harry and confirm – **AT**
    - **Post meeting note** – Forest Hills Frodsham booked for 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015. HW has paid £100 deposit  
<http://www.foresthillshotel.com/>
  - **ACTION** – Reimburse HW deposit money - **BF**
- Email addresses for Norcemog committee members – Andrew
  - Would cost £12 per annum per address for @norcemog.com reference. Committee decided not to pursue as we could set up free Gmail accounts (as per MSCC and [Norcemog@gmail.com](mailto:Norcemog@gmail.com)) if we wanted to.

##### - From AGM

- Expenses form – Andrew
  - Andrew showed

- to circulate to committee members
- **ACTION** – Andrew to issue excel file - **AT**

- Bank signatory changes – Bryan F –
  - Bryan F organising final stages – Patience Bryan, Patience!
  - **ACTION - BF**
- Autumn retreat – Andrew / Committee
  - No alternative suggestions, Adrian suggested we should still do a Noggin on the Sunday – see Diary of Events review below
  - We have added Christmas Celebration Week-end in Abingdon Nov 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>
- Alternatives to Base Camp in November – Isobel M / Sue Roberts
  - No report
- Gymkhana – Andy / Andrew
  - It was suggested that Linmog were in the area in September however we have been unable to find a venue. See Diary of Events Review below
- Web site link to Crazy Dogs web site – Andrew - Complete

#### • **Treasurer's Report**

**BF**

- Membership total = 40
- New members = 4
- Money in bank = £2029.03
- No major changes expected in foreseeable future
- **ACTION** - Claim £46 permit refund from MSCC for Autotest & Scenic run – **BF**
- Committee agreed that there should be an annual audit of accounts to be presented at AGM, Neil McArthur has volunteered to audit. – **ACTION - AT** to confirm

#### • **Diary of Events**

**All**

- Review activities for 2014
  - Noggin to replace Autumn Retreat week-end on Sunday September 14<sup>th</sup>
    - **ACTION** - Andrew to follow up with Dunham Massey (WW1 Hospital exhibition) and Speke Hall – **AT**
    - Adrian volunteered to be contact (Andrew away that week-end)
  - Gymkhana
    - Committee still keen to find a venue
    - **ACTION** – Investigate every possibility – **ALL**
  - November 9<sup>th</sup> Noggin
    - Andrew to contact John & Irene Anderson to see if any ideas. The celebration week-end is to take place the following week-end
    - **ACTION** - Contact John & Irene – **AT**
  - Christmas Celebration Week-end Nov 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>
    - 7 couples interested and deposits paid
  - Christmas Party – December 7<sup>th</sup>, Mollington Banastre
    - No issues, Roy & Barbara in control
    - **ACTION** - Roy to advise of final cost - **RW**
    - **ACTION** – Include in September and subsequent newsletters and request payment – **AG**
- Draft 2015 Diary
  - See attached Diary of Events

2015 – draft

- AT suggested the AGM and scenic run should be held in 'the North' of the area having been in 'the South' this year.
- Other ideas for 2015
  - Visit to Bentley Motor Co., Crewe – Midweek – AT
  - Visit Leyland recycling plant, Leyland – AG
  - Tour of fishing boat, Jacinta, Fleetwood – BF
  - Tour of Fisherman's Friend factory, Fleetwood – BF
  - Charity Quiz night with Pie and Pea supper - AG

• **Newsletter**

**AG**

- No issues

• **Regalia**

- Member experience with Crazy Dogs satisfactory

• **Website**

**AT**

- Home page redesigned to include 'Northern Centre' to ensure we maintain the historical heritage of our centre
- Northern Centre will be added to other page headers in due course
- AT suggested having a 'members mods' page where members could exchange ideas on DIY mods to their Morgan. E.g. Nick Taylors tool tray which sits behind the seats, AT's centre console for less than £10, Protectors for base of front suspension to keep grit out etc.
- **ACTION** – Follow up and ask for ideas - **AT**

• **Awards – 2014**

- Discussion on the presentation of the 2014 awards.

• **AOB**

**All**

- Replace current dated Norcemog banner with stand-alone version.
  - Adrian's experience suggested we should get 2 for £100
  - **ACTION** - Follow up – **AT**
- Club Funds Expenditure
  - Use of club funds to subsidise events etc. should be discussed at AGM so that members can decide how the money could be spent e.g. Subsidise and / or provide drinks at the Christmas Party.
  - **ACTION** – Include on next meeting agenda to prepare a range of proposals to be presented at AGM. – **AT**
- Next meeting - March 11<sup>th</sup> 2015 @ 18:30 at TAS Partnership Premises, Preston

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**NorceMog Diary of Events** following the recent Committee Meeting, here is the current version.

**Sept 14 Dunham Massey** – a group booking has been made and we are proposing to tour the House and the Gardens. If you are a National Trust Member entry and car parking is free. If not, car parking is £6. Our offer to park outside the house and provide a photo opportunity was rejected. If we do not have 15 or more in our group, then the discount for non-members does not apply. So far, the total number stands at 6. If you want to come along, e mail me at and 01253 727336 otherwise. Bookings will be taken only until MONDAY 8 September, after which I will agree detail with the venue, and e mail round to those who have booked. if you have not been before, it is definitely worth coming to see.

**Oct 12** Gymkhana ?? - Venue Required

- Nov 9** Noggin Venue TBC – John & Irene Anderson?? – Tel 0161973 0169
- Nov 14-16** Christmas Cabaret Weekend – Abingdon, Oxford – Andrew Threlkeld  
 Friday – dinner plus tribute act  
 Saturday – dinner plus disco  
 £55/night/head – value and well recommended.
- Dec 7** Christmas Party, – Mollington Banastre Roy & Barbara – Tel 01772 324134
- 11 Jan 2015** The Inn at Whitewell - Bleasdales 01995 61718
- 8 Feb 2015** Venue to be confirmed – Isobel and Peter Moore 01253 738201
- 8 Mar 2015** Lowther Castle, Cumbria – Adrian and Alicia Grant 01253 727336
- 11 Mar 2015** Committee Meeting at 18.30 The TAS Partnership, Preston
- 12 April 2015** AGM and Lunch, Garstang – Bryan Rawlinson 01995 604716
- 25 April 2015** MSCC AGM, Visitor Centre, Malvern

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**Mog14 One point of View**

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> August Una & I were en-route to a restaurant in Nidderdale near Harrogate, then to move on to the main Mog14 event itself.

The restaurant stay had been carefully chosen by me as a treat for Una as it was a Michelin starred establishment and with one of the very few female Michelin starred chefs, Francis Atkins (so that's double points for me ie Michelin starred and a female chef)

Thursday's weather was atrocious so we stopped for a coffee in Colne, at an establishment that has Ronald the clown as a feature. There was no trouble driving into the parking spot but after reversing out the gearbox was not sounding nice at all. Being a Plus 8 it was possible to drive the remaining miles in 3<sup>rd</sup> gear through downpours and flooded roads.

Not wishing a car problem to interfere with a planned night out we left the Morgan in the car park until the following morning. Having enjoyed an excellent meal in superb surroundings things were no better the following day, in fact they were worse. We now could only select one gear from stationary, any gear, but changing from that when on the move left you with nothing – not ideal in the Yorkshire Dales.

Decision time 1. We elected to try to get to the hotel in Harrogate as we had a two night stay booked there. We made it but the smell of the clutch was almost as expensive as the sound of the gearbox!

Decision time 2. Get trailed home now, Friday morning, or leave it until Sunday afternoon? Friday morning it was to be and I would return in the regular car. Breakdown truck arrived within 30 mins and I was able to reverse out of the parking spot and drive the Morgan onto the flatbed truck much to the bewilderment of the driver who at the time didn't know what was wrong with the car.



Oh, the indignity of it.

Car safely home and me back in Harrogate and now need to find out what the problem could be. Lots of people getting splinters as they scratched their heads and offering sympathy – until a friend from the Staffordshire Centre confidently states 'That's a well known fault on older Plus 8s (mine is a 1989 car). It's the rubber bushes on the gear change remote. £40 worth of bushes and you don't have to dismantle anything' Sounds too good to be true.

Once home I investigate further on 'GoMog', a fascinating website if you have never tried it. My Staffordshire friend could be dead right. Bushes on order, following day remote bared and no doubting the evidence of rotten rubber bushes. I'll let you know if the diagnosis was correct and solved the problem as soon as the bushes arrive and I have fitted them.

Oh, Mog14 was a rete gradely do. (that's Lancashire speak for a Grade A event)

David Haynes.

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