



# NORCEMOG

## NEWS

**NORTH WEST AND CHESHIRE**

**January 2018**

**Happy New Year and welcome to this edition. It was only a week ago that I was in Massachusetts watching a foot of snow falling in five hours and being impressed both by the accuracy of the warning message from the local authority and the regularity of the snow ploughs. Still no Chapter 3, apologies! And still a paucity of contributors. I remain happy to receive anything that you care to send, make any necessary corrections to grammar and spelling and then publish it! Something! Anything?**

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NORCEMOG REGALIA – Isobel Moore 01253 738201

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**The Northern Centre  
Celebrating 50 years in 2018  
A snippet from our History**

As we prepare to celebrate 50 years of NorceMogging in 2018 we will feature snippets from our past. This month we produce an article from our August 2000 NorceMog News describing The Moggie Mille Miglia.

Starting as an idea dreamt up by Andy Bleasdale (current Chairman 2018) and Peter Poulter it was intended to raise money for Marie Curie Cancer Care by driving 1000 miles around Britain, in a day!

On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June (2000) at 00.01hrs the factory loaned, Lifes Motors prepared, 4.6 +8 in a rather strange shade of salmon red was waved off from the Marie Curie Hospice in Woolton, Liverpool. A convoy of Morgans saw the duo as far as Knutsford services on the M6 before turning back and heading for their beds. (These were the sensible ones!)

The run down to London was 'uneventful' apart from the heaviest rain either Andy or Pete had ever experienced, although extremely wet the crew were able to send regular progress reports back to Moggie Control in Manchester. At about 3.00am, whilst checking the roadworks situation via the internet, it was noticed that the M4 in London had once again been closed for emergency roadworks. A quick phone call alerted the crew, who were able to use the original notes made from the reconnaissance run to avoid any hold ups. From London the crew made its way south to Caterham to the second hospice before heading out west towards Cardiff. The weather turned for the worse and it began raining heavily. Being fanatical Morgan owners, the crew had set off with the hood down and the side screens off. Being even more fanatical, they decided that they were not going to stop and put the hood up as it would take too long.

Besides, what else was there for a co-driver to do except wipe the inside of the windscreen? After visiting the hospice at Penarth – just outside Cardiff, the team headed off toward the next stop at Solihull, the route up the A449 and A40 onto the M50 is to be recommended.

Perhaps at this point I should mention the AA van and its crew. As mentioned earlier, Peter Poulter, one of the drivers, is an AA patrolman in real life and his manager had agreed to support the challenge by providing a back-up crew and van. Due to the greater speed and handling of the Morgan, the van was not expected to keep up, so they would follow as

best they could and when the Morgan visited a hospice somewhere, the van would keep to the main route and make for the next location. This was the theory anyway and we did not count on the ingenuity and resourcefulness of the AA when it came to finding short cuts. After leaving Cardiff, the weather had dried up a bit so the team were able – in the words of the advanced driver's handbook – "to make good progress". After about an hour or so they were sure that they were way ahead of the AA van and called them on the telephone to see where about they were. Just as the call connected, what should be coming down the slip road onto the motorway in front of the Morgan – yes, you guessed it – the AA van!

Traffic around the M42 wasn't too bad, considering it was by now the morning rush hour, and they arrived in Solihull on schedule. From there the route crossed over to the M1 and then up the M18 and A1, where we had arranged a rendezvous for bacon butties and refills of coffee near Doncaster. After a 20-minute break the team set off again, heading north for Newcastle. It was at this point that we were able to get some photographs of the car as it thundered up the A1.

After Newcastle the route took the drivers along the A68 which proved to be one of the highlights of the trip and a welcome break from the tedium of the motorways. Just south of Edinburgh, the crew met up with Alan Burt, a business colleague of Andy's, who was able to guide them through Edinburgh and across to Glasgow in record time.

Despite another downpour, this put the drivers ahead of schedule and allowed an extended stop at Glasgow to chat to reporters. The drivers could now head south and enjoyed the relative luxury of an extra stop on the M74 near Gretna for a well-earned break. The team were now on the home run and were picked up at Kendal on the A65 by Tim Hill and John Stephens who followed them to Ilkley where the rest of the NorceMog crowd were waiting to escort them back to Liverpool. It was as the convoy was leaving Ilkley that the AA chaps pulled another short cut. This time however, all the cars in the convoy followed the AA van and ended up about half an hour ahead of the Morgan by the time they had reached Warrington. Word was quickly sent to slow the convoy down and, finally, everyone arrived together at the Liverpool Marie Curie Hospice at 23.00 to a wonderful welcome. Other NorceMog members had turned out including 2 three wheelers plus many other family and friends. Lots of photographs and lots of champagne spraying later the weary drivers were taken off home to their beds.

The total distance covered was 1221 miles using £215 of fuel at an average consumption of 20 mpg. The route visited 3 countries, 41 counties and included 19 motorways, 30 A roads and 27 minor roads. It raised £2,500 for Marie Curie in sponsorship. The crew and car were on display at Mog 2000 at Canterbury.

Reprinted from August 2000 NorceMog Newsletter

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### **The Northern Centre Celebrating 50 years in 2018 Badge Design**

The design of our original badge was created in 1997 including the elements of our area. The December 1996 NorceMog Newsletter has the following explanation.

The red rose representing the county of Lancashire.

The golden sword and wheatsheaf taken from the Cheshire county badge.

The sky blue helmet signifying NorceMog, the blue being for the clear blue skies we enjoy on scenic runs!

Finally, the Morgan wings from the crest on all our cars.

To celebrate our Golden Anniversary, we added the script and commissioned a limited run of 50 numbered badges. Sales of these badges have gone extremely well with over half of them being sold in the first week - interest had been expressed by some members hence these badges were reserved. If you have not yet got around to ordering yours, please contact Isobel Moore via [norcemog@gmail.com](mailto:norcemog@gmail.com) ASAP!



## NORCEMOG DIARY OF EVENTS – 2018

N.B. Dates **highlighted** are NorceMog organised events

Items in red to be confirmed / finalised

Easter Monday – April 2<sup>nd</sup> St Georges Day – April 22<sup>nd</sup>

**Jan 14<sup>th</sup>** The Inn at Whitewell - Click Here for [Details](#)

**Contact - Andy Bleasdale – Tel 01995 61718**

**Feb 11<sup>th</sup>**

Briars Hall Hotel, Ormskirk. A very popular venue with Norcemoggers last year so BOOK NOW with Isobel & Peter Moore 01253 738201 [isobelpeter@gmail.com](mailto:isobelpeter@gmail.com) to avoid disappointment. Further details here -

<http://www.norcemog.com/Next%20Event/1802Briars.pdf>

**Mar 7<sup>th</sup>**

Committee Meeting - 18.30 TAS Partnership, Preston

**Mar 11<sup>th</sup>**

Lowther Castle – Cumbria - Click Here for [Details](#)

**Contact - Adrian & Alicia Grant – Tel 01253 727336 or**

[Adrian.grant@taspartnership.com](mailto:Adrian.grant@taspartnership.com).

April 14<sup>th</sup>

MSCC AGM - MMC, Visitor Centre, Malvern

**April 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Lunch & **AGM, Vale Royal Abbey** - Click Here for [Details](#)

**Contact – Andrew Threlkeld – 01606 852395**

April 22<sup>nd</sup>

FBHV Drive it Day -

**May 4 – 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Northern Centre 50 Years Celebration Week-end.** The Park Royal Hotel WA4 4NS Click here for [Details](#)

**Contact – Andrew Threlkeld – 01606 852395**

**May 6<sup>th</sup>**

Scenic Run

**Contact - Dave Roberts & David Haynes**

May 7<sup>th</sup>

Gawsworth Hall Car Show, Macclesfield, SK11 9RN - Click here for [Details](#)

**Download an [ENTRY FORM HERE](#)**

**Contact – Martin Cocks – 07973 488504, [martincocks@btinternet.com](mailto:martincocks@btinternet.com)**

May 18<sup>th</sup>

Cheshire Candles Charity Run – **Organised by West Cheshire MG Club** – All NorceMog members invited. Click here for [Details](#)

**May 26 – 28th Chipping Steam Fair – Entry is free of charge if you 'exhibit' your Morgan.**

Click here for [Details](#)

**June 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tatton Park Classic & Performance Car Show – Click Here for [Details](#)**

**Contact - Martin Cocks – Tel 07973 488504**

**June Cholmondeley Power & Speed Event (Formerly Pageant of Power)**

Cholmondeley Castle, A49, SY14 8AH

**Contact TorMog Please note this event was cancelled for 2017**

**June 10<sup>th</sup> VSCC Vintage Sports Car Festival @ Oulton Park including a round of The**

**Morgan Challenge** - Click here for [Details](#)

**June 10<sup>th</sup>**

Autotest & Concours

**Commercial Vehicle Museum,**

Leyland

Click Here for [Details](#)

**Contact - Bryan Rawlinson - Tel 01995 604716**

June 24th Arley Hall Garden Festival - **10 Cars Max**

Click Here for [Details](#)

**Contact – Andrew Threlkeld – Tel 01606 852395**

June 29&30<sup>th</sup> MOG 18 in The Cotswolds

Contact – [www.mog18.info](http://www.mog18.info)

July 1<sup>st</sup>

All Morgans Day @ Blenheim Palace. Organised by Roadster 100 Club

**Contact – [allmorgansblenheim@gmail.com](mailto:allmorgansblenheim@gmail.com) Tel - 07450 615044**

July 8<sup>th</sup>

Jodrell Bank

Click Here for **Details**

**Contact - Adrian & Alicia Grant – [Adrian.grant@taspartnership.com](mailto:Adrian.grant@taspartnership.com).**

August 8<sup>th</sup>

Committee Meeting - 18:30 TAS Partnership, Preston

August 12<sup>th</sup> TBD

Aug 25 – 27<sup>th</sup> Oulton Park Gold Cup – 3 day race week-end - Click Here for [Details](#)

**Contact – Andrew Threlkeld Tel 01606 852395**

Sep 9<sup>th</sup>

Gymkhana - Farmer Parr's Animal World, Fleetwood FY7 8SL

Click Here for [Details -](#)

**Contact – Bryan Fearn Tel - 01253 891539**

Oct 14th TBD

Oct 14<sup>th</sup> Autumn Trial run by Chester Vintage Enthusiasts Car Club

Click Here for [Details](#)

Nov 18<sup>th</sup> TBD

Dec 9<sup>th</sup> Christmas Party and Annual Awards Presentation

TBD