



To celebrate a special day...

... and celebrating the Morgan that was a very special exception.

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Welcome to your June Newsletter. In this issue: Reports by David Roberts on the Gawsworth Hall Classic Car Show - Andrew Threlkeld on the Windermere Jetty A very special exception - Henpecked on the road ... hope you enjoy!



### ... Celebrate with your Morgan Man

On Sunday 18th June, Father's Day, I trust all you ladies will be treating your 'Captain Morgan Man' to celebrate his special day.

Mine is a family celebration, as I receive gifts from my children, and a treat from my wife who enters into the spirit with a bottle to celebrate with - Captain Morgan or his mate Johnnie Walker.

So I hope you Morgan men will be treated by your loved ones, and I'll be treated to news to add content to my Father's Day celebrations. I'm here to make it 'the Daddy' of all Newsletters.

Les Burgess: [les@lbcreative.co.uk](mailto:les@lbcreative.co.uk)

### Goodbye Harvey



My Golden Boy has passed away and I have lost a most loving and faithful companion of almost 16 yrs.

# Gawsworth Hall Classic Car Show

## Monday 1st May 2023



### Local MSCC Centre members meet up to mingle with the classics at this Tudor Manor location



The Gawsworth Hall Oldtimer Classic Car Show is always an event to look forward to and this was no exception, despite the threatening weather forecast. Aside from the occasional light showers, the forecast for an hour or so of continuous rain didn't materialise and with members from local MSCC centres including NorceMog, DevaMog, DonMog, FellMog and TorMog, we were able to enjoy the show during a relatively dry day.

This year, having completed my 4/4 Series II rebuild last August, Sue and I made the decision to take both the Plus 8 and 4/4 to Gawsworth and we invited friends and former Morgan owners Jill and Roger Maher to join us in the passenger seats. The drive was uneventful until we arrived at Gawsworth, and when driving past the autojumble area a brief blip on the Plus 8's throttle alerted one individual who responded with a stream of expletives, most of which were lost on Roger and I due to the exhaust, but which Sue and Jill were able to decipher much more accurately! Hey ho, life's no fun without annoying the occasional person.

We parked up the two cars in the usual designated area in the wooded glade Rookery, densely populated with bluebells, along with some twenty other Morgans that arrived from local MSCC centres.

These ranged from an early 1930s Morgan Three Wheeler, to Rupert Richards 1958 Plus 4 Super Sports historic race car, Barry Hargreaves 1959 4/4 Series II, my 1960 4/4 Series II and Penny and Tony Cory's very period looking 1977 4/4 through to more recent 4/4s, Plus 4s, Plus 8s and Roadsters. There was even a year old CX chassis Plus 4 LM62 in attendance.



Other marques on display included Lotus Ford Cortina, Lotus, Rolls Royce, Bristol, Lagonda, MG and many others with one notable car being a Batmobile! Oh yes, there was also a number of lipstick red Ferraris. We picnic'd on pasties and pastries contributed by our friends Jill and Roger with Sue providing the courgette and lemon cake; all washed down with a bottle of prosecco! Well, given the garden party atmosphere, it seemed appropriate!

Both the Gawsworth Hall Oldtimer and Youngtimer events are much more than the usual classic car show affairs as the hall and grounds are privately owned and the events have a friendly, relaxed and garden party atmosphere compared with the usual, more commercial classic car events that you may have attended. And in addition to the shows, you can enjoy a tour around the quirky Elizabethan hall which only costs £2 – not even enough for a scullery mouse's ransom.

So for next year, be sure to get this in your diary and come along!

David Roberts

## Even a Batmobile landed at Gawsworth Hall, but nothing was fictional about a display of all the classics that arrived



Photo images with thanks to: Mark Butterworth. Yvonne Chadderton. Tony Cory. Jay Hale. Barry Hargreaves. David Roberts.

# The Morgan Drophead Coupé

**Produced from 1938 to 1968 when it ceased production  
... with one very special exception**

The Morgan drophead coupé, often abbreviated to DHC, is an elegant style of body that was commonly built on vintage and post-vintage chassis cars from before World War II into the 1960s. As a body style, the features included a fixed windscreen, semi-fixed opening side windows and a three position hood (fully closed, partially open and fully open with hood folded completely). As well as Morgan, the style was used by Alvis, Bentley, Bugatti and Rolls Royce.

The first Morgan fitted as a Drophead Coupé was a 1938 4/4 with a body built by the New Avon Coachwork company of Warwick and this car was used as the prototype for Morgan's production 4/4 DHC and thereafter used regularly by Morgan's managing director George Goodall. This car, referred as Uncle George's Winter Carriage due to its practicality during winter months, still exists and resides now in the United States.

It is undocumented, as New Avon Coachworks were commissioned by Morgan to produce the car as a prototype; however, Morgan then quickly extended their range of two and four seater bodied 4/4 cars with a Drophead Coupé. Production of the car paused when Morgan provided its engineering capacity to the war effort, but resumed after WW2.

With the introduction of the Triumph Vanguard engine +4 in 1950, Morgan adapted the 4/4 Drophead Coupé body to fit the +4 chassis and the DHC transitioned from the Flat Rad +4 in 1954 with the introduction of the interim cowl with its flat radiator grill through another interim style with a chromed deep 'waterfall' radiator grill and a cowl into the radiator cowl and chrome plated grill that we are all so familiar.

In 1954, Morgan created a version of the DHC body with four seats. In addition to the additional rear seats, the DHC Four Seater had a small boot with a hinged boot-lid. It also had hinged-back front seats to enable access to the rear seats and sidescreens that were lengthened to allow a modicum of viewing capability for the rear passengers.

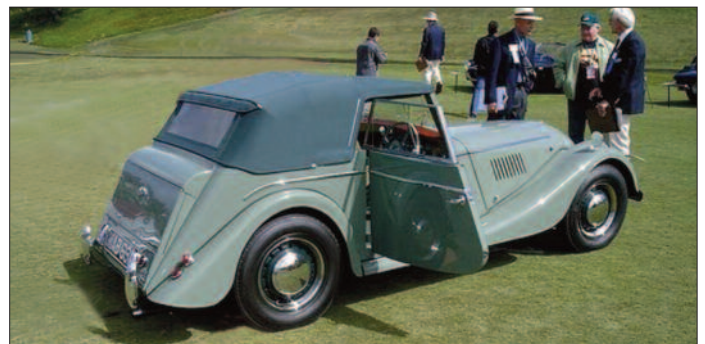
This car, which is now sometimes referred to as the 'SnobMog' ceased production in 1956 after only 51 examples of the car were built.

A NorceMog member and Morgan enthusiast, Arwyn Williams, owns a 1955 +4 4 Seater which is now in bits and missing some significant and unique parts. However, knowing Arwyn, he will inevitably draw from his considerable depth of skill and experience in restoring this car to its former glory.

1960 saw the DHC body being updated by bowing the top of the windscreen upwards and thereby increasing the windscreen area resulting in removing the similarity of the previous variant's windscreen to that of a 'letterbox'. The sidescreens were also increased in height to be compatible at the same time.

Eight years later, in 1968, before it was re-introduced in the 80's, Morgan decided to cease production of the +4, and with it the DHC. However, it was not the end of the Morgan Drophead Coupé story...

...this was due to one very special exception...



## ... the very special exception



In 1971, Morgan produced one last DHC, built on a contemporary +8 chassis, and Moss four speed gearbox replaced with a Borg Warner automatic gearbox. The car was built for Peter Morgan's first wife Jane.

Initially with the registration mark FAB 659J, it was then given a personal registration bearing the initials of Jane Morgan, and rebuilt with a modified body which continues to this day, to wear this mark: JM 53.

Since Morgan produced Jane Morgan's one-off +8 DHC, two more were produced by Bob Harper, a two seater and a four seater DHC; in addition, another +8 DHC hit the road in 2021. Interestingly, and unlike the factory +8 DHC, all three of these +8 DHC 'specials' are fitted with the smaller 'letterbox' windscreen and sidescreens. Unfortunately, in my view, the 'letterbox' impression is greatly increased with the extra width of the +8 body

### **A past project for a period correct +8 Drophead Coupé, is now being re-created - without exception!**

A project to create a period correct +8 DHC that was first started by a Morgan enthusiast elsewhere thirty two years ago, with a manual four speed gearbox, is now in my workshop to be re-created.

Many of the unique to DHC components have now been sourced including one of only three Morgan factory produced curved DHC windscreen / hood top-rail to make sure that this particular +8 DHC will avoid the 'letterbox' windscreen appearance.

Some other unique parts, such as the cast aluminium body mounts and chromed door locks have been sourced over the last couple of decades. Unique parts that have been fabricated include hood clamps and parts of the hood frame. The next parts to be fabricated are the windscreen and chromed brass and glazed sidescreens.



The aim is to produce a period correct, manual four speed replica of Jane Morgan's +8 Drophead Coupé, rather than the car as it currently exists with the loss of the original car's slim and graceful lines having been rebuilt with later wide wheels, widened wings and late type overriders. Once finished, it's hoped that this car will be an elegant, long-legged, long distance touring car - Watch this space.

**David Roberts**

# NorceMog visit Windermere Jetty 21st May 2023



## Members enjoy a Museum of Boats, Steam and Stories

With the perfect weather it was no wonder that everybody in a Morgan arrived with the hood down. Roger Benton even had the side screens off, but admitted that he only removed them once he'd left the motorway. 22 members attended, each driving in one of the 9 Morgans and 2 tin tops. The Morgans enjoyed privileged parking by the museum workshop adding a further attraction to be enjoyed by visitors to the museum.

We could not have been made more welcome by the museum staff with good organisation of the fenced off parking area for the Morgans, the admittance to the museum, the boat trip around the lake and, not forgetting the catering staff in the café.

The museum stands on the former site of the Windermere Steamboat Museum on the eastern shore of Windermere and is supported by a collection built by George Pattinson who was a local builder and boat collector.



Lakeland Arts took ownership of the site in 2007 and after an extensive renovation project, it reopened in Spring 2019 and was officially launched by HRH The Prince of Wales. Today, the collection comprises 40 boats covering the history of sailing on Windermere from the late 18th century.

The concept for Windermere Jetty Museum was to create a museum that, while sensitive to its magnificent location, was also bold and visionary – an outstanding visitor experience that met the complex requirements of a historic boat collection. A key element of the museum design was to preserve and enhance views across Windermere and to connect the collection to the lake and the landscape that surrounds the museum.

This has been achieved through in-house displays and the jetty's own covered 'boathouse' where the museum meets the lake. – as can be seen in the main photo with the Morgans on the next page..

Whilst some members enjoyed the 35-minute boat trip around Belle Island (complete with commentary on the history of the museum) others attended the 'conservation conversation' outside the Conservation Workshop to find out more about the restoration and conservation work that occurs at the Museum.

The museum itself has interactive galleries of boats, steam and stories to enjoy and takes you on a journey, from a wall of wonder (covered from floor to ceiling with boating paraphernalia, equipment and curiosities) to a space where Windermere's boating heritage surrounds you in all directions of the gallery.

Following all this activity, a light lunch of soup and sandwiches was served in our own private area with many members choosing to add a slice or two of cake with the tea or coffee that was provided.

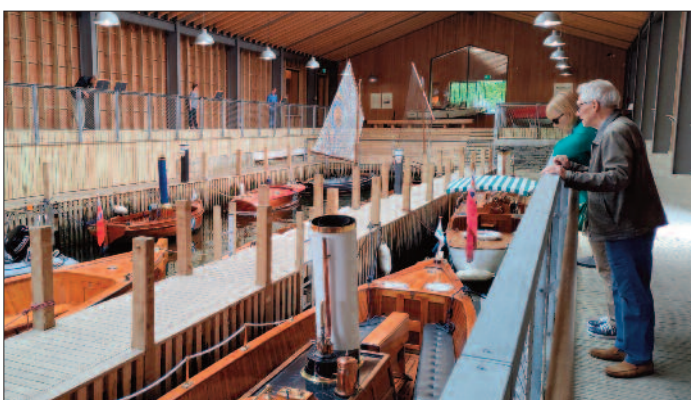
After lunch, enjoying a catch-up on the days activities, those that had not already taken advantage of the lake trip, boarded the boat whilst the rest of us started our journey home – in the Sunshine.

Andrew Threlkeld

## The Morgans enjoying privileged parking by the Museum



## Visiting the Museum to sailing the lake - a boatload of enjoyment





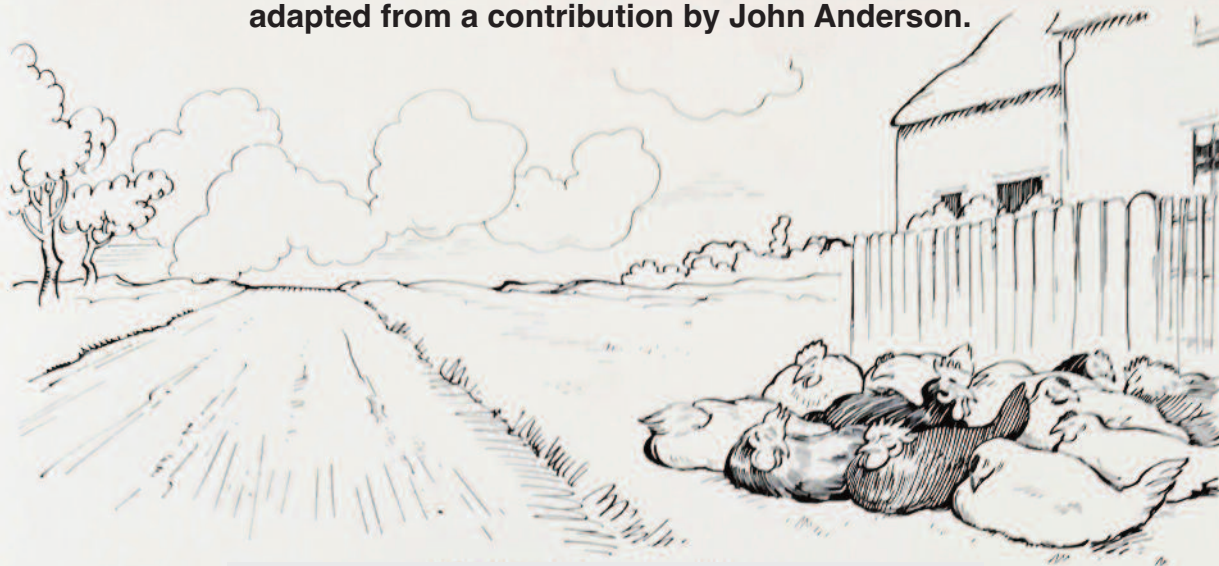
**Chewing over the enjoyment of the day over a light lunch.**





## Us men can even be henpecked on the road...

so let's make the most of Father's Day, as master of the house, in the pecking order!  
But when we're out in the countryside, we can still be driven to despair  
as reflected in this cartoon by H.M. Bateman the brilliant British humorous artist  
adapted from a contribution by John Anderson.



"Ah, pleasant relaxation - doing nothing - all of the day!"



"What's that? - Sounds like a man in a noisy motor car!"



"Into the road - all of you - stop him as quick as you can!"



# Diary of NorceMog Events

Enjoy meeting up with your fellow members

# 2023

Check Website for any Event Updates [www.norcemog.com](http://www.norcemog.com)

**Highlighted** - Events organised by NorceMog. **Dates/Events listed in Red** - to be confirmed/finalised.

<b>Jan 8</b>	<b>The Inn at Whitewell, Clitheroe, Lancashire</b> Contact Andy Bleasdale Tel 07973 315676 <a href="mailto:bleasers@hotmail.com">bleasers@hotmail.com</a> <a href="#">Full Details</a>	
<b>Feb 12</b>	<b>The Riverside Inn, Acton Bridge, Nr Northwich</b> Contact Andrew Threlkeld Tel 07912 494768 <a href="mailto:norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com">norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com</a> <a href="#">Full Details</a>	
<b>Mar 12</b>	<b>The Dalton Arms at Glasson Dock, Lancashire</b> Contact Andrew Threlkeld Tel 07912 494768 <a href="mailto:norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com">norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com</a> <a href="#">Full Details</a>	
<b>April 10</b>	<b>Oulton Park - British GT &amp; GB3 Championships</b> <b>Half price admission</b>	
<b>April 15</b>	<b>MSCC AGM - MMC, Visitor Centre, Malvern</b>	
<b>April 16</b>	<b>NorceMog AGM/Lunch, Vale Royal Abbey, Whitegate</b> Contact Andrew Threlkeld Tel 07912 494768 <a href="mailto:norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com">norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com</a> <a href="#">Full Details</a>	
<b>April 23</b>	<b>FBHV Drive it Day: Pipes in the Peak, Derbyshire</b> <a href="#">Full Details</a>	
<b>May 1</b>	<b>Gawsworth Hall Car Show, Macclesfield</b> Contact Martin Cocks Tel 07973 488504, <a href="mailto:martincocks@btinternet.com">martincocks@btinternet.com</a> <a href="#">Full Details</a>	
<b>May 7</b>	<b>Cheshire Candles Charity Run</b> Organised by West Cheshire MG Car Club <a href="#">Full Details</a>	
<b>May 21</b>	<b>Windermere Jetty - Museum of Boats, Speed &amp; Steam</b> Contact Andrew Threlkeld Tel 07912 494768 <a href="mailto:norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com">norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com</a> <a href="#">Full Details</a>	
<b>June 11</b>	<b>Autotest &amp; Concours the British Commercial Museum, Leyland</b> Contact Brian Rawlinson Tel 01995 604716 <a href="#">Full Details</a>	
<b>June 25</b>	<b>Arley Hall Garden Festival, Arley, Cheshire</b> Contact Andrew Threlkeld Tel 07912 494768 <a href="mailto:norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com">norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com</a> <a href="#">Full Details</a>	

MAXIMUM 10 CARS

June 30 -  
July 2

**MOGFEST 23 & Annual Dinner**  
Windsor & Brooklands Museum, Surrey  
[Bookings open](#) and can be made through MSCC Travel Club



July 9

**100 years of Blackpool Carnival**  
Contact Andrew Threlkeld Tel 07912 494768  
[norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com](mailto:norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com)  
[Full Details](#)



July 15

**Oulton Park - Ford Power Live**  
(Perhaps only Ford engined Morgans) **Half price admission**  
Contact Andrew Threlkeld Tel 07912 494768  
[norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com](mailto:norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com)



July 23

**Cheshire Motor Show, Frodsham**  
Contact Andrew Threlkeld Tel 07912 494768  
[norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com](mailto:norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com)  
[Full Details](#)



July 24 - 27

**Fat Lamb Tour: Yorkshire Dales / Cumbria**  
Contact Adrian & Dot Long Tel 07831 377255  
[adrian.long@icloud.com](mailto:adrian.long@icloud.com)  
[Full Details](#) **DON'T DELAY TO RESERVE A PLACE**



July 28 - 30

**Oulton Park Gold Cup - 3-day race weekend**  
Contact Andrew Threlkeld Tel 07912 494768  
[norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com](mailto:norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com)  
[Full Details](#) **29th - 30th Half price admission**



Aug 13

**Assheton Arms, Downham**  
Contact Kate Robins via Andrew Threlkeld  
[norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com](mailto:norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com)  
[Full Details](#)



Sept 1 - 3

**Morgans at Windermere**  
Contact Les Ellis Tel 07900 962348  
[les2mog@gmail.com](mailto:les2mog@gmail.com)  
**REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN**

**LIMITED TO 30 MEMBERS**



Sept 10

**The Buck Country Pub, Near Clitheroe**  
Contact Isobel & Peter Moore Tel 01253 378201  
[isobelpeter@gmail.co.uk](mailto:isobelpeter@gmail.co.uk)  
[Full Details](#)



Sept 14 - 17

**FolkMog week-end at Woodhall Spa**  
Several NorceMog members are going on this trip.  
**Although Closing Date was June 2022**  
Contact [wilson.steve12@googlemail.com](mailto:wilson.steve12@googlemail.com) for any cancellations



Oct 8

**To be confirmed**  
Event under review with Paul & Margaret Johnson  
[Details to follow](#)

Nov 5

**Swettenham Arms, Nr Congleton**  
Event to be hosted by Peter & Rosemary Murphy  
[Brief Details](#)



Dec 10

**Christmas Lunch & Annual Awards Presentation**  
**Barton Manor Hotel, Barton, Preston**  
Contact Linda Fearn Tel 01253 891539  
[lindafearn737@icloud.com](mailto:lindafearn737@icloud.com)  
[Details to follow](#)



**If you have an idea for hosting one of our monthly events, we welcome proposals.**  
Contact Andrew Threlkeld, Centre Secretary Tel: 07912 494 768 [norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com](mailto:norcemog.sec@morgansportscarclub.com)



Adapted with acknowledgement to 'Talk Morgan'

**Whether it's being asked on Father's Day or any day us Morgan men know it's not in question.**

**Just as in the lyrics of song by the late great Tina Turner...**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tnf4naDLFoo>**

**We've got the perfect car - so keep enjoying that perfect drive!**

**Cheers - Les [les@lbacreative.co.uk](mailto:les@lbacreative.co.uk)**