

# Monkey Business

## No 46 - November 2014



*Written By Chris Taylor*

*Bunged Together By Simon Griffiths*

We had yet another record breaking attendance for the 45th with 26 members and friends gathering to eat drink and be merry; that equalled the Christmas dinner last year, which must mean we are doing something right. Last year's Christmas do was our first gathering at the Deanwater and since then our numbers have steadily improved so the venue obviously suits. This year I know we have bumper numbers for the Christmas meal being somewhat inflated because of offering hospitality to our Lancashire and Yorkshire friends who have rather absent mindedly lost their pub!



**Chris Hewitt's shining example of a TE - note the light reflecting off the solid brass headlamp bezels!**

Please remember that Tuesday's meeting is the Christmas meal in The Balmoral Suite at the Deanwater - gathering at, say, around 7.15 to be seated at 7.45pm. Gez and I along with Simon and Mel visited the Deanwater on Monday to pay over the monies and submit the menu choices and, efficient as ever, Gez will be handing out your choice sheets so you (I) can't claim someone else's meal. I am told there will be a 'swapathon' in the car park but please don't get worried if you arrive whilst it is in progress as this month it is not Alvis parts exchanging hands but braces of Pheasants and wood pigeons, they are not for our meal and you won't be asked to pluck and cook your own dinner.

At the 45th Mick brought himself, Gez and Stephen Whittaker all in John Fenn-Wiggins's TE so that was a mixed bag all in one. John's car has had some work done with Mick and is now fit and ready to assume its duty as the winter car whilst the Tiger rests. I'm sure Stephen needs no introduction to

you but just in case, he is the poor hapless chap... oops sorry, very willing volunteer (*willing volunteer? Oh aye, I know just how that can happen to you! - B'er T'er*) who is now our section's secretary. Stephen will be nicely 'run in' by the time our first International is hosted by the section and I hope you will make yourself known to Stephen, offering him help in your specialist area to lighten the load which is now too much for one man or even a small committee to cope with. I know at the meeting Tim Brown was nobbled .... Oh there I go again, sorry.... INVITED to help with the section's activities for 2015+; and I know that, following the success of this year's treasure hunt and the proposed Gawsworth gathering, Stephen could not have selected a better victim. Together with Jayne they will make a very valuable asset to the section committee's events - which I hope we will support whole heartedly.

Chris Hewitt who, up until Tracey his wife giving birth to Monty, was the youngest member of our section brought his very tasty TF with some lovely touches of individuality that really finish the car off nicely. It is amazing how quickly we are replaced from our pedestal but at least his replacement as the youngest member was of Chris's own doing!

Very good to see Ann and Edward Garratt again who make the most perfect mother and son team and also Pheasant supplier in the North. Peter Lakin, Simon and Melissa all came in JJ 8761 - Peter's Firefly, it is pretty remarkable to consider three-up in November in a tourer, if this is global



**3-up in a tourer in November? It must be positively tropical in Cheshire**



**Mike's car arrived with a different pilot - so no doubt there will be some wrangling about Bent Valve Trophy points that need awarding!**

warming bring it on I say! Bill and Edie Buxton and Brian and Elizabeth Bennett were the other two man and wife teams and Phil and Shaun completed the families with the father and son routine – all we need is Bruce Forsyth to buy an Alvis move to Cheshire and we could run our very own Generation Game and be the envy of the club; perhaps Les Durrant could supply the parts on the conveyer belt.

During the night I am sure I spied Mike Fitkin lurking about but he didn't sign the visitors' book (*visitors' book? - I haven't seen that for about 6 months; it's all bits of paper these days! - B'er T'er*) so there is a chance our numbers weren't quite as I have claimed; but I am sure I did see him, so sign in next time please Mike we can't have dodgy statistics. The members are bad enough in that department as Richard Plant –Locke bears testament to but at least the Deanwater was spared any rusty lumps of old motor car being dragged through the restaurant this month. To round up the members Johnathon Reeves was with his pal David Combey you will remember of Jaguar Mk2 fame who were also accompanied by Kevin Molloy who is another devout Jaguar fan. Due to idiot me forgetting my 'phone camera thing yet again I hope Simon came to the rescue and that he will include a bit of blurb and the odd caption of the recorded images for the night.

So I will round off by reminding you that the next meeting is the joint Christmas meal with Mick's lot in the Balmoral Suite - whose door is directly off the rear car park to the right of the usual entrance to reception. I should also mention that rooms are available if you want to stay over but please book direct with Barry the hotel manager mentioning the magic words 'The A team' - you will probably find yourself in a corridor somewhere for the night if you do, mind!

So to recap next meeting is Tuesday December 2nd at the Deanwater Hotel, Woodford, SK7 1RJ 7.15 for 7.45. for the year long awaited awarding of the Drummers' Straight and Bent Valve Trophies as well as any other frolicking that is customary at Mick's do, oh yes and we might feed you as well.



**Tim and Jayne's car must know its own way to the pub and back by now - good job really as Tim's still not sure where the light switch is!**