



# Monkey Business No 62 - April 2016



*Written By Chris Taylor*

*Bunged Together By Simon Griffiths*

A lovely evening with a low sun, albeit cool, was our reward for gathering at the Deawater hotel for the 62nd meeting; however I must start this report with the sad news about our regular attender Les Durrant who sadly lost his battle with cancer and I offer our condolences to his daughter. As you all know Les offered a unique spares service to the prewar owners and he will be dearly missed both for those and his extensive knowledge of all things Alvis.

Onto the meeting itself and I had received apologies from Peter Lakin, who was dutifully being dad in Lanzarote with his knotted hankie and bucket & spade.

On the night we were 18 strong and this included 3 guests namely Roger and Peter Morton with Bronwen Ashton. Roger's father Tom was known to me twenty years ago as he was a pal of Ken Frith's. He, with Roger as a lad, visited the Dandy Cock pub as Tom was a Bentley man for all his life. Roger and Peter now find themselves part

owners of several Bentleys mainly needing work and had come into our midst to gather help with our thoughts on coachwork restorers. Mick Fletcher and myself were able to willingly give such advice - along with an invitation to

Mick's meeting at the Royal Oak the following Monday to seek registration provenance from Dave Culshaw, as Roger had some very interesting history that was pointing to two of the Bentleys having racing pedigree and with a direct connection to Woolf Barnato himself.

Exciting as this is it pales into insignificance when we discovered the brothers had also become part owners of Tom's Firebird DHC. This is a car in need of some serious restoration work and I know our B'er T'er Simon had several conversations with Tom about it and even went to have a look at it to help with his own restoration project - but its an original and the words find another are getting to have real meaning,

good luck chaps. If anyone is interested let me know and I'll put you in touch.

Great news from a very excited Mel who now has her own project which is the recomissioning of a lovely Morris 1000 that it has been one of her life's ambitions to own. However Simon this is not to be used as an excuse to stop work on the

Firebird! It then struck me that Steven Walley, myself, Simon, Roger, Peter and Mick were all present and all Firebird owners, which is quite a thing considering not that many years ago Firebirds and their owners were never seen. As a model they are proving that they are the pre-war "sleeper" of them all.

All this talk of cars nearly steered me off course of mentioning our ladies who continue to support the meeting and for which I am really grateful as together the meeting is complete so

with Trish Wison, Gez, Jayne, Elizabeth, Judith, Bronwen and Melissa the ladies are nearly half our number and I think that in itself is a brilliant testimonial to our friendly gathering and I am really pleased for their support.

Tim Brown is in full swing working hard to bring a great season's fun-

packed events list; starting this Bank Holiday Monday at Gawsworth so pleased read Tim's bit for the latest news.

Talking of solid commitment to our meeting it was truly demonstrated this month as Elizabeth had just had an operation on her ankle and she and Brian realised that the drive from Chester to the Deanwater and back in one night would be a bit of an ordeal, so, to avoid compromising the fun of the night, booked a room at the hotel which meant they could have a relaxing drive home after breakfast, could we ask for more?

So to finish I must mention Mike Robinson, Richard Plant-



**Would any meeting be complete without this array of Alvis cars?**

Locke and Charles Van-Ingen who all added their own unique personalities to the proceedings.

I look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting which is the Monday 3rd May at the Deanwater Hotel SK7 1RJ which is the night after Gawsworth so a good serving of matters Alvis in May.

## And now Tim Brown reports on events past and future:

The Northern Alvis Calendar of events for 2016 is now in full swing with a number of events having already taken place with many enjoyable days out still to come.

Our most recent event was on Sunday 24th April which was "Drive it Day" a national event and this year, to celebrate this, Stephen Whitaker organised an excellent treasure hunt starting at Worston and following a circular route taking in some of the most beautiful villages in the Ribble Valley and ending up, back where we started at the Calf's Head for lunch.

A total of 25 people took part and there was a brilliant turnout of 10 Alvis cars.



A fine line up of machinery (top) and a close up of Paul Chasney's new Graber (bottom)

Whilst the weather forecast was less than good and even SNOW was predicted, the weather brightened up by the time we arrived and whilst there was a definite chill in the air, it remained dry (mostly) and even the sun showed it's face for much of the time.

Great fun was had by all and Stephen and Susan taxed us all with their ingenious clues along the way and we must say a big thank you to them for organising such a great day out.

Our next event is soon upon us with the Gawsworth Hall Classic car show this Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May. 2015 was our first attendance as a club and we won the prize for best club stand. We now have a fantastic 14 cars signed up, which fills our stand, but if you want to come along for the day anyway, please do so and pay on the door. Here's hoping for some sunshine!!

Northern Alvis weekend in the Lake District will be based at the Netherwood Hotel in Grange over Sands and I understand that there are only a couple of rooms still available. The main event on the Sunday is at the exceptional Holker Hall, set in beautiful countryside with gardens that merge into parkland, framed by the Lakeland hills.

There are a couple of new entries on the calendar this month, firstly a return to Tatton Park for the Passion for Power weekend in August and also prior notification for International Alvis Weekend 2017, which next year will be heading up the road from it's current residence in the Midlands to our region and will be held for the first of our three years of tenure in Cheshire. Please "save the date" and more information will follow in due course.

Details of all of the forthcoming events are attached below. Please make a note of these dates in your diary and do come and join us. These events are always well worth the effort and the company as always, beyond compare! If you have any queries, or comments, please contact me; Tim Brown at: [timbrownmrics@aol.co.uk](mailto:timbrownmrics@aol.co.uk)

## Calendar of Events for 2016

### Important:

*All venues and details are liable to change, please check the monthly "pinkun" for full details of each of the events, below and for any up to date news before making your plans.*

### Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May

**Gawsworth Hall Classic Car Show. Gawsworth Hall, Church Lane, Gawsworth, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 9RN**

Once again we will be hosting an Alvis Owner Club corner at the above event, which is held annually on the first Bank Holiday in May, within The Grounds of Gawsworth Hall, Gawsworth, Nr Macclesfield, Cheshire.

This is a one-day classic and vintage car and motorcycle show.

Anyone interested in attending, please contact Tim Brown on: 07799 118771 or email at: [timbrownmrics@aol.co.uk](mailto:timbrownmrics@aol.co.uk)

### Friday 20th Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd May International Alvis Weekend,

**Wroxall Abbey Hotel and Estates, Birmingham Rd, Wroxall, Warwickshire.**

This year the AOC are celebrating the Fourteen introduced in 1946 and the TF21 in 1966. This is the best Midland site so far - ample space for everything with a marquee for the Dinner and Final prize Giving which takes everyone and several cars. The marquee also enables us to put on films and other entertainment if it is wet. This year we are

booking new stalls of interest to our ladies, leather goods, jewellery, make-up, interior renovation (cars!) together with old trade friends.

Wroxall Hotel is already fully booked, but the overflow hotel is the same as last year at Chesford Grange and is closer this time: **Tel. 0113 2052891**, wade through the messages and mention **Alvis International** to get the concessionary rate. Transfer coaches will be laid on. Don't forget to book your events and Dinner on the event form itself as well. The forms will appear with the pink and on the AOC website.

### **Sunday 5th June**

#### **Parish Picnic for Petrolheads,**

**St John the Baptist church, Vicarage Lane, Knaresborough, Yorkshire. HG5 9AE**

Arrive from 12 noon onwards. Pimms, wine and beer bar. Contact Anne and David Salter: 01423 870350 email: [davidandannesalter@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:davidandannesalter@tiscali.co.uk)

### **Friday 24th Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th June 'Weekend in the Lakes'**

This year our Northern flagship event, takes us to the Jewel in its crown.

#### **The Lake District.**

Commencing with Friday afternoon at Cartmel Racecourse with a barbeque in our own private marquee, whilst watching your horse hopefully first at the post. Our Hotel is nothing short of wonderful, it overlooks the town of Grange and the estuary and with a fantastic price of £65.00 per person per night Bed and Breakfast. We have a fully packed weekend on offer with a twin lakes tour, Gala Dinner and Concours at Holker Hall on the Sunday.

To book your room, telephone the Netherwood Hotel 015395 32552 quoting **Northern Alvis Weekend** for your special rate. Booking form for your events and Dinner will appear with the pink and on the AOC website.

For further details contact Anne and David Salter: 01423 870350 email: [davidandannesalter@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:davidandannesalter@tiscali.co.uk) or Stephen Whitaker: 01200 447874 email: [piscisteve@gmail.com](mailto:piscisteve@gmail.com)

### **Sunday 17th July**

#### **Newby Hall Vintage and Classic car Show.**

**Newby Hall, Ripon, North Yorkshire, HG4 5AE.**

We are once again invited, by The North of England Classic and Pre War Automobile Club, to Yorkshire's largest, one day, Vintage and Classic Car Rally. Entry is by pass only, and you can obtain one by sending an A5 Stamped addressed envelope to Harry Fletcher, Nyora, Dale Road, Shildon, Co. Durham, DL4 2LB. by 30th June 2016. Further details

Contact S Whitaker 01200 447874 or Email at [piscisteve@gmail.com](mailto:piscisteve@gmail.com)

### **Saturday and Sunday 6th and 7th August**

#### **Croft Nostalgia weekend and Historic race meet.**

**Croft Circuit, West Lane, Dalton-on-Tees, Darlington, Yorkshire DL2 2PL**

Croft's much raved-about retro festival – featuring historic motor sport plus a chance to live life yesteryear-style with music, fashion, WWII encampments and air displays – is

back for a sixth year.

Nostalgia (*which is not what it used to be! - B'er T'er*) has become one of the North East region's events to be seen at as huge numbers of people embrace the enchanting atmosphere and attend dressed in period style. For mums and daughters there's even a chance to get a 40s makeover! On track there's retro race action provided. It is quite simply two days of unmissable fun and a chance to stir the senses for older and younger generations alike! For an entry form log on to [www.croftcircuit.co.uk](http://www.croftcircuit.co.uk)

Further details contact, S Whitaker 01200 447874 or email at [piscisteve@gmail.com](mailto:piscisteve@gmail.com)

### **Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st August Tatton Park, Passion for Power**

**Tatton Park, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 6QN**

Back by popular demand. Alan Lee is organising a Northern club stand at this premier car show in the wonderful parkland of Tatton Hall. Autojumble and up to 40 club stands with plenty to see and do. Entry by pass only.

Further details contact; Alan Lee 01514 870304

### **Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th September Vintage by the sea.**

**The Midland Hotel, Marine Rd , Morecambe, Lancashire LA4 4BU.**

A celebration of all things Vintage: cars, live music, fashion etc. See website [www.midlandvintage.co.uk](http://www.midlandvintage.co.uk) Contact Andrew Wisdom 01254 676591

Email: [andrew.wisdom@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:andrew.wisdom@hotmail.co.uk)

### **Sunday 11th September**

#### **Hartington Show near Buxton, Derbyshire**

**High Fields, Hall Bank, Hartington. SK17 0AT**

An opportunity to meet with our fellow Midland Alvis Enthusiasts, arrive from 9.30am onwards to a great country show, Vintage Tractors, Stationary Engines, Vintage Lorries, Cars & Steam Engines. Anyone interested in attending, please contact Giles Lacey email: [lacey\\_giles@btinternet.com](mailto:lacey_giles@btinternet.com) or Tim Brown on: 07799 118771 or email at: [timbrownmrics@aol.co.uk](mailto:timbrownmrics@aol.co.uk)

### **Sunday 18th October**

#### **Northern Section AGM**

**The Spread Eagle, Sawley, Nr Clitheroe, Lancashire. BB7 4NH**

Meet at 12.00 noon for lunch at 12.45pm. Advanced booking for lunch required no later than 10th October please. AGM will start at 2.30pm. Contact Mick Fletcher 01254 260999 or 07703 506685, email [mick.fletcher@totalise.co.uk](mailto:mick.fletcher@totalise.co.uk)

**Items for the agenda, and nominations for office bearers to be in writing, and to arrive with the Northern Secretary, Stephen Whitaker by the 2nd October 2016 please.**

Glebe House, Gisburn Rd, Bolton by Bowland. Clitheroe. Lancashire. BB7 4NP. or Email : [piscisteve@gmail.com](mailto:piscisteve@gmail.com)

# Save the Day!

Join us next year when IAW heads

"up North"

16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> June 2017

at



**Crewe Hall Hotel,**

**Cheshire**

**IAD Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June at**

**Gawsworth Hall,**

**Cheshire**



More information coming soon [HERE](#) and in the "Pink"  
and online at [www.alvisoc.org](http://www.alvisoc.org)