



Monkey Business No 63 - May 2016



Written By Chris Taylor

Bunged Together By Simon Griffiths

This month's report will have to be short as I have finally moved back to the new/old house; the builder having missed his third completion date I have run out of time with regards to leases on the flat and touring Scotland with Robin & Julia Bendall. I am sharing the house with teams of builders making a proper mess every time I try to clean so it's a real fun time right now. To help matters further I have no computer set up so I am writing this on my telephone, that predictive text is likely to know better than me and completely rewrite my report and change the meaning beyond recognition.

With regret I cannot join you at June's meeting as I am with Robin and Julia in Scotland but the meeting is in good hands with Simon having volunteered (*having? I think you missed been out of that sentence - B'er T'er*) to host you in a fun packed night. Please remember we are now only a month away from alternative night at July's meeting.

Also as Mick and Gez who have been to visit me in my new abode reminded me that there is a theme for June's meeting and it is Mascot Night so bring along any mascots - car related or otherwise, you may want to show.

As the photos show it was a proper Alvis night with five post-war cars and 3 pre-war cars. The post-war group was headed up Tim and Jayne Brown and Charles and Judith Van-ingen making their regular visit and they were kept company with John Fenn- Wiggins who I was delighted joined us after a couple of missed meetings.



remember the next three years are OURS in the north. I am sure any volunteers for helping in the planning and execution will be well received by the committee, please speak to Stephen Whittaker to register interest as it's a massive task and we must show Northern



We also were joined by Chris Anderson in his lovely TD which is a newcomer to the meeting and hopefully will return to us on a regular basis as well as Giles Lacey in his hybrid pretty-much-everything post war model!

Next in the car park was Peter Lakin's trusty Firefly with Simon and Melissa riding shotgun, followed by Mike Robinson in VM 8657, his totally original 12/50 tourer, and Mick Fletcher and Gez arrived in Mick's splendid and very original Firebird saloon which are now quite rare.

This brings me to seek your opinion regarding this year's judging at International where Mick Fletcher and I were judging the pre-war entries for concours. However there were not enough cars to field full entries for all sections so, in line with standard practice, entry classes were amalgamated but that meant this year specials were put with standard cars causing a newly re-bodied special to take the top pre-war prize for concours. This has led to quite a lot of emails and I would be interested in any opinions you may have on the subject for us to get it right next year.

As you will see from the pictures International was blessed with lovely weather and a great turnout and this was year three of the Midland region hosting the event so please

hospitality at its best.

Our numbers were up to the best we've had with Norman Blundell, Phil McAndrew and Sean chatting away with Stephen Walley and Brian and Elizabeth Bennett completing the set.

Simon will be pleased to welcome you to the Deanwater on the 7th June - the post code, in case you don't know by now - is SK7 1RJ

And now a brief report from our roving reporter Dean O'Spyder:

I've been busy out and about recently and can report that International saw a good turnout of Northern Section members which was a chance for the committee to weigh up what they need to do for the next three year's events in the Northern Section starting with Crewe Hall and Gawsworth in 2017.

Melissa was sporting a black eye for Saturday evening's do having picked a fight with a TA14 Woodie and come second - I think she'd misread the invitation which actually said "black tie". Deanwater regulars Tim and Jayne were resplendent as Sister Immaculate and Father Tim and they were joined by representatives of other faiths from the Northern Section.

They were also spotted chauffeuring Simon and Melissa round the Longstone Tyres tour with a stop off to look at Haseley Knob which Jayne was very disappointed to find was a village!

I happened to find myself in Nantwich for the start of the Weaver Wander and saw Peter Lakin causing mayhem in the town centre trying to make his RR Phantom into a convertible by the simple expedience of picking up the Mayor's gazebo and driving off with it. It took four men to lift it off before he'd got too tight a hold!

While I was in Nantwich I looked in Simon's car-thedral I'm pleased to report that the Morris finally looks like it's starting to come back together so may be on the road for July's alternative meeting

That's all for now - happy Alvising



Will it fit? Won't it? Err no, it won't! Peter causes some consternation in the Mayor's starting gazebo at the start of the Weaver Wander in Nantwich

Finally 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 and many enjoyable days out still to come.

Sadly, our most recent event the Gawsworth Hall Classic car show this year was not to be. Due to the heavy rain, sleet and snow that we had suffered during the preceding week and a very mixed weather forecast over the Bank Holiday weekend, the organisers wisely took the decision to abandon the event for this year due to the water-logged ground. A great shame but probably a wise move in the circumstances.



With the cancellation of Gawsworth Simon and Melissa found some consolation at the Vintage Fair in Llandudno - that's probably Simon driving the lead car!

We will be back again next year however, in May for the same event, but also for International Alvis Day on 18th June, so make a note on your calendar for next year.

International Alvis Weekend 2016 took place at Wroxall Abbey in Warwickshire and what a great weekend it was. The Midland section did us proud at what was there swansong of international events and those who attended for the weekend enjoyed a great time sampling all that the area had to offer with excursions to local places of interest such as Baddesley Clinton and Kenilworth Castle and generally enjoying the beautiful countryside, sights and villages of the area.

The gala dinner on the Saturday was great a success and the fancy dress themes of Nuns, clergy and St Trinian's proved very popular.



Drummers Sister Immaculate and Father Tim meet other Northern religious representatives in bhikkhu Andrew Broughton, Sister Anne & Cardinal David Salter

International day on Sunday was a glorious sunny day and the traditional events of the Concours and driving tests attracted many entrants and were greatly appreciated by everyone as was the general array of metalwork in the show field and the associated sideshows. The event notably celebrated 70 years of the TA14 and 50 years of the TF and both models were particularly well represented.

We must congratulate the Midland section for all that they have done, hosting "International" for the last three years and now they have, quite literally handed the baton over to us, in the north to host the next three. The task of organising this is already well in hand and we will have lots in store for you when our first international event comes around next year at Crewe Hall from Friday 16th to Sunday 18th of June 2017. Please make a note of these dates and come and support us and help demonstrate what your region has to offer.

Our next event in the calendar is the "Parish Picnic for Petrolheads" at Knaresborough on Sunday 5th of June, which is a lovely local show but with a particular leaning towards motor cars. Come along and enjoy a traditional summer Sunday out.

Northern Alvis weekend in the Lake District will also soon be upon us, based at the Netherwood Hotel in Grange over Sands, where we have all but taken over the whole hotel. 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.

Details of all of the forthcoming events are attached below. Please do come along and join in. These events are always well worth the effort and the company as always, makes the day! If you have any queries, or comments, please contact me at: 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.

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

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 or Stephen Whitaker: 01200 447874 email: 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

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 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 Further details contact, S Whitaker 01200 447874 or email at 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 Contact Andrew Wisdom 01254 676591

Email.: 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 or Tim Brown on: 07799 118771 or email at: timbrownmrics@aol.co.uk

Sunday 16th 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

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

To round off this issue here are some more memories of International:



Above: A beautiful piece of machinery - oh and that thing in front's quite nice too!
Below: A fair selection of Grabers



Drummers Brian and Elizabeth receive blessings and guidance from Sister Immaculate

