



# Monkey Business No 128 - April 2022



*Written By Chris Taylor*

*Bunged Together By Simon Griffiths*

**T**hat's better! I know Covid hasn't gone away but following this meeting I would think we have now seen all our regular faces at least once since the restrictions were lifted. It was a nice night with the temperature at about 12 degrees even at 8.00pm and how pleased I was to see Tim and Jayne Brown borne to the do in their lovely TD 21 that has been in the family for generations. As usual they both brought their usual merriment and joy to the Deanwater. Great, too, to see Mike Robinson again as his family responsibilities turn more towards the cars in his life.

As I said in the last MB Simon and I were coming directly from Rugby but happily, as things turned out, we were not late as I thought we might be so we were there from the start. Norman was being his wonderful, cheeky, self, telling me that my Helly Hanson jacket was a freebie from H&H auctions! So, after a brief correction, and me reminding him I don't serve brisket to my guests either, he was pleased to be in possession of the facts; as usual Claire looked on wistfully but also with a twinkle in her eye.

Again, a good attendance from the Welsh end of our catchment with Richard Plante-Locke reiving all he could get away with. And, of course, from our West-End Cheshire we welcomed Elizabeth Bennett and Charles Van-Ingén, sans Judith whom I assume Charles had set to work to bring in the shekels to keep body and soul together. Charles was, as usual, suitably transferred to the meeting in his splendid 1965 TE21, whose reliability is as good now as it was when new. He very kindly gave me a NOS fuel pump, surplus to his requirements, which will be joining a few bits and bobs kindly given to me by Norman Silk for onward gifting to the Alvis Archive Trust, all of which will be offered for sale to help boost the Trust's finances. These gifts will really help the Trust gain a proper financial footing to safely keep and

expand the collection going forward.

Next up, in yet another Alvis beauty, was Peter Lakin in JJ, his utterly reliable Firefly as you can see from the picture. I suspect Peter is hiding his starting handle behind his back, thus giving him the somewhat English Perpendicular stance. All that said though, it is a testament to the original designers and creators of our wonderful steeds that they are able to be such reliable transport so long after manufacture. Of course, not forgetting the string of owners who have enjoyed and maintained them, sufficient that they should last so long with no sign of the need for retirement yet showing!



**Here's Peter, ramrod straight - possibly helped by a starting handle behind his back**





**I know it's the same line up from the other direction but just look at that sky!**

It was great to welcome both Tari and Michelle Mirza who always bring great subjects of conversation to the table and, this month, were themselves brought in style in their lovely TF 21. A car with the most appropriate registration mark bearing four numbers and the letters TF – what a match! Stephen Walley was busy appropriately drumming up the assembled Drummers to join him on the Judith-Mary for this year's annual lunch, whilst sailing on the Peak Forest canal. It is this Thursday and I have no idea if this will land with you so you can join us or whether it will be just a fond memory for those of us that joined in but in any case, thanks go to Stephen for organising the day.

Also, Simon has just reminded me that prior to our next Deanwater (SK7 1RJ) bash - on Tuesday May 3<sup>rd</sup> at around 7 pm - there is Northern Alvis day at Gawsworth on Sunday; so plenty of things to keep you from being bored this spring. I expect a few Alvis will be being awoken and readied for Gawsworth, one of which will be GS my Firebird under Simon's pilotage, so no excuse for all of them not to be at the Deanwater next Tuesday! I look forward to seeing them in the carpark.