



WETHERBY CLASSIC CAR CLUB

Web Site: <http://www.wetherbyclassiccarclub.org.uk>

April 2018 to June 2018



Rainbow night

**Meetings are held at the Bridge Inn, Walshford, North Yorkshire LS22 5HS
Phone:01937 580115 On 2nd Tuesday each month 8.00pm, presentations at 8.30
Special price Carvery available from 7.00 pm for members and visitors**

FORTHCOMING EVENTS – NOTES FOR YOUR DIARY

CLUB NIGHTS – 2nd Tuesday in the month – 8.00pm Bridge Inn Walshford LS22 5HS

Tuesday 10th April. - AGM and video of the Shetland Classic Car Show 2016

Tuesday 8th May. - ‘Magical Monaco- From the Royal Family to the Grand Prix’ Mr Graham Read.

Tuesday 12th June - Concours evening at the Bridge Hotel

Tuesday 10th July - Evening drive from and to the Bridge Hotel

OUR OTHER EVENTS

List of events for 2018

Sunday 8th April - April fools Day run – Details from Tony

April 17th - 3 night visit to Dunsley Hall near Whitby [see below]

Sunday April 22nd National “Drive it” day

Sunday April 29th - Tadcaster car show, John Smiths Brewery car park, Tadcaster. Details at <http://leedsmgccc.co.uk/>

Sun June 3 - Yorkshire Rover Club classic car show, Oakwell Hall, Batley WF17 9LG. Open to all Rovers, others up to 1992. £5. Limited space

Sun June 24 - Rover Sports Register National Rally, Newby Hall, near Ripon HG4 5AE. Open to all classic cars. £6 entry.

Sunday 15th July – Newby Hall Classic Car Show No club stand but this is a big show [1500 cars last year]. Details at <http://necpwa.org/page.php?6> .

Sunday 29th July - Ripon Old Cars. We shall have our usual club stand. Fee £3 per car.

Sunday 5th August - Tockwith Show – As last year we will have a stand. Fee £5. SAE required by Ruth to send pass.

Sunday 12th August - Pateley Bridge MG Club Show - Join Harrogate MG with a club stand if we wish.

Sunday 19th August - Burley Classic car show, part of the Burley summer festival. Club stand is booked.

Sunday 9th September - Otley Extravaganza - Again our usual club stand, Fee £4 if you require a plaque, otherwise free.

Friday 14th September - Club Barbecue at the Collingham Sports Club. Bring your own meat for barbecuing, and enjoy the WCCC club salads, 'carbs' and desserts. Bar open for drinks. £2 per person, please pay Joan.

Sunday 23rd September - Knavesmire Show - with our club stand again, fee £4. We have been asked to enter 'en-bloc' to make sure we have a suitable area allocated. Details later.

Past events

Previous meetings

Tuesday 9th January - Jason Payne. Gave us a very interesting presentation and demonstration of leather restoration. The techniques he showed apply just as much to leather furniture or clothing as to classic car interiors. Most of us present were very surprised to learn that leather is not dyed to change its colour, but actually painted. All those nasty cracks in the seat bolster can be scrubbed off, and the leather re-painted to look like new.

Tuesday 13th February –



The Evening of Technicolor was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The quality of the costumes was absolutely outstanding, Anthea even baked a 'Rainbow'



cake for the occasion.

Tuesday 13th March. - Mr Richard Cole Sqn. Ldr. RAF (Retired) changed his subject from 'Flying fast Jets' to Building the gliding club 'tug'. But he gave an insight into flying fast jets anyway. The story of building, registering and testing an aeroplane to use for glider launches at Sutton Bank was enjoyed by all. Whilst some of the content was a bit technical, Sq Ldr Cole succeeded in making it interesting. Several of the members present remembered a drive to the gliding club organised by David and Anthea.

Editors rants

The Government, prompted by the EU, are meddling with the laws controlling how we use our cars. The MOT rules are changing from May 20th, 2018. Of the most interest to us in WCCC is the change for historic cars, cars classified as 'Historic', i.e. built or registered 40 years or more before January 1st of the current year, will no longer require to pass an MOT Test. It is still sensible, of course, to subject our cars to an MOT as an additional safety check. A form has to be completed to register the car as MOT exempt, and any modifications to the car since original build have to be entered. There is a possibility that a modification will be deemed to change the age of the car resulting in payment of road tax [VED], so take care when deciding to register for exemption.

From this date, any diesel car that has had its DPF removed or tampered with will instantly fail the test, and aftermarket high definition headlamp bulbs will be outlawed. Reversing lights will be tested for the first time, and a car will also fail if the brake fluid is visually deteriorated. The current system of advisories will be replaced with minor, major and

dangerous faults. Minor faults will be treated in the same as the current advisory system and won't constitute a fail. A car with dangerous faults cannot be driven away from the test site until the repairs have been carried out. Major faults will be a fail.

Other changes are on motorways. Learner drivers will be allowed, even encouraged, to practice on motorways. ANPR cameras will be introduced to impose £100 fines for drivers caught misusing the hard shoulder, or ignoring the red 'X' closing a lane.

To save the planet you will have to pay an extra £10 to drive your classic in to the centre of London [total daily charge now £21.50]. I went there once, didn't like it much. Following a court ruling in Germany, Geneva will be the first city to ban ALL diesel cars! Switzerland is not a member of the EU, apparently the German ruling applies to all European countries.

Club subscriptions

Subscriptions for the year from the AGM in April should be paid by now. If you have not paid yet, please pay by **cheque** made out to Wetherby Classic Car Club. Cheques can be passed to Peter Berry, Membership secretary. Fees are £12 per family.

Our cars

This is a feature of our WCCC magazines. Each quarter we feature the car[s] of one of our members. This month the honour goes to Bob Ward

What Make, Model and year is your classic?

MG TD 1953

How long have you owned it?

Bought it at auction in autumn 2012



What was your longest journey in it?

1300 miles (on land) to Denmark Norway and Sweden in summer 2016.

Plus 2 freight ferry crossings of the North Sea from Immingham to Esbjerg and back from Gothenburg to Immingham.

And ferries from Fredrikshavn to Gothenburg, and Moss to Horten

I raised £1800 in sponsorship for Medecins Sans Frontieres

Have you been anywhere particularly interesting in it?

See above - plus a 600 mile trip to Pembrokeshire and a similar trip to Scotland - both in 2017
Tour of the Lake District passes is planned for April this year

Have you renovated or improved it?

Yes indeed!!!

It had not been well restored by previous owner, who had converted it back to RHD after importing it from USA.

Lots of corners had been cut but everything is now in good condition and working well.

It will never win a Concours event, as so many things are non-original, such as 5 speed box, pancake air filters and Midget steering column etc, but this is a car for DRIVING, not just for

taking to shows on the back of a trailer.

Where there any major repairs or breakdowns?

No major breakdowns, but I have re-cored the radiator and the block has been re-bored and lined, with the head being gas-flowed and new camshaft, rocker shaft, oil pump, valves and seats

Carburettors are 1.5" diameter - it had 1.25" when I bought it.

Has it been a good investment?

Yes very much so in terms of the pleasure it has given me. I have spent about as much on it as i paid for it, but it has a value of ~£25k to £30k and is unlikely to depreciate from that.

Do you have any advice for someone thinking of buying a classic car?

Yes - take an expert in that particular model with you when you are inspecting it, and plan to drive it as much as possible.

It will 'turn heads"

Inter club quiz nights

The final quiz of the winter was held at the Horbury WMC on Monday 26th March. WCCC team of 9 members came 2nd on the night, and second overall by only one point in the series. The overall winners were Morris Minors with their much larger team. £399.86 was raised for charity during the winter, and this will be donated to the Yorkshire Air Ambulance. As always there was a raffle with multiple prizes, and a pie and pea supper.

Disposal of model car collection.

My friend Neil, who is a retired director of British Motor Heritage Ltd; the company who, amongst other things, remanufacture previously unavailable body parts and shells for MG, Triumph and the original Mini, had over the years built up a collection of around 40 model cars which, due to down-sizing, he wanted to dispose of. This he wished to do in one lot and for a donation to Cancer Research UK.

The club kindly took on the collection and made a £150.00 donation to the charity. I am pleased to report that all the models have now found new homes and due to the generosity of club members a sum of £320.00 was raised. This, together with the original club donation means that we have given a total of £470.00 to this very deserving charity.

Neil is absolutely delighted with the outcome, and so am I.

Nigel Dormer

What is a classic car?

This the unanswerable question. There are some classifications and some opinions, but no absolute definition.

HMRC



HM Revenue and Customs define a classic car for company taxation purposes as being over 15 years old and having a value in excess of £15,000. A mid-eighties Bentley maybe?

DVLC



For Road Tax purposes, DVLC says that a historic vehicle must have been made or first registered before 1 January 1978 [i.e., 40 years or more old on the 1st of January in the current year]. Our own members Sunbeam Alpine perhaps?

Insurance companies



In the United Kingdom, the modern classic definition is open to discretion by Insurance Brokers and Insurance Companies who regard a Classic as a vehicle that is considered collectable regardless of age. The usage of the vehicle is expected to be limited to recreational purposes or restricted mileage. Thus a 2016 Aston Martin or Ferrari is a classic. Even so many insurance companies will offer classic car insurance for any car which is 20 years [or more] old [some will accept a 15 year old]. By this rule, a Morris Ital, a Lada or Fiat 127 is a classic – REALLY??

Veteran and vintage cars



It is very easy to define a Veteran Car, as they were, quite simply, built before the First World War [but for the London to Brighton Veteran Car Run entrants must be built before 1905]. Similarly a Vintage Car was built before 1930.



Post Vintage



Post Vintage referred to cars from the 30s until either the beginning or the end of WWII'. It is starting to get a bit hazy. Some definitions ignore the years of the second world war, thus Winston Churchill's Humber and Adolf Hitler's Mercedes would not be classified as classics!!



Classic cars



For a car to be considered and appreciated as a Classic there needs to be an aesthetic appeal. This could be for its design or an element of timeless engineering beauty, combined with the ability to turn heads [clearly an Alfa Romeo Spider].



Or it should be a car which has made a significant contribution to motoring history [A Tesla S perhaps]. Or a Ford model 'T', a Citroen Traction Avant, an Issigonis Mini, any Bill Lyons car etc. etc. As this method of categorising is entirely subjective, 100 different people would come up with 100 widely diverse lists.



Or maybe it is a car which, when pulling up at a country hotel, causes other guests to stop and stare or ask questions? Or even causes the valet

parking service to leave it at the front door. Maybe an older Aston Martin or AC saloon.

Other countries



In Germany, to be registered as an 'Oldtimer', the first documented registration of a car must be at least 30 years in the past, and the car must be in mostly original and preservation worthy condition. Has to include an original VW Beetle.



Australia has different definitions from state to state, basically any car more than 27 / 30 years old is regarded as a classic, all cars manufactured pre 1948 are considered pre-war & vintage. Holden seems the example here.



The USA also has classics defined differently from state to state, as a general rule anything over 25 years old is a classic, no more detailed definitions are used. Experience of visiting North American classic car shows suggests that over the puddle they really take care in preserving and presenting their monsters. 1950's 'fin-tail' cars such as Cadillacs qualify here.

The real definition

Perhaps we should just accept the definition that Peter Woodhall used:-

If **YOU** think it is a classic, then it **IS** a classic. Nuff sed.

2018 'Away-Days'

Northumberland March 2018



17 members enjoyed mostly good weather at the Cottage Inn, Dunstan. The food at the cottage is very good, much better than one would expect from a small tourist area pub. Breakfasts are enjoyable, but quite a lot more than most of us are used to eating in the morning. On the Wednesday we celebrated June's birthday with a nice cake after dinner. During the daytime each group went on different expeditions giving us plenty to talk about in the evenings. Holy Island, Berwick, Alnwick and Wooler were among the favourite places to visit. On the Wednesday night we completed a quiz on the subject of flowers. According to one contestant all 50 answers were 'Tulips' [actually correct once]. All round a very enjoyable winter break. Most of the same members are going to Dunsley Hall in April.



Joan has booked the Dunsley Hall Country Hotel near Whitby for our 2018 trip. We have 3 nights from Tuesday, 17th April. Joan and



Gillian have spent time there and found the hotel very clean and welcoming, if a little dated. The food was excellent [Joan does not know how they can achieve that quality at the price]. All rooms are now booked.

Important notice for all members

If you have your name down to attend an organized event and find you are unable to attend. please **only** notify the organizer. Messages via a third party unfortunately are not being passed on before the event.

A new trial - Small ads for members:- Nothing for sale this time.