



WETHERBY CLASSIC CAR CLUB

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

October to December 2020



How it used to be, Otley Extravaganza, 2016

**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**

Wetherby Classic Car Club Activity Programme

All the events we had planned for the rest of 2020 remain cancelled. It is not possible to predict when we can resume our normal activities. For the time being, we hope to resume meetings in January, with the special Club Silver Anniversary celebration set for February, but the Prime Ministers suggestion that the 'Rule of six' may be in place for up to 6 months make it all seem to be a forlorn hope.

As soon as an event can be planned, we will e-mail members, with a phone call to those who do not have e-mail, with details. The usual list of events in the magazine has been removed for the time being.

Chairman's Rant

I planned the August run, with help from Nigel and Heather, because I did not want anybody else to do all the work, and then have the event cancelled. That event went well, with 30 members enjoying a picnic run. Then it seemed safe to plan another, similar, event for September. David and Anthea invested a lot of time, effort and cost to plan that run, and then Government Regulations changed and the event had to be cancelled. Many thanks to David and Anthea for planning a run which we hope can be used next year.

Government rules and advice to combat the virus seem to be planned in different scenarios. Quite why Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland can have different numbers at home or away, different rules on face coverings etc., when they are apparently "Following the same science" is beyond me. I was quite annoyed to find some supermarkets, restaurants and pubs, for example, not using face masks in England when they had to in Scotland. The English were told their table service staff 'Should' wear face masks, Scotland said 'Must'. Now, at last, it has become 'Must' for England. The Bridge Hotel in Walshford, the small traders and Aldi in Wetherby, did all interpret the word 'Should' as 'Will'. Well done them.

The FHBVC "Drive it day" 2021 will be in support of the NSPCC Childline service. Clubs can arrange sponsored events to raise funds for Childline, During lockdown the number of requests for help from children and young people has doubled, and the charity needs help to fund their mental and emotional health support. Simply purchasing a "Drive it Day" rally plate will help. I would like to suggest that we think of 25th April, 2021, as our next drive out in our classics, and arrange an event to celebrate the [hopefully] return of "Normal Service" with a run and gathering, every car to sport a rally plate, and maybe raise a bit of other cash. Ideas please.

Please do let me have any stories of your classic car activities, whether busy working on the car, taking it for a drive, or trying 'Virtual' classic car action [I have spent a lot of shielding time viewing classic car auctions on the internet!].

A Site for Sore Eye('s)

Thursday the 17th September I had my second cataract operation (completely successful). David Ezard rang to see if I was OK and in the course of conversation he said that he and Caroline were going into the Dales the next day for a run using the Sunbeam, would we, Gillian in the MGB and myself, like to go with them. I never say no to an invitation like that.

David was appointed Tour Guide (Follow our Leader). Our journey commenced at 11.20 the following morning on a lovely sunny day.

We took the A168 north to the turning for Newby, Ripon (sadly both shows were cancelled this year due to Covid19) Continuing on the Ripon ring road following the signs for Masham, then took the road to Middleham. We arrived just as the horses were returning to the stables from the gallops. What a wonderful site there must have been a dozen or more. Gillian had never seen them in the town before, I have been lucky and seen them every time I have visited, but never so many. Having negotiated the horses, people and other cars we took the sign for Kettlewell.

This was where the magic began, and hence the title of this report. The scenery is just so beautiful the rolling hills with the autumn colours just beginning to show with the bracken a golden glow and the folds in various greens and black where the water would tumble down to the streams below. The roads are very narrow and constantly twisting following the contours of the land. A perfect drive for the classic cars. We only met with a few cars and walkers, all enjoying the scenery. After passing the collection of small villages and hamlets we began the descent into Kettlewell (not for the faint hearted and even more so if you were ascending, a killer corner) then immediately a sign which told us we were in a 30 mph area, chance would be a fine thing of doing any more than 20mph!

On arrival into the village we turned right to Hubberholme, our destination for lunch. David and Caroline had stopped here before on previous visits. It seemed others had the same idea, but as it was now after 1.00pm we thought lunch time should be over. In the parking area was a lovely MGA, David had a chat with the owner, discovering that they were on their way home after 2 weeks holiday and they then had a mutual admiration of each other's cars. Several cyclists passed us by and one shouted "Love the Sunbeam". Before we had chance to settle down to lunch another man appeared asking who had the Sunbeam and said how he had a Rapier in the past and always admired the Rootes cars.

Once the conversations finished the area had cleared and we were able to have our lunch at the side of the river Wharfe. Bit of a let-down as we had been told to bring our own lunch, I thought a good tour guide provided the lunch including the candelabra and the champagne! A good time was had by all and during discussion we realised that had we brought a boat we could have launched it and floated all the way home. After lunch and just as we were preparing to leave (After Gillian & Caroline had availed themselves of hiding down the banking to water the grass!!) another couple came for a chat, they also had been on holiday in the area, had many visits in the past when their children were young.



Now on their way home but had to stop to ask about the cars. They very kindly took our photo. It is so good that people show an interest in the classic cars, had we gone in the euro boxes we would not have any contact with other people.

We continued our journey back over the moorland to Gayle and Hawes joining the A684 and passing

Aysgarth, Leyburn, Constable Burton, Bedale, all very crowded with people at the inns and cafes enjoying the sun and food, just pleased that they hadn't found the off the beaten track where we had been, and to the A6061 south. David had stopped and asked us what we wanted to do before I could say anything Gillian said 'what about Fish and Chips at Boroughbridge'. Telepathy works sometimes! Heading south to the A168 and food. We have been a few times recently, buy the fish and chips and take them to the riverside to enjoy. Good finger food (plastic gloves on as no knives and forks provided by our tour guide!). Returning to Wetherby for coffee at home and a catch up about our truly wonderful day out, thank you to our tour guides David and Caroline. Thank you to Gillian for being my chauffeur, the MGB loved it too.

To all members Have you had a good day out? Where have you been? Let us all know, it's good to share and cheer everyone up.

Joan.

Editors note:-

The opportunity is there for members in groups of six to get together for a run if the sun gives us an Indian Summer in October. I thoroughly recommend the drive between Middleham and Kettlewell, we have driven both ways on a single day's drive before now.

WETHERBY CLASSIC CAR CLUB – LUNCH MEETINGS

So far there have been two lunch meetings – one at The Bridge on 9th September and one at The Anchor at Whitley on 24th September.

The Bridge lunch was attended by Joan & Gillian, Colin & Barbara and Ruth. The weather was good and we all had good journeys to the Bridge and were all seated together on the big round table in the restaurant, which allowed us to achieve reasonably safe distancing whilst still being able to chat together. The Bridge staff were all masked and careful about safe working and the Carvery was still operating as a carvery where we queued (at a safe distance) while the carver handled the plate and loaded our requested food, vegetables and sauce etc. We were then handed our plate at the end of the carvery and made our way back to the table to eat. We all agreed that the Bridge had done very well to protect us and that the meal was good value at £20 for two courses with coffee. Of course the hungry ones could add a third course for an extra payment so yours truly did that too!

Overall a very successful lunch together and we agreed we should do it again but go somewhere new next time and we decided on the Anchor at Whitley, which Joan recommended following her 35 years' experience of the pub.

The Anchor lunch was attended by Joan & Gillian, Colin & Barbara, and David & Anthea. The weather was a bit iffier that day, the journey to the pub was mostly clear but on leaving the Anchor we were greeted by a big clap of thunder and we all leapt into our cars as quickly as possible.



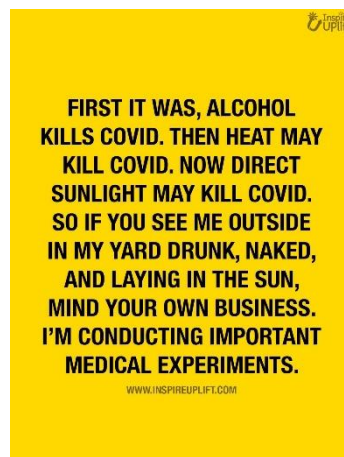
The Anchor food was good and plentiful and this time was served at the table as Government rules had changed somewhat. The staff were quick and efficient and also masked throughout. We were seated together in a large room which was otherwise unoccupied and we felt that the Anchor had also done well on the safety front.

Once again we had a good time and have planned a return to the Bridge on 7th October to continue our meetings providing the Government rules then in force allow.

Thanks are due to Joan for making all the arrangements.
Colin & Barbara

Editors Note:-

The latest regulations still allow the Bridge and the Anchor to accommodate groups of six as they are not in the Leeds restriction area. Members who live in the Leeds City Council may not be allowed to join a gathering of people outside their own household. Any members who would like to join a lunch please contact Joan.



BRAMLEY HALL SHOW (The cop shop)

A lovely day out

Sunday 9th August 2020.

Mike Dodsworth kindly invited a few members of the club to come along and show their cars at this private venue. Mike calls it Bramley Hall situated on the Stanningley Road, Bramley Leeds. It is a beautiful property with extensive gardens to the rear. It is the second time Mike has had this show. He last hosted it 2 years ago come September.

Just enough room for 8 classic cars inside his gated front drive. Roy and Gordon Scargill were at the gates to greet us, and shuttle us into position. It was not open to the public. Eventually as most of us arrived the electric gates were closed, and we made our way to the back of the houses where tables and chairs were spaced out for us. Most people brought along a drink.

It was so good to meet up with old friends, and to catch up as to what they had been doing during this trying time in lock down. Drinks were served, wine beer or soft drink and people moved around to talk the talk. By early afternoon the aroma from the kitchen began to waft around the garden. Mike's garden spanning approx ¼ of an acre with a fish pond and water feature at the far end.



Soon Elaine, Mike's friend, helping in the kitchen began calling people in one at a time to serve them delicious food, while our host was busy cooking for everyone. "And how good it was". Everyone had a right good meal.

As time went on another couple arrived Emma and Trevor, who are very good friends of Mike and Elaine. Emma is a Police Detective in Harrogate and had been invited to judge the cars parked-up. After a while Emma disappeared around the front for some 15 minutes to judge the display and came back to join us saying that 3 rosettes had been placed on windscreens.

First – Second and Third. Of the eight cars on display. Two were mini Coopers belonging to Mike and Gordon– One was a lovely Jaguar of Roy's.

4 MGs of different variants and an old Citroen 2cv.

When we all tramped to the front of the house to see the results, David Ray and Roy Scargill had runner-up rosettes, and to my amazement I was chosen as the winner. After talking to Emma, she said she loved the quirky little cars, and it was her ambition to drive around France in one, one day. What makes it more unusual, all the cars were British classics (mostly MGs) except a French one!! Well it was much appreciated and now stands proudly with the runner up rosette I got two years ago, when Roy won with his Jaguar.

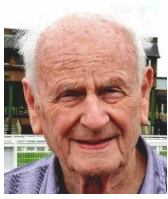
Just before friends began to head home, I said a few words of thanks to our host Mike- his many friends and helpers, Elaine who looked after us like royalty, Gordon and Roy Scargill two brilliant brothers who are always willing to help others in the clubs. All who came along to give their support and to make this a most memorable day out in these very difficult times we are going through after such a long time without any club-nights or car runs to look forward to.

Lastly. I went around everyone with a rattle can for a donation to "Martin House Hospice" a charity worth donating to. (A bit cheeky) but raised £60.00 to pass on to help these unfortunate young people.

Many thanks once again Mike for being a wonderful host, and making everyone welcome.

Tony Lucas.

Eric Wood



We have received the sad news that a member who joined our club at the Ripley Old cars last year has passed away. Unfortunately Eric did not manage to attend many of our meetings due to coronavirus etc., so not many of us got to meet him. It is always upsetting to hear such news. We do not have any further details, but our thoughts are with Joyce.

FHBVC News

Here is an article by Wayne Scott, Communications Director of the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs:-

One of the positive things to have come out of the past few months and its ever-evolving challenges, has been the increased digital interaction that I've enjoyed with friends from the various clubs I am a member of. It was via one of the many WhatsApp chat groups, that I happened across in an interesting 'viral video'. Now, stop your sniggering, it wasn't one of those sorts of videos, nor was it someone prancing about on 'TikTok'! No, this video made a very interesting and philosophical point.

Imagine you were born in 1900. At 14 years old, the First World War breaks out and runs until you have your 18th birthday with 22 million dead around the world. Soon after that and in time for your 20th birthday, a global pandemic of Spanish Flu strikes with 50 million dead by 1920. By the time you celebrate your 29th birthday, a global recession breaks out, the New York Stock Exchange collapses and millions suffer in poverty and famine. Riding on the back all of this, when you turn 33, the Nazis come to power in Germany. Just before your 40th birthday, World War 2 begins and by the time you are 45, some 60 million have been killed in that conflict, plus 6 million Jews.

When you are 52, the Korean War begins and when you are 64 the Vietnam War breaks out and lasts until you are 75! Not to mention the Cold War which probably outlasted you altogether. The point is, today we live in relative peace and comfort. We have many tools, technological advances and medicines to help us. So, if we need to wear a mask and stay at home where we have food, electricity, running water, radio, TV and WiFi, we should appreciate that thankfully all this bears little resemblance the hardship encountered by some of those previous generations that 'saw it all' in their lifetime. They suffered so much, yet still came out fighting to change the world and make great advances for the betterment of all, especially in the automotive and aviation fields.

So, if ever you find yourself frustrated, angry even, at not being able to attend your favourite historic vehicle club event or venue. If you feel bereft of the freedom to meet up with like-minded friend and wander around autojumbles, then pause. Stop and remember the person born in 1900 and be inspired to find the strength, patience and tolerance to cope with the present situations' challenges. Just as those previous generations fought for a better life, so we will come out fighting to return to our previous way of life and to once again enjoy the collective use of historic vehicles and the camaraderie they bring. We will get back to it, patience is required, but normality will return through collaboration and support for one another.

Please don't forget to take part in the National Historic Vehicle Survey, your responses are critical to the fight for our freedoms ahead. Find it at www.fbhvc.co.uk.

Ford escort Flight for spare parts

A friend of Simon has a Ford Escort Flight 1999 which has failed it's MOT. The car is available for anyone who can use it for spare parts. Please contact Simon if interested.

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.




Ron Chestna 89 years of age was stopped by the police around 2 a.m. and was asked where he was going at that time of night .

Ron replied, "I'm on my way to a lecture about alcohol abuse and the effects it has on the human body, as well as smoking and staying out late."

The officer asked, "Really? Who's giving that lecture at this time of night?"

Ron replied, "That would be my wife."



BAR MATHS

80 Bottles of Beer
Minus your Age
Plus 40 Bottles of Whisky
Equals to the Year you were Born