



WETHERBY CLASSIC CAR CLUB

January to March 2025



The WCCC Christmas party

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

**Regular monthly meetings are held at the Bridge Hotel, Walshford, Wetherby,
LS22 5HS on second Tuesday each month at 8.00 pm.**

Wetherby Classic Car Club 2025 programme

Sunday 12th January - The Peter and Joan Woodhall memorial run from the Golf club at Wike to the Bridge Hotel for a carvery lunch. Meet at the golf club car park at 11.30, or drive direct to the Bridge for 1.00 pm. Please let Bob know if you will be there. Joan's son and her brother - with his wife - will join us.

Tuesday 14th January - Club meeting at the Bridge Hotel with a presentation on Disability Action Yorkshire, by Nigel Thompson.

Tuesday 11th February - Club 'Beat the winter blues' party on a theme of "A Beach Party", which was the theme of the first February party organised by Joan. There will be a tribute to Joan with a celebration of her life and times in WCCC.

Sunday 16th February – Valentines Day run, from the Bridge Hotel to a pub for lunch. Organised by David and Anthea. Details in the next magazine.

Tuesday 11th March - Club meeting at the Bridge Hotel with Derek Roberts telling us all about Mintex brake systems.

Sunday 23rd March - March Hare run. A run to the Dales for lunch. Organised by Bob and June.

Tuesday 1st to Friday 4th April - Trip to an hotel. Please let David and Anthea know which you prefer between Eden Hall, Penrith, the Fat Lamb, Ravenstonedale or the Cottage Inn, Northumberland. Provisional only at present. Votes received so far are : Fat Lamb 3, Eden Hall 2, Cottage Inn 1.

Tuesday 8th April - Club AGM at the Bridge Hotel followed by a nice easy quiz.

Sunday 27th April - Drive It Day Run. A run to Lastingham on the North York Moors for lunch. Organised by David and Caroline.

Tuesday 13th May - Club meeting at the Bridge Hotel with a speaker tba

Sunday 25th May - May Madness Run. **Organiser needed.**

Sunday June 8th - Yorkshire Rovers Club show at Oakwell Hall, Batley

Tuesday 10th June – Concours night at the Bridge Hotel

Saturday 7th June – Picnic at Harewood Hill Climb "Classic and Vintage Hill Climb". Just bring a picnic to join fellow WCCC members and watch the classic cars storming up the hill. We are waiting for the Harewood manager to let us know what facilities they can provide.

Tuesday 24th June - Golden Oldies run, From the Bridge finishing at YHVG meet at Squires Café, Sherburn in Elmet for 5.30pm. **ORGANISER NEEDED. Date tbc.**

Tuesday 8th July - Club meeting at the Bridge Hotel, "Retirement for beginners" by Jeff Jacklin

Sunday 20th July - Newby Hall classic car show. One of the biggest shows in our area. Only cars registered before 31st December 1979 can be displayed. No WCCC stand.

Sunday 27th July - Ripon Old Cars Classic Car Show at Ripon Racecourse. WCCC Club stand as usual.

Tuesday August 12th - Evening drive from and to the Bridge Hotel, organised by Pam and Gerald.

Sunday 24th August - Burley in Wharfedale Village Show, a lovely day out for the whole family.
Date tbc.

Tuesday 9th September - Club meeting at the Bridge Hotel with a speaker tba

Sunday 17th September - Knavesmire show on York racecourse, club stand at one of the biggest shows in our area. **Date tbc**

Tuesday 30th September - Run to a pub for lunch **ORGANISER NEEDED**

Tuesday 14th October - Club meeting with a speaker

Tuesday 11th November - Club meeting with a beetle drive

Tuesday 9th December - Christmas dinner at the Bridge Hotel

Joan

This has been a very sad time, Joan's passing away was expected but still came as a shock. Joan was a stalwart of the club, almost a founder member, leader of the club with Peter for many years. She supported the club at all events with her much loved Rover 214 Cabrio. A part of the club has been lost forever.



The celebration of her life at the Bridge Hotel was a fitting tribute by her family and friends. At our club 'Beach Party' in February we will have a chance to celebrate our own club memories within WCCC.

I am collating a Powerpoint video of pictures of Joan involved in all types of club activities to show on that evening. I really need some pictures of Joan from the early days of the club for this. If anybody has some, electronic or hard copy, please let me have them asap. It would also be nice if anybody has anecdotes about times with Joan which they could read out or give to us to read for them. Joan is very much missed.

Past events First a couple of reports by David and Anthea missed from the previous magazine

Sunday 21st July- Had a good think that day at Newby Hall Classic Car Show. Good weather and plenty of cars. I think that they did not have as many pre-war cars as in previous years. Saw a Scimitar near our parking spot, and said it was a Reliant. Later, after many cars had left, I looked across to the Scimitar and thought it could be a Middlebridge, so walked across and asked the owner. He said that his car was the last Middlebridge to be built.



Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th August – Hebden Bridge Vintage Weekend. We stayed Friday and Saturday nights at the Robin Hood Inn near Hebden Bridge. Saturday, we walked along the canal towpath to Todmorden, had lunch and caught the bus back to Hebden. We had a look in to the Saturday car show. Sunday, we had our car entered to the show and had a good day there. Again, they did not have as many pre-war cars as in previous years. The overall show winner was a Mini-Cooper. It was also their Steam Punk weekend, so lots of unusually dressed people about.

Thursday 3rd October – A really nice drive from the Bridge Hotel to the Yorkshire Gliding Club at Sutton Bank. Some roads that were new to us, brilliant sunshine all the way. 18 members enjoyed a buffet lunch with homemade Quiche and Coronation Chicken, all served with salad and new potatoes, followed by homemade Bakewell tart or ginger cheesecake.

Tuesday October 8th - Club night with a presentation by Susan Dyke, telling us about the Wardill motorcycle.

Sunday October 27th - Halloween Run. We went to the Worsley Arms in Hovingham. Once again, David and Anthea arranged good weather for a very nice run to a location we have only used as a coffee stop in the past.



Tuesday November 12th - Club meeting with a Beetle Drive, competition, the overall winner was Barbara who shared her prize of sweets with the rest of us.

Tuesday 10th December – The club Christmas dinner was enjoyed by all. The Bridge carvery was set up for us in the room. Thanks to Margaret, assisted by Gillian, for all the time and effort dedicated to the event.

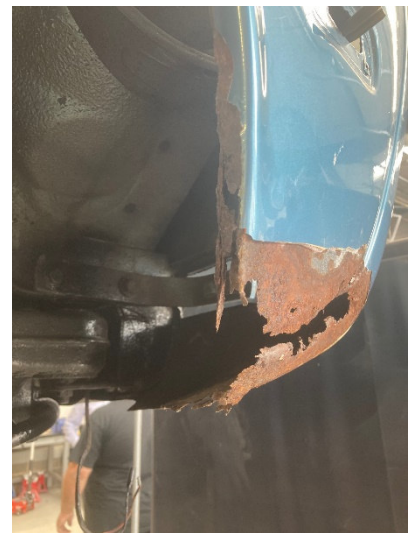
Chairmans Rant

2025 should be a good year for us all in the classic car movement. We look forward to attending as many shows as we can, and to enjoying our glorious Yorkshire countryside on our runs. As classic car owners, most of us can all enjoy free road tax, the mileage we do does not use too much fuel. Classic insurance is very reasonable. So, all that we must budget for really is maintenance. I know some of our members are contemplating renovation work during the winter. Brian's experience of a "couple of weeks" work is described below.

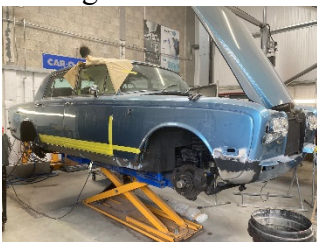
I am having a debate with myself about the interior of the Lea Francis. Not sure whether to buy a kit and do it myself or take it to a leather specialist. The windscreen, I shall have to ask a professional to refit.

The story of Poppy – Our Vice Chairman's car

We bought our Rolls Royce Silver Shadow in 2017, and as her registration number is OPU10M, she quickly became Poppy to us. She has since become a member of the family. At the time I knew there would be bodywork to be done in the future, after all in car terms she was an elderly lady. By the time Covid was over I realised this was now urgent. She needed a new piece welding on to the off-side wheel arch, work on the sill, and some respraying. I carefully investigated several repair shops specialising in classic cars and after one false start decided on The Motorist at Sherburn in Elmet. They had worked on a car belonging to some friends of ours and done a good job. In fact, I had visited them a few times during this work and been impressed, so we booked her in for the beginning of July 2024. Originally, she was booked in for two to three weeks. We duly delivered her after our return from Cornwall and the saga began.



We had provided the parts courtesy of Flying Spares, and they soon began work, but as so often happens with classic cars more problems were soon discovered. She needed another part welding on the near side wheel arch and new sills plus new sills on both sides. She also needed a full respray, so far so good.



As is the way with body shops, new work kept arriving and Poppy was put to one side. She needed a thorough job doing to get her fully repaired and didn't want to rush it, so we smiled and said, "just do it properly". We said this again and again. Time passed and Poppy was still in The Motorist. We missed all the summer events, and the weather had started to change, and she was still at The Motorist.

At last, we got the call to say that she was ready. Then at the last minute another call. Due to a workman's carelessness, she had been reversed into a shelf and another workman had been slightly injured. We rushed over there, panic taking hold, but it wasn't as bad as we had imagined. Another call to Flying Spares for a rear light cluster and an indicator stalk. Another two weeks and at last she was ready.



We were able to collect her with profuse apologies from The Motorist. She was home!!

Brian and Alison

How many classic cars have survived the test of time?

Official figures now reveal that answer. Almost 340,000 vehicles over 40 years of age are still owned by registered keepers, according to data held by the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency - but not all of them are technically still on the road.

Of these, around one in eight are declared off the road by keepers. Of these, 12 per cent are not actually being driven on the road by their owners. To the date the FOI was lodged, some 41,217 classic cars have a Statutory Off-Road Notification (SORN) declared by the owner, meaning they're off the road. Many of these are likely projects, rebuilds or treasured vehicles that aren't being used by their keeper in a bid to retain - and inflate - their future value.

While there are various definitions for what makes a 'classic' car, the term is best used to describe motors that exceed 40 years and therefore qualify for a number of 'historic vehicle' benefits. Among these is exemption from annual MOTs and vehicle excise duty. However, unlike the MOT exemption, avoiding paying road tax doesn't happen straight after your vehicle reaches its fourth decade. Instead, you must wait for the first day of April, and then as long as your car was registered 40 years before the first of January you can apply for road tax exemption from thereafter.

As for MOTs, the exemption is due to a general understanding that classic cars are retained by enthusiasts who either carry out maintenance on their vehicles or pay specialists to do so. Given the affection they have for their cars and the upkeep required to ensure they remain drivable, the DVLA believes this is enough to warrant not putting them through the annual road worthiness check-up.

Cars over 40 years are - importantly - also exempt from emission zone charges, such as the capital's ULEZ, Birmingham's Clean Air Zone and the Scottish Low Emission Zone, which is already in place in Glasgow and due to begin charging drivers of older vehicles within weeks in Aberdeen, Dundee and Edinburgh.

A couple of Joan's recent jokes

I'm confused
how a
cemetery can
raise its funeral
prices and
blame it on the
cost of living

A husband and wife were grocery shopping. He picks up a case of beer and puts it in the cart. "What are you doing?" asks the wife. "They're on sale, only \$10 for 24 cans" he replies. "Put them back, we can't afford them", demands the wife. They continue shopping. Later on, she puts a \$20 jar of face cream in the basket. "What are you doing?" asks the husband. "It's my face cream. It makes me look beautiful," replies the wife. He said, "So does 24 cans of beer and it's half the price." That's him in Aisle 5!

