



WARWICKSHIRE CENTRE NEWSLETTER
Number 125: January – February 2005

Centre News

As Spring approaches the Sunday lunchtime noggins can resume. The first two for 2005 appear below, if you want to make sure of a place for lunch at either of these venues the contact details are:

Sunday 27th March (Easter Sunday)

The Bell Inn,
Binton Rd,
Welford on Avon,
Stratford-upon-Avon. CV37 8EB

☎: 01789 750353

Sunday 24th April

The Fleur-de-Lys Inn
Lowsonford
Henley in Arden
Warwickshire

☎ : 01564 782431

Rover Car plant – Longbridge

The visit to the assembly plant on Tuesday 22nd February 2005 was not without a few hitches, MG Rover was much in the news at the time as the Minister for Trade and Industry was meeting the prospective Chinese co-owners for talks on the deal the day we were there. Had he been at Longbridge he would have been able to explain the 'just in time' principles adopted at the plant and the effect of engines not being delivered just in time, resulting in a virtual shut down of the production line and red faces all around. However, we were able to see some parts of the production working, and our hosts looked after us all very well. Maurice has negotiated a second visit in a month's time. Please contact Maurice to get further details and to reserve your place ☎ 0121 244 4919

Morgan Motor Company – Factory visit

The factory has arranged for our visit to take place on Monday 2nd May (May Day Bank Holiday). There are 25 places, the tour of the factory will commence at 10.30am sharp and conclude at 12.30, there will be an informal discussion with the directors for approximately half an hour, which will then be followed by lunch. I expect this will be oversubscribed, and accordingly places will be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis, I will hold a few names on a reserve list if anyone drops out.

MOG MMV

Miscellany will be carrying a MOG MMV Regalia Booking Form in the next issue.

The event booking form can be found and downloaded from www.MOGMMV.co.uk or www.MOG2005.co.uk. There are links from the main MSCC web site also.

If you haven't already picked out the activities that you want to take part in now is the time to do it, and don't delay sending off the booking form

The Gymkhana will take place on Sunday 31st July, we are still looking for any good ideas for a Gymkhana test. Jot down a few notes and please let me have them, the more interesting theses test are for spectators the better.

Also for 2005

Brian Teece has started looking into the summer social event 2005. The date will be fixed as soon as we can fit in around Bentley Drivers Day at Silverstone.

We are going to be testing out some scenic runs for MOG MMV, which it will be useful to run as a centre event beforehand. More information on those next time.

Centre Regalia

Centre regalia is available to order. There are polo shirts, sweatshirts, and the new style of sweatshirt with jipped collar. Pam or Richard will be happy to advise you on what sizes and colours are available, give them a call on ☎ 01527 465300.

All car badges have been sold. The next batch will be in a different colour combination which is yet to be decided.

Warwickshire Centre web site

The Warwickshire Centre web site has been upgraded with improved logos. Keep up to date by visiting: www.warwickmog.co.uk

If you have any interesting items to feature on the web site, or you aspire to putting an article together Phil will be delighted to talk to you about it.

Garage News

I've had a couple of runs out in the 4/4, one to the MSCC AGM in Malvern (5th February), that was very cold and the return journey very wet, until I chickened out and put the hood up. More recently a trip down to Prescott to discuss the hill climb event was much better, still a bit cold though. I am finding that the battery, albeit a new one, doesn't like to hold the charge beyond a fortnight.

National Committee Meetings

The club holds regular national committee meetings (NCM's) at three monthly intervals each year. These are where important decisions are made with regard to the running and management of the Morgan Sports Car Club. I attend these meetings and as a centre secretary vote on the various issues that arise, any club member can attend these meetings if they wish. The minutes of the meetings are always available to members through their centre secretaries, I generally bring them along to noggins and also to Warwickshire Centre Committee meetings. They are quite voluminous and not an easy read. However, if anyone is interested in the NCM's activities and the issues discussed I am happy to relay whatever has transpired.

There are several changes that have to take place in the way the club runs its business in order to comply with legislation. The requirement to apply for MSA permits for scenic runs is a good example, it may be a nuisance, and cost a small sum of money, but the safeguards it provides are worth the effort involved.

You will be seeing in Miscellany some notes relating to issues that the club has had to address. The MSCC has had to register as a tour operator in order to comply with recent legislation. This affects organised events involving travel, booking of accommodation, ferries and the like. In such instances travel operators have to offer packages in the correct way, as well as pay a small fee, which ultimately gets added to the cost of the package. Members will benefit by being able to claim compensation if the 'travel package' fails to deliver all that was offered.

On a local level the NCM is looking to each of the centres to hold their annual general meetings along similar lines. At present some centres don't hold AGMs, some don't have voting to select their secretary or committees. To try and avoid problems in the future centres will be given some guidelines to follow. This won't affect us too much as we conduct our meetings reasonably well.

Warwickshire Centre Meetings

Recently the Warwickshire Centre committee met to plan events through 2005, you will see from the forthcoming events that there are several dates to mark up on your MSCC calendar for the next few months.

With the formation of a new centre close to us, Fox Mog, it may be that we can share some activities, as we do with Ox Mog. The Ox Mog list of events has a couple that may be of interest, in particular:

26 June – Summer Gala, Bucks Railway Centre, Quainton

14 August – Festival of Flight at Blenheim Palace, Woodstock (free entry if entering in the car display)

The committee felt that we have been left behind when all the snappy centre names were given out. The suggestion is that we adopt the acronym 'Bear Mog'.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Friday 18th March Noggin (9pm onwards) at the Red Lion, Claverdon. (OS sheet 151, SP 202647).

Easter Sunday 27th March Lunchtime Noggin at the Bell Inn, Welford on Avon. Meet at anytime from mid day. (OS sheet 151, SP 149517).

This is a very popular pub for meals; if you want to eat there I suggest you book directly with the landlord, contact details are in the newsletter text.

Sunday 2nd April MSCC Track Day - Mallory Park. Refer to Miscellany for details, also see the MSCC Competitions Secretary's special note at the end of this newsletter.

Friday 15th April Noggin (9pm onwards) at the Red Lion, Claverdon. (OS sheet 151, SP 202647).

Sunday 24th April Lunchtime Noggin at the Fleur-de-Lys Inn, Lowsonford near Henley in Arden. Meet at anytime from mid day. If you want to eat there I suggest you book directly with the landlord, contact details are in the newsletter text.

Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May Warwickshire Centre visit to the Morgan factory. Details are in the newsletter text. If interested please contact me ☎ 01926 855201

Friday 20th May Noggin (9pm onwards) at the Red Lion, Claverdon. (OS sheet 151, SP 202647).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Pam Laughton
Phil Morris (Centre Secretary)
Maurice Palmer
Brian Teece
Paul Wheatley (Treasurer)

CENTRE SECRETARY

Phil Morris
Hill Top
25 Westonbirt Close
Kenilworth
Warwickshire
CV8 2PL ☎ 01926 855201

MSCC TRACK DAY - MALLORY PARK - SUNDAY 2ND APRIL 2005

IMPORTANT REMINDER

The following reminder should have appeared in my "Paddock Torque" column in the March issue of 'Miscellany' but, regrettably, the copy which I sent in February was never received by the editor.

Therefore, I would ask all Centre Secretaries at their next noggin(s) to convey these details to any MSCC members taking part in the Track Day:-

QUOTE

I feel that it would be prudent to remind you at this time that, as per the published Regulations, it is open to MSCC **members** driving Morgans and thus, by definition, both first **AND** second drivers, where nominated, will have to show **current** membership cards at signing-on. With this in mind, I would repeat Tony Oliver's comments in his January column and would advise you most strongly to ensure that your membership is renewed in good time.

Needless to say, non-driving passengers do not have to be members of MSCC, although I am sure many will be, but they **WILL** still be required to sign an indemnity at the circuit.

Similarly, whilst most, if not all, of the insurers under the MSCC Preferred Scheme will allow you to take part in the Track Day without an additional premium, I cannot emphasise enough that it is **YOUR** responsibility to inform your broker or insurer **PRIOR** to the event. Once again, this will apply to both first **AND** second drivers and you will be required when signing on to declare that your broker / insurer has been advised.

UNQUOTE

*John Goodman
Competition Secretary*