



WARWICKSHIRE CENTRE NEWSLETTER
Number 129: November – December 2005

Centre News

It's nearly Christmas, time to send Santa a note with all the things you want to have this year. Don't leave it too late especially if you want one of the new Warwickshire Centre car badges or any of the wearable centre regalia.

For those sharp eyed centre newsletter readers you will have noticed an error in the last newsletter regarding the date for the December noggin, rest assured it will be as usual the third Friday which is the 16th December (not the 18th)

Our annual centre dinner will be held at the Forest Hotel in Dorridge on Friday 20th January, there will be no noggin that month. Your invitation to the dinner will be sent separately to you, don't put it to one side and think you will find it again after Christmas, it could get mixed up with all the used party hats, crackers etc. So don't delay, confirm your booking with Phil Egginton as soon as you can.

Plans to have the event at The Watermill had to be changed as the guided tour of the mill workings can't take place in the winter months. This does mean that we can plan a visit there in the Spring, probably after a scenic run.

Many of you have asked to receive the newsletter by e-mail; accordingly the previous issue was distributed this way very successfully. This has cut down much of my time in printing, packaging and posting. We still need the Royal Mail to handle some but even their first class postal service can't beat e-mail in getting the newsletter straight to you. If you are still receiving your copy by post but would like to try the streamlined electronic version please send me a note with your e-mail address to phil.morris@dsp2000.biz.

Centre Regalia

For the new Warwickshire Centre car badge contact Paul Wheatley on ☎ 01564 779735 or e-mail: Wheatleypo@AOL.com. Price to centre members is £28.

For polo shirts, sweat shirts (yes we have spelt it correctly this time) in a wide range of colours contact Pam or Richard Laughton on ☎ 01527 465300.

Warwickshire Centre web site: www.warwickmog.co.uk

The web site continues to grow with photographs and technical advice as well as a page of For Sale and Wanted which is available to centre members to advertise their cars or other Morgan related items.

Classic Car Show - NEC 4th 5th and 6th November

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Paul Wheatley took over the helm once again to put on the MSCC stand at the NEC. I was there on the Saturday which was busy throughout the day. Regalia sales were good during the whole event. The cars on the stand were a good cross section of Morgans from three wheelers to the latest 4/4 and Roadster models, with a couple of sprint/race prepared Morgans to represent the broad versatility that the club can offer.

Charlecote Pheasant pre Christmas Lunch

This now familiar two centre annual event was again organised by Peter Forrest. In fact it extends beyond OxMog and ourselves to include Thames Valley Centre members too. This year marked the two centres' joint effort in organising MOG MMV, and was a chance to say a big thank you to all those who helped with the event. The carvery meal was excellent and it was a good chance to have a relaxing Saturday before embarking on the fervent Christmas shopping trips that would follow on the next few week-ends. Thanks to Peter for all his hard work putting it together, I guess that makes it my turn next year.

Neighbouring Centres

Peter Darch has arranged a tour of the Wychwood Brewery at Witney for OxMog members which will be on Thursday 15th December, the time of the tour will be between 1900 and 2100 hours (that's 7pm to 9pm – for the Captain Mainwarings amongst us). He has kindly extended the invitation to include the Warwickshire Centre. There are 15 places in all, if you would like to join his group or would like to know more about it please give him a call ☎ 01865 554802, or alternatively send an e-mail to: peterdarch@uwclub.net. I would point out the additional 'r' between peter and darch in this address (this is not an error)

Not much on the FoxMog web site other than their noggin in January and their Christmas lunch at the Hinckley Island Hotel on Sunday 11th December, by the time you read this the lunch will have taken place. I speaking to John, the FoxMog centre secretary, at the NCM the other day he told me that he hopes to organise a trip to Scotland during 2006.

Garage News

Well we have already had heavy snow falls in some parts of the country, some nasty foggy mornings and evenings too. With some experts predicting a very cold winter this year it is worth checking the strength of the antifreeze mixture in your Morgan, and your other cars for that matter. Gone are the days when I didn't have to worry about such things with my trusty air cooled VW Beetle.

Check also that the garage gets an airing once in a while, with the large fluctuations in winter temperatures condensation will form on and under your Morgan, the foggy days allow the moisture to linger. So if it is clear and dry over the week-end it might be a good idea to wheel the Mog out onto the drive, if it is taxed and MOT'd a run out would be good for it, providing the gritters weren't out the night before.

On the subject of MOTs Andy Willmott experienced some problems with his local testing station recently, in that his 1970's 4/4 wasn't on the data base of their new brake testing equipment. I have asked him to put some notes together about this with a view to putting it as a technical article on the Warwickshire web site, and later I can include it in a future newsletter.

The 2006 Season

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Before you know it the New Year will be upon us, time to wipe those bleary party eyes and look to the 2006 MSCC Calendar and start pencilling in your Spring and Summer activities. The Warwickshire events programme is currently being developed by the committee.

Brain Teece has the opportunity of setting up a visit to a car production factory. It will not have escaped your notice that the British motor manufacturers have suffered a serious decline lately. However, production seems to be going well abroad, and so a trip to Sweden to see how it is done there is on offer. Brian has put together the following notes about his 'Proposed Visit to Sweden':

With respect to future Centre activities, in particular we wish to seek the level of interest for a visit to Sweden during 2006. Briefly, the suggestion is a sea crossing that would include a tour of Volvo Cars, a tour of Volvo Truck & Bus, and a tour of Gothenburg Dockyard. All of which is said to be very interesting. As a separate day is said to be necessary to take in each visit – giving free time each day, the duration of the trip is likely to need five working days, this includes overnight sea crossings and travel to and from the UK ports etc. It is realised that this may be restrictive for many members, which is the reason we wish to establish the level of interest before proceeding too deeply into logistics and costing etc as the detail and organization involves the assistance of associated personnel in the UK and in Sweden. At present pricing for lower cost accommodation (e.g. B&B level) is being sought and we expect financial concessions from the ferry company. Timing of the visit is anticipated early summer or early autumn – but not mid-summer when Sweden is closed!

If you have an interest in the Swedish visit, or wish to discuss it further, please contact Brian Teece ☎ 01926 855828.

The Warwickshire Committee will be meeting to set out events for the Spring and Summer, details will be included in the next newsletter.

I have received information about a few national events:

- Bentley Drivers Day at Silverstone will take place on Saturday 19th August,
- 'Morgan Day at Brooklands Museum' will be on 8th October.

Brooklands Museum is open on New Year's Day 2006 for their Car Clubs Gathering between 1000 and 1600 hours. If you want more information call the Events Manager ☎ 01932 857381 extension 253. Their website is also worth checking out for their schedule of events at www.brooklandsmuseum.com

Our own events follow on the next page

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 15th December: Visit to Wychwood Brewery at Witney, 7pm to 9pm. Contact Peter Darch for details ☎ 01865 554802 or e-mail: peterrdarch@uwclub.net.

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Friday 16th December Noggin (9pm onwards) at the Red Lion, Claverdon. (OS sheet 151, SP 202647).

Friday 20th January 2006 Centre Annual Dinner at the Forest hotel, Dorridge, near Solihull. Contact Phil Egginton for details ☎ 01

Friday 17th February Noggin (9pm onwards) at the Red Lion, Claverdon. (OS sheet 151, SP 202647).

Friday 17th March Noggin (9pm onwards) at the Red Lion, Claverdon. (OS sheet 151, SP 202647).

Friday 21st April Noggin (9pm onwards) at the Red Lion, Claverdon. (OS sheet 151, SP 202647).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

CENTRE SECRETARY

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