

Hooe's Old Motor Club

PRESIDENT: RON FELLOWS 01424 445229

CHAIRMAN: RON WANMER 01323 840346

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PAT WALKER 01424 845230



November - April News 2004/5

Hooe's Old Motor Club

The committee would like to welcome all new members who have joined us this year, hoping you will enjoy being in our club.

On the 3rd December 2004 will be the Club's Christmas Party. Last year this was a huge success, the raffle, which was large, was organised by Sue and Vicky, my thanks to them for their efforts. Thanks too to all the ladies who looked after us with the teas, coffees etc. and thanks to all who attended.

We, the committee, wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and prosperous New Year.

Ron Fellows, secretary.

A new idea, suggested by our Treasurer, is that we send out the enclosed form as a reminder of subscriptions due for the coming year. It will also help keep our records up to date with any changes of address etc. Please complete the form and return with your subscription to either the treasurer or secretary

Subscriptions are, as always, due at the AGM held on the first Friday in April. Nominations for the committee should be sent in writing to the secretary four weeks before the AGM.

As we do not always meet at the Village Hall please keep your newsletter to hand as it gives details of where we will be meeting each month. When we do meet, whether at the Village Hall or elsewhere, please would members and non-members enter their name in the attendance book, in block letters, one person per line. we need this as a check on members in the event of a fire. It also provides a record for the club's minute book showing attendance over the year thanks for your co-operation in this matter.

A vote of thanks goes to our Chairman and Vice Chairman, Ron and Dave, for their sterling efforts in disposing of the club caravan.

Thank you. Ron Fellows, Secretary.

Ron Wanmer's Notes from the Chair

November and another year draws to a close, we have all been around the various shows. Although I'm supposed to be retired there never seems enough hours in a day or days in a week. We all think it will get better, but when? Jean says it will, when I learn to keep my mouth closed. She could be right? Looking back, the June quiz evening turned out to be a very amusing evening, six strange team names all hell bent on winning the top prize. July Some 40 members enjoyed a sunny evening the ladies putting on a good selection of various goodies and trimmings to go with the meats, finishing up with a array of puds coffee and tea. Aug was show time, a good many members turned up to lend a hand, and within a short while all was done, and the workers nipped off to the usual thirst quenching department. Sat was the final finishing touches putting up the tent caused considerable debate. comments well there were a few! ? Staying on site in our caravans seemed a good idea until at around 11 pm the most horrendous music, (no, noise!) started up, somewhere In a area of 2 miles most of East Sussex must have heard it. This finally stopped at 2am, we thought peace at last, until the local yobs started racing around the lane which surrounds the field, revving engines spinning wheels, and general mayhem went on until 4 30am Conscious that my traders would be arriving by 6 30am, sure enough.

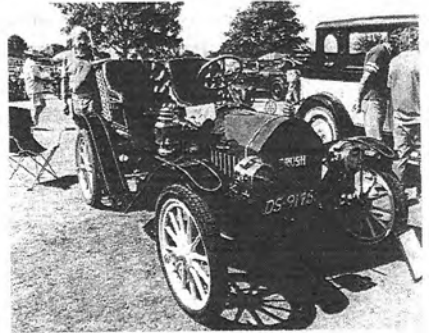


Photo: Tim Young

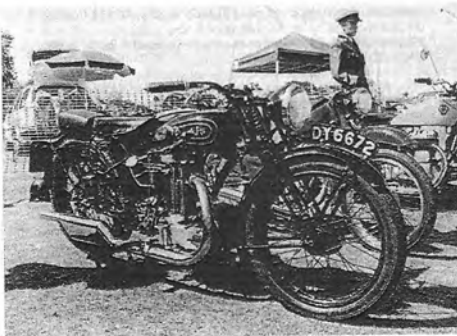


Photo: Tim Young

I look out of the caravan door, its 6:35 am some of them are setting up, the day has started. We all know it was a great day and a outstanding success, thanks to everyone that helped, the small alterations and better advertising and good weather, resulted in a profit of just over £2000, well done to every member that was involved. The committee have decided that in future we shall prepare the ground on the Sat evening next year, we now do not have to erect the

stand and PA area as they did in the past which must have been a massive lot of hard work, with the help, we can now rely on, we should have no problem More on these details later. I do not like the sounds coming from the DVLA, possession tax is again raising its head it seems likely that the government are determined that this will go through, hopefully as a club we can do something to help stop this from happening, just keep a close watch on the publications

A TRIP TO THE CHOCOLATE TOWN

Ground speed 522 mph at 38,000 feet. Just reached coast of Newfoundland. Destination - Newark, New York. 1½ hours to go as we fly down the coast of the USA before the approx 200 mile car drive to Harrisburg nr. Hershey.

Sunshine is beautiful up here, wonder what it's like below. Looking out over the massive intake of the engine, producing such power to push this lot along with 380 people, all so powerless in our big alloy frame, we could fall out of the sky, freeze to death or collapse with no oxygen, if it wasn't for the engine. Everyone these days takes it all for granted, but what a miracle it all is and an outstanding achievement of the modern world.

Landing at Newark-after 7.5 hours, I pass through the USA checks and customs and come to my first quiz --- find the rent car area. I am directed to the Air Train, checking which direction I'm about to go and find the station that has an Information Lady who is there for the sole reason of helping people like you and me. This Air Train, turns out to be a very futuristic monorail suspended about 60 ft up, fully automatic, incredibly quiet, 0 to 60 in about 8 secs. And efficient, well marked and easy to use. once you know how. As usual in America, all very clean - I was impressed.

I watch carefully to make sure . I'm going in the right direction, Otherwise I finish up in the centre of New York and six stations later I get off at the right station. The rent car I was to use was but a few escalators down and about 200yds. Collecting the car, I set off for Interstate 1.89, the motorway to us. Fine weather was a bonus as the 6 lane road was packed, holding a speed of 70 to 75 mph. No one seems to take notice of the 65 mph signs. Continually scanning the rear view mirror for Police cars, I turn off and stop at a small village for refreshments. Remember it is 11 pm at home (bedtime).

After what turned out to be an excellent meal in an old village pub and saloon, etc. I had a good look round. There were a good few people all standing or sitting around the bar, typical American county men (this is agricultural country), all wearing overalls, baseball caps or large

Stetsons and looking brown and hard. As soon as I spoke they immediately cotton on that I'm English and want to make conversation.

Have a laugh with them, they bid me a friendly farewell and I continue the next 100 miles on the 1.89, turning off at the next junction for Hershey to find the Country Hotel. This turned out to be very up market, 5 star rooms and decor, with superb breakfasts, spotlessly clean and hopefully, about 3 miles from the showground. It's dark now so I leave it until tomorrow when I find out if I'm right.

Next morning, up and ready to go. Breakfast, comfy shoes and a beautiful sunny morning -in the car and down to the show. I head for anything that says Car Park, pay ten dollars for the privilege and at this point begin to realise just how big this is. I took bearings on the car, aware that I may never find it again, as this is only one car park of approximately ten around the show! No entrance fee, but I buy a programme and map to get my position (where I am), it's like a needle in a haystack. I fully realise 'this is BIG - to give you some idea, approximately 23 miles around the perimeter, and the 'Car for Sale' corral is approximately one square mile. Thousands of cars and vans, some over restored, some just beautiful, and a good few needing T.L.C., what ever you want it's here.

From my humble position in one field I could walk easily 2 miles, that is just one field, and in this field there are 6 lines!! And there are 8 fields plus the odd bits, 10,000+stalls in all.

Full of enthusiasm I start; the temperature is around 75F and by 1pm it must be 85F. I stop for lunch (a vast array of eating places around). The vendor again realises I'm English and wants to buy the English money I have on me! So I buy my lunch in UK money. I'm still feeling fit and taking bearings on the balloons I fixed on had disappeared and I'm faced with a completely new range of balloons, such is the size of the show. By 5 pm that's it, I've had enough. 1 hr, later I'm back to the car. Went out to dinner that evening ready for the next day. Day 2 from 1 0am to 3pm. Day 3 from 1 0am to 12noon. Saturday was Show Day and I just had to make the effort to look round the Car Corral and Auction (about 3 miles) I had by this time had more than enough.

Looking for something else, I went to Gettysburg and the Pennsylvania Railway Museum and took a journey on an 1860 train for about 10 miles. A lovely new museum, And the, train was complete with that Bell and Cow Catcher (or remover?) on the front and just one very large engine. I continued on a visit to the farms and Villages of the Amish people-, which completed the trip. Out for dinner in the evening. Their portions are enormous and I'm stuffed. Next morning is the last day and I have until 6pm to be back at Newark. Packing -well what did I get? Not much, Peerless and Plymouth parts are as rare out there as here. I managed to find some parts for the Peerless Auto vac and one hub cap for the Plymouth, and a spare clutch plate. One thing is for sure, if you want to restore a Ford model A there are hundreds, of dealers specialising in this model and spares would be no problem. I pack the Auto vac parts carefully guessing that these will not look good on the security screen, along with the clutch plate. Thanking our hosts for an excellent stay, I decide to return on a more relaxed route and return by Route 22 to Newark.

Dropping off the car, and now fully confident, get on the air train to the airport, I book in the case and carry the spares with me. Here it comes, I put the bag on the conveyor for the security check and it goes through, stops and then goes back, then forward again. I overhear the lady say, "That's car parts". Not satisfied it comes through and now a second check. "Can I see in that bag Sir?" comes the question. I unpack the parts, and they are duly looked at. Everyone is happy, and I proceed to the check in. a casual mention to the 'nice young lady' that if the plane is not entirely full I would appreciate free scat next to me! The time comes to board and "hey presto" not one but 3 free seats next to me. After dinner I settle down for a long night haul. Can I sleep! No, well, I must have done. I get woken up for breakfast somewhere, south of Ireland, arriving at Gatwick at 6am to a cold, wet miserable day. Never mind, I've had a good time and a real experience. Would I do it again? Well, we shall see I never looked round, or went to, that famous Chocolate factory!

FOR SALE

1951 MG TD (red)

£12,250 ono tel. 01323 843032

HOOE'S OLD MOTOR CLUB 1st AUGUST

As usual a truly unique event. A perfect summers day, period vehicles on manicured grass, the band playing and posh picnics all combine to maybe replicate a typical Sunday in rural middle England in the '30's / 50's.

The organisers had again achieved what many fail to do: low key but efficient administration, a village fete atmosphere and a selection of vehicles/bikes from 1900 to 1960 the like of which are rarely seen, many only at this event. It was good to see many EHVC members as well as Hooe members lending a hand as marshals.

On the way we were thrashed on the Pevensy by-pass by a 20's 4.5 litre open Bentley, also en-route to Hooe. A fine sight and sound that rather set the scene for the day. No doubt the XK could have seen it off, but that would have been ungentlemanly, unseemly behaviour and in any case I would have had to catch it first! Interestingly, modern Euroboxes showed due deference by easing over to the left hand side to allow it to pass, but it did loom large in ones mirror! Reminded me rather of Mr. Toad.

Finally, we peasants conclude that to achieve a display spot on the hallowed lawns to the west or north of the Hooe arena, one must be born to it. One cannot aspire to it and those on the east will never make it, even if money changed hands!

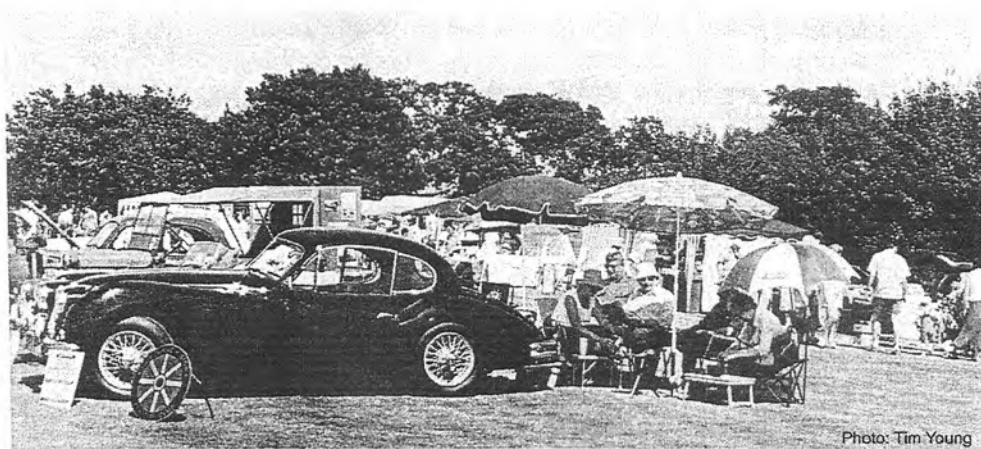


Photo: Tim Young

FUTURE EVENTS

- Jan 9th** DUXFORD AIR MUSEUM (see enclosed form)
- Feb 4th** 2004 SHOW VIDEO etc, START 8pm
- Mar 11th** ANNUAL DINNER, (see enclosed form).
At the White Hart Netherfield.
7.00pm for 7.30pm
LIMITED TO 46 MEMBERS
- Apr 1st** ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 8pm
Any item you wish to be considered please inform
the secretary in writing 7 days prior to the meeting,
- MAY 6th** VISIT to Chris & Marion's museum at ROLVENDEN
Meeting at the BULL INN opposite the shop as our
Numbers may be more than they can cope with, we
must limit the no's to approx 10 at a time, a donation
to Chris's restoration fund would be appreciated.
Cash bar etc. in the BULL INN.
- JUNE 3rd** QUIZ EVENING (loads of laughs)
- JULY 1st** B B Q at The Homestead, bring own meats,
everything else is supplied.
- AUG 6th & 7th** SHOW TIME Help & volunteers needed.