



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Dear Member,

Welcome to the Scarce January Newsletter.

The majority of this newsletter is taken up by a report on the Inaugural JOINT SCARCE CHRISTMAS CRACKER/ AUSTIN CHAMP FROSTBITE RUN. The event proving popular with all those who took part.

Please let me have any comments Good or Bad on the event, as we work to providing something for all.

Looking forward to the next few months we have the following events which should be of interest to many members.

Huddersfield Autojumble Christmas on 8th January.

Apparently it has been changed from a December date. For anyone interested further details may be found at www.pff-uk.info

It is a 10 am start for the public.

Mike and Alistair are certainly looking at going (unfortunately I will be in Germany on Business). If you could let me know if you wish to attend then Mike is suggesting meeting at the Pingfisher around 9.30 . (**Please let me know so Mike is not waiting around all morning.**)

VSCC John Harris Trial (Chatsworth Trial) March 3rd 2012

The Next trial the SCARCE team will be entering is The John Harris based at Chatsworth Saturday 3rd March. The location is worth the trip never mind seeing the proper cars on show.

Further Details and arrangements to follow.

Sunday 22nd April Drive It Day.

Drive It Day is always held on the nearest Sunday to 23 April. This date was chosen in 2005 to commemorate the 64 cars that set off from London on 23 April 1900 on the first day of the Thousand Mile Trial . an incredible undertaking and one which we believe deserves an annual celebration.

Please put this date in your diary as we will certainly be marking this event !!

Following the excellent day we had at the Andrew Greenwood classic car show @ Nostell Priory(17th August 2011).

It has been decided to look at attending further of these cheap to attend shows.

www.classicshows.org

Current suggested dates are :

Sunday 13th May:

The 24th Festival of 1000 Classic Cars & North West Classic Bike Day
(Cholmondeley Castle Chesire SY14 8AH)

Sunday 24th June:

The 28th Lancs Classic Car and Bike Show (Hoghton Tower, Nr Preston, Lancs PR5 0SH)

Sunday 16th September:

The 2nd Autumn National MG & Triumph Show.
(Exhibition Hall,Donnington Park, Derbs DE74 2RP)

Regards,

Martin Bradbury
SCARCE Secretary



JOINT SCARCE CHRISTMAS CRACKER/ AUSTIN CHAMP FROSTBITE RUN 27/12/11

The day dawned rather wet and miserable with low cloud for our first Christmas run. At least the temperature was not a problem and a fair number of our convertibles decided to go topless for most of the day. As Dave Harding mentioned, a year ago the temperature was the same but with a minus sign in front of it!

We gathered at what has become our spiritual home, the Kingfisher Greenfield, which benefits from a large car park and very helpful staff. The management had kindly offered to open up specially to put on bacon butties and tea or coffee, and the use of the toilets immediately prior to setting off was convenient. (Sorry!)

We were delighted to greet new member John Buckley and his wife in their shining Armstrong Siddeley Sapphire A beauty! I think John was quite pleased when I said the route only included a fairly short stretch of off-roading!



I must confess to dropping a clanger with regard to recce with our Champ friends as we confused their bacon butty time with our setting off from Kingfisher! (Blame the Christmas spirit!). However our group of 15 cars set off around 10.30 heading for Holmfirth knowing we would see the Champs later in the day.

I decided to be tail-end Charlie as I had a boot-full of tools, spare petrol, towing gear, towels, shovel, bad weather gear, coffee,fortunately only the last two items were required for the whole journey! I did have a worrying moment on the way past Dovestones as I spotted a cars rear end sticking out of the ditch and I realised I had forgotten to bring the winch!! Fortunately it was not a Scarce member. My son Alistair and friend Toby were also providing back-up if necessary in our trusty Mitsubishi pick-up also acting as club photographer. They followed the Champs on the off-road sections to collect photos.

The weather proved to be extraordinary, experiencing all the seasons in one day. Over towards Holmfirth the sun occasionally smiled on us and I hoped that we may have a completely dry day from then on. (Ha!)

The route took us out of Holmfirth and up B6106 Dunford Road towards Hade Edge. We then took a right onto Washpit New Road and proceeded via pleasant country lanes eventually dropping down into the village of Dobb, then Holmbridge and then onto the A6024. We followed this through Holme and wound our way up to the first meeting point at Holme Moss car park. It was a reasonable day when I did the dry run a week before and the view was spectacular from here.

Unfortunately on the day of the run we could just about see each end of the car park! You wouldn't know there was a massive mast just across the road-it was invisible.

However, most of our stalwart group were there to meet me when I pulled into the car park and nearly ripped my exhaust off on the speed bumps. Yes, good choice Mike! The convertibles had either hastily converted or had large golfing umbrellas up for protection. I managed to pour a coffee and most of it went in the mug which was a bonus. At this stage Martin and his brother arrived in their MGs with Peter in his Frog-Eye. It appeared they had taken a detour to Sheffield, but all was now well. After Peter dried out his car with a towel and rang it out over my head, we decided to proceed.



About the only vehicle malfunction on the day happened to Martins brother Neil in his MGB GT as he discovered his light switch had jammed in the on position. He decided it sensible not to try a repair as he may end up with no lights at all, and had to return to Lincoln part way through the day. As you can see Scarce runs attracts enthusiasts from far and wide!

“Do you know your lights are on?”

We returned to Holme village and forked left after the Fleece towards Digley reservoir where we had another stop at the reservoir car park. This was only a couple of miles or so away from Holme Moss and yet the weather was totally different. The sun was out and the cars were steaming! (Ok slight exaggeration here). However, it was a beautiful spot and most of our party had a stroll to dry themselves off!

I then received a call from the Champ guys as they were now heading towards the Ford Inn on the run into Holmfirth. (Obviously had a full fry-up and not just a bacon butty!) So we headed over and one or two of us were just in time to see their convoys go past in great style.

It was at this stage that Neil had to leave us and head back to Lincoln. I am not sure if it was a smile or scowl on his face as he left and I shouted “Do you know your lights are on?” Some people just don’t seem to have a sense of humour these days!

Anyhow, off we trundled over the hill and down into Meltham, winding out of the village and up towards Marsden on the Slaithwaite Road, right onto the A62 left into Slaithwaite and then up the hill to our lunch stop at the excellent Rose and Crown pub, Holme Lane.

Here we all met up for a drink and a bite to eat prior to the Champ guys arriving who had booked a room and pre booked food. Who was it told the landlord we were not the Champ group then?

It was a very pleasant hour or so we spent and it was fun in the car park when the Champs finally arrived. (Comments about the British Army being late again were totally ignored, one chap pointing at a stray US Army Jeep in their party that obviously slowed them down!)

A pleasant drive back to Saddleworth via the Nont Sarahs was a perfect finish to the run.

Wishing all SCARCE members a very Happy New Year and see you in 2012!

Your roving motoring correspondent,
Mike Littlewood



(For more Pictures Please see the website soon.)