

SCARCE NEWSLETTER.

Saddleworth Classic And Rare Cars Enthusiasts.
No 2. April 19, 2010.

Well what an amazing response! Thank you so much to all the people who attended the first “meet” at the Kingfisher in Greenfield on Saturday . Not only were there some gorgeous cars on show but we were also blessed with a gorgeous day. I don’t know about you but I also found everyone I spoke to was both courteous and the sort of folk with whom I feel I can get along with; an ideal mix to start a Classic Car Club.

Considering that the event coincided almost to the hour with the “Derby Match” it seemed that for many people our event took precedence (even though my sons would beg to differ!). My youngest son Harry was there to join us at the start but unfortunately Guy and Russell are over in Majorca and although I am sure Russell would have turned up to support us with his GT6 (for half an hour before the start of the match) he is still marooned owing to the flight situation. I am sure Guy will join us with his Megane when he next returns.

I was amazed to find there were even people there who had rushed to get their cars ready for the season and actually taxed them that day! All I can do is apologize for not having arranged the first event for a date on or close after the 1st of the month so they would have got maximum value for money.

Obviously for our first meeting it was just a question of gauging the response to see whether there were enough of us interested in giving Saddleworth its very own Classic Car Club and I am sorry if I didn’t get chance to speak to everybody in turn but as you know there were quite a few of us there. I list below my hurried notes of who turned up with what and I apologize if I have missed anyone out or my memory has failed me. Please e-mail me and I will list this as an addendum in the next “Newsletter”. I know that we have had enquiries from at least 6 other people who knew they were not going to be able to attend the first event and indeed my own brother has not only missed the inaugural “meet” but will also miss the Drive it Day on Sunday 25th April as he is currently touring the Continent in his XK8.

I have listed the names of those who came to the event in the order in which I received enquiries in answer to the various advertisements posted in the press.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Anthony Littlewood..... | 1952 Bentley R Type Special |
| Heather Illingworth..... | Seat Leon |
| Alistair Littlewood..... | C Type Jaguar |
| Anita Scholes..... | 1966 Mercedes 230SL |
| F. Julia Dawson..... | 1953 Hillman Minx Coupe Mk1V |
| David Richardson..... | 1985 Mercedes 280SL |
| Dave Harding..... | Triumph Spitfire |
| Debbie & Gary Brown..... | 1976 MG Midget 1500cc |
| Martin & Alison Bradbury..... | 1978 MGB |
| David Bewley..... | Triumph TR7 |
| Bob Hill..... | Frog Eye Sprite |
| Steve Harper..... | 1992 Lancia Delta Integrale Evo 1 |
| Sally Harrison..... | 1972 MGB Roadster |
| Mike & Alice Rea..... | Frog Eye Sprite |
| Paul Greenwood..... | 1959 Mk1 Jaguar |
| David Wood..... | Tiger (2L Ford engine) |
| Lees Firth..... | Jaguar "X" type |
| Richard Ward..... | 1965 Ford Mustang |
| Andrew Murray..... | Mazda MX-5 Roadster |
| Lindsay Collins..... | MG Midget |
| Gerard Marsden..... | 1937 MG VA Tourer |
| Simon Mayall..... | Focus RS Mk 11 |
| Paul Hughes..... | 2001 Chrysler Sebring |
| Antony Platt..... | 1986 Ferrari 328 GTS |
| Frank Gradwell..... | Ford Thunderbird |

Apologies if I can't put a bit more meat on the descriptions, (and yes, I am aware I have missed a lot of partner's names from the list but I am shocking at remembering names) but I am occasionally working from memory and I will be in a position to give more detail when I have received all the membership forms back. I know that many of you have more than one car you intend to turn up in and in order that members can consult with one another directly if they find they have a similar model of car I will try to list them all when I have more details. Always handy for spare parts and tips on common faults and fixes.

IN ABSENTIA. I am sorry that Tony Griffiths, Herbie Davies, Ian Hill, Jonathan Williamson, Luke Collins, Clive Farrand and anyone else I have omitted to list was unable to make it but I am sending you all details as we go and I hope to see you soon at a future event.

Which brings me nicely on to this coming Sunday 25th April (National “Drive-it-Day”) and I hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us, rain or shine, as we set off on our first expedition. After chatting to a few of you on Saturday I got the feeling that for our first event it might be best if:

- a. We don't drive too far (some of the cars have only just got back on the road).
- b. We pick somewhere we can find without Sat Nav or experienced Navigator.
- c. Somewhere we can easily park that also offers catering if required.
- d. Local interest where we can look at something other than cars for a few hours.

Whilst many of you may have been there before I have come up with the suggestion of Quarry Bank Mill as it seems to fit the bill for the following reasons. If you can find Manchester Airport you can't miss Quarry Bank Mill which is signposted after the turn-off to the Airport. It is one of Britain's greatest industrial heritage sites and offers amongst other things, a cotton mill powered by Europe's most powerful water wheel, a traditional vegetable-fruit-herb garden, an 8 acre “Secret Garden”, fabulous woodland walks and a restaurant serving fresh local produce. It can therefore offer suitable alternatives whatever the weather and we can either wander round individually or string along in groups as you wish.

I will print off a few copies of directions for anyone who is unsure of the route and I suggest we try as best we can to drive there in convoy, spend as much or as little time as we wish when there and for the benefit of doubt find our own way home afterwards. It is a National Trust Property so those of you who are members please remember your card although from memory it is not too expensive to gain entry. I have spoken to Jane Gujon at the property and whilst a Group Booking could be arranged the savings are minimal and we would need to know exactly how many would be attending so it is best on this occasion if we pay for ourselves.

It would be nice to think that in total our members may well “clock-up” 1000 miles between them on the day to mirror the Thousand Miles those pioneer motorists completed way back in the year 1900.

For those of you who are not keen on this venue it is an incentive to get involved and join our proposed Committee who can then get together a diary of enjoyable events throughout the year. When we meet up on Sunday please don't feel shy if you have an idea for a drive-out somewhere and we can consider it for the future. Whilst some people may be happy to do a hundred mile drive others may only want the odd run out and it is quite understandable if members only turn up at those events that appeal to them. Nevertheless, HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE:

SUNDAY 25th APRIL Meet at Kingfisher 11.45. Set off to Quarry Bank Mill approx 12.15 or drive straight there and meet up as you wish.

Happy motoring Tony.