



Newsletter 33 - Which direction do members wish to see their club heading? - Jan 2018

Since our recent Club Christmas Dinner which everyone seemed to enjoy, Deryck has been having sleepless nights and in an effort to find solace prepared a questionnaire along with a few other suggestions which your Committee have been working on. His initial ramblings were as follows. The way I see it there are four main types of outing:

1. Major sporting events or exhibitions. These are all day events to which members will make their own way, e.g. Oulton Park Gold Cup; NEC Classic Car Show etc. Shows such as Gawsworth and Hebden Bridge would also fall into this category.
2. Organised runs with a pre-arranged route where the destination is the *raison d'etre*.
3. Organised runs where the driving is the *raison d'etre*. These are runs where the choice of roads is the driving force, although an attractive destination would also feature, usually in licensed premises. These runs would usually be morning only, and take place midweek when the roads are quietest.
4. A combination of 3 & 4. Levens Hall and Biddulph Grange spring to mind.

I think we should canvass the members to see which outings they prefer. I know some of our members are more interested in driving their cars and some are more interested in showing them and we should try to cater for both interests. I have attached a proposal for a questionnaire which we could circulate to get a feel for suitable destinations.

Deryck

The Questionnaire:

Are you interested in attending classic car shows to display your vehicle?

If answer is yes please suggest your favourite shows:

Are you interested in joining organised runs driving your vehicle?

If the answer to 2 is yes, do you prefer a run in which the point of the run is the destination and the time spent there?

If Yes, do you have any suggestions for suitable destination venues?

Do you prefer a run in which the point of the run is the driving on interesting roads?

Are you available for midweek runs. Usually shorter morning runs finishing at a pub for lunch?

Do you think we should continue to offer Wednesday runs or should we stick to weekends only?

If a run did not start at the Kingfisher but started at a venue with toilet facilities nearer to the "scene of the action" would you be interested in attending?

Would you be interested in a weekend away. Probably leaving on Friday, hotel Friday night and Saturday night, returning home Sunday afternoon. Maybe Lake District or Yorkshire Dales. Runs out from the venue?

Any other suggestions and comments?

Various replies were received to his ramblings by such folk as my brother in one of his more sober moments! I have listed the responses below. Owing to the fact that I had to be over in North Wales I missed the January pub meeting so naturally, by being absent, I was elected to be Editor in chief of articles for the newsletter. This does not imply that I will be writing them myself but simply that I shall be urging members to send their own articles to me at tony@tonylittlewood.com for compilation (expect continual earache) and nor does it imply that Martin will be finding his secretarial duties any less onerous. BTW Martin, thank you for all the work you did in getting everyone sorted out with the right food choices and balancing the books during the Christmas Dinner - no small feat!

This Newsletter has two purposes and as such is being e-mailed to all members as well as being placed on the Club website so that Deryck's missive can be given a continual airing to ensure his sleepless nights are a thing of the past. Those of you whom attended the usual monthly meeting, along with a few others have already given your views and frankly I would imagine that even though we only have ten answers to date it will give a fairly representative picture of members' views.

Tony

Notes from Mike:

To the serious business of Scarce and points raised by valued long time-served members. Thanks Deryck for raising the points.

Anthony & Newsletter,

As our founder I think you should be editor in chief and scrutinise input for the website/newsletter before Martin passes to Dave for sending out on the ether. We don't want any court cases! Ha! We have a Chairman/Editor, Secretary, 'Scared' motorsport correspondent from our long time members for the newsletter/general classic motoring interest contribution as this will provide a more continual flow of editorial. I feel we have tried the individual approach and it doesn't work too well. Hey Gerry, what do you say?

My thoughts for what they are worth:

I am a member of umpteen car clubs - as are several of us, and I can honestly say that of all these our little club certainly gives me best value for money (er, ok it's free but you get my drift!) Harrumph, so what I am getting at is - variety. We are not purely social, touring, site-seeing, racing or showing, we are all of these. Thinking about it, I am staggered at the variety, expertise and motoring interest our small group of petrol-heads possess within such a small geographical area. So I think we should be very proud of our little club - on a shoestring but providing people with a way of enjoying their interest and rubbing shoulders with like-minded idiots - er - I mean folk. However suggestions are welcome for improving and building on this. Events we arrange are a success if two or three turn up or twenty or thirty, but I agree, if Deryck has put a lot of effort in, it is nice if there is a representative number to enjoy and thank him for his efforts. I agree Deryck with your suggestion of asking the membership for their ideas, maybe add a simple question too, "What would you like to see on our motoring calendar?"

Cheers,

Mike.

The Results:

First of all a big thank you to those who replied to Deryck's recent questionnaire - by all means keep your replies coming in. The story so far:

- 80% of members are interested in displaying their vehicle at a classic car show
- 100% of members are interested in joining organised runs
- 80% of members prefer a run in which both the destination and the driving on interesting roads play an equal part
- 80% of members wish to continue with mid-week runs (90% if we choose Tues or Thurs)
- 90% of members are happy to commence some runs from other than Kingfisher pub
- 90% of members would be happy to stay in an organised hotel Fri & Sat night returning after a run to e.g. Lake District on Sunday afternoon

Mention was made that it is nice to finish a run at a venue where one can eat a decent meal. Shows that were given the thumbs up included Gawsworth/Hebden Bridge/Oulton Park/Tatton Hall. Suggested venues for future runs included Bolton Steam Museum, Bentley Motors Crewe, Ness Gardens, Little Moreton Hall, Harewood Hillclimb, Woodford Air Show, Gaydon, Coventry Motor Museum, Lakeland Motor Museum (this could possibly be included in an organised weekend away). We can assure you that t't Committee will consider all your comments at the February meeting so here's to some great motoring adventures in 2018! Thank you Deryck for your initiative.

Tony Littlewood.