



FEBRUARY 2012

Dear Member,

Welcome to the Scarce February Newsletter.

May I start by thanking Gerard Marsden for his review of the VSCC Lakeland trial which took place in November.

I think you will all agree that it looked like fun was had by all.

For those that visit the website regularly you will see that the calendar now contains many more events through the year.

As a committee we have discussed the many events which take place through the year.

We have considered the cost of events / distance / suitability for all the family and partners etc, and we suggest that we present a list of all the events which members may wish to take part in and then highlight those which we as a club may want to more formally organise a “ Club Visit “

With this in mind the first event that we would like to formally attend is the

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.

Could all those interested in attending please contact so we can confirm departure and route details.

Sunday 22nd April Drive It Day.

We are currently investigating driving to Jodrell Bank.

Further details shortly.

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.

Sunday 13th May:

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

2nd/3rd/4th June

Classic car show at Tatton Park in Chesire.

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)

Please also find below some potential dates which have been suggested by Frank Gradwell.

Sat May 19th Glossop Manor Park car show –

£3.00 entry – don't know anything about it – contact :-

<http://www.glossopcarshow.moonfruit.com/#>

Tuesday June 5th – Bring Your Motor night –

The Bowling Green A49 Charnock Richard - NWVTG – all evening – nothing formal – just turn up. Contact Frank

Tuesday June 19th – Bring Your Motor night – the Carriage House, Marsden –

Trans Pennine VTG - all evening – nothing formal – just turn up.

A great night out and it's just over the hill into that place they call Yorkshire.

Thurs 5th – Sun 9th Notts Americana –

Been going since '96 – ain't stopping now! If you can't hack the Americana you're dead! - <http://www.americana-international.co.uk/> **Worth it for the mighty Quill alone** <http://www.quill-uk.com/Home.htm> - !

Fri July 6th – “Fleur de lys Classic Car Show” Thornes Park, Wakefield –

Friday evening from about four p.m. to dusk - £3.00 – pay on the gate – if you find a contact name or number let me know – but the show is a belter – hundreds of cars and thousands of folk

Sat 8th July Keighley Transport Festival –

<http://www.kbmt.org.uk/kfot.html>

Saturday 14th Lancs Car Club Coast to Coast Run – Morecambe to Scarborough

- <http://www.lancsautoclub.com/c2c.htm>

Sat / Sun 14th/15th July – North York Moors Railway vintage vehicles weekend -

<http://www.nymr.co.uk/special-events/vintage-vehicle-weekend/>

Sun Sept 2nd – Trans Lancs Transport Show – for all classes – displays, stalls, tram rides – entry fee payable to the Museum of Transport -

<http://www.gmts.co.uk/events/TTS12.pdf>

Sun 7th October – Classic Cars and Folk Festival – Churnet Valley Railway between Leek and Alton Towers

Till the meeting on 15th March Safe driving.

Regards,

Martin Bradbury
SCARCE Secretary

AUTO TESTING

(courtesy of wikipedia)

Autotesting involves a series of tests, generally around [traffic cones](#), to measure [precision driving](#) skill. The tests often include stopping with the front and rear wheels straddling a line, and always end stopping in a [garage](#) (usually marked out with cones). Sections of each test are usually completed in reverse. [Cars](#) involved can be standard road cars or ones specially built for autotest.

Autotests can take place on either grass or hard surface. Grass Autotests are popular for club events as they are more gentle on tyres and transmissions. Championship Autotests in the UK are normally on a hard surface.

Each event consists of between three and six tests, with each test completed twice with the faster of the two counting for the results. The tests are timed with a [stopwatch](#), with penalties of 10 seconds given for each cone hit. A wrong turn in a test results in a maximum time, which is usually 30 seconds slower than the fastest time in class. The winner is the driver who completes the tests in the shortest time (including penalties). Each test usually takes around a minute to complete, and often turns into a test of memory as well as driver skill. Most of the autotest layouts are symmetrical and the drivers do get the chance to walk the course.

Autotests are conducted in the UK and Ireland and are similar to [Motorkhana](#) in Australia and New Zealand. Cars compete one at a time and speeds are low so safety is high.

For those interested, it may be possible to attend autotests as invited guests of the MG car club Lincolnshire.

If you are interested please contact me so we can discuss this further in the committee.



Vintage Sports Car Club – Lakeland Trial

In early November, usually in driving rain, swirling mist or even snow, a group of dedicated nutters with vintage cars gather in Lorton nr. Crummock Water to drive their ancient vehicles as far as they can

10 hills to attempt, most of them on private land. It is the human condition to make such activity “competitive” and so each hill is divided into sections from the bottom to the top. The driver needs at least one passenger, whose function in life is to “bounce” up and down in the passenger seat in order to increase the tyres’ grip upon whatever surface lies beneath. It can present quite an amusing sight to see an eighty year old car struggling up a muddy hillside with all the passengers jumping up and down in unison. A good team can make all the difference however, so the driver has to select his passengers with care.



It would be reasonable to think that a large powerful car is necessary for success but this is not necessarily so; many tiny Austin sevens, Singer Juniors and Jowetts compete successfully. Other popular makes are Model A Fords, Chrysler, Vauxhall 30/98s, Rileys and Bentleys.

Some of the hills are in obscure places where spectating is limited, but the longest and most daunting hill is the infamous “Drumhouse”, which is a quarry track climbing up the side of Fleetwith Pike. It is easily accessible to the public and a popular place for increasing numbers of spectators. The quarry sits right at the top of Honister Pass and is now open to the public serving welcome cups of tea and bacon butties to the many walkers and climbers passing that way.



I had the pleasure of marshalling a section on Drumhouse last year. An amazing number of cars made it right to the top, a climb of some 200m in half a mile, hairpin bends all the way. It was interesting to note that the cars seem to hunt in packs; after a gaggle of Austin Sevens a pride of Bentleys will appear, followed by a riot of Rileys (licence on the collective nouns here) then the loners, Frazer Nash and Amilcar. The weather this time was perfect, clear and bright sunshine, showing off the mountain scenery and these wonderful cars to their best. I won't bore you with the results; just enjoy the attached pictures to get the flavour. There are super videos of the climb on www.utube honister and drumhouse.



A great day out for anyone interested, put the 10th November 2012 in your diary. See you there.