



ROLLS-ROYCE  
ENTHUSIASTS' CLUB

*NORTH EASTERN  
SECTION*



*NEWSLETTER  
July/August 2016*

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The *Noggin and Natter evenings* on the first Wednesday of each month are now taking place at the **Crathorne Arms, Crathorne, TS15 0BA**, just off the A19 near Yarm. A busy pub, but within easy reach of most of us. Bar food is available for those who want it. It is a very select gathering at present, so why not come along and swell the numbers!

The third Wednesday evening meetings involve much lively talk and laughter at **The Old Mill, Metal Bridge, Coxhoe, DH6 5NX**.

A hardcore of attendees has developed, but new faces are always welcome. These meetings are definitely not men only! Just turn up at about 7.30pm, there is no need to book. Order food and drink at the bar and ask where we are - they usually know!

### Events for 2016

<b>Sunday 3 July</b>	MGOC Rally at Tynedale RUFC, Corbridge - MV
<b>Sunday 17 July</b>	NECPWA Rally at Newby Hall
<b>Wednesday 20 July</b>	The Old Mill, Metal Bridge, Coxhoe
<b>Sunday 24 July</b>	Ripon Old Cars at Ripon Racecourse - DIY!
<b>Sat/Sun 6/7 August</b>	North of England Rally at Harewood House - Club event
<b>Sun 14 August</b>	Raby Castle Classic Car show - JDC
<b>Wednesday 17 August</b>	The Old Mill, Metal Bridge, Coxhoe
<b>Sunday 11 September</b>	Land Rovers and Lunch - RH
<b>September (tbc)</b>	Road run/Tanfield Railway/pub meal by Aston Martin works, Beamish - TM
<b>Wednesday 21 September</b>	The Old Mill, Metal Bridge, Coxhoe
<b>Sunday 25 September</b>	NECPWA Beamish Rally at Beamish Museum - BS
<b>Wednesday 19 October</b>	The Old Mill, Metal Bridge, Coxhoe
<b>Sat 11/13 November</b>	NEC Classic Car Show - JC
<b>Wednesday 16 November</b>	The Old Mill, Metal Bridge, Coxhoe
<b>Wed 21 December</b>	Christmas Event at The Old Mill, Coxhoe - RM

### **Other possible events, details of dates and organisers yet to be confirmed:**

North Yorkshire Railway visit – Joint visit with YS?

### Events for 2017

<b>15 January</b>	AGM at the Allerton Court Hotel - Secretary.
<b>29 Sep/1 Oct</b>	Section weekend somewhere in Northumberland - MV

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### **Front photo:**

Bernie Surtees' 1993 Bentley Turbo RL. Chassis No. PCH46594.

At Thorp Perrow Arboretum, and with Snape Castle in the background.



# ROLLS-ROYCE ENTHUSIASTS' CLUB

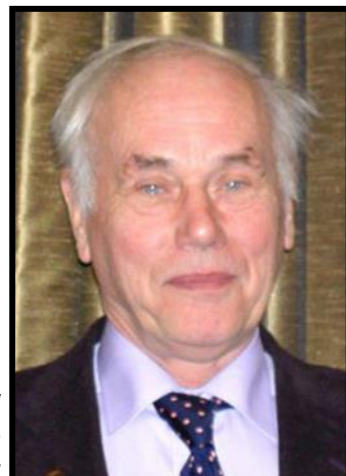
## NORTH EASTERN SECTION NEWSLETTER JULY/AUGUST 2016

### Roger's Ramblings

**S**ir Henry Royce's contribution to the 'Great' in Great Britain was immense, but what would he have thought about the coming referendum? It would be interesting to have known.

We didn't make it to the Busby Picnic, we were stranded in Shipley with a flat battery in the Saab. It has a keyless remote, I have found it is possible to leave the car with the remote in your pocket and the ignition switched on (it warns you by flashing the lights but only after 3 mins). No problem, call the AA! But the AA man connected one of these new small battery packs, it eventually came to life, except the steering lock. The Saab technical department suspect that the use of these High Power battery packs 'spiked' the steering lock electronics. What is the point of all this complication! Happy Motoring.

**Roger**



### Contact point comments

**I** have attended three events since the last Newsletter. The first event was by invitation, courtesy of the Yorkshire Dales Classis Car Club, to the 61 Engineer Regiment of the British Army, Open Day on 7th May, and was very different from most events! The second event was a picnic at Busby Hall, organised by the Yorkshire Section on 22nd May. This event was well attended on a fine sunny day, spoilt by heavy rain in the late afternoon. The third event was also a picnic, this time at Thorp Perrow Arboretum, near Bedale, on 5th June with beautiful weather. These events are more fully reported elsewhere in this Newsletter.

I am looking forward to travelling down to the National Rally on Sunday 26th June, with Martin Vinson and Roger Hall, in Roger's 1934 Rolls-Royce Phantom II. I did this last year and the then 81 year old car cruised effortlessly at motor-way speeds with great aplomb, and without missing a beat there and back.

Summer brings major events with the MGOC Rally at Tynedale RUFC, Corbridge on 3rd July and the North of England Classic and Pre-War Automobiles Motoring Club –







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NECPWA - organised event at Newby Hall on 17th July. Newby Hall is an attraction in its own right but on 17th July hosts the largest classic car show in the North of England with a maximum of 1500 vehicles on display which makes for a very worthwhile day out as either an exhibitor or a spectator.

The RREC North of England Rally will be held on 6/7th August at Harewood House with the cars on show on Sunday 7th August. The event is organised by a consortium of four RREC Sections with this section having responsibility for marshalling. Volunteers willing to do a stint will be welcomed and should contact Jim Clark whose contact details are elsewhere in this Newsletter. There are those in the club who can recall around 400 cars being present but in recent years numbers have declined with the most significant reduction in attendance being those with pre-war cars. Having said that, people do travel some distance to attend and the car which took my eye last year was a 3.5 litre Bentley sports salon bodied by Arthur Mulliner of around 1935 vintage all the way from the Isle of Man if my memory serves me correctly.

The plea that follows from all of this is to get your wheels on the road and on show. I understand that, a bit like their owners, the cars do better with some exercise so I look forward to seeing more of you at forthcoming events.

*Rod*

## Newsletter Editor's comments

**M**y thanks to Bernie for his two reports. It seems both days proved worthwhile. I understand that the Teesside air show was particularly popular, not only with classic car owners, but also with the general public. I do not know if any, or many, people were put off by the need to be on site before 0800hrs and to stay until 1730hrs, apart from myself, that is. This seems to be becoming a more commonplace requirement, with health and safety being blamed as the cause of the problem. If that is so, then perhaps a little more thought towards the organisation would not go amiss. On the other hand it might be the desire to have a display for the paying public to see, when they turn up late, in order to avoid complaints that having paid to get in, all the cars had gone. Well, I can understand that, but 1100hrs until 1500hrs would not seem unreasonable, unless we were to be paid, of course! There was some discussion about this at a recent JDC meeting. Apparently the Morgans were still arriving at about 1100hrs, though I think that the marshals may have made them wait till last before they could leave!

Bernie sent several photos with his reports, but unfortunately the images were rather small, and so have not reproduced well. When sending photos by e-mail, please send them as jpegs, with a minimum size of 1000px for the longest side.

What a glorious day we had at the Thorp Perrow Arboretum. Wall to wall sunshine and not a cloud to be seen, not even a Silver one, I, II, or III! Never mind, Roger's 1934 P II stood out from the crowd, and, as usual, attracted attention from the general public, who were out in force, including one little girl who wanted to climb all over it, and had to be prized off by her father. Otherwise there were three modern Bentleys, two Jaguars, Dennis and Lucy's Mk X and Edwin and Pam's XJ6, and an MG belonging to yours truly. Some members had brought picnics, while others resorted to the on site café, which proved more than adequate.

The gardens were beautiful, and we all enjoyed a leisurely stroll along tree lined



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walks, and by tranquil lakes.

The cars were parked backing onto the adjoining field, with Snape castle in the background. See front cover.

As usual Rod and Dyllis travelled the furthest to be there. Altogether a good day and thanks to Jim for the organisation.

*Martin*

## Welfare

**S**heila Mansfield is not too well at the moment. Of course she is putting on a brave face, and carrying on as if nothing was wrong. Hopefully, she will be back firing on all cylinders before too long, and we wish her a speedy recovery.

Derek Moss has been back in hospital for a short while, but he tells me that they have sorted him out, and now he just needs to rest for a few weeks. So, Derek, you will have to do as you are told.

## Were we have been:-

### Busby Hall Picnic, Carlton in Cleveland, near Stokesley

**A** short history of Busby Hall was presented in the March/April Newsletter. Busby Hall is a private residence owned by Barry Dodd, Lord Lieutenant of North Yorkshire and a long-time member of the RREC Yorkshire Section, hence the invitation to this Section to picnic.

Busby Hall sits above the village of Carlton in Cleveland with panoramic views over the surrounding countryside, much of which in times past will have been owned by the family occupying the Hall.

Sunday 22nd May was a fine day to be out, and after proceeding up the long drive to the hall I parked up with earlier arrivals to picnic. It was good to see the older Rolls-Royce cars of Alan Fishburn - 1934 20/25 Hooper bodied Sedan Coupé - John Harrison - 1934 Hooper bodied 20/25 Sports Saloon - Peter Kitching - 1936 Park Ward bodied 25/30 Limousine, and the recently acquired 1929 Weymann bodied 20hp of Nick Clark.

An expert woodsman gave those present a conducted tour of the grounds highlighting the specimen trees which included a Chestnut tree which it was suggested might be as much as 800 years old! The tour included outbuildings used as garages, the walled garden and a hothouse facility in which pineapples were once cultivated but now all in various stages of decay that will require considerable expenditure to restore to former glory as planned.

Nick Clark also gave a short but interesting talk reflecting the research that he had done into the cars of the marque that had been in the ownership of Busby Hall owners in times past.

Heavy rain interrupted proceedings and goodbyes were quickly said before people went their separate ways after an enjoyable interesting and informative afternoon.

*Rod*

## Picnic at Thorp Perrow Arboretum

**T**he facility houses birds of prey as well as animals, which, whilst including the relative common fare of ducks and goats, includes more unusual species such as the Australian Wallaby, Mongooses and Meerkats, with the latter two ap-





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parently living harmoniously in the same compound.

I attended one of the birds of prey displays. First out were two Caracara birds who clearly knew the form waiting excitedly and expectantly to be let out of their cage. Named George and Mildred there were to be no offspring as despite building a nest it turned out that the birds were both male! These two did not fly but ran around the arena for titbits with a gait a bit like the roadrunner cartoon character. The handler described them as the equiv-



A cheerful crowd!



Cars of the Marque to the fore

alent of seagulls in their home environment where hunting in groups of up to 30 they are seen as pests. Next up was a large owl whose silent progress from perch to perch in very close proximity to the public was a sight to behold. The final display was from the flight of a falcon whose high speed stoops to try to take the lure of the handler evidenced the high speed

and agility of its flight before it was given its reward.

The handler returned the falcon to its cage and then asked the children present to sit on the ground before producing the showstopper. This was a meerkat in a ferret harness and lead which proceeded to introduce itself to all present.

The handler explained that the meerkat was born in August 2015 but was rejected by the pack and would have either pined to death or been killed by the pack.

She explained that it was removed from the meerkat compound, bottle fed by her and other staff, it does not recognise itself as a meerkat, is house trained and lives with her at home playing with cat type toys, and is also content to sit on the arm of her seat to watch television with her. I was fascinated.

**Rod**



Interlopers!

## Two reports from Bernie Surtees;

Sapper 300, 21 Engineers Regiment, Claro Barracks, Ripon.

Rod and I assembled at the barracks show area at 1000ish, with apologies from Jim Clark, who was unable to make it at the last minute. Terry Gordon missed the entrance so parked his Mercedes in the visitor's car park.

It was a good day with displays of Morris dancing just in front of our cars. I sampled some of the beverage and food stalls. Coffee from "Bob's" Smart car, Frikadellen mit brochen from the 'Wurst' van, and free ice-cream from the BFBS van, although many more 'fast food' delicacies were available.



The White Helmets gave an excellent display. Two guys unfortunately bailed out of the side of their machines, (at low speed), so remounted and carried on. In the fast crossover display two came a cropper damaging the front and rear of their 1999 Triumph motorcycles. The officer giving the commentary said his men were made of rubber and iron so would be unharmed. Both guys (undamaged?) and their bikes (very damaged) were man handled out of the display area. I blame the rough ground.

Naturally we enjoyed the marching bands, and free fall parachute displays. The opportunity to play with many army "toys", such as a good variety of guns, diggers, radios and many other strange and wonderful vehicles, was much appreciated by the younger visitors.

A donation was made, on behalf of the members, for the support of military charities. In the kind note of thanks later received from Staff sergeant Dixon, (the co-ordinator of the day), he not only offered to extend an invitation to any future events, but mentioned that approximately £3000 was collected for worthwhile military causes.

We departed at 1600 hours with quite a sun tan.

## Skylive Airshow, Teesside Airport

The RREC NE display comprised two Bentley motor cars and one Rolls-Royce, parked up together on the grass, air side of the static display, arriving, as instructed, just after 0800hrs, on an overcast morning. The classic car element of the displays extended to 191 interesting motor cars, all attending as a result of the superb efforts of Geoff and Sheila Mansfield. The onsite sign



posting and layout arrangements for that many cars by the show organisers left room for improvements in the future. (Which, I suspect, is why they wanted you to arrive so early, and stay so late. Ed)





There were many exhibitions, (mostly military, and some historical re-enactors), fair ground attractions, and a very well supported food court. (Not frikadellen again? Ed) Charities, and both model and full size, aircraft displays. The police and air ambulance helicopters went off to “work” but by far the busiest craft was the pleasure flights helicopter. Four passengers every 5 minutes in-between displays.

The air display was very interesting with individual and formation light aircraft, daredevil aerobatics, the Red Arrows, (most accomplished, except for a double bird strike on take-off); the Tornado (fastest and noisiest), and the double attendance of the BBMF Spitfire with Hurricane being the most nostalgic.

Following the arrival of the army parachute team, (out of the sky naturally), and the return to base of the Hawks of the Red Arrows, we dispersed.

A good day out, and I realised, on the way home, that the car’s air con was working, and it was my face that was cooking. I had failed to notice the cloud clearing as I gazed at the air displays performing in almost clear sunny sky for five hours. Oops again!

**Bernie**

Many thanks, Bernie, for those reports. Apologies for the facetious comments!

*Martin*

**Where we are going:-**

## Ripon Old Cars – Sunday 24 July

Enter the following address into your browser for information and a booking form.  
<http://www.riponclassiccargathering.org/>

## North of England Rally – Sunday 7th August

This is the second reminder for you to book for the major event in your Section calendar; the North of England Rally at Harewood House, near Harrogate.

It will again be held in the beautiful grounds of Harewood House where we are allowed to park in front of the magnificent stately home, as usual.

The Rally provides many pleasures from the initial entrance down the impressive tree lined drive, to the unique opportunity to study, at close quarters, a range of Club cars, which are rarely seen elsewhere. There will be the Club shop, a variety of food and refreshments, plus a very interesting house and gardens to visit. Combine this with the delight of meeting old and new friends, and you have the recipe for a perfect day.

Many members make a full weekend of it, and book in at the Majestic Hotel in Harrogate. The food is excellent and the staff very friendly. On the Saturday there will be an interesting drive of approximately 40 miles through the stunning Yorkshire countryside, followed in the evening by a Grand Gala Dinner in the ballroom of the hotel, including a drinks reception and entertainment by “My Favourite Things “ The UK’s No 1 vintage song and dance act.



Further details and a booking form are on pages 20/21/23 below.  
Don't delay - book today!

**Jeff Dennis**

## Raby Castle Classic Car Show – Sunday 14th August

This is an annual Mark Woodward event, attended en masse by Area 11 of the Jaguar Drivers' Club, and friends. Members of the RREC, North Eastern Section have been invited to join the Jaguars on their stand, as in previous years. As usual with the Mark Woodward events, there are many marques on display, together with an array of different trade stands. Of course there is also a rather impressive castle nearby!

Fill in the booking form, (p19) and send it off to Geoff and Sheila no later than the 8th of August.

## Land Rovers and Lunch – Sunday 11th September

A private visit to Twisted Performance, Sussex Court, Thirsk Industrial Park, York Road, Thirsk, YO7 3TA, followed by lunch at Abbey Inn, Byland.

Twisted are world known for modifying and constructing Land Rover Defenders - you will be amazed.

We will meet at their factory for coffee at 1100hrs, followed by a tour. We will then drive the few miles for a Buffet Lunch at Abbey Inn, Byland. The food last year was excellent, the car parking is spacious, and the drive there is scenic.

It is also hoped to have some other interesting cars joining us.

**Roger**

## Beamish Road Run

This will include a fairly short run with road-book for navigation, ending, probably, at the hostelry near the Aston Martin garage or one nearby. More details in the next newsletter. The date will, probably be 18th September.

## NECPWA Beamish Museum – Sunday 25 September

I do not have much in the way of details, other than the date. However, I have put last year's booking form, updated, at the end of the newsletter, so fill this in and send it off to Bernie Surtees.

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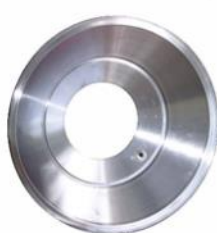
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