



ROLLS-ROYCE
ENTHUSIASTS' CLUB

*North Eastern
Section*



*Newsletter
September/October
2015*

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 2015

Sun. 13 September	Stanhope Show - RM
Wed. 16 September	The Old Mill, Metal Bridge, Coxhoe, 7.30pm.
Sun. 20 September	Visit to automated dairy farm - RH
Sun. 27 September	Beamish Open Air museum - BS
Sun. 11 October	End of season meet, drive and lunch - M&JV
Wed. 21 October	The Old Mill, Metal Bridge, Coxhoe, 7.30pm.
Sat. 14 November	NEC Classic Car Show - JC
Wed. 18 November	The Old Mill, Metal Bridge, Coxhoe, 7.30pm.
Wed. 16 December	The Old Mill, Metal Bridge, Coxhoe, 7.30pm Christmas dinner, Provisional for booking for 30 made.

Events for 2016

Sun. 17 January 2016	AGM, Allerton Court Hotel, Northallerton - RM
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ADVERTISING RATES

Yearly:	full page	£75.00
	half page	£50.00

Members' private advertisements - maximum space $\frac{1}{4}$ page

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Wanted	Free
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Front photo:

General view of Harewood House at the North of England Rally.



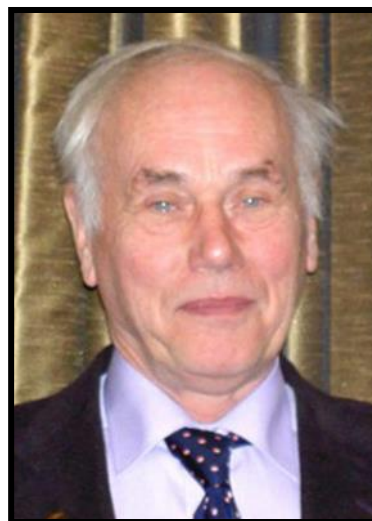
ROLLS-ROYCE ENTHUSIASTS' CLUB

NORTH EASTERN SECTION NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2015

Roger's Ramblings

Martin, Jim and I marshalled at the North of England Rally at Harewood House; some random thoughts occurred to me:-

Compared with earlier RREC events, most of the people attending today were younger than their cars. As a teenager the people to talk to were the ones with cars younger than their owners, they were often motoring pioneers or ex Rolls-Royce people. How times change. Marshalling proved an eye-opener! Cars appeared from all directions, and we were told to instruct the drivers to park them at 45° with the nearside front wheel up to the rope. This manoeuvre was failed by, I estimate, 40% of those attending. Next year at Harewood I suggest we organise some driving tests. A team of three from the North Eastern section to challenge a team



Bentley Turbo R with a Cummings diesel engine, and painted matt black. The photo was taken at Ripon Racecourse. I was surprised to see it at the North of England Rally. See next page. *Martin*



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from the Yorkshire section.

The appearance of a Bentley Turbo R with a Cummings diesel engine in it caused a noisy stir. (see previous page) There has long been a tradition of re-engineering cars, some well done, some not so well; but all add interest. Remember John Dodd and his Merlin engined Cloud? Rolls-Royce took him to court for infringement of copyright. Where is it now? That would be good to see and hear next year (at least the engine was a Rolls-Royce! Ed).

Safe motoring.

Roger Hall

Contact Point Comments

I had never been to the RREC Annual Rally but was offered a lift to travel down on the Sunday morning to the venue in Stamford by Roger Hall, provided that I could get from Newcastle to Thirsk by 6.45am. Bright eyed and up for it I arrived in plenty of time to travel in the front seat of the 1934 Phantom II owned by Roger for over 50 years.

Top gear for the journey was engaged on the outskirts of Thirsk with Roger remarking that he considered the Phantom to be a supercar of its era because of the torque of the engine that allowed that. The car was no slouch and

able to easily keep up with modern traffic and never missed a beat there and back.

A tremendous and most enjoyable experience to travel in an 80 year old car – I hope that I go as well at that age!

Now to business. I undertook in the last Newsletter to e-mail those who own a car appropriate to commemorate 50 years of the Silver Shadow, based on the records provided by Hunt House, but I regret that other pressures have meant that I have not done that yet. It is a task that will take some time. Colin Liddell volunteered to organise the event and can be contacted on 07887640577 or e-mail – colin@funeraldirector.com. Neither Colin nor I received a response from the last newsletter indicating an interest in such an event, and I therefore intend to take no further action with this matter unless there is sufficient response to this article to indicate that numbers for such an event would make the effort of organising it worthwhile.

I have attended five events since the last Newsletter submission was made, including the Annual Rally. The MGOCC rally at Corbridge, on 5 July, had some 800+ cars in attendance, including seven section cars of the marque. The North East Land Sea and Air Museum event on 11 July was attended by four cars, including the 1936 Rolls-Royce Limousine of Peter Kitching, which was driven up from Tees-side to Sunderland. The NECPWA Newby Hall event, on 19 July, had around 1500 cars in attendance with cars of the marque present both as a group and in “era” groups for judging. The Harewood House RREC North of England Rally on 9 August was attended by barely 200 cars in what is the 36th year at this venue. This contrasts with numbers of more like 400 just a couple of years ago with the major difference perhaps being very much smaller numbers of cars dating from before the early 1930's. Perhaps smaller numbers are also indicating the need for a change of venue, but where to go to for a reasonably central location that will suit all three RREC Sections collaborating to organise this event?

I have thoroughly enjoyed all these events which have been different to each other and taking place on days where the weather has been good to excellent and I trust that it will be so for our forthcoming events.



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The Stanhope Show have invited the Section to attend on Sunday 13 September but so far it looks like just two cars will be in attendance if that low number is acceptable to the show organisers.

Finally, your committee is looking to try to organise a calendar of events in at least draft form for next year by the end of October 2015, and as indicated in the previous Newsletter, I would welcome suggestions from you, the membership, about the sort of event/location/activity that would be sufficient attraction for you to turn out, with car, and participate in Section activities. I have had no response yet to the request made in the last Newsletter.

Rod

Welfare

Janet Clark is up and hobbling about, but still in considerable pain. I also understand that Colin and Gladys Hutchinson have not been too well from time to time recently, although the last time I heard they were both in good form.

I have just heard that Derek Moss's mother died recently. She has fought her illness for a long time, and our thoughts are with Derek at this difficult time. Derek, himself, has been under the weather with an infected leg, which he says is very painful.

We wish them all well.

Martin

Where we have been:-

MGOC Classic Vehicle Rally, Tynedale Park, Corbridge - Sunday 5 July 2015.

The last time that I attended the MGOC Corbridge Classic Vehicle Rally was in 2012, so I was somewhat surprised to find that it had doubled in size in those two years. There were many more cars, but also it seemed that there were many more stalls selling coffee, ice cream, bric a brac, wood carvings etc and, of course, bits for cars! There was also a vast increase in the number of visitors; and their dogs. As exhibitors we were told not to leave before 4.30pm, but there



L to R: John Leadbeater's S3 being admired, Peter Dawe's R Type and Rod MacLeod's Arnage Red Label adjoining.



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R to L: Brian Snaith's Silver Spirit, Jim Clark's Bentley Turbo R, Mark Ramsey's LWB Silver Shadow and Allan Fishburn's 20/25.

was a steady stream exiting the site by 3.30, including yours truly!

The RREC stand appeared to have been given pride of place overlooking the arena, and, certainly the cars looked impressive lined up underneath the goal posts. There were seven in all and they exactly fitted the frontage available leaving plenty of room behind for a relaxed picnic and for the erection of a section gazebo – if we had had one.



The line-up consisted of John and Marilyn Leadbeater's S3, Peter Dawe's R Type, Rod and Dylis MacLeod's Arnage Red Label, Allan Fishburn's 20/25, Mark and Rachel Ramsey's Silver Shadow, Jim and Janet Clark's Turbo R and Brian and Ann Snaith's Silver Spirit. All the motor cars seemed to attract a considerable amount of attention, with remarks such as 'that's the best car I've seen all day', to

quote but one. What we lacked in quantity, we certainly made up for in quality.

As usual there was a vast array of different marques on site. Obviously many MGs, but also just about everything else made in the UK and also many from France, Germany and the USA besides. I took a few photos which have been put up on the website, thanks to John Harrison.

Martin





A Message from MG Northumbria:

Just a quick e-mail to say thank you to everyone who attended the show this year with their car.

There was a record number of registrations (over 800) and we were very lucky with the weather. We had some great cars on show again this year.

All this has meant that (after all costs are deducted) we anticipate donating around £14,000 to worthy local charities.

An excellent outcome I hope you will agree.

We anticipate holding the show again next year and will be sending out information in the first few months of 2016. We look forward to seeing many of you there again.

To help us continue to improve, please visit our website at www.mgnorthumbria.org and go to the car show survey page to complete a very short survey. Any constructive feedback is always welcome.

Once again many thanks from all the organisers of Classics in Corbridge and MG Northumbria members.

North East Land, Sea and Air Museum, Sunderland Saturday 11 July

The North East Land Sea and Air Museum invited the Section to exhibit cars of the marque at the official opening day to the public, on Saturday 11 July, of a Trident passenger aircraft fuselage. Many former pilots and other crew-members were present, some of whom went on to fly Concord. Their stories as they reminisced in the cockpit were interesting and reflected that their workplace was no different to the trials and tribulations experienced in every workplaces, even if perhaps a little more exotic than most. Four cars of the marque attended, being a 2001 Bent-



ley Arnage R, a 1997 Bentley Turbo R, a 1975 Rolls-Royce Series 1 Silver Shadow LWB and a 1936 Rolls-Royce 25/30 Park Ward Limousine. Other attractions included flight simulation as well as the vehicles and aircraft of the museum on permanent display. The weather was windy but reasonably good and the event was an interesting day out at a new location.

Rod

Geoff and Sheila Mansfield also attended this event and report as follows:-

"We went to the Trident event yesterday, five cars were there, we went in the XJ6, it was not a bad event although it was a long day. We met one of the pilots, who flew Trident in 1971."

Photos from the top: Peter Kitching's 25/30, Mark Ramsey's Silver Shadow and Geoff Mansfield just fitting in the cockpit of the Vulcan.



North of England Rally - 9 August 2015, Harewood House.



Roger Hall gracefully accepted a lift in my Jaguar, as I no longer have a Car of the Marque, which was duly parked at the back! We both did our bit by helping with marshalling for about three hours, which was not onerous, and it was enjoyable meeting members arriving. Everyone seemed to be in a good mood, probably encouraged by the sunshine.

There was a slight change in the line up this year with the cars entered in the pa-



rade in the front row, as usual, but followed by Silver Clouds and S Types, then Silver Shadows and derivatives in celebration of their 60th and 50th anniversaries, respectively. One or two more modern Corniches wanted to be with their older cousins, but hey we were there to enjoy ourselves!

The number of pre-1939 cars seems to reduce year by year, and I think the oldest car there was a 20hp. No Phantom Is or Silver Ghosts. Every other model seemed to be there, including Margaret Wiggins very rare Mark

V Bentley, and one lonely Camargue! Club Chairman, Duncan Feetham, was very much in evidence as usual, talking to, and shaking hands with, everyone. His right hand must be in need of a long rest. I found him taking a breather for a few minutes in the Club Shop.

Apart from JCT600, there were only two trade stands, one selling overdrives, and one rugs. Unfortunately, it did not seem that they were doing much trade. No doubt





this is why the number of stands has reduced so dramatically over the years.

There was no official photographer this year which made entrance to the site much easier. Drivers were asked to turn right immediately upon entering the site up a short length of road before making the left turn onto the grass in front of the

house. This was much safer and avoided some of the lower slung cars catching exhaust pipes and other dangly bits (technical term) on the dip as they came off the road.

There were 174 cars booked in, which included a few non Rolls-Royce and Bentley motor cars, but I expect there were a few who turned up unannounced, as it were, and perhaps a few no-shows. On the day the general feeling was that there were about 200 cars on the field. The general public were much in evidence,

and there was much 'ooing' and 'ahing' to be heard up and down the rows!

As in the past a brass band was in attendance, and also the Merlin Engine display.

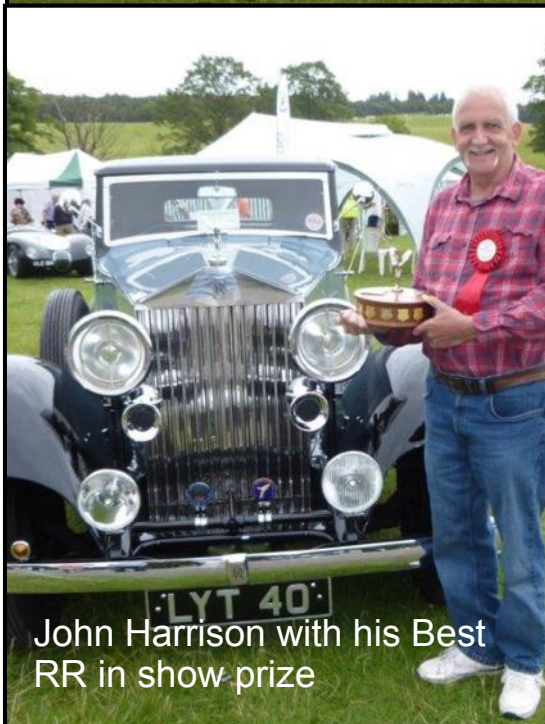


One of the Yorkshire Section's stylish picnics.

All in all a good day much enjoyed by all present - at least that was how it appeared!

Have a look at our website for many more photos, thanks to John Harrison.

**Raby Castle -
Sunday 16 August 2015**



John Harrison with his Best
RR in show prize

beater's S3, Nick Clark's 20/25, Peter Kitching's 25/30, Allan Fishburn and John Harrison's 20/25s, Mark

This was a Mark Woodward event with the attendant crowds and noise. The public were still trying to get in up until nearly 2.00pm, and I understand that there were long delays on the roads leading to Raby. Geoff and Sheila Mansfield had mustered over 150 Jaguars, which made quite an impressive display. The North Eastern Section of the RREC was represented by a line up of pre and post WWII cars, including John Lead-



John Harrison's 20/25



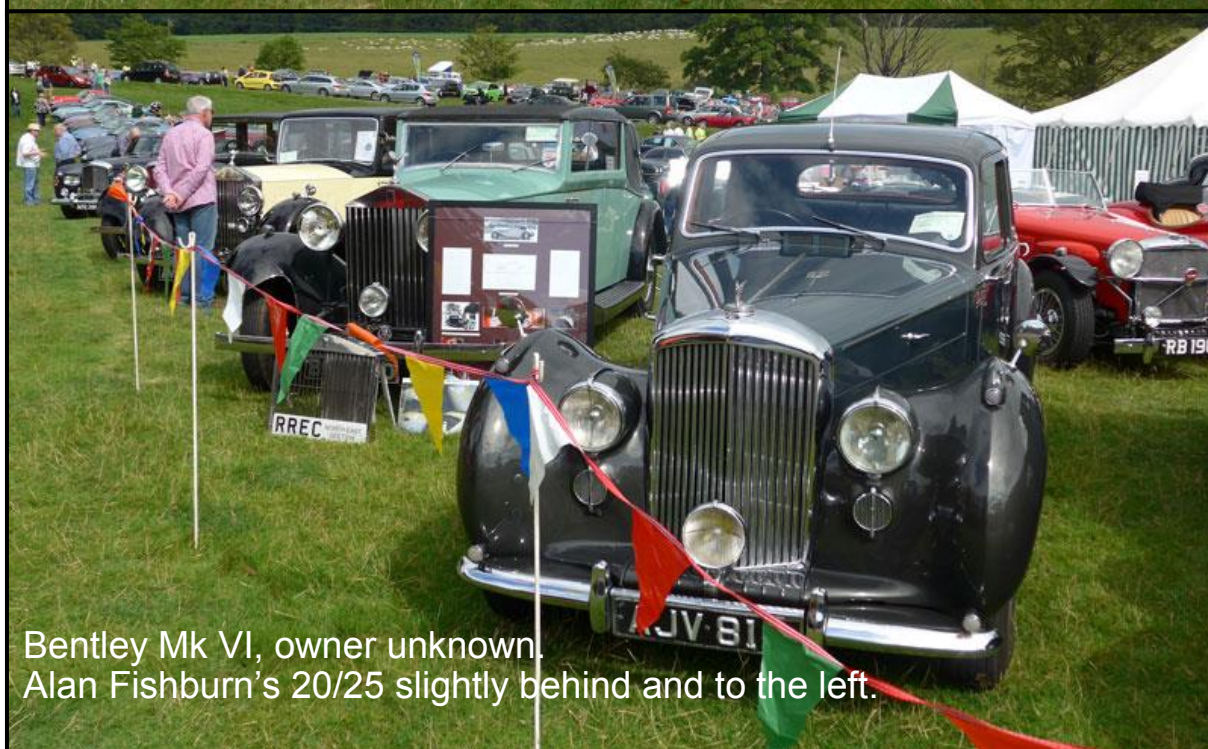
Just the front of John
Leadbeater's S3

Ramsey's Silver Shadow LWB and a Mark VI Bentley listed on the Club website but without a named owner. John Harrison won the prize for the best Rolls-Royce - again, so many congratulations to him. Colin Liddell and John Leighton were also present, but not in cars of the marque!

For more photos, see over:
and lots on the website!



Peter Kitching's 25/30 on the right with Nick Clark's 20/25 to the left.



Bentley Mk VI, owner unknown.
Alan Fishburn's 20/25 slightly behind and to the left.

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Where we are going:

Stanhope Show, Unthank Park, Stanhope. County Durham. DL13 2PQ - 13 September

Free entry for those displaying vehicles. Arrive by 10.00 am and stay until 3.30 pm

For details of the event:- see www.stanhopeshow.com

Only two cars have booked to attend this show, so although the deadline given for this was 31 July, it might be worth contacting Rod MacLeod, as there may still be a chance to attend.

Dairy Farm, Danby Wiske - Sunday 20 September

I understand that this event has not attracted much, if any, interest so far. Unfortunately Jackie and I will be away on that day, and there are also other events with other clubs which clash. However, this might be your last chance to see a dairy herd, if the supermarkets have anything to do with it. The news tells us that one dairy farm closes every day, so soon we will be getting all our milk from Romania - or somewhere. It is still not too late to book, and there is a form at the end of this newsletter.

Beamish Open Air Museum - Sunday 27 September

This is another NECPWA event. Bernie Surtees is our contact and there is a booking form at the end of this newsletter.

End of season meet - Sunday 11 October

Jackie and I are proposing a 'do' to round off this year's events. The idea is to meet at Mainsgill Farm Shop, on the south side of the A66 not far north west of Scotch Corner, for coffee/tea, scone etc. For those who do not know it, it is the one with three camels, and some alpacas etc! In addition to the café, there is an excellent food hall, on the ground floor, and a clothes/gift shop above, stocking all those things you cannot live without. A good source of Christmas presents.

We will then embark on a drive of about 35 miles through not unattractive countryside to the Chequers Inn at Dalton on Tees. We have been to this pub on two or three occasions, and the food is good and so is the parking!

There is a booking form at the end of this newsletter. We felt that numbers should be limited to about 20, so get your booking form in early.

NEC Classic Car Show - Saturday 14 November

Jim Clark is arranging our annual visit to this event, but this year it is to be on a Saturday instead of a Sunday as coach companies are more sympathetic to travel on a Saturday. There is a booking form below, so contact Jim if you would like to be included.

Section AGM - Sunday 17 January

The AGM will take place on 17 January at the Allerton Court Hotel, which is the same place as last year. Tea/coffee will be available on arrival at 10.45am, and it is planned that the meeting should start at 11.15am. A glass of sherry or orange juice will be available after the meeting, and before lunch which will be served at 1.00pm. As usual there will be a raffle, in aid of section funds, and any raffle prizes would be most gratefully received. Nomination forms for committee members, and proposal forms for items for discussion are both available from me on request. Similarly if you are unable to attend and would like to appoint the chairman to act as your proxy, let me know and I will send the appropriate form for that.

Rod

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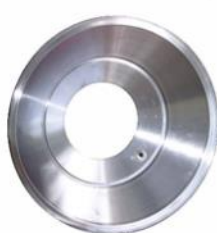
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