



FolkMog News



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Recent events

Only 2 months since the last edition of FolkMog News but lots has happened since then. In mid-September 5 couples had a very enjoyable trip to Holland, watch Miscellany for a full report. FolkMog's first track day was in October and we have a report below from Chris Dady, to whom thanks are due for organising the whole event. In November we held the annual planning meeting and you will find the minutes plus some later additions/alterations in this copy too.

FolkMog at Snetterton by Chris Dady

The weather forecast was for sunshine every day except for the FolkMog track day on Wednesday where a large black cloud featured prominently on every weather map! Not to be daunted 11 Morgans booked in, and true to forecasting from the weather was sunny and the track dry.

A train of Morgans left the pit lane for a few tentative novice laps, and it was not long before everyone got into their stride.

News reached the pits that Ian had gone grass cutting, and on his return to the pits he told us he had been over optimistic on a couple of occasions. Some Morganeers took up the offer of professional tuition, which resulted in Roger discovering just how late you can leave your braking, just before the fluid decided to boil leaving a very spongy pedal!

Sadly by lunchtime Richard Brown had all the symptoms of a head gasket that may have expired completely should many more

laps be undertaken, and he left with a very large canister of 'get you home' water for the radiator. Lee and Andrea Pullum felt they and their car had had sufficient exercise, and set off to make sure the promised downpours were avoided. By then Colin Klyne had turned up in the Aero 8 to spectate, so we had the whole range present.



Cars and drivers lined up in the pits

Hilary Warner was sharing her car with Iain (a requirement of the wedding vows no doubt), and she was giving a high speed taxi service with her mother in the passenger seat during the afternoon. In fact her Mum looked like she would have been happy to have many more laps!

The facilities at Snetterton are now excellent – not like it used to be. Maurice even spotted a cleaner!

The BBC were there filming, and Jonathan Palmer arrived in his helicopter. Not (it turned out) because we were there, but so he

could have a TV interview regarding his plans to extend the track and facilities. The report was on Look East, but no Morgans featured (we should refuse to pay the licence fee!!).

Maurice Cook discovered the power of his new Roadster, whilst Brian and Neil Turner were piloting the Plus 4 with great verve and enthusiasm – I reckon they were the record holder for number of laps completed, albeit it was a close run thing with Alan and Alison Braithwaite! David had managed to get a few laps as a passenger in a Cobra replica, and Alan had gone out with a professional in a very hot Caterham - the fastest machine on the track.



David Kennett ready for the off

Nigel Bull and his Plus 8 were sufficiently fast to join the 'quick' group of cars, and therefore was the fastest Morgan of the day!

Everybody finished the day with a very wide grin – even Eileen who had a few laps with me! Book now for next year!

P.S. Thank to Gold Track (highly recommended) who organised the track day

Planning Meeting

Forty MSCC Eastern Counties members attended the meeting held at The Black Horse, Thorndon. Below are the minutes of the meeting, thanks to Eileen Cook.

Officials Each gave a short review of their past years activities and agreed to continue in their roles.

Chris Dady modestly played down his activities as Chairman however his promotion, arranging and running of the recent Snetterton Track Day brought forth much heartfelt appreciation.

Sandra Hunt explained that clothing prices had had to be raised a little to reflect the supplier's increases and preserve a 10% profit.

Roger Tatton reported that every effort was being made to cut costs by distributing 'FolkMog News' by email unless members specifically request hard copies. He had appreciated contributions from Terry Hunt on the March Go Karting event and Chris about the Track Day, whilst Chrissie Tatton had written articles covering both the Gymkhana and Holland trip.

Diana Biddlecombe explained her difficulties in progressing the FolkMog website but was optimistic that it would soon go live.

Treasurer's Report Maurice Cook reported that finances were healthy with current assets of £726 which include £514 for 20 car badges in stock. The MSCC had provided a 6 month interest-free bridging loan of £100 to help obtain a third batch of 25 badges in January. Entry fees had been charged for the Gymkhana and Treasure Hunt to subsidise prizes and our donations to Old Buckenham Airfield Charity (£50) and Norwich Cathedral (£100).

Review of 2005 Events Members who had organised and assisted the running of events were mentioned and each was enthusiastically thanked.

2006 Programme Having reminded members of the already arranged Centre, MSCC and foreign events, possible tours were first considered. These included a trip to Germany to embrace a visit to the Nurburgring but it was agreed to review this proposal next year for 2007.

However, a majority of support was expressed for a week's tour of Southern Ireland next May and a North Yorkshire Dales weekend in the Autumn. It was agreed to again organise the Irish tour through

Continental Car Tours who had arranged the previous successful trips to France in April 2004 and to Holland last September. Exact dates and detailed arrangements would be sent out shortly.

David Kennett suggested that for the Dales weekend we could perhaps stay at the Charles Bathurst Inn in Arkengarthdale, near Reeth which had been recommended to him. Maurice agreed to follow up both trips.

Proposed Sunday meetings to embrace visits to RAF Lakenheath, SS Engineering, Morston and Thorpness Meare were supported and Maurice will contact the proposers, also the Centre would again have its Gymkhana, Treasure Hunt and Track Day. Sandra's proposal for the alternating Suffolk and Norfolk 'Second Tuesday' summer evening noggins to continue but to be organised by different members each month met with enthusiasm and the following agreed to host a noggin in a local pub:

- April (Suffolk) - Alan & Ann Wimhurst
- May (Norfolk) - Chris & Sally Dady
- June (Suffolk) - Martin & Carole Makinson
- July (Norfolk) - Maurice & Eileen Cook
- August (Suffolk) - Ian Charity & Dilys Lloyd
- September (Norfolk) - Richard & Ruth Brown

Any Other Business The Centre had been invited to participate in an evening Motoring Quiz next month in Swaffham. Chris volunteered to try to form a team.

Addenda Since the meeting Maurice has firmed up a few events:

Brief details of the Ireland trip are: overnight car ferry with double cabins on the Swansea/Cork route departing at 9 pm. on Thursday 18th May and returning at 9 pm. on Wednesday 24th May, arriving Swansea at 7 am. Thursday 25th. Provisional reservations for 10 couples have been made at the following 3 star hotels for dinner, bed & breakfast:

- Quality Hotel, Killarney, County Kerry
- Hylands Hotel, Ballyvaughan, County Clare

The total cost will be £489 per person (assuming 2 people per car), with a deposit of £200 per couple required by end of February 2006. Further details and Tour Application form from Maurice.

The Yorkshire Dales trip dates are 22nd to 25th September. Sadly Joe Schell's visit to the USAF base at RAF Lakenheath has had to be cancelled for security reasons. To replace it Martin Makinson has arranged the visit to SS Engineering, Bury St. Edmunds, followed by lunch, on Sunday 23rd April. SS Engineering make very nice replica SS100 cars (web site at <http://www.ss100.com/> for those interested).

Forthcoming Events

A team consisting of Chris Dady, Roger Tatton, Richard Brown and David Kennett will uphold the honour of FolkMog at the motoring quiz at Swaffham on 1st December, possibly supported by a second team which Ian Charity is hoping to put together.

The next lunchtime meeting is at the Chequers, Thompson, Norfolk on 4th December when we can tell you of the success (or otherwise) of the above teams.

On 15th January we have the traditional 'Not the Christmas Lunch', once again at the George Hotel in Swaffham. Please let Maurice & Eileen know if you will be attending. They have the menus from which you need to choose your meal in advance. Further details in the events panel.

And finally, some thoughts from Chrissie on the Holland trip

A full report of the FolkMog trip to Holland will hopefully appear in the January edition of Miscellany, but in the mean time here are a few things we remember.

- Safety Information: remember about bicycles all the time especially in pedestrian zones where they silently sneak up on you from behind.
- The canals in Amsterdam: according to the guide on one of the boats they consist of 30 % silt, 20 % old bicycles but only 50% water.



On the scenic run

- Farming update: breeding llamas and growing montbretia. Diversification in action.
- Group embarrassing moment: standing on a busy corner in the red light district of Amsterdam while Martin decided he needed his sweater from the bottom of his day pack. The corner was dominated by a particularly explicit shop window, which Martin, to his regret, totally missed.
- Wild life notes: the numbers of birds, in particular herons, living in the polders.
- On the railways: being able to sit upstairs – the view is better.



With MSCC Holland members at our hotel after the scenic run

- Comfort stops: the visit to the field with a wind turbine in it on Saturday's scenic run. Made even more necessary because of the road surfaces in the pretty old villages, following breakfast and morning coffees drunk 3 hours previously.
- Mathematics: portioning out taxi expenses requiring a chart and calculations nobody dared query.
- Personal most embarrassing moment: going into the hotel corridor at two in the morning to gently (!) remonstrate with the revellers and being confronted by a young man brushing his teeth but wearing nothing at all.

Forthcoming Events

Thursday 1st December – from 1930 East Anglian Motoring Quiz

*Sunday 4th December - from midday for lunch at the Chequers Inn, Thompson 3 miles South of Watton.
OS sheet 144, ref. 922969.*

*Sunday 15th January – from 1130 am. (lunch served at 1245 pm) 'Not the Christmas Lunch' in the Pedlars Suite at The George Hotel, Swaffham, in the centre of the town on the A1065 Brandon to Fakenham road, 1 mile South of the A47 bypass.
OS sheet 144, ref. 820091*

*Sunday 12th February – from midday for lunch at the Fur & Feather, Woodbastwick near Salhouse and 4 miles SE from Wroxham.
OS sheet 134, ref. 329151*

I hope there is something planned to suit everyone and to keep the Morgans out of their garages.

Roger

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