



Monkey Business No 97 - March 2019



Written By Chris Taylor

Bunged Together By Simon Griffiths

We were 13 happy souls this month; gathered to talk about all the subject under the sun, primarily cars, of course, but any and all subjects are covered with great enthusiasm. However it seemed as if our numbers were to be heavily depleted with all the apologies I had received but in the end my fears were misplaced although it was quite a big list of friends unable to join us for many reasons. Illness had befallen Gez and Mick with totally unrelated problems but sufficient to prevent either of them showing. I had received an email from Elizabeth Bennett who had been called early by the hospital for her new hip operation which will, by now, hopefully be a distant memory and we wish a speedy recovery to her. Gez had been kind enough to supply a card which I collected on my way to the Deanwater for us all to sign and I am pleased to say I managed to get it in the post, it's the responsibility you know – it weighs heavy on a chap!

Next on the list of absentees was Tim and Jayne who were suffering builderitis with their new extension at home. I know only too well how that feels so my heart goes out to them. Tim and Jayne were closely followed by Charles and Judith Van-Ingén who were enjoying some 'high art' at the Lowry where they were both watching a production of Mozart's Magic Flute, a shame it fell on our meeting night or I would have been there too.



Last but certainly not least was Tari and Michelle; now its one thing telling me they were to be away but I do think it's a bit much that when we are still feeling the chill of winter, I receive a selfie (how modern am I?) of them sunning themselves in the pool somewhere bakingly hot at this time of year just to rub it in!

So that ends the list of those not able to be present and on we go to the meeting itself. The car park was short of at least



three of the regular T series with Tari, Charles, and Tim not with us but with Peter Lakin in PN his lovely 12/60 saloon. This being the only real car, having also brought Simon and Melissa, PN was on its best behaviour so as to defeat Peter's plan to get Mike Robinson to listen to a strange noise he thought he had heard; but of course not an out of place squeak, clunk, or grind was heard so that was quickly forgotten about until the next time. Also let us not forget that



The decimation of the pancakes is evident here with possibly the main culprit trying to hide behind his last piece!

Peter now has the advantage for next year's award ceremony of the coveted bet Valve Award - keep it up Pete!

This meeting fell on Pancake Day so as a just reward to those present, I decided to order a platter of pancakes with various fillings for us all to enjoy and, as I went to the bar to order them, Chris Bluer - of Crested Eagle fame - kindly chipped in and we shared the cost of the treat. Now it didn't take many minutes for the platter to be swept clean and I was amazed how quickly they disappeared. I wanted to get a photo of them artistically arranged but by the time I got my camera into action as you can see there was very little evidence of the fare we had enjoyed, but one photo I did catch was probably the main culprit looking cheekily into the camera at the head of the table as if butter wouldn't melt. Yes, you guessed it, our Norman, evidence on fork ready to be consumed, Claire on this occasion keeping her head down in her usual 'he's not with me' mode.

Talking of Norman he takes this month's prize for the interesting object by bringing a lovely old pattern Yale bronze padlock in remarkable



padlock in remarkable nearly new condition. As usual I fell hook, line and sinker under his spell and agreed to make a key to it but I'm a week away from a month and not picked it yet, so if I am unsuccessful it will be back this month and Simon can have a go. If he achieves the task then you all know who to give your tricky jobs to in future - *I think you've just put the complete kibosh on that*

idea Chris; forewarned is forearmed! - B'er T'er.

Norman was honoured recently by 'pressing the button' to start up some old Bentley engine or other at a rival do; this was much to Claire's amazement as, in her own words, "why pick him, he's only a farmer?" This brought back pictures in my mind's eye of Jack Lemmon telling Peter Falk to "Press the button Max" in the film the Great Race and the whole lot blew up ragging Professor Fates clothes and blacking his face in the usual not unlike Laurel and Hardy tradition - I hope this fate didn't befall the Bentley members present - or do I?

Sean and Phil were both on good form and we sorted their overnight arrangements for Tatton, and to finish the night Steve Walley made another appeal for his lunch-time boat trip as he has misplaced his original list; it's wintering up that hill that does it you know. I had a good chat with Mike Fitkin who has offered to boost the numbers at Tatton by bringing not one but two Alvises so beat that if you can, PLEASE.

That kind of wraps the meeting up for March and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the April meeting which as usual will be at the Deanwater Hotel, Woodford SK7 1RJ on Tuesday April 2nd next.

And now this message from our roving reporter Dean O'Spyder...

I've been out and about recently, keeping an eye on

developments, or lack of them in some cases. Mr. Taylor's garage still seems to have an empty space which could have been filled whilst AYF is away having its body sorted and trimming done. It appears the Speed 20 has no front seats so I popped into DFS where I espied a couple of armchairs that might do the trick - but you'll have to be quick, Chris, as I think the sale ends soon!

Our B'er T'er's car-thedral has been resonating to the sound of wet and dry on filler as he tries desperately to get the bodywork in some sort of presentable order before he Artexes it - I mean paints it. Nope, on second thoughts, I've



seen some of Simon's decorating so I think I was right first time! He also had a box of what at first glance appeared to be scrap but is actually something it appears he is hoping can be resurrected into shiny things - I love an optimist!

I popped into Norman and Claire's swansong Tea, Spares & More Day and what a great day it was. The sun shone; unfortunately the wind blew as well so it was a good job Norman had emptied his shed so we could all fit in there - and that was despite Peter bringing the world's most expensive windbreak! Mind you there was a palpable sense of envy from all the Alvis owners at the wonderful space he had, complete with carpeting!

Alvis cars were well represented and along with Peter's Roller there were a couple of other interlopers - well one of them was a resident so didn't count - but the second was a lovely looking Rover 3.5 coupe - very handsome!



Tari was seen clutching a very oily pumping system he'd bought from Norman making Michelle very happy they'd come in the Alvis and not her car!



Norman had organised a shooting competition and top score of the day was Simon, who having fired his first shot apparently said "I hope it's in the black or I've missed the



target completely as I can't see it!" I think he may have been playing mind games with the others. Jack Lakin won the youngster's category and the ladies' prize was won by Michelle who beat Melissa by a single mark so it was a pretty close competition all round.

A special mention goes to John and Pauline Foster who'd made the trip – one of their first outings since they'd both been unwell and fantastic it was to see them both.

Finally Tim Brown reports on events past present and future in our Section...

Another month flies by and our 2019 Northern Section Calendar of events is now in full swing. Our sweltering early Spring didn't last very long, but now that true Spring is here our hardy bunch of Alvis owners are out and about, making the most of any dry days that there might be and meeting up with fellow enthusiasts to enjoy the days out that have been organised on your behalf.

Last weekend, we were very generously hosted by Claire and Norman Blundell at their home for the ever-popular "Tea Spares & More", which is always a most enjoyable, sociable afternoon amongst the Alvis group, helping to raise valuable funds for the section and giving everyone the opportunity to socialise, enjoy some good food, possibly win a few prizes and even pick up a few bargains in the auto-jumble. We must say a huge thank you to Norman and Claire for hosting the event and for helping to raise very welcome funds for the section over the years.

Next month, we will be holding our Northern Section AGM on Sunday 14th April at the Sparrowhawk Hotel at Fence near Burnley. The meeting itself is a private event for members of the AOC, but non-members are welcome to attend the lunch which will precede the meeting. Please contact Mick Fletcher for further details.

On Thursday 25th April, AOC members are invited by Stephen Walley to join him on his barge trip with the VSCC and Riley Register along the Peak Forest Canal. The trip includes lunch and is a great way to while away the afternoon.

Drive it Day 2019 is to be held on Sunday 28th April and we have arranged to meet at the Lister Arms at Malham for lunch with arrival from 12 noon and lunch served at 12.45. Sounds like a lovely day out. Please contact David & Anne Salter for more details.

Looking a little further ahead on Bank Holiday Monday 6th May, we will be returning to Gawsworth Hall for their Classic Car Day and we have reserved our space for the day for our AOC section. It is always a very relaxed and enjoyable day and if you would like to attend, please let me, Tim Brown know and I will add you to the list and will let you have further details in due course.

More details on the above activities and all of the sections events for the year are shown below and I do hope that you will be able to attend some of these and help to make them the great days out that they always are.

International Alvis Weekend will be hosted by the Northern Section in York over the weekend of 14th – 16th June 2019.

Based at the Mercure Fairfield Manor Hotel.

The hotel is fully booked for Friday and Saturday nights, but please do still come along and join in the fun of International Alvis Weekend and also at International Alvis Day which will be held at the Yorkshire Air Museum, Elvington on the Sunday.

Booking forms for all of the weekend's events, for IAD and also for the dinners on the Friday and Saturday evenings have been sent out with the Pink

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES 1st APRIL 2019

Don't miss out – it's sure to be a great weekend!!

If you have any queries, or comments about any of our events, please contact me at: timbrownmrics@aol.co.uk

Northern Alvis Owners Club Calendar of Events for 2019

Important:
All venues are liable to change, please check the monthly pink for up to date news of each event before making plans.

Sunday – 14th April Northern Section AGM

Northern Section AGM, preceded by lunch at the Sparrowhawk Hotel, Wheatley Lane Rd, Fence, Burnley. BB12 9QG.

Lunch at the Sparrowhawk Hotel at 12.30, followed by the Northern Section AGM at 2.30pm. Lunch is £20.00 per person, payable on the day please. **(Non-Members are very welcome to attend the lunch but are not entitled to attend the AGM and will be asked to leave prior to its commencement at 2.30pm)**

Advance booking please. Contact: Mick Fletcher 01254 260999 or 07703 506685, email mick.fletcher@totalise.co.uk
Items for the agenda, and nominations for office bearers to be in writing, and to arrive with the Northern Secretary, Stephen Whitaker no later than 14 days before the date of the meeting. Glebe House, Gisburn Rd, Bolton

by Bowland. Clitheroe. Lancashire. BB7 4NP. or Email : piscisteve@gmail.com

The Northern Section of the Alvis Owners Club are renting a private room to hold this function.

Thursday – 25th April

Barge trip from Whaley Bridge Basin

Northern Section Members are invited to join the VSCC and Riley Register for the annual barge trip on the Peak Forest Canal

The trip will commence from Whaley Bridge Basin, meeting at 11.30am for a 12 noon departure and will incorporate a circular trip, taking in Bugsworth and New Mills, with a 2 course hotpot lunch served on board. The trip is approximately 2½ hours in duration and the cost will be around £25.00 per person.

PLEASE NOTE – this trip is in place of Stephen's monthly noggin at the Three Shires, for April only and this will return to the usual date and venue from May onwards.

Contact: Stephen Walley: 01298 79811

Sunday – 28th April

Drive it Day

Lister Arms, Malham. Arrive from 12 noon to eat at 12.45pm. £5 deposit per person secures your place. Menus and other details to follow.

Contact: David and Anne Salter: 01423 870250 or davidandannesalter@tiscali.co.uk

Monday – 6th May

Gawsworth Hall Classic Car Show

Gawsworth Hall, Church Lane, Gawsworth, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 9RN

After a break of two years due to International we will once again be hosting an Alvis Owner Club stand at the above event, which is held annually on the first Bank Holiday in May, within The Grounds of Gawsworth Hall, Gawsworth, Nr Macclesfield, Cheshire, which will be fondly remembered by all who attended IAD in 2017.

This is a one-day classic and vintage car and motorcycle show, with plenty of interest for all to see.

Contact: Tim Brown on: 07799 118771 or email at: timbrownmrics@aol.co.uk

Friday 14th Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th June

International Alvis Weekend

Please come and join us for the weekend at:

The Mercure Fairfield Manor Hotel, York

With the Gala Dinner held at the National Railway Museum, York

International Alvis Day on Sunday at the Yorkshire Air Museum, Elvington

For further details, please see the Pinkun and the AOC website

Or contact – Tim Brown at: timbrownmrics@aol.co.uk

Sunday - 23rd June

INVITATION TO - Harrogate Festival 1940's Day, Valley Gardens, Harrogate.

Please note all vehicles must be on site in position by 10am at the latest showing their entry passes. They must be marshalled to their location on site. Vehicles are not to be taken off site before 5pm and again must be marshalled. If people live a long distance away some exceptions can be made to leave a little sooner. All vehicles must be off site by 6.30pm. At all times on site vehicles must proceed no faster than 5 mph, must have hazard lights on and must proceed under the direction of the stewarding team.

For details and entry pass applications please contact David and Anne Salter: 01423 870250 or davidandannesalter@tiscali.co.uk

Sunday – 21st July

Newby Hall Vintage and Classic car show

Newby Hall, Ripon, North Yorkshire, HG4 5AE.

Once again, the Northern Section of the Alvis Owner Club are invited, by The North of England Classic and Pre War Automobile Club, to Yorkshire's largest one day Vintage and Classic Car Rally. **Entry is by pass only, please contact Harry Fletcher on 07778 319546 or email: laurenm20042002@yahoo.co.uk**

Contact: Stephen Whitaker: 01200 447874 or Email at piscisteve@gmail.com

Sunday – 28th July

Bodrhuddan Hall, Rhuddlan

The North Wales Classic Car & Motorcycle Show

Following the great success of our first Northern Section and Welsh Section event in 2018 at the Classics at the Castle, we will be returning again this year to North Wales, to a similar event but at a new venue, Bodrhuddan Hall, Rhuddlan, only 10 minutes drive from the previous venue. There will be a concours competition with prizes, auto-jumble and throughout the day catering options are available within the show area. There is also the added attraction of the wonderful country house of Bodrhuddan Hall and its formal gardens.

Contact: Tim Brown: 07799 118771 or email at: timbrownmrics@aol.co.uk

Sunday – 4th August

Hebden Bridge Vintage and Classic Car Show,

Calder Holmes Park, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, HX7 8EE.

Organised by The Rotary Club of Hebden Bridge, the Vintage Weekend is an annual rally for vintage, veteran and classic vehicles held in the Historic West Yorkshire Town of Hebden Bridge, in the heart of the South Pennines.

Entry is on-line only at:

www.hebdenbridgevintageweekend.org.uk/registration_info.html

Contact: Stephen Whitaker: 01200 447874 or Email at piscisteve@gmail.com

Sunday – 4th August

MG Northern Day

Bewerley Park, Pateley Bridge, HG3 5BD

Harrogate MG Club invite AOC members to their Annual Northern event. Park, in pride of place, in the show ring and spend a pleasant day in the heart of the Yorkshire Dales. Stalls, competitions and the town of Pateley Bridge to explore. Bring a picnic or use the on site catering facilities.

Contact: David and Anne Salter: 01423 870250 or davidandannesalter@tiscali.co.uk

Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th August

Passion for Power, Tatton Park Vintage and Classic Car Show

Tatton Park, Knutsford, WA16 6QN.

One of the UK's most popular Classic Car events with over 90 Classic and performance car Clubs attending and over 300 private entries. Large Autojumble and over 250 trade stands. A full weekend event, hosted by Chris Taylor. This is a very popular event for all our South Lancashire and Cheshire Members. This Large show goes from strength to strength every year, having an enormous and diverse amount of vintage and classic cars on display. At this show we have our own club area to display our cars.

Contact: Chris Taylor on: 07890 414130 or at: Chris@ctml.co.uk

Sunday - 1st September

Vintage by the Sea

The Midland Hotel, Marine Rd, Morecambe, Lancashire LA4 4BU.

A celebration of all things Vintage: cars, live music, fashion etc. As voted the best vintage event in the world by the Guardian Newspaper. The fantastic setting of Morecambe's seafront provides the backdrop that transforms into a multi-venue playground where, visitors can learn the dances, take in specially curated live performances, ogle over vintage vehicles or take advantage of the decade's specific hair and beauty makeovers.

See website www.midlandvintage.co.uk

Contact: Andrew Wisdom 01254 676591 Email: andrew.wisdom@hotmail.co.uk

Sunday – 8th September

Hartington Show near Buxton, Derbyshire

High Fields, Hall Bank, Hartington. SK17 0AT

An opportunity to once again meet with our fellow Midland Alvis Enthusiasts, arrive from 9.30am onwards to enjoy a great country show, Vintage Tractors, Stationary Engines, Vintage Lorries, Cars & Steam Engines. Anyone interested in attending, please contact Giles Lacey email: lacey_giles@btinternet.com or Tim Brown on: 07799 118771 or email at: timbrownmrics@aol.co.uk

Saturday, Sunday – 12th, 13th October

North Yorkshire Railway in Wartime

Every October, the North Yorkshire Moors Railway recaptures the spirit of the Second World War for a whole weekend. It is an annual tribute to the men and women who kept Britain's railways running throughout the war. The

weekend begins with the ceremonial flag raising on Friday, and continues until it is lowered again on Sunday afternoon. Hundreds of skilled re-enactors help create the authentic atmosphere that has earned it an international reputation for authenticity. Accommodation will be available at Gisborough Hall on Saturday night and also on Sunday for those who prefer to drive back at their leisure. The cars will be parked at Grosmont Station, the RAF base, on Sunday. Further details to follow.

Contact: Anne and David Salter: 01423 870350 email: davidandannesalter@tiscali.co.uk

Friday 8th, Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th November

Vintage and Classic Car Show. National Exhibition Centre. Birmingham.

See Pink and National press for details. The U.K.'s premier indoor Classic Car Show. A good place to find the pieces needed for the winter project and of course Alvis will be having their own stand. All offers of help are gratefully received.