



Est. 1980

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2010



Auto Test - Graham's joke more interesting than the driving?

Chairman's Chat

Monthly "moan" or what a difference a month makes:-

July - the wettest month of the year so far and we have a hosepipe ban and the Leeds Liverpool Canal is closed between Wigan and Gargrave because there is no water in the header tank at Foulridge reservoir. Abuse this temporary regulation either as a gardener, a car washer or a narrow boat enthusiast and you will have the full weight of the law on your doorstep with the resulting financial penalties. Maybe the responsible Authorities after lavishing themselves with greedy bonuses and inflated salary agreements should have been paying more attention to the "leaks" despite the sham effort of repair we see around the country, and spending our money more wisely, but I suppose that is too much to ask of a society that has made minimal improvement to our infrastructure since Victorian times. Also remember that these same Authorities should in my view, take full responsibility for the Cockermouth flood disaster of November last year BUT we cannot say that can we?

How on earth do they manage it in Spain where they have significantly less rainfall and it is too hot in summer? They wash the streets two or three times a week, all the parks and roadside planting is watered automatically twice daily, people use hosepipes and wash their cars without fear of reprisal! I think it's because in the past years we, by way of our generous contribution to the EEC, have bought them a totally new system not just water but motorways and railways too. Surely we should have sorted our own problems in advance!

Are we to see the end of the speed camera war against the motorist?

Oxfordshire County Council will be the country's leader of the decision following the Government cutting the grant by 40% for the purchase and installation costs in line with general spending cuts in other departments. I somehow doubt it!

Consider that we have some 6000 cameras already in use generating in the region of £100,000,000 every year so can you see the Treasury waving goodbye to this easy earner which statistically, since the commencement in 1992, has made little difference to the traffic accident figures for which it was originally intended?

I very much doubt it!

I could go on but I will cease here except for feeling livid about Jaqui---sisters' back bedroom as main residence and porn on expenses---Smith having the face to apply for an executive post with the BBC and also Health Service having the ability to reinstate muslim virgins back to original when they cannot sort out my back problem. ps the walking stick hire offer is unfortunately suspended until further notice.

REAL MATTERS

Lostock Hall Carnival Saturday 3rd July.
Thanks to the stalwart Queen Carriers the Club was well represented at the event by Mike ,Geoff, Andy and Olive.

Leighton Hall Sunday 11th July.
Luckily, for July a fine but windy day. The occupants of nine MGs left Burlingtons and headed north on the A6 in convoy to Carnforth and beyond to "gazebo" in the magnificent grounds fronting the hall. I thought that there were fewer trade stands than in the past but nevertheless there were lots to see in the collection of fine classic cars and motor cycles. Although we had no success in the prize ring (because nobody entered the judging section of the event) it was a good Club day and a very enjoyable one too.

Auto Test 27th July
Guess what? CANCELLED due to waterlogged pitch.

Bob and Carols Dales Run Sunday 1st August.
All credit to Bob and Carol for their splendid efforts in providing us with such a super Sunday.

Shackleton's Garden Centre at Chatburn was the meeting point and miracles do happen because it was a fine July day. Everyone followed a directional route (or nearly everybody-no names but it was a white A) through perfect countryside for some 35 miles until the ultimate embarrassment or the old adage "the best laid plans of mice and men etc" or in real terms Sod's Law.

"ROADWORKS- ROAD CLOSED" I am always inspired by the versatility and adaptability of our Club members – so out came the Sat Navs and within a very short time we all arrived in Feizor and Elaines' Tea Rooms . Here we progressed from Sod's Law to sod the diet and enjoyed a good Sunday lunch.

Chairman's Chat cont...

All in all a wonderful Club day and once again thanks to Bob and Carol.

Auto Test Tuesday 3rd July

The rearranged date proved a success and with little rain during the day Andys' field had dried out somewhat and was useable for the event. An excellent turn out of members made the evening's success and all of us were delighted to have Don Dixon with us for the occasion. I know that I can speak for all of us in wishing Don well for his continuing improvement back to good health.

Andy and Carole had devised a cunning strategy involving driving and ball throwing skills along a route marked by numbered bollards and targets-all very simple! Personally I didn't understand it but I suppose that's par for the course as far as my navigation efforts are concerned but at least I didn't get lost and I didn't have anyone to follow. Bonus points? Apart from the main arena attraction there was a busy BBQ and gossiping area on the lawn and from what I saw not a very low calorie one but, as promised serious dieting will commence on a Thursday sometime. After everyone had completed their runs Graham and Sam who both attended in landrovers agreed to a "spectacular" tug of war. Face to face they were securely tethered and with low box reverse engaged at the signal they were off. It was a very fair contest and for some time it looked like a draw would be decided. We saw the quality of the landrover at its best demonstrated before our very eyes BUT age and experience aided Graham together with wily cunning and eventually Sam crossed the line- a brilliant attempt nonetheless. Auto Test has an Annual Award Trophy presented at the annual dinner however the results of the evening were declared as :-

1 Andy Wood	Midget
2 Mike Newton	MGC Roadster
3 Sam Cohen	Landrover??

Congratulations to them.

THINGS FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 31st. August

Club night run, noggin and natter.

With not many days left this year with light evenings this will be our last evening run of 2010.

We meet at Botany Bay car park close to Junction 8 M61 7:00 / 7:30pm and enjoy a 30

mile run organised by Janet (who will be in Greece) and conclude at our usual Club night venue the Welcome Tavern Walton le Dale.

EARLY WARNINGS

Christmas Dinner and Awards.

Arrangements are well under way for our Christmas Dinner and Award evening at The Farington Lodge Hotel in Leyland. The reserved date is for Saturday 4th December.

A deposit will be made by our "le treasurer" Monsieur Bamber on his return from his French chateau via Club funds (deposit that is not the chateau) and payments will be sought from members nearer the time.

The NTBHWE – extended weekend away scheduled for 24,25,26 June 2011 and based in the North York Moors at Goathland the home of the ITV programme Heartbeat. It is so very necessary to commence preparations for this event at a very early stage such that I have already been working on it since we got back from Cockermonth, All of the members who attended the recent Cumbrian Tour have signed up for the 2011 event such that we have to date 16 cars on the list. The Hotel I have been in contact with -The Mallyan Spout - have 20 rooms and currently they are holding for me all of those rooms so there is availability for the remaining four. Should anyone be interested in taking advantage of the remaining spaces please contact me ASAP so that I can make the final confirmation .

AND FINALLY

I have received feedback from members of other Clubs commenting on our excellent web site and think it is high time that we offered our sincere thanks for those workers behind scenes Tony Sharples and Mike Newton for all their efforts in making this the success that it is.

Bill

Secretary's Scribbles

This is going to be very brief, I'm not Mr Popular at the moment – Rosie is busy packing the car for the camping week in Wales and I'm running late. I've had a look at the long range weather forecast – it's not looking promising. After all the rain that we've had I'm expecting a Glastonbury style field, anything better than that will be a bonus. 13 members from our club are descending on Bala (not as a group), and for those of you who were invited and sensibly decided to decline the opportunity to be at one with nature, trying to get the stove lit with matches that have gone damp, waiting 20 minutes for the kettle to boil before picking the grass out of your mugs of coffee, trying to find a set of dry clothes, I was always told that it was character building – I'm not so sure. However, watching Ray trying to master the art of canoeing should be a treat, and if all your ears aren't burning during the week when we all settle down each evening with several boxes of wine, then they should be, as you can each expect to be talked about.

I've just looked up a site on the web re tips on camping in the rain. The No 1 tip says Avoid it. We are not the marines and the safety of the free world does not hinge on our withstanding a long rainy week out of doors,postpone or cancel..... Hmmmm unfortunately when you've already booked a week off work, that's not really an option.

I'm sure that a lot of you saw the final episode of Top Gear earlier this month – it was the one that several members of our club were involved in. I thought that the programme showed a great deal of sensitivity in the montage at the end of the programme. Pride of place must surely go to Bill Bradshaw with the final lingering shot of his beautiful MGA.

I should take this opportunity to thank Bob & Carole for organising the Hellifield run at the beginning of the month. They planned a fabulous 40 mile route taking us from Chatburn through Yorkshire and finally finishing with lunch. 15 cars joined us for the run – absolutely superb.

The Autotest was very nearly cancelled for a second consecutive year, with a flooded pitch being blamed. Fortunately there was a brief respite from the rain, just long enough for us to manage squeeze in several laps of Andy's field. I thought that Mike Newton was extremely brave in allowing Karen Sharples to take his lovely MGC for a run around the field. But when Bill Bradshaw handed over the keys of his Midget to Karen Blennerhasset I started to wonder just how many drinks he must have had during the evening. The only explanation can be that Karen was taking it for a test drive following Bill's suggestion that he may be willing to part with it.

Kevin

Calendar of Events for 2010

Date	Club Event	Time	Start / Meet
Sunday 22 Aug	Club Run to Autopia	10.00	Bygone Times, Ecclestone
Tue 31 Aug	Club Night Run	19.00	Botany Bay to Welcome Tavern
Sat 4 Sep	TVR event	TBA	Blackpool
Sun 19 Sep	Lancashire Lanes Run	10.00	Marriott Hotel, A6 Broughton
Tue 28 Sep	Christians Museum Run	TBA	Banks
Tue 26 Oct	Quiz Night	20.00	Welcome Tavern
Fri 5 Nov	Bonfire Party	19.00	Schultz Estate
Tue 30 Nov		20.00	Welcome Tavern
Sat 4 Dec	Annual Dinner	19.30	Farington Lodge

Other events may be added or details changed during the year.

Editorial

Did you watch our Top Gear episode? The 'dream sequence' right at the end, apart from showing a part of Mike Newton's bumper, had decent exposure of Neil McLeod's Sprite and our A coupe, which has added several thousands to our values – 'as featured on Top Gear'. Mike has promised to make a DVD of our bit (I don't know how to), which can be added to the car's documentation.

Congratulations to Andy Wood for winning the auto test trophy which will be presented at the annual dinner in December. It all came down in the end to who had the best ball throwing arm, but I missed all the targets except one where the ball didn't stick. Karen Blennerhassett made a brave attempt in our Midget – the new clutch has been ordered (just joking Karen). Many thanks to Andy and Carole Schultz for their hospitality and for arranging the course.

The chairman announced at the auto test that the June 2011 weekend will be based around Pickering, and got 16 positive bookings almost immediately due to the success of previous events. The hotel he's selected has 20 rooms, so there's only four vacancies remaining – please let one of the committee know if you'd like to join in as soon as possible.

Andy and Carole will also open their doors on 5th November for our bonfire party, which has been added to our events list. There will be a charge of £5 a head to cover costs of the entertainment etc., including a hot pot supper – kids go free. Please don't bring your own

fireworks, but if you have any old wood for the bonfire, you can drop it off at the Schulz estate prior to the event. It would be very helpful if you could let a committee member know that you and how many in your party are coming so that an appropriate number of hotpots can be prepared, and how much we'd have to spend on the entertainments.

We won't be organising an official run to the TVR club's event in Blackpool on the 4th September, but our members have been invited to attend any of the functions on the day, details of which can be found on the website at <http://www.tvr-blackpool.co.uk/bng10/programme.html>
For Sale - Clark MIG PRO 90 mig welder including gas bottle and large 5 Kg drum of welding wire, cost £200 from Machine Mart, hardly used. £75 or best offer, contact me

Bill B

STOP PRESS – just returned from our run to Darren Jones' excellent Autopia facility in Darwen. Janet's run was appreciated except for the speedbumps through Tockholes (sorry, Alan, we'll avoid this in future). We only amassed four cars, but there were a lot of others at the venue enjoying the facilities and the refreshments from the burger van. Six of us then enjoyed a leisurely lunch at the Boatyard.

Northern National at Pateley Bridge

Or the story of a Tortoise joining the Testosterones and living to tell the tale.

The instructions were to meet at the Swallow for 9.30. Bill Ryding had set off earlier as he was eager (instructed really) to get back for a birthday party. So 9.30 came and went and I was left with Andy's million horse power B and Tony's B crossbreed with a Fiat. I being a bog standard BGT with an engine that's done more miles than most. (at least it's got a new rotor arm!)

So off we set, Andy leading, me trying to keep up and Tony chivvyng me along when I failed. I got some respite near Skipton where I was held up(!) by a horsebox and lost Andy in the distance. Over the tops from Grassington and I'm now in the lead but chickened out to let Tony pass much to Karen's annoyance as she

was enjoying the more leisurely pace. Our pitch on the show-ground was big enough for a dozen cars so we spread ourselves out round the gazebo and club banner. Ray and Linda turned up MGless with some pathetic excuse of having no spare wheel (!) and Roy had his Y type in the concours but that was the full turnout. It's been suggested that we give it a miss next year and do Woodvale. (It's on the same day) What do members think? We could go and watch Mike do his marshalling!

I was hoping to celebrate a double anniversary next year, 200,000 miles on the car and a birthday also with a nought on the end but after the Pateley Bridge run it's doubtful if either of us will reach it!!

Alan Fowler

Lancashire Lanes Run Beckons

CLOSING DATE 21ST August 2010.

If you haven't yet booked a place on the 10th Anniversary Run you will need to get your skates on as the closing date is looming ever closer. Send all forms to Rosie Doran ASAP.

We have been busy behind the scenes getting ready for the big day on the 19th September but need a little bit of help.

If any of you are free to help out on the day with car parking duties, selling raffle tickets or signing people in and passing out running books we would be glad to hear from you.

We want the day to be really special and are aiming to raise a substantial amount, with everyone's help, for St. Catherine's Hospice.

If you have any items at home that can be used as raffle prizes please pass them our way.

If you can't come but would like to do your bit for our chosen charity by giving a donation we will add the amount to what we raise on the day.

I would like to take this opportunity in thanking all those who have been very generous in the raffles we have already had during the year. A much appreciated Thank You.

Looking forward to seeing you on the day!

Regards

Julie

Tel No. 01257 253723 Home,
 0151 284 2168 Work



Committee, Contacts & Useful Information



Honorary President Jeff Reid

www.prestonmg.co.uk

Committee

Chairman	Bill Ryding	Preston (01772) 323116 william@wryding.wanadoo.co.uk
Secretary	Kevin Doran	Preston (01772) 877285 kevin.doran6@btopenworld.com
Treasurer	Mick Bamber	mick@mcbamber.com Mobile 07730435929
Membership	Gordon Mallett	Burnley (01282) 429658 Mobile 07725503888 gordon.mg@btinternet.com
Vice Chairman	Alan Fowler	Leyland (01772) 424797 alan.fowler1972@tiscali.co.uk
General	Ray Cohen	Bury (0161) 767 9499 Mobile 07890107531 cohenraymond@tiscali.co.uk

Newsletter Editor

Bill Bradshaw Chorley (01257) 261134
bill.bradshaw@btinternet.com

8 Dale View, Chorley PR7 3QJ

All articles are to be sent to the editor by the 15th of the month. The Newsletter will be published and emailed in .pdf format or posted at the end of each month in time for club night.

Trading Members

Andy Schultz Cuerden Classics Preston (01772) 627120
(club technical consultant) Mobile 07817 173158
andy@pr55xq.freemove.co.uk

John Ashworth Accident Repairs etc Croston (01772) 600964