

News from Cirencester Car Club



March 2018

Editorial

This Newsletter is winging its way to you during the busiest time of the year for Cirencester Car Club, as the 15th Corinium Run entry is full and ready to roll on April 15th from Cirencester Football Ground. Followed by The Corinium Stages at Down Ampney's old airfield on May 5th (Congratulations to Stages team for winning ASWMC Trophy see details below)

This means that, whilst both sub- committees are very busy, there is even more pressure on the six or seven people who are committed to both events. Thanks to everyone.

There is, of course, always room for other volunteers, who are interested in either classic cars or Rally cars (or both!) or working in a team with a purpose.

No sooner will we recover from these than the summer series will begin with 4 Rounds on the grass field at Winstone. This is a relaxed evening honing driving skills (and memory) around cones in a given order (Autosolo). These evenings are open to any car, shopping , rally, work or classic. See the dates at end of Newsletter – reminders on Fb, and come along just for the fun of it!

One last minute reminder of the Natter and Noggin' on this Tuesday evening 3rd April at The Plough at Stratton. No mind blowing Quiz or Strenuous Skittles just a moment of calm catching up and chatter in the midst of the preparations for the above.

Come and join us, we would love to see you.

D & D R Editors

Fairford Classic Car Club – After Xmas Blues Run

No sooner had the plates from the Boxing Day lunch been cleared away, had thoughts turned to the post-Christmas activities; including Bunny's F C C popular Xmas-Blues Run.

For the past couple of years, we have entered and enjoyed this event - the invitation being extended to C.C.C. Members owing to Bunny's long-standing connection with the Club. Following last year's trek out towards Hungerford; we were pleased to see that for 2017, we would start and finish at the Thames Head Inn near Cirencester; a mere seven miles from home.

As the rain continued to fall heavily on Boxing Day night; the risk of snow, we thought, would be quashed as 'it wouldn't set on such wet ground'... how wrong we were! Waking up on the Wednesday morning to a blanket covering of snow revealed our Veteran - Cycle Club ride in Oxfordshire had been cancelled, so we sat at home awaiting the same call for the Run taking place the following day...

Thankfully, it didn't come, so, on the Thursday morning we defrosted and unfroze the door locks on the Morris and headed out, carefully, towards the Thames Head. Unsurprisingly, on our arrival, there were hardly any classic cars out - C.C.C flying the flag with Bill and Celia Limbrick in their 1989 Mercedes; Dave Sullivan in his old Landrover; Richard and Rachel in their Alfa and us in the every-trusty Morris. Geoff didn't fancy the risk of the Clio Williams' low-profile tyres in the snow on Chalford Hill; so had come in his modern Clio - with a good inch of snow still frozen to the roof!

After morning coffee and much conversation, we decided that as one of the only classics out; we would take pole position and set out first on the relatively well-known 47 mile route. The first five miles or so took us around Coates and on towards Frampton Mansell. Whilst the roads were relatively snow clear, the ice from the night before had frozen and some parts made for more than interesting driving; even on the flat.

Winding out from Frampton Mansell and past the Daneway Inn, we noticed the numerous salt bins on the side of the road, covered in snow, with the roads still, as you've guessed, covered in ice. Passing the pub we were waved at by a few off-road motorcyclists at the side of the road; seemingly surprised to see a classic car out on such a interesting day! We soon knew why when we spun all the way up the hill behind the pub, negotiating the number of newly-fallen trees cluttering the road, and dodging oncoming cars. Thankfully, we eventually crested the top and turned right towards Edgeworth. The route book stated that ahead it was narrow, steep and to take care. By now we had climbed from the start and the snow had certainly fallen heavier around these parts. The car was also struggling a little and there was cause for concern when the 1 in 6 sign appeared ahead and filled me with much doubt. Bill and Celia had caught us up by this point and we decided to pull over and assess the situation. Realising that whatever goes down, must soon come up, we decided we didn't want to risk the downhill descent in-case we met something coming up the other way.

Then, as if by magic, a white van delivery man appeared at the top of the hill and we asked him what it was like down below. 'Dreadful' he said - it had taken him an hour to get to the top of the hill and only by luck had he achieved it. That's that decided we thought.

Skimming ahead in the route-book, and with a little help from my mobile phone map app., we decided the best approach would now be to rejoin the route at Brimpsfield via the B4070 from Birdlip. So we pressed on through Whiteway and soon found a suitable turning.

Unbeknown to us; Bill and Celia could see the lane was not worth risking and so continued onto Birdlip - how right they were! As soon as we started to descend, the car started to sway from side to side and we skidded down near enough the whole hill. Noticing that if we got to the bottom, we'd never get back up, we pulled in to a driveway to assess the situation. Only to find the 4x4 following us put his indicator on to signal into his own drive!

Amazingly, and with much struggle, we eventually managed the 1/4 mile climb back to the B4070 and realising the route would soon take us out towards Withington, Chedworth and many other high places, we regrettably decided to call it a day and head back to the A417 and on to the finish.

Arriving back at the Thames Head, we realised many others had made the same choice and that, in the end, nobody had completed the route in it's entirety. A great shame, as on a bright winter's day with no snow or ice to contend with, the route would have been excellent.

Despite the lack of miles, the lunch at the pub was excellent with good friends and friendly conversation. Don't worry Bunny; we'll all be back for Christmas 2018 ...let's just hope it's not a white one, causing more than a few post-Christmas blues!

Ben Amor

Dates for Kemble for Austin Healey Club, CCC are Invitees

Gents

A very happy new year to you all.

Please find the following dates for Kemble. This year we have a target to break even with our exploits at Kemble, this is due to the "oberleftenants" within our committee, but I hope will be attainable. With this in mind I would appreciate our regulars to attempt to sign up as many new competitors as possible. This year I am attempting to apply some sort of handicap system in order to even up the differences in engine size and state of tune.

The dates are:- April 15th (**CCC Corinium Run**); May 13th; June 3rd and September 2nd.

Regards

Mes Edwards

(Start times and costs to be confirmed)

Cotswold Motor Sport Group

It is apparent that many Clubs that belong to the Group maybe do not fully understand the structure of the Group and therefore do not reap as many of the benefits from the Group as they could for their members. Hopefully, this document will assist member Clubs and their membership to enhance their access to Club Motor Sport. It would be appreciated if you would pass the contents of this to your Committee and maybe your own Club members.

Cotswold Motor Sport Group (CMSG)

Twenty six clubs belong to the CMSG, each paying an annual subscription to do so. CMSG is an officially recognised Group within the structure of the MSA, and as such pays the standard fee to the MSA for this. One of the CMSG rules is that each member Club must be a member of the AWMMC. Individuals may not be members of the Group, only Clubs may belong.

Cotswold Motor Sport Group Competitors Club (MSGCC)

This is a motor club in the same sense that your own Club is, and it pays its affiliation fees to the MSA (and AWMMC) in the same way. However, the MSGCC Rules restrict membership of the MSGCC to only allow full members of the twenty six CMSG Clubs to join it. There is no fee to join, but the application forms have to be completed. Therefore, if your Club is organising a Clubman event where you want to invite a number of clubs, then rather than taking up all of your Club invitations with different Clubs, just invite MSGCC, using one invitation and this allows further invitations to be made to your neighbouring Clubs outside the Group. There is no extra cost involved to the Club or competitor, just the application form to complete for any competitor utilising the invitation.

Cotswold Championships

These are organised by MSGCC, not the Group. There are four championships in Stage Rally, Road Sport, Car Trial and AutoSolo disciplines, and anybody wishing to compete in one or more of these championships needs to join the MSGCC and pay the appropriate championship registration fee(s).

Because of the MSA's regulations about championships and clubs, the Road Sport events are all organised by the MSGCC, though, as in the structure of your own Club, these are delegated to experienced club members.

Further information can be found at www.msg.co.uk or from one of the officers as listed on the website.

Dave Cooper Chairman

Cirencester Car Club's "Wells Masonry Corinium Stages", Wins Best Sealed Surface Rally South West

The small but perfectly formed team that puts on our Annual Stage Rally for the club has been recognised for all its hard work, and that of the wider team who help run the event on the day at Down Ampney Airfield.

They've been presented with: Best Sealed Surface Rally 2017 by the ASWMC. The award was presented to Dave Boden (Clark of the Course) and Dave Followell (Stage Commander) on Sunday 18 February 2018 at the Exeter Court Hotel, Kennford, Exeter.

The award is voted on by the competitors, many of whom congratulated the Dave's at the awards event for a well organised and well executed event. This makes the award all the more satisfying for the team to receive, as it's an endorsement from the people we put the event on for, and based on their customer feedback.

As they received the award the master of ceremonies announced it was actually for the Best Rally South West as no award had been given for the loose surface event in 2017.

No pressure then on the team for the 2018 event on the 5th of May. If you'd like to get involved with this award winning event by helping to organise, set up and run the event we are a friendly and welcoming team and there's always plenty to do. If there's a role you'd like to train for or just get involved in, we'd be pleased to guide you. Contact either of the Dave's via the newsletter.

David Followell

Stage Commander, Wells Masonry Corinium Stages (the lanky one in the photo)



Don't Forget

Noggin and Natter at the Plough Public House, Stratton, Cirencester on 3rd April at 7.30pm

Corinium Run on 15th April, Start and Finish at Cirencester Football Club
First car away at 9.30 and return after 4pm.

AND

Corinium Stages on 5th May at Down Ampney airfield, if you are able to help please contact the Chief Marshal, Glynis Langford on glynislangford@aol.com

Summer Series

All held at Winstone Start at 7pm

Thursday 17th May

Thursday 21st June

Thursday 20th July

Thursday 16th August