



NWMMOC NEWSLETTER

July 2023

Castle Combe Rally 20 May

by Kathleen Ridley

Here are some photos of the Castle Combe Steam and Car Rally, that Harry and I went to on the 20th May. Harry and I really enjoyed it, seeing the vintage cars and also the steam engines, there was a lot more to see and do, it was a well arranged event.



Somerford Show Tractor Run 4 June

The Tractor Run takes place every year in aid of the Wiltshire Air Ambulance.



Chippenham Cherished Vehicle and Family Fun Day 4 June

Bill Reed and Mark & Carol Osland were joined by the Heard family and visitor James Howling. The Car of the Show was a splendid, ultra-rare 1934 Armstrong Siddeley 17 Tourer.



Cirencester Classic Car Show, 4 June

by Steve Chater

On Sunday 4th June I attended the Cirencester Classic Car Show held in the Market Place. Some of us met at a neighbour's opposite for coffee and bacon butties at 8.30am. Unbeknown to me a friend of my neighbour had invited a gentleman called Mike Vardy to join us before setting off for the show. The first I knew of this was a rather loud noise approaching. Around the corner came a 1905 Isotta Fraschini/Fiat Land Speed Record Car. As you can see from the photos this is a beast of a car. Powered now by a 16.5 litre engine from a WW1 airship, still showing the gunshot wounds to the sump, she certainly made her presence felt. Apparently the fuel consumption is between 1 and 6 mpg depending on how she is being driven. At 100mph (500 rpm) 6mpg can be achieved, however between 1 and 3 is the average. Possibly worse than the fuel consumption is the fact when driven enthusiastically, eg. drifting quite a lot, the rear tyres can survive for as little as 7 minutes. This is thanks to 250 hp and 820lb/ft of torque. Mike has driven the car at 130mph, but with a tendency to lift the front wheels at over 100mph, he has to be feeling particularly brave. Needless to say the car was the Star of the Show.

[More information HERE](#)



Swindon Festival on the Parks 24 June

organised by Mike Welsh

This was the second annual festival to raise funds for Swindon youth groups. Congratulations to Mike for an excellent event. Two Branch Minors were judged Best Cars: Ash Holmes's convertible and Steve Chater's convertible. Miranda Minor also attended to collect for Marie Curie: thanks to Jenni Wood and Mike Welsh for making this happen.



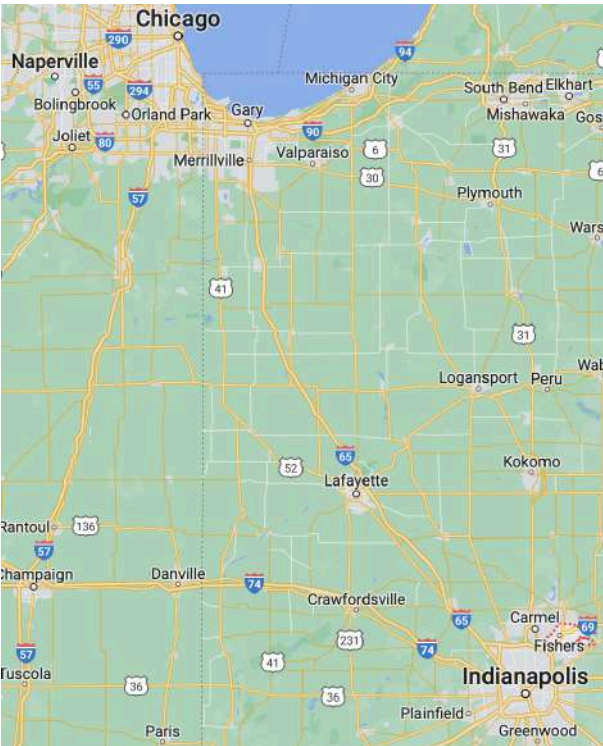
News from Fishers, Indiana

Honorary member Alison Briance Shailes' convertible XHW 69H "Doris" was voted Best Branch Car at North Wilts Rally at Westonbirt in 2002, and 21 years later is still winning awards in the USA! She writes from Fishers, Indiana (see Google Map below):

This week our city is having our July 4th celebrations. Tonight was the car and art show so Doris was representing the NWMROC. There were 80 cars, mainly classics with a few modern ones. 3 awards, Best Car in Show, Judge's Choice and People's Choice. I'm pleased to say that we were awarded the Judge's Choice Award! A great surprise and a great end to a fab evening!

Following the car show on Thursday, today was the parade. There were 70 units from marching school bands, local companies, dance groups, local celebrities and us! Soooo hot but so much fun! If I got \$1 for every time someone told me my steering wheel was on the wrong side...!

Congratulations to Alison! More of her photos are on our Facebook page.



North Wilts Branch Events

Sunday 30 July: Run and visit to the [Oxford Bus Museum & Morris Motors Museum](#), Long Hanborough OX29 6LA. Contact [Martin Howard](#).

Saturday 5 August: [Gloucester Vintage and Country Extravaganza](#) at South Cerney Airfield. Entries for our club stand are now closed but you can of course attend as a visitor.

Sunday 10 September: Croquet in Swindon. You will be taught how to play! This has been hugely enjoyable in the past. Contact [Gill](#) to reserve a place.

Sunday 8 October 2:00pm: **North Wilts Branch AGM** at Castle Eaton Village Hall.

Sunday 17 December: Christmas Indoor Picnic Lunch at Castle Eaton Village Hall (Please also bring your contributions to this year's Christmas Hamper for Swindon Night Shelter).

Other events you might like to attend with your Minor:

Sat 1 July: [Wallop Wheels & Wings](#)

Sunday 9 July: [British Leyland Day, Gaydon](#)

Sat-Sun 15 & 16 July [Market Lavington Vintage Meet](#)

Sunday 23 July: **Stroud Classic Car Show**, The playing field, Bisley Old Road, Stroud, Glos GL5 1NL. From 10:00 am - just turn up early, entry is free.

Sunday 6 August: [Newbury Car Show](#). Contact [Bill](#)

Saturday 19 August: Track event at Castle Combe. Contact Mark Osland tankosl@gmail.com

August Bank Holiday weekend: [Pershore Plum Festival](#)

August 27: [Shalbourne Show](#)

August 27 & 28: [White Horse Show, Uffington](#)

Monday August 28: [Cowley Classic Car Show](#)

Sat 2 Sept: **Kingswood Classic** Contact [Jenni Wood](#)

Sun 3 Sept: [White Horse Vehicle Show, Westbury](#)

Sat Oct 7: Thatcham Memorial Show. Contact [Bill](#)

Lydiard Park 10 June

by Kathleen Ridley

Harry and I went to the Lydiard Park Steam and Vintage Car Show on Saturday the 10th of June. The show of vintage cars and steam engines etc were good. We saw quite a few Morris Minors including these ones I took photos of. And there was plenty of other things to do, it was also well attended. The weather was good for most of the day until mid afternoon, and then rain and thunder came, thankfully we didn't get very wet, as we did not have far to go to get home.



Chipping Sodbury Classic Car Run 25 June

Mark Osland and his "fast road" Minor took part in this event.



Castle Combe track event Saturday 19 August

Mark is inviting members to join him and Bristol Pegasus Motor Club on a track day at Castle Combe on Saturday 19 August. Parking in the paddock, and a chance to drive the circuit on classic car parade laps. Contact Mark tankosl@gmail.com if you are interested.

A note from Bill re branch communications

This month we have a colourful, informative and varied Newsletter composed almost entirely of contributions from branch members. Thank you all.

Currently I am experiencing email problems so if you sent me something and it bounced back to you, please re-send via text message to 07798 601224 or call me on that number to tell me that something has bounced back. Otherwise I will not know that you have tried to contact me.

In addition to individual personal interactions, in order to reach a wider audience, North Wilts Branch has the following ways of communicating activities:

Our website, managed by Ash Holmes.

Our Facebook page, managed by Sarah Bracher.

Our monthly Newsletter, posted to members, to the website and to our Facebook page.

“Branch News” submitted to “Minor Matters” every other month, contributed by a rota of committee members.

Communications with Jenni Wood, Area 4 Liaison Officer.

Representation at annual MMOC Branch Liaison meetings.

After I step down as Chair in October I have agreed to stay on for 6 - 12 months to produce our Newsletter, although I will no longer be on the Committee. This can work if I have timely, complete and accurate information:

From the Committee on planned events.

From members (text and photos) re events attended or proposed.

Please send photos “actual size” and add a short account of the event.

I wish to pass the Newsletter on during the next year. Please contact me if you would be interested in taking this up.

Miranda Minor

Jenni Wood reports that the two events which North Wilts have supported for Miranda Minor - our Annual Rally and the Swindon Summer Festival on the Parks - have raised **£160.00** for Marie Curie. Many thanks to everyone involved.

Middlewick House, 4 June by Peter Watts

On Sunday June 4th on a last minute whim, Alex and Sue, Steve and Shirley, Liz and I made the short trip to Middlewick House Open Gardens weekend event in Corsham, held this year in aid of Wiltshire Air Ambulance and the Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust. The event is hosted by the current owners of Middlewick House, Nick Mason and his wife Annette. Nick is the drummer of the famous “Pink Floyd” band and Annette, a celebrated artist.

The day was blessed with perfect weather conditions and we joined a varied group of classic vehicles in an adjoining paddock in front of the imposing house. Entry into the main event was well worth the £8 p/p contribution to the charities, as the all day entertainment of bands and groups, craft stalls, food outlets and the exquisite classic and veteran collection was enough to keep everyone happy. You could leave and re-enter free during the day which enabled us to rest and picnic. In all, a very good day and a future venue to consider.



