

Rolls-Royce

ENTHUSIASTS' CLUB

West Midlands Section

Spring 2018

Events for 2018

April	23rd	St. Georges Day Lunch at The Elms, Abberley, WR6 6AT & a Worcestershire drive.
May	27 th	Section @ Classic Car Show Ragley Hall B49 9NJ - See page 6 to book!
June	11 th –14th	Cotswold Cornucopia last few places, book now! - See details on page 12
	22nd–24 th	National Annual Rally Burghley House PE9 3JY 1940's post war cars? Special request, see pages 18/19
August	27 th	WM Section Rally - Pershore Plum Festival, The Abbey, Pershore, WR10 1DT
September	20th	Coffee Morning Gathering in Aid of Macmillan Cancer Care - Venue and further details tba
October	31st	Halloween, “Flying Spares”? TBA
November	22nd	Men & Motors (venue to be confirmed)
December	TBC	Christmas Lunch & AGM – (venue to be confirmed)

Contact Anne Bremer on 01386 556945 – email: annebremer@me.com

For further details on any event

Graham would be pleased to receive any contributions from members.

Either post to: 22, Barnwood Close, Redditch, B98 9JE

or email: g.greenwood@blueyonder.co.uk

Informal Lunches in 2018 – from 12 Noon

3rd THURSDAY of the month except January, February & December

No booking, just turn up and join us

April	19th	The Bell, Lower Broadheath, WR2 6QG
May	17th	The Dodford Inn, Whinfield Rd, Dodford, B61 9BG
June	21st	The Angel Hotel, High St, Pershore, WR10 1AF
July	19th	Plume of Feathers, Harley, Much Wenlock, SY5 6LP
August	16th	The Queen Elizabeth Inn, Main Street, Emley Castle, WR10 3HS
Sept.	20th	The Baiting House at Upper Sapey, WR6 6XT
Oct.	18th	Codsall & Wergs Garden Centre, Wergs Hall Rd,

Our Next Events

St. Georges Day Lunch at the Elms at Stockton Rd, Abberley, WR6 6AT **Monday 23rd April, 2018 - £33.50 per person**

We have decided to revive an event we used to do and be patriotic.

Yes St. Georges Day Lunch on St. Georges Day!

As most of you know Steven and I have moved deeper into the Worcestershire Countryside and we have arranged with “The Elms” Hotel at Abberley (under new ownership) for a St. Georges Day Lunch, at which we will distribute a suggested driving tour in Worcestershire in Springtime. Then meet back at our home for scones and tea before you depart for home!

Ragley Hall Classic Car Show

A great day out at the annual Classic Car Show at Ragley Hall, Nr Alcester, Warwickshire. Entry includes access to this magnificent Stately Home, the family home of the 9th Marquess and Marchioness of Hertford and their children. If a fun family day out is what you're looking for then *Ragley Hall*, Park & Gardens really does have something for everyone!

On this day we park directly in front of the Hall, in prime position of over 600 classic cars. **Booking form on page 6**

Chairmans chat from Brian Bremer

By the time you are all reading this, Spring may have finally arrived, and with it this years events.

Following our fantastic meal at the AGM, I put the Shadow away in the garage fully expecting to be out within a few weeks driving around. How wrong that turned out to be. Abysmal weather, rain, frost, ice, salt and the Beast from the East left the car sat idle.

Then at last a window of opportunity for the Informal at the Old Bull Inn in Inkberrow, but would she fire up after 3 months. First turn of the key success and out emerged a somewhat dusty Shadow.

A quick clean and away we went, thankfully we were not alone in arriving in proper cars.

So that was the first event this year seeing a good selection out on the road.

Hopefully from now on, we can all get out and enjoy a fantastic year of events which the Committee have organised.

What we need now is seeing you all joining us and showing your support to the Section.

There are the informal lunches each month at various locations around the Section, and of course the arranged events.

Ragley spring Classic Car Show. All being well we have ironed out the glitch which saw those attending receiving tickets with my name on it, we shall see. The organisers assure me there will be no problems, but please can you make sure to return applications as early as possible.

Then Mike Ridley has once again delved into his magic bag to create for us another fabulous mid-week event, this one taking in the Cotswolds, "Cotswold Cornucopia" see more on page 12.

Our annual Big one, the Pershore Abbey Classic car show.

I have agreed to continue to carry on organising this event on their behalf.

Fortunately I do now have an 'Understudy' willing to do much of the setting up and running much of the Show on the day.

As usual we will be located adjacent to the Abbey with the Marquee provided.

There is also an event which is held at Highnam Court near Gloucester, this one is offered through a Club member supporting the Pied Piper Appeal at Gloucester Hospital. Although not a Section event, I do have details if anyone would like to attend.

The Gardens alone are worth the effort and it costs nothing but your time and petrol.

Please Email me if you would like an application form.

Lastly, if anyone has found interesting places which you feel would be attractive to the Members, please let us know. We are always willing to have a look, or if you feel eager, with support you can have a go at setting up an event.

I will look forward to seeing members old and new during the coming year, so please get out there and enjoy your motoring.

Brian Bremer

The Team

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Our Section's Life Members – RREC 50 year membership badge holders

R.W. Tookey, Grahame Neale, Doug Macmillan, Don Maclean



RAGLEY HALL CLASSIC CAR SHOW – Sunday 27th May 2018

Meet at 9am in special parking area

£8.00 per car with one passenger –

extra passengers will need to pay at the gate

Remember to bring your picnic and our cars will be on display.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No. Email:

Return to: Mrs. Anne Bremer, Chylowen, 9 Beechcombe Close, Pershore, Worcs, WR10 1PW – Telephone: 01386 556945 or 07805106557 - email annebremer@me.com

I wish to attend the Event & there will be _____ in my party

Total £.....

Payment methods (please tick the method you use) :-

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☐

or

I have paid the above amount directly into the Section Bank Account

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Classic Motor Cars offers bespoke classic car finance through JBR Capital

World-class specialists Classic Motor Cars (CMC) are now offering bespoke personal finance for classic car purchases and restorations through JBR Capital.

The new offering combines the exacting service standards of two-time restoration of the year winner CMC with finance options from the UK's only independent finance provider dedicated solely to high end vehicle finance.

Nigel Woodward, Managing Director at Classic Motor Cars, said: "Besides their charm or nostalgic appeal, classic cars can offer excellent potential as investments. With the tailored finance solutions provided by JBR Capital, enthusiasts can now turn their dream into reality. Owning a classic has never been easier."

Darren Selig, Executive Chairman at JBR Capital, said: "We're delighted to be working with Classic Motor Cars, opening up a range of finance options to prospective and current owners of classic cars."

The available restoration finance options include staged payments and early settlement options to suit almost everybody, equity release against existing vehicles therefore releasing funds that would otherwise be tied up, and refinancing for customers who have existing finance agreements.

For classic car purchases, the finance options include equity release, credit line finance allowing buyers to move very quickly and seal the deal, hire

purchase allowing individuals to pay for their car in monthly instalments, lease purchase which is similar to the hire purchase but with a balloon payment at the end of the fixed term and refinancing.

###

For further information about Classic Motor Cars, please contact:

David Barzilay – T: +44 (0) 7860 322 333 | M: +44 (0) 207 544 8980 | E: da-vid@barzilay.co.uk

Julian Menendez – T: +44 (0) 7838 547 531 | M: +44 (0) 207 544 8831 | E: julian@barzilay.co.uk

www.classic-motor-cars.co.uk/classic-car-finance

Classic Motor Cars Ltd of Bridgnorth | World-class specialists in classic cars

Classic Motor Cars (CMC) were founded in 1993 and have over the ensuing years built an international reputation for classic car restoration to world-class standards, to the extent that they are the only company to have won the Restoration of the Year Award twice, in 2011 and 2017.

Staffed by a highly experienced team of engineers and technicians, CMC operate from modern 60,000 sq. ft. purpose built premises based in Bridgnorth, Shropshire, in the United Kingdom, where some 50 to 60 cars can be found in the workshops every month, ranging from classic Jaguars to Aston Martins, Bentleys, Bugattis, Ferraris, Lancias and more, including modern prestige marques.

They offer a comprehensive service for classic car owners, including general servicing, upgrades, accident repairs, repaints, parts, full restorations, storage, transport, car sales and even bespoke car design.



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St Valentines Lunch 14/2/2018 West Midlands Section

Yet another big hit for our section, 1st gathering of 2018, and a warm welcome from Giovanni owner of the Wagon Wheel, Grimley and his band of helpers, we managed 30 people, 4 were unable to make it due to illness, in 2 parties, a speedy recovery to all, and hope to see you at an event soon.

As always with the Wagon Wheel we were all set up in the main restaurant, with a starter, main course, dessert followed by coffee and mints, some were still enjoying the event at nearly 4pm, our thanks to Jill Malek for arranging it again.


On the proper car front we did have a few in the car park, Dan Jevons being one member putting other members to shame. Us not wanting to bring them out on a wet cold day and having to clean them on our return home.

Next outing is for St George's Day lunch on 23rd April at The Elms Abberley, Nr Great Witley, when English roast beef is the main choice on the day, followed by a short drive and afternoon tea at Eardiston later, and looking to see our proper car out in full sport, parked outside the Elms.

Keep on driving, Steven H Malek Treasure



A photo from the past, David Williams chatting with the late Spencer Allen, RIP.



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2018
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MON 11th JUNE TO THURS 14th JUNE

Would you like to visit a Mogul Indian Palace, located in 4,500 acres of exquisite Cotswold landscaped countryside?

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Travel in the company of 40 other enthusiasts in some of the most driveable and beautiful countryside in England.

This and much more whilst enjoying 3 nights bed, breakfast and dinner in a wonderfully comfortable Cotswold hotel.

Since my last magazine ad, I have had a flurry of bookings and deposits, but we still have a few places left and we don't want to miss old friends.

If you would like to join us for this wonderful break, telephone the Wroxton House Hotel, nr Banbury, on **01295 730777**, to reserve your room, and then send a deposit of **£60 per person** with your contact details to:

Mike Ridley, 8 The Courtyard, Ironbridge, Telford, TF8 7EG,
cheques payable to RREC West Midlands Section.

The total cost of the break is £630 per couple or £405 per single.



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In the last issue, I described the purchase and subsequent rustproofing of our wonderful Spirit II, Humpty. During its spell at Sunningdale Classics, where we purchased him from, he had been subject to an expensive “going over” by the mechanical staff at a certain RR and Bentley dealer in the Worcestershire region.

This was done to make sure we didn’t have any problems with the car once we had driven it away and the accompanying invoice made my eyes water when I saw the amount that had been paid out by the dealer. “They’re not going to make much money on this one”, I thought, and I was probably right.

Remembering all that I had been taught regarding these magnificent machines, I used Humpty at every opportunity and that was such a chore I felt I had to drive him gain and again.

Now the nice thing about driving a Rolls-Royce, is that everyone looks at you and slows down on dual carriageways as they pass you to see who you are, although I do wonder which important person would have the registration EGG. They also give way to you at junctions as you waft across them ...and as for being really important?

On one of my regular jaunts I was driving up the A45 out of Coventry when I was stopped at traffic lights. “How dare they” I thought! No, not really, but I left the car in D whilst I was stopped.

Now with other automatics I have I never leave it in D for more than a couple of minutes, and Humpty, I thought, wouldn’t be any exception. Oh dear. There was an ever so polite “ping” and in big orange letters in front of me where the words, “Gearbox Fault”.

Oh botheration! I thought, that sounds expensive and I have to admit, a mild feeling of panic crept in. I quickly pulled in to the side of the road after I had passed the traffic lights and switched everything off.

A couple of minutes later, I switched everything back on and started the engine – well that’s what my computer training told me to do so it might work here as well.

Bingo! Humpty started and there were no orange warning lights. “I’d better get home quickly”, I said to myself and turning the car around made for home. On the journey back, I boxed clever and stopping at a set of traffic lights slipped the gear lever into Neutral. No polite ping and no warning lights and that was the end of that.

Until the next time!!!

A couple of days later, the same thing happened and using the same trick of switching off and back on... I was really learning fast and getting quite pleased with myself... everything went back to normal. However, this issue really intrigued me.

Now I had in the past driven 94 seat double deck coaches for Megabus on the Birmingham London route and I know that 45 seconds is the maximum permitted time to leave these vehicles in D when stopped for any reason.

Surely Rolls-Royce were not like that, after all Jaguar certainly weren't. So, firing up the old computer at home, I asked the question of several RR Bentley forums. I was amazed at the answers that came back.

The best one was it's a sensor and will do no damage at all, just ignore it, to the gearbox is about to explode and a new one will cost several thousand pounds. I had grave visions of a massive expense bill looming and even worse, selling our new-found love.

Upon sleeping on all of this, I decided to ask the experts at a RR service centre. There must be one near Coventry I thought. So, armed with the magic words and Google I found there were none in Coventry, the nearest being Starman Rolls and Bentley specialists next door to Flying Spares at Market Bosworth.

Now getting to know the Father and Son team's names were Duane and Kyle, this didn't fill me with much hope and I had visions of a right fly by night or here today and gone today also operation.

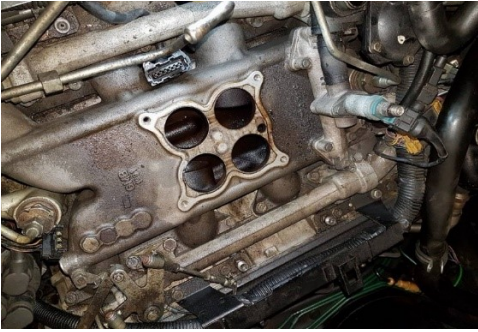
But their webpage did show many fine machines at their premises including one from France and a very old Wraith. Ah well, give them a ring, nothing lost by that at least.

Talking to Duane Starman on the phone was like a breath of fresh air. I described the problem. Easy he said, the engine tick over isn't right and when you stop in gear, the ECU expects the engine to make the car move forward. Instead it's staying put and the gearbox throws a message to the ECU which puts its hands up, gives in and throws a fit and warning message.

Bring it in and I'll give it a good going over, service and check why the engine isn't right.

Humpty was duly booked in and driven over on the day. Chris followed in her XF to bring me home as it was expected the car would be there for a few days. As soon as Kyle, Duane's son heard the engine, he exclaimed that there was an air leak somewhere, probably from the throttle body gasket on the inlet manifold.

With hindsight, it was as if he had already seen and had the car for a week as he was perfectly correct, there was air leak from the manifold/throttle body.



Duane and Kyle had the car for nearly a week and discovered the bottom ball joints were on their last legs, but he was able to shim them and fit a replacement kit, which apparently saved us about £400 each side.

The guys also changed the engine oils and gearbox oil and filters, checking the antifreeze strength, distributor belts, rear spring cups, which were badly corroded and everything else they could possibly think of. So much for the pre delivery check from that well know RR dealer in Worcestershire, something that I'm not going to dwell on as I don't know what the arrangement



between the dealer and themselves was. We picked the car up a week later and after raiding the OAP fund, paid the bill, which on hindsight wasn't too bad considering the work they had to do.

Starman's also kept a photographic record and posted regularly on their Facebook page so we could see what was happening with Humpty. I really have to admit that he was missed while he was away and the cry of "pouvre Humpty" was regularly heard.



The following week, Humpty attended his first event, a breakfast meeting of the West Midlands Classic Car Club, a none too serious bunch of petrol heads who meet up every so often to have breakfast and a natter about our cars.

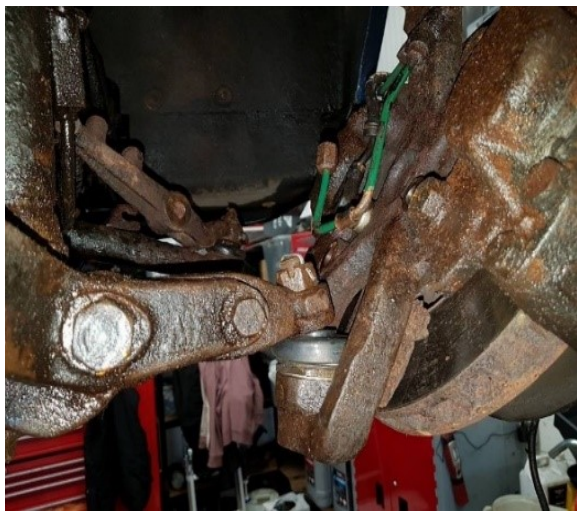
I have to say that Humpty looked resplendent next to a big American Chevy, they were about the same size as well.

All went well until half a mile from home, there was a very polite “ping” again...this time with a flashing red light which stated “ride height fault”. “Oh calamity”, I retorted, “not again”. Visions of the OAP fund and the holiday fund up to 2025 being raided flashed through my mind.

Rounding the corner of our road, the red warning light grew in size, and incorporated the wording STOP and LOW BRAKE FLUID LEVEL! It was a good job that we were almost on the drive when this happened.

Now I don’t know about you, but as the years pass me by, the urge to get down on my hands and knees in freezing cold weather diminishes somewhat. So a week later I got down on those very same hands and knees and looked at what the problem was.

A little green brake pipe on the O/S front calliper was dripping, ever so slightly, a clear fluid. Now these little green pipes can be found on both front callipers and they are perfectly formed with 90 degree right angle turns, which get a bit thinner than they first were >



The green pipes can be clearly seen in this picture. A quick call was made to the Starman depot again. You know you can really get an impression of people totally wrong, until you really get to know them.

“Are you at home next Wednesday afternoon?” came the reply to my obvious question. “OK, we’ll be over around 2.30”.

Sure enough at 2.30 a white Silver Spirit pulls up outside and out jump Duane and Kyle.

Three hours later, and in the dark, they had removed all six pipes, re manufactured them in my tiny workshop – a kitchen table with a vice bolted on to it, replaced the said pipes, bled the system and checked everything was ok. The cost...well I’m not telling, although it was incredibly reasonable and wouldn’t cover three hours work let alone the cost of fuel for the journey.

I learnt a lot about the Starmans’ that afternoon and realised that although they run a business, they are true enthusiasts and petrol heads as well as great people to know.

I will recommend them thoroughly to anyone who wants work of the highest standards carried out on their car.

Things went reasonably well then for the next couple of weeks until...
The Christmas Lunch date.

We thought this is an ideal place to show off Humpty to our new found RREC friends and set out on the not too far journey. Halfway along the M42 there was that ever so polite “ping” again and the orange legend arose, “check engine”.

“Now that is a sensor somewhere”, I said, “and I’m going to ignore it”. I was proved right because asking those in the know at the dinner, I got the same answer from everyone. The warning light didn’t come on all the way home.

We have used the car a lot in the following weeks without mishap, so I’m hoping the gremlins have gone away? One thing is certain, I’m no longer expecting the “polite ping” any more, and I’m just enjoying the Rolls-Royce and really looking forward to the Ragley Hall and Pershore events with a huge smile! See you all then!



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How about a day in the sun
down by the River Avon
Saturday 16th of June



We have just been invited to enjoy the delights of the

Barton Fete and Classic Vehicle Show

Being held at Pilgrims Lock, Barton, alongside the River Avon.

Free entrance, Free parking as exhibitors, on the show field from 11am to 5pm.

To be an Exhibitor, put a sign on your windscreen saying

VEHICLE EXHIBITOR

There will be a Dog Show, Tug of War Competition, A local Choir, Jazz music. Tombola, childrens entertainment, many other Stalls and attractions!

Food Stalls, Bars, Barbeque/pig roast etc

Welford Road, Barton, Stratford on Avon, B50 4LY.

Entrance opposite the road for Dorsington, plenty of signs!



Just a few photos for
your perusal of
models of different
ages of Rolls Royce
motor cars

(The Spirit on the left is mine!)

The front cover of
this issue shows the
magnificent
1927 Murphy
Bodied, Springfield
Phantom 1.

Owned by section
members

Mr and Mrs David
Williams



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advertisers in this issue when
possible.

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advertise in your own club maga-
zine, please email me, Graham, on
g.greenwood@blueyonder.co.uk

INTERNATIONAL CLUB FOR ROLLS-ROYCE AND BENTLEY ENTHUSIASTS

70^{YEAR} TRIBUTE TO THE 1948 EARLS COURT MOTOR SHOW

**PART OF THE RREC ANNUAL RALLY
AT BURGHLEY HOUSE, PE9 3JY**



22-24 JUNE 2018

ECMS MAIN DISPLAY DAY SATURDAY 23 JUNE

Open for the first time to **ALL** vehicles of every marque,
including motorcycles from 1946 to 1949.

All are welcome to apply for a space in the display,
pride of place will be given to 1948 built vehicles.

Stands, book signings, exhibitions, period costume, prizes and more will be
the order of day for this joyous weekend event so do please join in!

Only £15 entry fee for all 1940's motorcar and motorcycle entrants booking in advance.

To request further information or to book your place please send your contact details
and information of your vehicle to:

Gerard Le Clerc, RREC ECMS Chairman, RREC International Correspondent

Tel: +41 76 335 1883 Email: leclerc.g@sunrise.ch



**If you own a post war 1940's vehicle, of any make and model,
this could be of interest to you!**

The post-war return to car manufacture marked a new and exciting renaissance for Britain and the world and it was in 1948 that Earls Court reopened its doors for its first post-war motor show.

We, the Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club, are opening our doors and holding a special celebration to mark this unique moment in British motor manufacturing history by presenting this **70th year Tribute to the 1948 Earls Court Motor Show**.

As your members are proud owners of cherished classic cars and motorcycles, we are calling **ALL** post-war 1940s vehicles, for the very first time, to come and participate in this very special weekend event, which is to be held in conjunction with our annual

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club (RREC) Rally & Concours at Burghley House, Stamford, Lincolnshire, PE9 3JY next 22-24 June 2018.

Burghley House is a stunning location with a magical fairy tale backdrop for classic cars and it provides an interesting venue to visit, and is regarded as the finest Elizabethan house in the UK.

As well as having all models of 1940's cars and motorcycles on display and to help create the atmosphere, participants will be encouraged to wear period dress with 'best costume' prizes awarded, along with period stalls, book signings, exhibitions, presentations and more.

We would like to have your presence to share the experience with other significant Classic Marques, American and Continental, that either launched or exhibited at the Earls Court Motor Show in the 1940's.

We would like your help with our club members, to make a selection of five **1940's motors**, especially from 1948, which will enhance this event with their stylish presence, and will be made most welcome.

Date of manufacture:

Chassis/Registration number:

Brief history, and if possible a few electronic photos:

We will require this information to keep you up to date concerning this event as the month's progress.

Thank you!

Kind regards

**Gerard Le Clerc, RREC ECMS Chairman
RREC International Correspondent**

leclerc.g@sunrise.ch

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