



Rolls Royce Enthusiasts' Club

West Midlands Section Magazine



Spring 2019

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Magazine editor 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

Section website: www.rrecwestmids.com password sp1r1t

Formal Events for 2019

May 4th - 5th

Donington Historic Festival, Donington Park Racetrack.

Watch Classic and Vintage car racing around this superb circuit, we will be based in the infield of the track with a brilliant viewpoint and have complete access to the pits and workshops of the participating race cars. Booking details on our website. www.rrecwestmids.com

Or - see page 11 for how to order tickets by phone!

19th May We have been invited by the Midland Rolls-Royce Club to join them on their drive it day to Hill Top Farm, see details and order form on pages 8 and 9

OR www.rrecwestmids.com

26th May Section Stand at the Ragley Hall Classic Motor Show. Booking forms can be downloaded from section website or from the Gemini events Website.

(If you don't have any internet access? Contact the editor on 07960 164879 and I will post you a printed form for you to complete, and post with your cheque, to Gemini at Classic Motor Shows)

21st - 23rd June National Annual Rally at Burghley House

6th - 7th July Cosford and the Model Aeroplane Show. Details here: www.largemodelassociation.com/event/cosford-large-model-air-show-6th-7th-july-2019 Details for our visit will be on our website later.

26th August (MONDAY) 'Section Rally at the Pershore Plum Festival', Further info to follow

14th September Details to be confirmed

October **Harvington Hall**, followed by a pub lunch - details to be confirmed

November **Lunch and Speaker** - details to be confirmed

December **AGM and Christmas Lunch** - details to be confirmed

All later events are provisional

From the Chairman

What a great start to the year!

The first two informal lunches at the Anchor Inn, Leek Wooton, near Kenilworth →



and The Dodford Inn, Dodford, near Bromsgrove, were very well attended



and our first main event, Valentines Lunch, at the Crown & Sandys, Ombersley, was a great success.



Followed by the visit to Hartlebury Castle



The one feature that stood out was the appearance of new faces at all four events. At the Valentines Lunch, the very welcome return of members we have not seen for some time.

The team set themselves the target of increasing the membership of the Section by 50%. We have done that in the first three months. Thanks must go to Secretary, Christine and Webmaster, Martin, who both joined with me in hitting the telephones and contacting people, encouraging them to become active within the Section. I am now confident that we will double the membership this year. This means bigger and better events and lower costs to members as we spread the overheads.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the events contained within this splendid issue of our Magazine.

Mike Ridley

This years very popular Informal Lunches

Meet at the venue from 12 Noon

3rd THURSDAY of the each month except February & December.

All welcome for a chat over lunch, No booking just turn up and join us.

April 18th

The Queen and Castle, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 1ND

May 16th

Kinnersley Arms, Ironbridge, Shropshire, SY5 6RN

July 18th

The Old Bull, Inkberrow, Worcestershire, WR7 4DZ

August 15th

The Holt Fleet Inn, Holt Fleet Worcestershire, WR6 6NL

September 19th

The Fleur de Lys, Lowsonford, Warwickshire, B95 5HJ

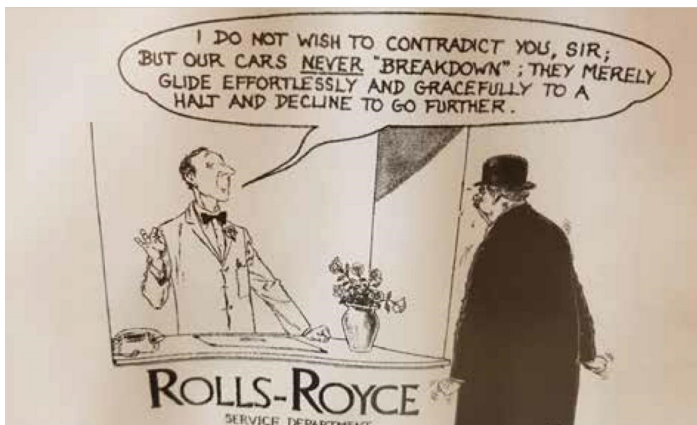
October 17th

Codsall and Wergs Garden Centre, Wolverhampton, WV8 2HJ

(Including a visit to Nick Haes Lawnmower Hospital)

November 21st

The Talbot Inn, Newnham Bridge, Worcestershire, WR15 8JF



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Hill Top Farm

Drive It Day and Lunch

May 19th 2019

[Hill Top Farm Fosse Way, Leamington Spa CV33 9EL](#)

The Ellis family have farmed the land here at Hilltop Farm for four generations, employing the highest standards of animal welfare and environmental care to produce the very best food. We take huge pride in selling our produce direct to our customers through our award-winning farm shop & café in Leamington Spa, Warwickshire and in stocking the very finest locally-sourced food and drink alongside it – from rhubarb to rum!

The RREC West Midlands Section have been invited by the Midlands Rolls-Royce Club to join them on their Drive It Day, followed by a three course meal at the renowned Hilltop Farm.

We meet at Hilltop Farm at 10.00 for tea/coffee and biscuits before setting off on a 20/25 mile leisurely run around Warwickshire's leafy lanes to return to Hilltop Farm at 1pm, for a 3 course meal.

The venue is extremely popular and as a result early booking is a must.

Cost of the Meal is £25 - for booking form and meal choices, see next page



Sunday 19th May 2019

M R-R C Drive-It Day

Meet from 10.00am for Tea/Coffee & biscuits at

**Hilltop Farm & Cafe, Hunningham Hill, Fosse Way, Warwickshire CV33 9EL
Tel. No: 01926 632978**

**3 Course Lunch at 1pm after a pleasant drive around England's Beautiful
Countryside**

There will bepeople attending the Run & Lunch at a cost of £25.00 per person
Please return this form with choices and cheque made payable to MR-RC on or before **Saturday 20th April 2019.**

The venue requires numbers ASAP to set aside the required tables. (A very popular venue)

Menu Choices (please state choices)

Starters: Roast Tomato Soup with pesto oil + locally baked bread

Creamy Colston Bassett & Garlic Mushrooms (v) served with toast

Bliekers Traditional Smoked Salmon with horseradish crème fraiche & salad leaves

Pear & Walnut Salad (v) topped with grilled goats cheese & onion marmalade

Main:

Hilltop Farm 28 Day Aged Roast Beef with Yorkshire pudding and beef dripping roasties

Hilltop Farm Rosemary & Garlic Infused Lamb with beef dripping roasties

Baked Haddock & Hollandaise with watercress, wilted leeks & new potatoes

Homemade Nut Roast (v) with tomato & spinach sauce

Dessert: Apple & Raspberry Crumble with either cream, custard or ice cream

Summer Berry Trifle with toasted almonds

Fruit & Nut Chocolate Brownie with vanilla ice cream

Eve's Pudding with vanilla custard

Selection of Local Ice Cream

Tea or Coffee

Name.....

Address.....

.....Post Code:.....

Tel. No:Mobile No:

Email:

Please Return to or email: Stuart Dobbie, 25 Hurst Road, Southam, Warwickshire
CV47 1HY Tel. No: 01926 817535

Please make cheques payable to MR-RC

(If you have any specific dietary needs please contact the venue direct)

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Donington Historic Festival - Donington Park Race Course

Our own infield parking!

MAY 4th and 5th 2019

Tickets can be ordered by following instructions on the section website under Events

TO ORDER TICKETS BY PHONE

Call the MSV ticket hotline 0843 453 9000*, give the club name and booking code DHF 3QAYHPQ and you should receive the 50% club discount. (i.e. A weekend ticket reduced from £40 to £20)

Please also request a display parking pass if you are planning on bringing a vehicle to display on the club stand (note, the parking pass will be sent out two weeks before the event.

Entry tickets will be sent out immediately.) *Calls cost 7 pence per minute plus your phone company's access charge.

OTHER INFORMATION

Want to buy extra entry tickets after you've already completed your original purchase? Just call 0843 453 9000, give them the club code DHF 3QAYHPO and explain that you just need passenger tickets, not parking passes.

Want to buy extra entry tickets and get another parking pass after you've completed your original purchase? Either call and follow the 'order by phone' instructions above.

Need additional parking passes (not entry tickets) or to amend the details of your registered display car?

Email Karen Coe - karen@historicpromotions.com or call her on 07540 725821



Our website is at: www.rrecwestmids.co.uk

FOG GATHERED OVER PURSHALL GREEN

It was a bright cold sunny day when Fog gathered at The Nook, which is the former home of Graham Neale, to pay our respects of a much loved engineer who saved so many Rolls-Royce 40-50hp (Ghosts) from being confined to the scrap heap.

The date was March 10th, which would have been Graham's 86th birthday, the fog were a group of "Friends of Graham" I had, through our webmaster Martin, who kindly sent out details of the meet.

Many replies were received, however due to short notice we had a group of twenty four including family members, who saw Graham's "apprentice" George Simpson, and David Parkes, unveil the specially produced plaque dedicated as a lasting memorial.

It was interesting to note that during the battle of Britain in 1940 the German bombers who had been over on a bombing raid, partly aimed at the Longbridge site. On returning over Purshall Green common, at 12.51am



September 6th, bombers dropped a 250kg bomb on the site. Three more were disposed of going south, while others were dropped close by during the following weeks. A photo of Graham standing on an unexploded bomb illustrated how it could have cost us a brilliant disciple of Sir Henry Royce!

David Parkes



Dear Members,

We are delighted to announce the dates for our 2019 Technical Seminars at The Hunt House. Our technical seminars provide what is probably one of the Club's most valuable services to members.

Saturday 18 – Sunday 19 May 2019

Early Post-war - Instructors: Eric Healey and Dan Moore

Saturday 1 June 2019

Silver Shadow & Derivatives - Instructors: Ray Hillier and Nigel Sandell

Saturday 20 - Sunday 21 July 2019

Small Horsepower - Instructor: Will Fiennes

Large Horsepower - Instructors: John Reynolds and TF Robertson

Saturday 28 September 2019

Silver Spirit & Derivatives - Instructors: Ray Hillier and Nigel Sandell

Sunday 13 October 2019

Silver Cloud & S Series - Instructor: Harvey Wash

Derby Bentley - Instructor: Will Fiennes

Full details can be found on the

[Seminar Booking Form on the RREC website.](#)

Kind regards

Ailsa

Ailsa Plain
Events Manager

events@rrec.org.uk



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Classic Motor Cars Limited, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV15 5HP, England.

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: david@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.



RREC Hunt House, Paulerspury

We hope that you are now looking forward to the year ahead.

As always, the most up to date copy of the Club's events list can be found on the website, so please do keep checking in online to see if any new section events have been added to the list.

This year's main Club events will take place on the following dates:

13-18 May: Bonny Scotland Rally, Pitlochry

26 May: South of England Rally, Stansted House

21-23 June: Annual Rally & Concours d'Elegance

3-4 August: North of England Rally, Harewood House

1-7 September: Continental Rally, Baltic & West Pomeranian

Where booking forms are already available, they can be found via the [events list online](#).

The [Sir Henry Royce Memorial Foundation \(SHRMF\)](#) will also be holding a series of lectures at The Hunt House throughout the year:

15 May: The Work of Sir Henry Ricardo and the development of Ricardo Ltd (Neville Jackson)

3 October: Concorde (John Hutchinson)

16-17 November: Heritage Weekend & AGM

For more and booking go to www.henryroyce.org.uk/events
Happy planning!

Ailsa

Ailsa Plain



Dear Members,

We are looking for someone to take on the role of RREC Publications Manager for a minimum of one year.

The main responsibilities are as follows:

To source the content for Spirit & Speed through contact with Sections, Registers, Rolls-Royce Motors, Bentley Motors, external authors and members willing to submit articles of interest.

To provide a designer with edited copy and photographs, oversee the production of corrected page proofs and liaise regarding the supply of press-ready PDF files to the printer.

To source content for the Year Book and liaise with Regal Press.

Agreed fees will be paid for the work carried out.

If you are interested in taking on all, or just some, of the above responsibilities please contact me for further information.

Ian Hick

Chairman RREC

ian.hick@rrec.org.uk



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ROLLS-ROYCE RESTORATION ROLLS ON!



After a lengthy career from being an apprentice at Rolls-Royce, joining the RAF and lecturing Mechanical Engineering, the late Michael Forrest decided there was a 1925 Rolls-Royce Phantom 1 shaped hole in his life.

With his engineering background, Michael had been working on this car for the past 20 years, but despite the time and the meticulous efforts that he had put in, the near century old classic isn't quite finished.

After Michael's passing, in 2018, the Rolls-Royce (chassis number 37LC), which was once owned by King Mohamed V of Morocco in 1932, arrived at the headquarters of The Sir Henry Royce Memorial Foundation in Paulerspury, near Towcester on Thursday, 24th January 2019.

It is, of course aesthetically pleasing but there's still plenty to be done under the bonnet. Luckily the engine is installed and seat frames are in place, but there is no trim; the hood frame is not complete, the pistons and conrods need to be fitted and the whole thing securely bolted together.

Thankfully, not only did the current restorers, receive an extremely rare piece of motoring history, they also obtained many components including, a full set of instrumentation, lights and spare mechanical components, all carefully labelled.

When the work has been completed, of course to Michael's standards, the car will be displayed at the Hunt House until the summer when the car it will be sold.

Thoughts from The Section President

Since our AGM last November your newly elected committee have fired up the boiler and much steam has begun to vapour in way of section events, and our Secretary Christine, Martin, our webmaster, have been very busy sending e-mails to all section members who we know of informing them of what is going on.

It has proven a great success which is worthy of the work that they have put in on behalf of us all, our Chairman Mike has become an outspoken and pragmatic leader whom we have listened to. Through the years the section has become renowned for its individuality, initiative, good enthusiasm. It is now once again flourishing with enough quality members and splendid leadership.

Past Chairman Brian and myself endorse what the committee are doing and give them our blessing to continue to make the section worthy of supplying its membership with good events.

Our recent Valentine's lunch attracted over forty members, the informal lunch at Dodford also attracted well over twenty. The visit to Hartlebury Castle brought in twenty nine, Brian and I noticed and we remarked how free and easy the atmosphere was. It was likened to the good old days a good happy crowd enjoying their cars and meeting likeminded friends.

Take a look at our forthcoming events, and try to attend as many as you can. We are sure you will be made to feel one of the family. Read your newsletter, check our website, which is updated daily, there could be new events added even before the next magazine, which may be of interest.

Just remember Mike, Christine, Martin, Graham and other members of the team are working for you to enjoy YOUR club.

Happy Motoring.

David Parkes

www.rrecwestmids.com



Last year, the Section's new website went live. At present it can only be accessed by a link from the main RREC website, and by those section members who have the website address below.

There are event pages, where you can not only see the events we are attending – your support is always welcome at these but also pictures from past events.

A gallery of members car's – please see below for details of how to get your car on the website – and a contact us form, for enquiries and more. If you want to add your car to the Section Gallery, please email a picture of it to me at m.gliddon@sky.com with the following information:

Car's year of manufacture and Make

Type of car (Shadow 1, or Spur II, Phantom1, Arnage etc.)

Registration Number and Owner's Name

Body type plus Chassis Number

Exterior and Interior colour.

*The website password is now **sp1r1t** each i being a number one!*

The Section Website, www.rrecwestmids.com is fully functional

and up to date, as the section moves further forward into the digital age. The website can now take online payments for events, and subscriptions to the section.

For all section members, the quarterly Magazine and back issues are available for download, which will eventually make a huge saving in Section costs and also keep the carbon footprint down by a considerable margin – doing our bit for the environment.

There is also a full list of main events for the coming year, and our popular monthly informal pub lunches. Together with picture galleries for 2018/19 events, and a very nice selection of Section Member's cars.

A database of all RREC Members within the Section has been completed and is being updated from old data, including the capture of as many email addresses as can be found as this will be the future mode of contact for the majority of correspondence within the Section.



Me and My Motor: Mansfield Town FC boss Carolyn Radford
on her life in cars

Interview by Emma Smith



High roller: Carolyn Radford says her £280,000
Rolls Royce Dawn is the perfect car — “it’s so beautiful”

Carolyn Radford, one of only a handful of female chief executives in British football, likes to keep things real at home. Despite the multimillion-pound fortune she shares with her husband, John Radford, the businessman and owner of Mansfield Town football club, she still likes to wash her own car with a little help from her three sons: Hugo, 5, and twins Rupert and Albert, 4.

The only slight departure from normal family life is that the car is a £280,000 Rolls-Royce Dawn.

“It’s the convertible,” she enthuses (her husband also owns a Rolls-Royce: a Ghost). “Before that, I had a Ferrari 458, but it was not very practical.

The boys like helping to wash it. It shows them the importance of looking after things.” Radford, 36, drives the Rolls the 15 miles to and from the League Two club, which she has run since 2011.

The boys are allowed in the back seats (although the Radford's also own two Range Rovers and a Mercedes people carrier), but all drinks and wrappers must be removed.

Radford grew up in rural Lancashire, where her father owned a building business and her mother was a PE teacher. She worked in a motorway service station to earn money to buy her first car — a Citroën Saxo — and passed her driving test third time. (The first time, the test car broke down; the second, she accidentally broke the speed limit.)

"I was one of the first at sixth-form college to have a car. I was the one who drove everyone to McDonald's."

After studying politics at Durham University, Radford completed a law conversion course. She landed a job in the legal department of Gucci Group in London, handling brands such as Stella McCartney and Alexander McQueen. She was driving a VW Golf, but soon swapped it for an MG TF convertible. "I've always liked nice things; always had an appreciation for cars. The intricacy that goes into the design and production — it is a bit like a couture dress."

Radford met her future husband when he interviewed her for a job at one of his other companies. She left London to work for him and gradually became involved with Mansfield Town. "It was a non-league club back then," says Radford, who was then driving a Mercedes B-class company car.

"It was a business that had fallen on hard times and there were a lot of legal issues. Sometimes you see potential in something that is so downtrodden, you can make a difference. I fell in love with it."

When John decided to make her the boss, though, Radford found herself a target of sniping comments: not only was she a woman and only 29, but she was, by then, John's girlfriend. "I didn't realise it was rare for women to be involved. I just thought, 'This is another chapter in my working life. I can do this.'"

Mansfield Town are currently near the top of League Two and pushing for promotion. Radford's cars have risen in prestige with the fortunes of her club: a Jaguar XKR convertible was followed by an Aston Martin Vanquish and a 1982 Porsche 911 convertible. "It's very cool — I think Kate Moss has a similar one she drives around the Cotswolds." PTO.

In 2015 Radford bought a 1965 Jaguar E-type as a 50th birthday present for John, and then she got the Ferrari. "I love cars," she says, "but they're an investment as well, hopefully."

MY LIFE IN CARS

- **1999** Citroën Saxo
- **2007** MG TF
- **2010** Mercedes B-class
- **2014** Aston Martin Vanquish
- **2015** 1982 Porsche 911 convertible
- **2016** Ferrari 458

My dream car? "My Rolls-Royce Dawn. It's such a beautiful car, I can't see where you could go up from here, to be honest"

Copied from: The Sunday Times, March 3 2019

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Ways to Join the West Midlands Section

At our first meeting of the new committee, a decision was made to offer prospective members two alternative ways to join the Section.

The existing method of paying an annual fee of £15.00 will continue and this will entitle you to, and cover the cost of, sending you this quarterly printed magazine.

The second option is for you to purchase lifetime electronic membership for a once only fee of £25.00. You will still have access to the Magazine, but online and not through the post.

I appreciate that most of you have already paid your annual fee for 2019 (myself included), but these options will be available to all from next renewal.

I hope all will appreciate our attempt to reduce the cost of enjoying our great Club section, by use of modern technology.

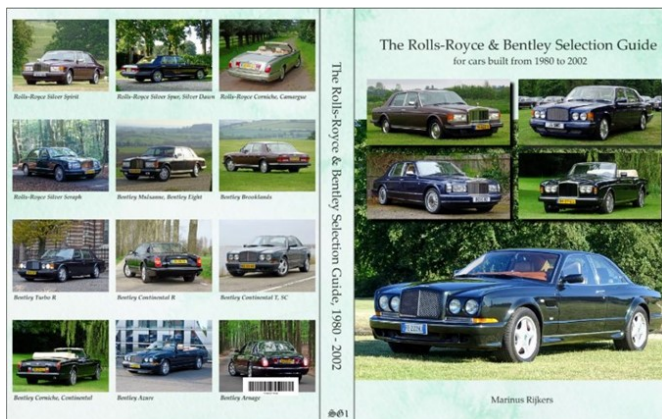
i.e. our website. www.rrecwestmids.com

Mike Ridley, Chairman.

The Hunt House is delighted to have received copies of Marinus Rijkers's new book 'The Rolls-Royce & Bentley Selection Guide for cars built from 1980 – 2002'

This book is a hard cover book with thick, shiny, photographic pages. The exclusive printing procedure results in seamless pages, suitable for displaying nice and sharp full colour photographs over the complete width of two pages. The book contains over 500 high resolution pictures.

What is the book about? All Rolls-Royce & Bentley models, built in the years 1980-2002, are shown in stunning pictures. Cars eligible for this Selection Guide are cars on the Silver Shadow / T platform that were continued into the 1980s (VIN numbered), cars on the Silver Spirit / Mulsanne platform, cars on the Silver Seraph / Arnage platform (until model year 2002), Phantom VI built in the 1980s and 1990s.



Every page contains an overview of the number of cars that were built of that model, split in LHD and RHD, the model years, the engine type, the gearbox type, the power, the top speed and the sizes. Furthermore every page summarises how the model can be recognised and gives the most notable special features. The book contains a list of all models made, the special editions inclusive.

Finally, every book has a unique number and a signature of the author. The book is a delight to behold and to read. Furthermore, it can be of great help to enthusiasts who are looking for a car and want to know more about the separate models, or want to compare them. **There are only eight of these fantastic books available, so place your order now!**

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36 Coneygree road, Tipton, Dudley, DY4 8XF

21st - 23rd of June RREC Annual Rally Burghley House

A bevy of Bentley beauties awaits you at this year's Annual Rally and you must look out for David M's stunning restoration. David tells us that he had a new Vanden Plas replica body built and had it skinned in aluminium panels.



The restoration is almost complete but he is still looking for a pair of Smiths original headlights, if anyone knows of any? David is confident that his restoration will be completed by the end of April, in good time for our Rally. We can't wait to see it!



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