

KEMPSFORD

CLASSIC CAR & MOTORCYCLE CLUB

Newsletter
Autumn 2010

Well here we are again approaching the end of another season. Soon we will be putting our toys back in their box for another winter. So, time to reflect on a summer which, although uneventful in many ways, also had its share of tragedy.

A number of members took their vehicles to the Uffington Show on August Bank Holiday Monday. Steven Blackwell turned out with three tractors and took first prize with his beautifully restored 1986 International. Peter Townsend was there with his Jensen Healy, as he has been for the last several years. Every year, much to Peter's annoyance the commentator announces his car as being "fibre-glass bodied." This year he'd had enough and publicly reproved him with "no it isn't, it's a steel body!"



The Church Fete last Saturday was a huge success and attracted a large number of visitors, and a great turnout of classic cars from Morris Minors to Rolls Royces. Very unusually there were no less than 3 MGA's; the two red roadsters that live in Kempford and a very pretty white coupe from Wotton Bassett.

The Fairford Steam Fair seemed to me to be a re-run of last year's event. Even to the extent of all the

exhibits not only being exactly the same but being in exactly the same place. This was a disappointment for many classic car and motorcycle owners who found such close proximity to the steam engine parking area to be detrimental to their paintwork. Perhaps that's why there seemed to be fewer classics this year.

With so little to fill the Newsletter pages (hint, hint!) here is a picture of what I think must be a Studebaker. It has a strong resemblance to Mike Williams' Champion Business Coupe, with the obvious difference of being a convertible and having some distinctly odd passengers! I took this picture at Disneyland Paris (if you couldn't guess!)



Following the article in the last Newsletter about the country's oldest petrol pumps still in commercial use I was very interested to come across this little museum while we were on holiday in South Devon. The building was built in 1932 and was one of the first purpose-built petrol stations in the country. Inside there are five cars, two motorcycles and a lot of memorabilia. It barely justifies the £2.50 entrance fee but is nevertheless interesting. Don't expect to get any petrol; the pumps are only for display.



**MEMORIES OF MARTIN RANDALL
By TERRY CHESTERMAN**

Back in the early nineties myself and Phil Mutlow were at a rally in Northleach when we saw this lovely white and yellow Vauxhall Cresta, at the time we didn't know who owned it. Then in 1995 I bought my Vauxhall PA Velox. One evening I was working on it with the garage door open when this chap came walking down the drive and said, "I thought I saw some fins in the garage." It turned out to be Martin Randall, who was on his way to play darts at The George. As time went on when I needed parts for my car I used to buy them off Martyn.



Martin had Ashcroft Videos in Cirencester where he repaired televisions, video recorders, radios and record players. I would often pop in to see him when we would have a coffee together. We became good friends. When he finished with the shop he would still go round repairing peoples televisions at their homes.

When Martin moved to Greenacres Caravan Park he no longer had the room to service his Vauxhall himself so would bring it for me to do. Sometimes he would help with the servicing and would always bring tins of Waxoil so he could spray

underneath the car when it was on the ramp.

I can't remember when he joined the Car Club but he always liked his sandwiches and chips. The only thing he didn't like was egg sandwiches!

On August 3rd I had a phone call saying that Martin had died suddenly at Cirencester Hospital. He will be sadly missed by everyone at the Car Club and all the shows.



OBITUARIES

MARTIN RANDALL

Tragedy struck last month with the sudden death of Martin Randall, who suffered a heart attack. Martin's yellow and white Vauxhall Cresta was a regular entrant at shows around the area, but members may

not know that he nearly lost it in the January floods of 2007. Martin was to have been married to his fiancé Maureen in June next year. Maureen and Martin's son, also called Martin bravely took the Cresta to the Uffington Show on Bank Holiday Monday. We will all miss his unfailingly cheerful presence in the Club.

DOUGIE CROSS

The sudden death of Dougie Cross following a tragic accident shocked all of us. Dougie was a lifelong enthusiast for things mechanical, and in particular Rovers of which he had several, but also including tractors which he entered in ploughing matches. He and Brenda also ran the Fairford Oil Engine Club. Members will remember Dougie and Brenda attending all almost all the shows with his Rover P4 acquired from New Zealand to which he gave the name Daisy, which was also the name of his dog. His most recent acquisition was a Rover 10 saloon – a present from Brenda. Dougie, Brenda and their son Mark all loved their classic cars.



He will be sadly missed by all his friends at the Club.

PETROL PRICES

Lowest prices in the area for unleaded petrol are to be found at the Shell station in Whelford and at the OTR Station on the A419. Both have 95RON at £1.129 per litre

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sept 18-19th Battle of Britain Air Show (Kemble) See Tony Alden for entry forms.



CONTACT:

If you have any stories, photos or information you think ought to be included in the next Newsletter, or would like to comment on anything in this edition, please contact me, Alistair Kennedy, on 01285 810440 or email: Alistair.Kennedy@cadillacplastic.co.uk If you're going to send me text or photos, could I please, if possible, have them electronically, by email or on a CD.