

MG CAR CLUB LIMITED
DEVON AND CORNWALL CENTRE
SUMMER 2009 NEWSLETTER

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Dear Member,

Welcome back to me writing the newsletter once again and thank you to Ted Lawrence for taking over the reins for the last 12 months in producing the newsletter.

Firstly let me welcome several new members to the Club and Centre. They are:

Peter Cook	Launceston
Robert Evans	Plymouth
Mr & Mrs Keith Gordon	Plymouth
Mr & Mrs Alan Knight	Launceston
Charles Mills	Exeter
Michael Pim-Keirle	Saltash
Stuart Sinclair	Kingsbridge

Now for a very quick recap of past events and the first of these was the **Annual General Meeting** which showed that the Centre had made a small loss over the previous twelve months, a first for the Centre. The Officials and committee were then elected as follows:

Chairman	Colin Bird	Tel: 01822 616181
		e-mail: info@tamarvalleymotoringcentre.co.uk
Vice Chairman	Ian Cameron	Tel: 01566 774426
		e-mail: lowley@lowleyengineering.co.uk
Treasurer	Barry Smith	Tel: 01752 336454
		e-mail: bjsmith30@hotmail.com
Secretary	Bob Slatter	Tel: 01752 558085
		e-mail: bobslatter@hotmail.com
Competition Secretary	Paul Turner	Tel: 01237 474736
		e-mail: ruf50r@btopenworld.com
General Committee	Jim Bellamy	Tel: 01726 844203
	Tony Bolt	Tel: 01822 616180
	Pete Heath	Tel: 01752 775708
	Pete Moores	Tel: 01579 370419
	Jean Quartley	Tel: 01822 615126
	Vic Share	Tel: 01752 361453

Brian Crichton stood down after many years as an Official of the Centre or committee member and Terry Bolt was elected onto the Committee. Thank you to both from the Centre for your able assistance before and in the future. Should you want to contact any of the Committee members by phone, I would suggest leaving it until after 6.00p.m. as most of us are in full time employment and also under a great deal of pressure at work as well.

The **Annual Dinner** at the Cottage Hotel, Hope Cove near Kingsbridge was well supported and our guest speaker Sir Robert Hicks, the ex – MP for South East Cornwall enlightened us with some of the funnier things that happened during his time at the Palace of Westminster.

The **Skittles Match** at the Westward Inn, Lee Mill near Ivybridge was very well supported with over forty members present. The Founder's Trophy was awarded to the winning team and that was Tony Short's East Devon Natter.

A large number of Centre members and friends organized the very smooth running of the start of the **MCC Land's End Trial** at Plusha Services near Launceston over the Easter weekend. May I take this opportunity to thank them for all their help over approximately 6 hours in what was much better weather this year than last.

Sunday 26th April was the **National Drive your Classic Car Day**, which saw members from all the Natters partaking in different routes which culminated in a finish at Jethro's Club at Lewdown for a Carvery Lunch with live music and Jethro himself. At one time there were over thirty three cars in the car park that had taken part.

Sunday 3rd May saw the **Fly In and Car Display** organized by the Devon Strut of the Light Aircraft Association held at Bolt Head Airfield near Salcombe. This is becoming a very big event now and attracts over 200 cars along with all the small aircraft at this World War II airfield, which is now privately owned, and only open to the public on a small number of occasions.

That quickly covers all the recent past events, so now onto the future ones and the first of these is the **Janner Fun Week** being held at Woodovis Caravan and Camping Park at Chipshop near Tavistock, from Saturday 23rd May to Saturday 30th May. Club members are coming from distant Centres to take part in this very friendly and sociable week. The programme of events is as follows:

	Daytime	Evening
Saturday	Arrival	Chip Shop Inn
Sunday	Trip to Cotehele House/or Launceston Steam Rally	Blacksmith Arms, Lamerton
Monday	Half Crown Wheel Driving Tests	Royal Inn, Horsebridge
Tuesday	Scenic Drive over Dartmoor to Widecombe	Cross House, Metherell
Wednesday	Lydford Gorge or Cycling	Blacksmiths Arms/Skittles
Thursday	Train Liskeard/Looe	Bratton Clovelly Inn
Friday	Cheese Ring and Minions	Barbecue on site
Saturday	Farewells	

All are very welcome to come along to any of the events to meet the members who have put so much into the Devon and Cornwall Centre Funds over many years, when this week was known as the International Week. If you would like further details contact me as soon as possible or ring Tony Bolt on 01822 616180 during the week as he will be at home each morning and early evenings. This programme of daily events may be subject to change depending on weather conditions except the Half Crown Wheel Trophy event.

Also on Sunday 24th May, Tony Short is having his **East Devon Day Out** which is being held at Pecorama at Beer near Seaton, Devon. It is their Annual Vintage Classic Vehicle Rally. Contact Tony on 01392 832665 to book your place, which is free and entitles entry of a car and two passengers and a ride on the steam narrow gauge railway. Meet at Exeter Services to leave at 9.00a.m. to arrive at Pecorama at 10.00a.m. at the latest.

Monday 25th May sees the resurrection of the **Half Crown Wheel Trophy** between Plymouth Motor Club and the MG Car Club. It was first produced in 1959 by members of George Turnbull Motors in Plymouth from the parts of a differential and although it has not been competed for, for quite some years, it was thought to be a good idea to hold the event again in its fiftieth year. It is a series of light hearted driving tests on grass and the venue is near Bere Alston at Map Reference 201/440653, but it will also be well signposted with arrows. Time of starting is from 12 noon onwards. This is a replacement this year for the Driving Tests that are normally held at Treby Farm, Lyneham.

On Wednesday 28th May, there will be a **Skittles Match** at the Blacksmith's Arms, Lamerton between the visitors and the Devon and Cornwall Centre. All are welcome to make up the numbers and make an enjoyable evening. There will be an MGCC specials board for the evening menu at £6.00 per head

or you can also choose from the very extensive normal menu, obviously at higher prices, if you would like to eat as well.

The following weekend after Janner Fun Week, sees the **Seaton Tramway Classic Car Show** held at the Fair Field at Colyton from 1000 – 1700 on Sunday 7th June. Exhibitor's entry fee to this show is £7.50 which includes a complimentary rover ticket for two people which gives unlimited travel on the trams for the day, a plaque and a programme. The normal cost of a rover ticket is £12.50 per person. If you would like an entry form I have some or they are available from Seaton Tramway on 01297 20375.

The **12th Atlantic Coast Express Run** takes place on Sunday 21st June, once again organized by Colin Lennox-Jones. The start is at the Old Railway Station, Okehampton and the finish is at Woody Bay Station on the Lynton and Barnstaple Railway. The route is via the scenic back roads to Torrington, Bideford, Barnstaple and Blackmoor. The entry fee includes a concession ticket for a ride on the re-opened Lynton and Barnstaple narrow gauge railway. Entry forms for this run are available from Colin on 01752 892434 or can be downloaded directly from the Devon and Cornwall Centre website at www.mgccdc.org.uk. There are over 60 entries already for this and the cars will be waived off from the start by BBC Radio Devon presenter, Matt Woodley, a fellow Okehampton lad. The Chestnut Appeal Team will be collecting funds for Prostrate Cancer at the start. You may be aware that several of our Centre members have been treated for this disease. Colin has also been assured by the Lynton and Barnstaple Railway at Woody Bay (the Finish point) that if required, an extra train can be run to cope with the numbers

Hopefully the weather will be better this year for the **Annual Powderham Castle Classic and Vintage Rally** to be held on the weekend of Saturday/Sunday 11th/12th July. The Centre will have a stand and display of vehicles there once again, so if you would like to attend contact Tony Short on 01392 832665 for further details and to book your place for either or both days.

Entry forms are also available from me for the **American and Classic Vehicle Gathering** on Sunday 2nd August at Mount Edgumbe Country Park near Cremyll, Cornwall. As in previous years this is most probably the biggest Classic event around the Plymouth area.

A date for your diary is **Devon Day** is being organized by Pete Moores and Tony Bolt on Sunday 30th August starting at the Royal Inn, Horsebridge and finishing at Ian and Janet Cameron's home at Lezant near Launceston for a barbecue. More details of times etc. will be in the next newsletter.

Now into September, and onto the **Cornish Riviera Run** being held on Sunday 13th September starting from Plymouth Hoe where tea/coffee and bacon butties will be available, and travelling roughly along the route of the famous Great Western Railway express train to finish at Falmouth this year for the Cream Teas and awards. There will be a lunch stop at the Lost Gardens of Heligan, where a pre-booked meal can be obtained or you may picnic in the grounds. All the food served at Heligan is grown or reared in the grounds. Entry Forms and further details are available from Pete and Sue Heath on 01752 775708 or from the Centre website under events for September, if you have not already received copies directly.

Also advanced warning for your diaries, is a **Walking Treasure Hunt** around Tavistock on Sunday 27th September organized by Fiona Smith. More details of times etc. in the next newsletter.

Whilst on the subject of runs, we have been invited to take part in the Healey Driver's Club **Exmoor Rut** on Sunday 11th October. Starting at the South Devon Railway station at Buckfastleigh, travelling around Exmoor to finish at the Fox and Hounds at Eggesford for a cream tea. Entry forms and more details will be available shortly.

That appears to be about all at present except to remind members to let me have an up to date e-mail address for sending the newsletter directly to you, if applicable, or a phone call to request a free hard copy in the post if you do not have internet access etc. Otherwise the newsletter will be available to all on the Centre website www.mgccdc.org.uk.

Safety Fast,

BOB

