



NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2014



Mike Kent Club Chairman

Firstly, a Happy New Year to you all.

Thanks to that yellow thing in the sky, 2013 was far better for shows than 2012, although sadly Colleen and I didn't make as many as we hoped. With luck we'll make up for it in 2014.

The Spring Vehicle Meet is back to its usual site at Wyke Down near Andover on Easter Monday, where hopefully it will have the large auto jumble again.

For WBCVC, 2013 was certainly a record year ending up with 110 members. The LLR Show was also a record with over £16,000 raised, enabling a donation of over £12,000 to Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research. We think we have found a new venue for this year's show, but more on this once things are finalised.

Finally, for those with a computer and time on their hands, search 'Retro Rides Forum Abandoned', but be warned, with over 300 pages its very addictive. If anyone has similar pictures they would like to send in, maybe we can put them on the screen at club nights.

See you next time.

Mike



Goodbye Wessex Club ...Hello British Legion



Sadly it's 'Goodbye' to the Wessex Club which has been a great meeting venue for WBCVC over the last year. But with ongoing changes at the Race Course we needed to move on. Members of the committee spent some time assessing new venues and from April we will be meeting at the Royal British Legion Social Club in Newbury. Of all the options we looked at, this provided by far the best facilities and we hope you will agree it makes a good new home. The beer is cheap too!



Royal British Legion
Haig House, Pelican Lane,
Newbury, RG14 1NP

Skittles & Annual Club Dinner



On Saturday 14th December a good crowd enjoyed the annual club dinner - Turkey of course, with all the trimmings, followed by a bash with the Skittles.

We saw some entertaining double

handed bowling technique and congratulations went to the winning team 'The Duffers' with 'Monty's Best' a very close second. I think we all enjoyed a very good evening.

Special Donation



Club member Shane Wall recently organised a special donation of £500 for Chloe Johnson, a 17 year old leukaemia patient and

Newbury 2013 Junior Citizen Award winner.

Chloe is selflessly raising money for The John Radcliffe Hospital where she has received much of her treatment.

A bucket collection arranged by Shane during the skittles evening, together with additional Club funding, raised £250. Shane's company Membury Pallets very generously matched this with a further £250.

Great job Shane.



Monty's Best



The Duffers

Events & Activities

Do look out for the regular event emails from Colleen & Mike or pick up a print out at the next club night. February, March and April are already busy so there are plenty of events if you are at a loose end.

Club Outing—Coventry Museum—March 23rd

Keep the date free and watch out for more information.



LLR Cheque Presentation

11th November 2013—Chairman Mike Kent & Vice Chair Richard Huntley present a cheque for £12,241 to Les Taylor on behalf of Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research.

Monthly pub meetings

During 2013 we made a few changes to our regular pub meetings, opting for a different location each month, not too distant from Newbury, and trying to cover all points of the compass. Early on in the year we also decided to switch from a Sunday meeting to a Saturday meet for the summer months.

Visits included the Swan at Inkpen, the Cricketers Arms at Tangle, and even Nelson’s American Diner where we were made very welcome.

During the winter months we have reverted back to our old format meeting at the Castle at Donnington each Sunday after club night. Come and join us around 12 noon for a chat and a pint.



October Pub Meet

The 2014 summer season will see us again reverting back to a Saturday meeting format. Look out for visits to Bucklebury, Inkpen Common and other old favourites.

If you have suggestions for other venues or any comments contact Allan Ashenden (ashenden971@btinternet.com)

FBHVC ‘Drive-it-Day’ & Dave Mills Anniversary Run— 27th April 2014

Watch out for April’s ‘Drive it Day’ which was a great success last year. More information soon.



Record holder - Philip Young

October saw another excellent talk, this time with guest speaker Philip Young, who earlier in 2013 completed the gruelling 10,000 mile drive from Cape Town to London, shaving over a day off the previous best time ever achieved and breaking two earlier world records. Amazingly he set the record, with co-driver Paul Brace, in a largely unmodified Fiat Panda Twin Air - and not even four-wheel-drive!



Philip had nothing but praise for what was a standard showroom-spec Panda. Simple modifications included a long range tank, uprated springs, gaz shocks and stronger, taller van tyres, to increase the ride height. Apart from a decent sump guard the engine was totally standard but Philip went to some lengths to ensure it was properly run in - something rarely done with modern engines. It didn’t let them down.



Philip completed the run in 10 days, 13 hours and 28 minutes, in the process raising funds for the charity Farm Africa. On the night club members and friends raised an additional £350 with a raffle, auction and collection, helping Philip to his target of £40,000. It was

also great to see the record breaking car on the night and thanks go to Fiat Group Automobiles UK Ltd for bringing it along.



Philip gave a very entertaining talk and living inside a Fiat Panda for some ten days I guess you do have to have a good sense of humour. In addition to organising some 60 classic rally events Philip is a past-competitor on many long-distance events, including the 1977 London to Sydney Marathon, and Paris Dakar in 1986. The formation of the Historic Rally Car Register was his inspiration and he is a co-founder of what is today the largest rally club in Britain.

Thanks Tash!

A big thank you to Trevor Pocock’s daughter Tash, of Pocodot Photography, who very kindly stepped in to photograph a number of our events including the LLR cheque presentation. If you are looking for a good local photographer for family portraits and events talk to Trevor or contact Tash via email at pocodotphotography@live.com