Spotlamp



Photo By Howie Fowler

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Plymouth Motor Club Diary 2018

September 2018		
28th		Renault Cup 12 Car Rally
October 2018		
5th		Postponed Comus Cup Start & Finish Hunting Lodge
12th		Scatter
26th		Riley Cup 12 Car Rally
November 2018		
9th		Scatter

Important Date For Diary

19th January

Annual Dinner & Dance Awards Presentation

Yelverton Golf Club

Series Dates 2018

Scatters:

9th February,
9th March,
8th June,
12th October,
9th November.

12 Car Dates:

30th March,
27th April,
25th May,
29th June,
27th July,
28th September,
26th October,
30th November.

Comus Cup:

13th April,
11th May,
13th July,
14th September.

Editorial

Well I've had a rather busy month to be honest but I think everyone has seeing how many events have been on this month. I started my apprentiship at the beginning of the month which so far has been very interesting and I'm looking forward to the next 4 years of learning.

Event wise, it was nice to see that the good weather stayed for 5 clubs Wiscombe which was a very good, fun filled weekend which everyone seemed to enjoy.

Watergate was up next, I only managed to get down for Sunday but everyone seemed to be enjoying the event and the views were just spectacular. Definitely one of the best backdrops for a motorsport event.

I better wrap up this editorial for now because work starts in a bit and I can't be late.

Until Next Month, Good Bye. ***Rob Selley***










Photos Courtesy Of Stuart Robson Photography










Photos Courtesy Of Howie Fowler

Chairman's Chat

Here we are end of September / beginning of October (depending on when your reading this!) and it's flying by. A very busy time for the club with 5 Clubs at Wiscombe and the Watergate Bay Hillclimb, as well as our usual monthly motorsport offerings.

So starting off with Wiscombe and our co-organised/promoted 5 Clubs event. I am led to believe a fantastic weekend was had by all. My thanks to the team – John Sluman for running the lower paddock as usual, Team Selley, Malcom Tuppin and all from PMC that supported the event. I apologise if I had missed names but you are all stars!

Staying with the hillclimb theme for a moment and moving on to another co-promoted/ organised event- The 1st closed road hillclimb in the UK (under the new laws) of course Watergate Bay Hillclimb. Wow what a weekend!!!! What a variety of cars! Amazing buzz from the competitors, marshals and spectators alike. We even made BBC News. PMC did very well at the awards on both days; Saturday saw PMC members scoop 5 of the 12 class wins as well as FTD and the 1st hill record. Congrats to Gary Pitt, Ian Ingleheart, Ben Bonfield, Dean Gammon and Steve Furzeland on their class wins and well done to Douggie Bennett on the 1st FTD and 1st hill record. Sunday had a little spot of drizzle but that

never dampened anybody's spirits, again PMC members claimed 5 class wins and congrats to Gary Pitt, Ian Ingleheart, Dean Gammon, Chris Slade and Steve Furzeland (Andy Slade was 2nd in class D3 only 0.09 seconds behind Steve!). A big well done to the other 2 co-organising clubs Truro & District MC and Newquay Auto Club. Big thank you to all that helped and marshalled, set up, packed up. We made history!










Photos courtesy of Stuart Robson Photography ; Howie Fowler; Jay Brown



It's been quite a hectic few months for me as with all the events I'm involved with either having meetings or the event itself actually happening

(from the end of July to mid October I've had and got events on every weekend). So if I've missed anything I apologise. One of these events was the Woodpecker Stages based at Ludlow Racecourse and had stages in Haye Park, Wigmore and Radnor forests. They knew I was coming and duly "named one the restaurants in our honour" (see pic)





My duty again this year was sweeper car. I must admit following an entry field of 138 cars I feared I would repeat last year and get punctures. Well 2 runs through Haye Park and Wigmore and almost three stages (approx 25 miles) of Radnor I thought I'd done it. How cruel fate is, when approx 400 yds (still using old money!) from the end of the very last stage I heard the annoying hiss and then rumble of a tyre with no air. As we were very close to the finish, I pressed on to close the stage and event and then deal with the offending wheel at the stop line. Now usually this would be a simple matter, if it wasn't for the trolley jack bending and the truck falling off the jack between removing the punctured wheel and fitting the spare. My co-driver for the day Neil Dashfield was attempting to

line up the spare and I was underneath the back of the truck when this happened. I was lucky, very very lucky not to be seriously injured. My thanks to the Doctor, Rescue unit and recovery from that stage to attended to us really quickly. Although I'm not built for speed it's amazing just how quick you can move when you need to!!!! Luckily only my pride was damaged. Now there is a reason for me telling you this story – we all at times are in a rush, cut corners when time pressure is on, albeit in competition or normal everyday life. Never rush and stay as safe as you can. Rushing nearly ended this story differently (I'm so glad it didn't).

Plans are under way for our annual Dinner & Dance Awards Night. Malcom Tuppen is organising this year's extravaganza and you may find some further details later in the mag.

We are also looking for volunteers to join the committee, we meet once a month. If you fancy it or want any further details then please contact a committee member or myself and we can have a chat.

As always I have an "open door" policy so if you need to talk, have something raised at committee or at the ASWMC Executive etc etc please don't hesitate to contact me.

Jay Brown
Chairman

Competitions update – September 2018

With the Autumn season well underway it's time to think about awards & the annual Awards Presentation Evening. The 2018 season's event will be held at Yelverton Golf Club on Saturday 19th January 2019. Malcolm Tuppen is in charge this year and is busily arranging menus etc. Hopefully he will have something to say about it elsewhere in this issue of Spotlamp. Please come along & enjoy an evening in the company of your fellow club members – oh! - and collect your trophies too!

Working backwards from that, we have been asked to run a test at Werrington for Le Jog on Saturday 8th December. It's the usual late morning/lunchtime sort of thing, more details closer to the time. Please let me know if you're interested in coming along to help (or stand and watch).
Looking back at the last month, the grass autotests were enjoyed by those who took part. There's been a lot of discussion about what to do next year with the conclusion that we will probably run an evening series with overall awards and one Sunday event with a barbeque once the driving is over. Expect a mix of both big & small tests. Variety, as they say, is the spice of life - unless you like curry!

5 Clubs Wiscombe ran like clockwork on a sunny-ish weekend. The Gilbern Owners Club in particular were singing the praises of the event. First for the helpfulness of the organising team when one of their cars broke down and then for one of our marshals in the top paddock who spotted a leaking radiator on one of their cars and gave up her bottle of water to help refill the radiator. Thanks for all of that Sophie! Thanks also to John Sluman, Keith & Robert Selley and anyone else who was there that I've forgotten.

This is being written a couple of days before the Watergate Bay Hillclimb so you'll have to wait until next month for a rear-view mirror report on that!

More news next month.
Peter Locke

Spotlamp is published on the 3rd Friday of each month (hopefully!).
Contributions should be sent to the Editor, address as published in the list of Club Officers, or e-mailed to **spotlampeditor@plymouthmotorclub.co.uk.** All articles should be with the Editor by the 14th of the month. The Editor reserves the right to amend articles received as necessary. The views expressed in Spotlamp are the views of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Editor, or of the Club and its Officers. Copyright Plymouth Motor Club 2016©

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RESULTS AND CHAMPIONSHIP TABLES

Attached with your magazine are updated tables for the various championships to include Watergate Bay and marshals points for the Boconnoc Stage Rally thanks to Peter getting the info for me.

My apologies to various members who ended up being omitted from the Mercury listing due to my keyboard skills at 'cutting', but not at 'pasting'. But you are all in there now.

With a few people joining to do Watergate, there are now over 90 members scoring points in competitions.

Congratulations to everyone who won their class at Watergate, seven in total, as you most probably hold the class record. Especially well done to Doug Bennett who took FTD on the Saturday establishing the hill record, which was unfortunately improved upon by Stuart Lillington on Sunday.

As always please check I have include you and any queries, please mail me.

Malcolm Tuppen, Awards Sec.

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THE PLYMOUTH CUP

I was recently contacted via the club web site by a gentleman asking if we (the club) would like the return of a trophy . I made contact and found out further details.

The trophy turned out to be ' The Plymouth Cup' dated 1938. It had been in his fathers (G.S.Edwards) possession since 1955 and is engraved with his name. Since he had died in 1976 his son thought it was time it was returned to its proper owner.

I looked the trophy up in our register where there was no record and then referred to the Centenary Book, where I found the following information.

' **The Plymouth Cup.** (donated by PMC 1938). Originally for the best team in the Letchworth Trophy Trial. Re-allocated in 1986 to the May trial. (This information is from the Awards Book and could relate to the above cup. Ed) '

There is also a PMC Cup listed in the book and there is no record of the whereabouts of either. It would appear there is confusion as the original cup was not available in 1986.

The Letchworth Trophy itself was won outright in 1953 by a W.S.G.Parsons and returned to the club in 2008 by his daughter and is now presented at Werrington for the fastest motorcycle engine car.

Mr Parsons originally competed on a motorcycle, very successfully , riding for the Aerial works team and representing England in international events.

Based on the accompanying photographs of George Edwards doing final tests on Plymouth Hoe it would be fair to assume that the Plymouth Cup may have been awarded for the Presidential Trial as the rally plates indicate 1955 which is when the cup was last engraved.

There is little information of the Presedential around this period but from the book it comprised five sections, three competitive and two social, including a formal reception. It was a national event and as well as taking your wet gear you needed your black tie.

The group photograph was taken at the 1955 MCC Lands End Trial, with George Edwards on the left, Bob Parsons on the right and Nancy Parsons in the centre all with their Dellows.

Its good to have the cup back, now we have to decide for what it should be presented. Suggestions gratefully received to any committee member.

Malcolm Tuppen
Awards Sec.

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Well folks The Five Clubs Hillclimb is over for another year. Just the paperwork to tidy up and sort the accounts. What can I say other than how much of a pleasure it is to be part of the organising team, we are only a small part of what makes a brilliant weekends motorsport. Without the help of all the other volunteers who give up their free time to make sure our event is the success it was. From the WIMPS who make sure the venue is in the best possible shape before we get there. West Country Rescue and our very own Doc Stuart Hateley who seems to multi task between attending competitors who manage to throw themselves at stationery objects and towing broken vehicles when there's no broken people. Always with a smile which infects those around him. The very experienced Clerking team which are drawn from the 4 organising clubs. They keep the event running so us competitors see everything ticking along seamlessly. The timekeepers who are able track our times and post them immediately at almost F1 level. Our two resident commentators Geoff Pickett and Dave Pearce. All our wonderful marshals who turn up no matter what the weather conditions are so we can enjoy the sport we love. All of these people make up the Five clubs team on the weekend. As I was lucky enough to be able to compete myself last weekend I am truly grateful to every one of those people above.Finally all our competitors who support us year on year, be-

cause without any one of the ingredients the event wouldn't take place. Hope that everyone had a safe journey home see you all next year.

All the best

Tony



Photos Courtesy Of Howie Fowler

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