



The Phoenix

Nov 2023

Volume 30 issue 2



Ford Zodiac rear light low angle - One of the photographs which helped Paul Skilliter get a job at Temple Press (Motor magazine) in 1966 – See Paul's article on page 4

The monthly newsletter of the Three Counties Vintage & Classic Car Club



THE PHOENIX

www.3CVCCC.co.uk

Nov 23

Volume 30 Issue 2

Some Dates for your Diary:

Dec 2023

- Fri 1st The 3CVCCC Presentation Dinner at the Hamworthy Club
Sun 3rd The Yuletide Meander road run, from Horton Village Hall
Mon 18th Club Night at the Hamworthy Club – the postponed Auction

Jan 2024

- Mon 1st Classic Cars on Poole Quay
Mon 15th Club Night at the Hamworthy Club – Call My Bluff

Feb 2024

- Mon 19th Club Night at the Hamworthy Club. – Charity presentation & Cookery Competition

All input to your newsletter is very welcome, either give it to any committee member, email it to mike.westrop@RNAS.co.uk, or post it to 60 Keswick Way, Verwood, BH31 6HP. If submitting digital camera images please supply the files off your digital camera – either zipped up and emailed to me, burnt onto a CD, or post the memory card/stick to me and I'll get it back by return. Real photographs from a film camera are of course quite acceptable.

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From The Chair

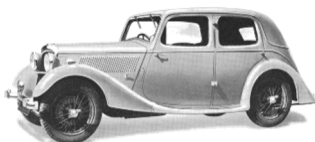


I am sorry to have to report that Lynda Bowling passed just as I sent last month's magazine off for print so I was unable to report her passing in a timely manner. Lynda had been seriously ill for some time but still endeavored to come out to as many events as possible with her husband Tom in their late model MGB GT.

Our thoughts are with Tom and the family at this difficult time.

AGM News - Jonathan Andrews has agreed to take on the responsibility of Webmaster and Social Media. Since BT messed around with the Website creation and editing tool that they provide I have found it incredibly difficult to maintain the club's website. Jon will bring a new perspective and enthusiasm towards knocking our website into shape and keeping in current. Until now, the club has not had a social media (aka Facebook) presence and I do recognize that we need to be dragged kicking and screaming into the 21st Century. I am confident that Jon will be able to give us a strong presence in this area.

There will be no other changes to the committee other than to say that both Rose and I would really like someone else to take over the roles of Secretary and Chair, we've been doing the job for far too long and would like others with fresh ideas to step up. Similarly, Steve Vine would like someone to take over his role as Events Secretary from next October.



Mike

Cars I Remember

Paul Skilleter remembers some Fords he knew from 60 or more years ago.

One of the very first cars I was ever conscious of was a Ford Model T, commonly known as a 'flivver'. I mentioned this in my very first episode in The Phoenix. I was around five years old at the time and this disreputable-looking old tourer, painted red, was owned by a large family who lived further down in Clarence Gardens, Shanklin where we then lived. They all piled into it and off they rattled. Mind you, this was at a time (late 1940s) when it was quite an achievement for any family to run a car; there were only about two to be seen parked in our road.

The next Ford was the first I actually rode in, and quite often too. By 1951 we had moved to Gosport and my mother became friends with a lady who soon became known to my brother and I as 'Auntie Ella'. She would take

my mother and us two boys (my father would be working) on outings to local picnic spots in her 1948 Ford Anglia. I don't have a period photo of this car but found one advertised by Sussex Sports Cars. I was pleased to find this picture as these Anglias, with their body-coloured radiator cowls, are much less common than the Anglia and Popular models that came afterwards. In fact I have never seen one since Auntie Ella replaced hers with a Renault Dauphine.

The Consul is the next Ford I remember riding in. In the 1950s my Uncle Cyril, who lived in Elstead, Surrey, had a new 'Mk 1' (in pale green I think) and later a couple of Mk 2 versions. The last one was a two-tone blue 'low-line'. I recall them as being very roomy, practical cars.

In Gosport in the late 1950s a man in our road, Mr Glanville, had a most striking Zephyr-Zodiac Mk 2 in black and lilac. It suited him well as he was something of an Arthur Daley figure, dabbling in various businesses including bubble-gum machines and fruit & veg. It was also in the 1950s that I saw at the cinema the Jack Hawkins film *The Long Arm*, which as I wrote about previously featured a Ford Pilot. This got me very keen on Pilots, an enthusiasm supplanted by Jaguars only when I encountered my tutor's Mk V when I started my photographic course at the

Bournemouth College of Art in 1962.

Meanwhile my Uncle Cyril had replaced his Consul with a very eye-catching Ford Cortina 'Woody' which I photographed while at college. Then it was also for my portfolio that I photographed a tail light of a Mk 3 Zephyr at our local Ford dealers in Landsdowne (the college tower in the distance). These pictures certainly helped me get my job on *Motor* magazine as I have already related.

Paul Skilliter



The Ford Anglia (type EO4A I think) of the sort I rode in during the early 1950s around the Gosport area.
A rare car today. Photo courtesy Sussex Sports Cars



A Model T tourer not unlike the one I remember from the late 1940s in Shanklin. Picture courtesy Ford



A Ford Consul as owned by my Uncle Cyril in Surrey. Also a fellow student at my college in Bournemouth had a black one exactly like this in the early 1960s, when it would have cost him little more than £40 or so. Photo courtesy Bidding Classics



Smart Cortina Woody! Very rare now and a good one is worth many thousands

Thank You

Thank you to all members that included either stamps or a donation towards postage with their membership renewals.

Postage for your newsletters is a very large club expense every month, and your kind help is appreciated.

Rose

My Hooligan Friend

She is bold, brazen & above all very loud !

At the dawning of the new millennium year 2000, I followed up an advert in the Bournemouth Echo for an abandoned TVR Taimar. Her only owner from new had died prematurely in his 50s up to which time the car had featured in the local TVR club, often taking top prize. She was driven annually to Switzerland by the owner. His brothers were not enthusiasts and when they sold his house (and garage) the car was ousted from her cosy home where she had lain for 10 years. Some vandals had taken the opportunity to prize off souvenirs and she was very much unloved. The joy about this marque is the 3 litre V6 Essex Ford engine and boasting a rear hatch makes it far more practical than its predecessors. It is based on a tubular space frame chassis with a fibreglass body with independent rear suspension. The spare wheel is under the bonnet in front of the radiator adding much needed added crash protection!

After some haggling, supposedly with another bidder, I paid £1700 and managing to coax her back into life, I got her home. Given

some chassis welding, new tyres, clutch, brakes & seat covers, plus replacement inner & outer skins on the sun-roof and many hours of tlc she resembled most of her former glory. The TVR club valued her at what I considered an optimistic £7500, being the first "production" Taimar. In those days road tax & MOTs were due and whilst a brilliant drive, being so well balanced, she did not fit too well into family life as a second car and regrettably had to go.

After 18 months of advertising I eventually sold her in 2003 to a new car salesman in Gillingham for £4150, who, it transpires, drove her a mere 1200 miles in the next 5 years. He in turn passed her onto a retired hotelier who put the car into a wood shed for the next 15 years never turning a wheel. So this is a new category of "find" methinks.

One day, in July this year, whilst idly browsing the upcoming SWVA Classic Car Auction listings, what do I find to my astonishment 20 years on, but my hooligan friend with a guide price of between £500 to £1000.

"I must have a punt at that", I said, but my wife had other ideas about the potential reunion!! On viewing the car I was amazed how well she had fared, expecting to find the chassis well & truly rotted, but not in the slightest. The interior was smelly & needed a complete refresh and the mechanics? Well, who knows, being a non-runner. The motor was not seized, but a big question mark hung over the mechanicals.

My neighbour's son who remembered the car, asked me to bid on his behalf with a maximum of £1200. However

there was considerable interest with 5 phone, 4 online bidders as well as several in the hall pushing the price up to £4700 by the time the hammer went down. So we came away empty handed. It has been a real walk down memory lane and I can still recall the exhaust note thanks to the TVR tendency to amplify the sound of the exhaust rather than to silence it. I wish the new owner good fortune and wonder how far he/she will go towards re-creation rather than restoration. He or she, must be a gambler methinks.

Ted Slade



The Poppy Run – 12th November 23

Held, as has been usual in recent years, at Damerham, we were not given the best weather this year. The roads were wet and mucky, and it tried to drizzle and shower a few times. This of course restricted the number of classic cars that turned out, nobody wants to have to wash off all the mud and grot that gets collected – nevertheless, we had a surprisingly good collection of classics parked outside Damerham Village Hall.

The weather stayed dry for the service at 11.00am, we all gathered around the war memorial next to the hall, and after the 2 minutes silence and the Last Post, I laid the wreath on behalf of the club. Whilst I normally recite an appropriate poem, this time I read out the following, which had annoyed me:

“This is not the time or place for a Rant, however, the Telegraph reports that 2/3rds of our youngsters don’t understand the reason for the annual Poppy Appeal and asks what they are being taught at school. The symbolism of the Poppy is being politicised, and they would much

rather spend their time trying to teach the kids about the UK’s Black History.

A recent advertisement summed up the symbolism of the Poppy for me, “we wear the Poppy because we care”.”

After the run which was unfortunately disrupted by flooding, members returned for a meal of Meatballs in onion gravy and veg. I wanted it to be Meatballs in a spicy Moroccan sauce but Rose wasn’t having anything to do with that! Can’t think why. Pudding was either Parkin or Flapjacks.

I must thank Sandy Barker for creating the wreath, the kitchen crew, and everyone that pitched in and helped set up and break down at the end of the day. And of course all you brave souls that brought your classics out in such mucky conditions.



Sarah Bredda with "Rupert" her Riley 1.5



Gerry Tuffin's Holbay Sunbeam Rapier Fastback



Alan Robson's Mercedes 190SL Pagoda and Peter Gogelin's Morris Mini Traveller



Steve Brown's Singer Vogue Estate



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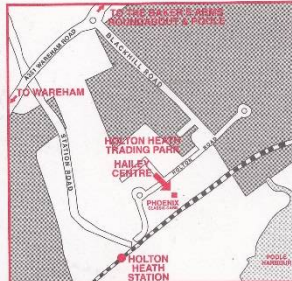
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HOW TO FIND US

Off the A35 between Poole and Dorchester turn towards Wareham at the Baker's Arms Roundabout. On the A351 into Holton Heath, follow signs to The Holton Heath Trading Park via Blackhill Road. Turn right at Holton Road and you will find The Hailey Centre approximately 750metres on the left hand side.



Phoenix Classic Cars Limited





The club wreath in position on the Damerham War Memorial

Seen Whilst Out & About



BMW Isetta snapped by Ken Bowman at the Hampshire Centre (oh, all right, at Castle Point)

Nostalgia isn't what it used to be



Gordon Clarke in 1985 with a '55 Buick

The October monthly draw winner was No 23 owned by Sandie Randles

Crossword Answers

Across

- 1 Violet
- 4 Capri
- 7 Fir
- 8 Eon
- 9 Orion
- 11 Sonic
- 12 Radial
- 14 Alloys
- 18 Sumps
- 20 Sedan
- 21 Bug
- 22 Dye
- 24 Regal
- 25 Hunter

Down

- 1 Victor
- 2 Oxford
- 3 Europa
- 4 Chaos
- 5 Pie
- 6 Ionic
- 10 Noel
- 13 Imps
- 15 Landau
- 16 Orient
- 17 Spyder
- 18 Saber
- 19 Sepal
- 22 Gig

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The Mostly Motoring Crossword

1		2		3			4		5		6
		7							8		
				9				10			
							11				
12			13								
						14	15		16		17
18				19							
			20								
21		22					23				
24						25					

Across		Down	
1	Datsun that might shrink?	1	Vauxhall favoured by Mr Meldrew?
4	Ford Coupe from Italian Isle	2	Morris went to university
7	Evergreen tree scales up kettles?	3	Lotus named after moon of Jupiter?
8	Small city car from Hyundai for a long time	4	Complete disorder and confusion
9	The Hunter star constellation from Ford	5	Fruit dessert sounds like 3.142 approx
11	Type of screwdrive favoured by Dr Who	6	Composed of ions and sounds like an electric car from Hyundai
12	Type of tyre that's circular?	10	Christmas from Mr Edmonds
14	Collective noun for modern wheels?	13	Mischievous little Hillmans
18	These are where cars keep their oil	15	Soft top 4 wheeled carriage
20	American saloon car	16	The countries of East Asia or to position something
21	Bond 3 wheeler might get squished	17	Type of 2 seater sounds like an arachnid
23	Substance used to add or change a colour	18	Sword with curved blade sounds like Reliant 2 Seater
24	Royal Reliant 3 wheeler	19	Green part of flower surrounding the petals
25	Hillman stalking wild animals	22	A 2 wheeled carriage

3 Counties Vintage & Classic Car Club 2023 – 2034

Chairman:	Mike Westrop	07495 066870
Secretary & Membership:	Rose Westrop	07946 854314 Note NEW eMail address rose.westrop@hotmail.com
Treasurer:	Nikki Baskerville	
Event Secretary	Steve Vine	07867 894574
Committee Members:	Martin Chowne Anne Millington – Club night co-ordinator Roy Kendrick Jon Andrews – Website & Social Media	
Regalia	Vacant	

Double LL Club

Spring Autojumble 17th March 2024

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