



September 2008

Number 511



Lovely old Zephyr at Rudgwick Steam Fair

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Your Editor Speaking...

Yet more progress to report - the rear crankshaft oil seal has now been bought and replaced.

The next phase requires an engine crane to get the engine off the workmate and onto the floor so that the new flywheel can be fitted. Then the old engine has to come out and I really am committed!

Does anyone need a 1300 crossflow?

But all this heady rush of activity on the Westfield isn't getting Bernard any further forward. I really need to get my finger out there...

The track day at Castle Combe was excellent - the MG acquitted itself rather well I think! Not too much tyre wear despite the day being mostly dry and me not exactly sparing the horses... It really would have been fun in the Westfield!

Have fun!

Jez Boakes (Editor)

A Note from your Chairman

September! The year is going quickly, but there is still lots to do – both with, and (less so, I hope!) without, WMx. First of all, thank you to those who attended the various events that have been held over the last few weeks, although the perfidious English weather didn't always cooperate, I'm sure that you all enjoyed yourselves. Also, thanks to Nikki and Jez once more for their generous hospitality in entertaining the horde at the Group BBQ. Cheers.

I've just been looking into a book with the wonderful subtitle 'A Miscellany of Popular Antiquities in connection with the Calendar'! Did you know that, amongst many other things, **September** is the anniversary of:

The Battle of Stamford Bridge. No not the regular derby match between Chelsea and

Fulham but King Harold's warm-up match (home win) before the Battle of Hastings (tactical substitution, one in the eye for the home team). Keeping the royal theme, it is also the birth month of Good Queen Bess in 1533 - not only did she have a ship named after her, but also another queen. Moving onto travel, 1552 marks the first circumnavigation of the world (with the proverbial 40ft cutter!!) by Juan Sebastian del Cano – Magellan having been killed on the journey. 1897 saw George Smith become UK's first drunk driver, he was fined £1 for driving into a shop frontage in Bond Street. 1962 saw the launch of that motoring icon, the Morris Minor, whilst coming slightly more up-to-date 1962 marked the first recording session by the Beatles with George Martin, yeah, yeah, yeah. However, something that didn't happen in September 1998

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was that President Clinton DID NOT have 'inappropriate' relations with Monica.....

There's something real cool coming up (as the captain of the Titanic said) we have a night of banter (check the time and place of September clubnight), the Haymaker, table top rallies (Hollstar) and a curry night was mentioned (now that IS cool). So, let's see

The Sump September 2008

the summer out with a bang (no, the curry isn't that bad) and all come along to the various events – details in this wonderful organ.

As ever, keep your foot in it!

Derrick Holden (Chairman)

Temp Sec Bit

Sadly I couldn't find a navigator for the Summer Run, but I understand that the route was good, as was the roadbook so well done to Derrick and Malcolm!

The bikers also had a good ride with both sets of participants meeting at the end for the WMx barbecue in Hook.

Nikki and I were in charge of the cooking, during which the weather was kind. Soon after though the weather changed dramatically and the rain lashed down... Such was the force of the rain that even the two gazebos were abandoned for the safety of the house.

We've managed to have good weather for every previous BBQ, so maybe we were due for some rain!

The following day was the Castle Combe track day which was an excellent event, and a complete sell-out! The day was mostly dry, the only rain being occasional drizzle. This wasn't enough to dampen enthusiasm though, and both the bikes and cars had lots of fun.

Clubnight this month has moved to September 4th, where we will be heading to the George & Dragon at Wargrave for an evening of chatter and maybe some food - I understand the menu is rather good there. This is also the destination of the Cream Tea Ride-out being organised as always by AG.

The 7th sees the Haymaker Autotest, this year being held at Studd Farm near Leighton Buzzard. (Our previous venue is unfortunately no longer available to us). The event is suitable for road cars as the field is smooth, but if you don't want to enter, please consider coming along to marshal. Contact me or Malcolm Grubb for more details.

Slightly further ahead is the Hollstar - this year being hosted by West Middlesex. This is a table top rally to be held at a venue to be determined (probably in or near Windsor) - watch this space - but please put the date in your diary - October 8th.

Jez Boakes ([Temporary] Secretary)

The deadline for articles for the *October* Sump is September 24th!

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors, and not necessarily those of the csma, csma West Middlesex Group Committee or the editor.

Unexpected pub crawl

After a long day in the office on Friday and yet another late finish, rather than slave over a stove, I persuaded Jez that he'd like to go to the pub to eat – he didn't take much arm twisting.

We headed up to our regular haunt, the New Inn at Heckfield – known to many of you as the start venue for many a touring assembly. The pub is very popular but on this occasion, too popular. For the first time that I can recall, we completely failed to find a parking space. We decided to head to another pub at which to eat. In the words of Top Gear, how card could it be?

From the New Inn, we headed back towards Hook, passing by the Leather Bottle without stopping. This lovely old coaching inn was a firm favourite until it was bought by Bluebeckers and became a disappointment.

Passing through Rotherwick we passed by the Falcon for a similar reason. A few months ago it changed hands and chefs and the food quality plummeted. The Coach & Horses in the village has good beer but not somewhere we choose for food so we kept going.

Tylny Hall was a “no” because we were decidedly under dressed! The Old House at Home, in Newnham, was avoided after an experience where we had very overpriced food and the oddest “smoked tomatoes” that I've ever tasted.

We arrived up at The Hogget on the A30. This has become excellent since changing hands recently. The chef is local and buys all local produce. Unfortunately, being that good means that it's also popular. We stopped on the off chance that there might be a table available but enquiries at the bar established that it would be at least half an hour and even then wasn't guaranteed. We decided to keep trying elsewhere rather than gamble.

The next attempt was the Fox and Goose at Greywell. We walked in and, Hey Presto, there were a few empty tables and people were still eating. But, just as the barman was finishing pouring Jez's pint, I asked about ordering some food only to be told that he wouldn't process our order until after he'd taken the orders from, and served, a group that had reserved a table and were due to arrive in the next five minutes. We decided that actually we didn't want to wait indefinitely to be served after patrons who hadn't even arrived yet so we downed our drinks and set off again.

Back down the A30, we passed the Crooked Billet, on the edge of Hook, observing that their car park was also very full and by now we'd decided to give up on the pub idea and go for a Chinese in Hartley Wintney. We have never had problems finding a table at “Wok this Way” where there is excellent food and an all you can eat menu. We got to Hartley Wintney, pulled up outside the restaurant and ... laughed at our luck as we gazed at the boarded up windows and closed signs.

By now we were hungry and regretting the decision not to cook at home. The idea of a Chinese had taken hold so we headed back up the A30 once more and down to Odiham High Street where there is another Chinese restaurant, Kings. We parked up and, as we were about to walk down to Kings, I glanced across the road and noticed that “Next door at the George” had tables free. I had previously ruled it out, assuming it would be too busy. We went inside, were greeted by friendly staff and shown to a table. We had finally found an establishment where we could eat – and excellent it was too!

So, having decided on the spur of the moment to go out to eat on a Friday evening – how hard can it be to find good pub food? Very! **[27.6 miles covered in total! - Ed]**

Nikki Wild

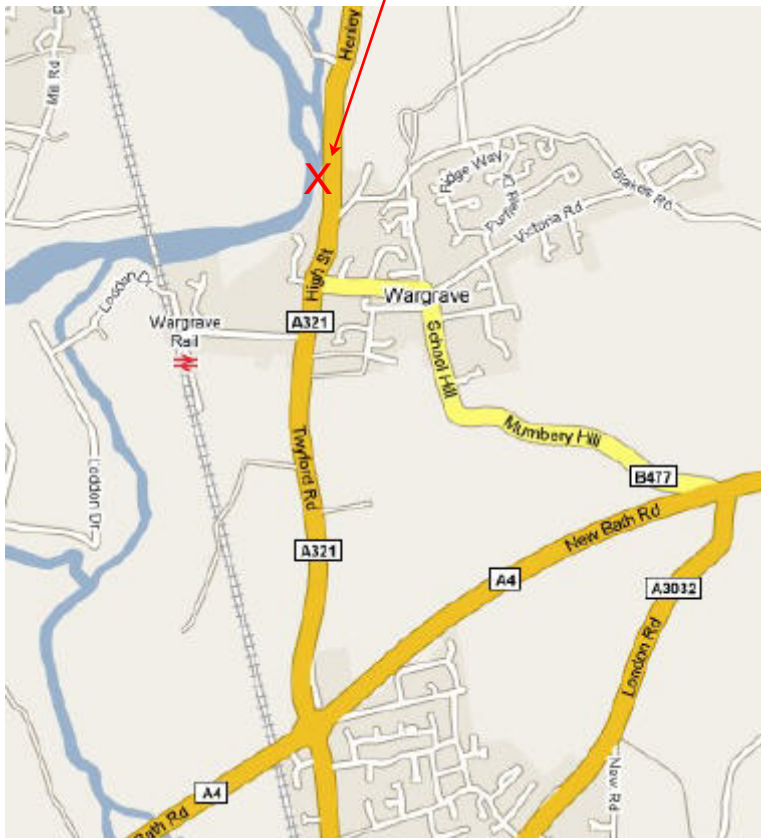
September Clubnight

Thursday September 4th, 8pm

(Note the different day!)

Is at the **George & Dragon at Wargrave**

(Note the different venue!)



For an evening of informal banter!

Apparently the food is excellent there, so why not come along to eat as well?

Contact Jez or AG for more information!

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Haymaker Autotest 2008



Sunday September 7th

Studd Farm, Stanbridge, near Leighton Buzzard

Regs and entry form from Jez or Malcolm
jez@jez-nikki.net, 07748 766409 (SoM)
malcolm.grubb@btconnect.com, 01784 435447 (CoC)

Marshals also needed!

December Clubnight

Skittles!



**Thursday December 11th, at the Greyhound,
Eton Wick, 7:30pm for an 8pm start!**

An evening of keenly fought bowling, laughter
and a magnificent supper!

Contact Derrick Holden on 07905 005963 for
tickets

West Middlesex Group MOTORCYCLING NEWS!

Tuesday the 30th September will be 'The Mid-Week RIDE-OUT'

This one will begin at the Café on the green alongside the River at Henley-on-Thames next to the River & Rowing Museum.

We'll leave at 10am and planned is a meandering route through the Home Counties and West Country. Lunch will be at the Fleet Air Arm Museum and we shall be finishing at our traditional finishing point, the Jolly Woodman on Littlefield Common. A relaxing 'bimble' using B and C class roads wherever practical – and, as usual, we go come rain or shine!

It's going to be a very hot day so snow will not be an issue this month!

But before that there's another special day out on offer!!

One of the very best motorcycle Ride-Outs of Summer 2007 was the **Cream Tea Run**. So we're going to do it again. The date is Thursday 4th Sept. & we'll be starting at 10am from Fairoaks Airport near Chobham. Tradition dictates that we all take a pillion for this one (well, the girls deserve at least a Cream Tea for putting up with us all over the Summer!) and it does make for a rather special day out for us all. Of course if your particular 'pillion' rides herself, that's fine.

This Run will also coincide with a revised **September Clubnight** when, instead of the 2nd Thursday, it'll be on the 1st Thursday (the 4th September, see? It all works out!!). The Cream Tea Run will end at about 7.30pm on the banks of the Thames at Wargrave – the George & Dragon Inn to be precise – and our re-scheduled September Clubnight will begin there at 8pm when the non-motorcycling members of the Group will join us. Don't have your Tea before you come because we plan to have a 'Supper' evening, hopefully outdoors, in the late Summer sunshine overlooking the Thames! I've booked a table for just 15 so don't be late!!

AG

Further details on: H) 0118 934 5726 : M) 07785 903 000 or
allan.goddard@csmclub.org

csma North London Centre

Hollstar
Inter Group Competition

Hosted by West Middlesex Group

Wednesday October 8th

Venue TBA

Map based "table top" rally

Contact Allan Goddard for more details on:

allan.goddard@csmaclub.org or

07785 903000

Dates	Event (Status)	Club	Type of Event	Champ
Sept Sun 7	* Haymaker (C)	csma WMX	Grass autotest	Centre
Oct Sun 5	Autumn (C)	csma NWL	Grass autotest	Centre
Wed 8	Hollstar Intergroup Comp ()	csma WMX	Table Top Rally	Centre
Fri 10	12 Car Rally (C)	csma WMX	Navigational rally	Centre
Sun 12	* Londinium Pedo ()	UH&ULMC	Walking Treasure Hunt	
Sun 12	* Last Chance T/H (C)	Green Belt MC	Driving Treasure Hunt	
25/26	* Britvic Enduro (Nat B)	Chelmsford MC	Enduro road event	
Nov 6-9	* Lombard Enduro (C)	ERA	Enduro road event	
8/9	Forth Bridges Inter Ass (Nat B)	Edinburgh Univ MSC	Navigational Rally	
Fri 14	12 Car Rally (C)	csma NWL	Navigational rally	Centre
Dec Fri 5	12 Car Rally (C)	csma NEL	Navigational rally	Centre

Licence required: (I/Nat A/Nat B/Cm) = MSA Licence, (C) = Club Card, () = Nothing, * = Regs available

Previous Events

Grasshopper Autotest In the end, there were 15 entries in the PCA event, most of them last minute, and only one entry in the championship event. It was a very hot and dusty day, completely opposite to the Greenacres in fact, and all the 12 tests were held. The sheep made an invasion attempt at lunchtime, swarming across the tests to get to the gate. We then saw several people turn their hand to herding and all the sheep eventually went back to the other field. In the end Peter Cox was the winner of the Nat B event and I again won the PCA event.



Welsh Enduro The rally ran in appalling conditions (again), with heavy rain for most of Saturday. The selectifs were in pretty good condition considering and even after several runs over them by the 50 car field, they stayed mainly unrutted. Owen Turner/Andrew Dadswell made up some lost time and won the event for the third successive year. Cath and I however were running in 3rd place until 3 miles from the finish when the bottom ball joint broke (again!). One year I'm



going to finish this event. At least we got further than last year and certainly further than Derek and James Newbould, who had their ball joint break 5 miles from the start! Bad luck guys. Two other cars went off even closer to the end and this promoted Dave Smith/Pete Johnson into third place. Jamie Turner was heading for a good placing until a missed code board on the night section dropped them down the order.



Future Events

Haymaker Autotest This year the event is moving to the Stanbridge site near Leighton Buzzard, due to their previous venue being lost. This is an on-your-own type event, so no passengers, and the tests should be nice and open. Entries are via Jez Boakes and the entry fee is £18. Contact me for regs.

Autumn Autotest Running on the 5th October, it will be held at the Studd Farm site near Leighton Buzzard, which is the same one as used by the Greenacres and Grasshopper events. The event is a passenger carrying one, so more fun in the navigation department, but the tests are straightforward. Entry fee is £15 and the regs are available soon.

Hollstar Intergroup Event The annual intergroup Hollstar competition takes the form of a table top rally and this year will be hosted by West Middlesex at a venue to be confirmed, but in Windsor area, on the 8th October. On table top rallies you have to plot a route on a map and then answer three questions of things found along the route to prove you have gone the right way. More details available later.

October 12 Car Rally Details still to be confirmed.

Londinium Pedito This is a walking treasure hunt in the City of London and takes place on Sunday 12th October. There is the main event plus a more family orientated meander. The event costs £10 per team and there is a maximum of 150 teams! The event starts between 1pm and 2pm and consists of a circular route, which you are allowed three hours to do it in. Competitors only require pencils, watch and suitable footwear. For regs or further information, give me a call.

Last Chance Treasure Hunt This is an invite to a Green Belt MC organised treasure hunt on the 12th October and they are well worth having a go at. The event begins with assembly at 1pm for a 2pm start. Entry fees are £7.50 per car (2 person crew) plus £2.50 per extra person. I should be doing it, so please let me know if you are interested and I will let you have more details.

Britvic Endurance Rally With the demise of the Yorkshire Enduro in September, Chelmsford MC have agreed to put on another event in October, so the championship can run with the minimum number of events. The event will be based around Sculthorpe again and has 50 miles of selectifs and a 100 mile road rally. Entry forms are available on their website at <http://chelmsfordmc.co.uk/Endurance>, although the regs are not available yet.

Mike Biss: NLC Motor Sports Coordinator

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E-mail: mike.biss@btinternet.com

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