
WESSEX NEWS

Preserving the marque in Hampshire

It's June already and this month sees our annual clean car night at the IBM Social Club, Hursley. I hope that you are all polishing and preparing your cars. We have been along to the event to watch for the last two years and possibly this year, we may actually enter our car. Let's hope lots of you manage to turn out and show us what you have been doing to your cars over the past year.

Here's a reminder of last years winners.



I wonder if anyone is going to challenge Steven James and his beautiful red TR6 in the Best in Show class this year. Look forward to seeing you all.

Lorraine

A word from our leader

Welcome to the June edition of the Wessex Newsletter.

Just got back from a week's cruise to the Norwegian Fjords and with beer at £8 to £10 a pint it was a fairly dry trip. Sunning scenery, weather okay for one of the wettest places on earth. Did not spot any TR's, only one E type and a big Healey. June and July are always a busy time of year for Wessex TR Group but we get a slight lull in August to recover. This year promises to be no different.

I'm looking forward to the annual clean car competition on Tuesday 23rd at IBM Hursley. Not least because my 4A is in a more presentable shape than it has been for some years. The dent in the boot lid has been beaten out and the bodywork generally sorted. The big disappointment is the quality of the replacement rear bumper and overriders supplied by Moss. For something costing well in excess of £500 they are of a very poor quality. They did not fit onto the brackets, the bumper itself is too narrow and consequently the overriders do not fit properly. Big gap between bumper and overrider. They have gone back and I have been refunded!

The June run on the 21st is an interesting one with the destination being Longstock Water Gardens. Well worth a visit. If the weather holds it should be a good day out with Uncle Geoff. The run in July on the 19th takes us to Bucklers Hard for a picnic and messing around in water. Then the club night on 28th July is the invited car clubs again at IBM Hursley, now one of the major car events in the South. Further on in August we have Tony's run on 16th of August to the Boot Inn.

Just on last item, I believe Jim had been helping to Beta test the new website. Looking back at my group leaders notes there should be a "soft launch" of the site next month and a full launch in August. Assuming all is on track. User names will be distributed with TR action 284 (the last issue was 282). The login password will be on a flysheet.

Finally and by no means least I would like to welcome a new member, Adrian Thompson (that name sounds familiar!) and hope he manages to get along to our meetings.

TTFN

Stuart

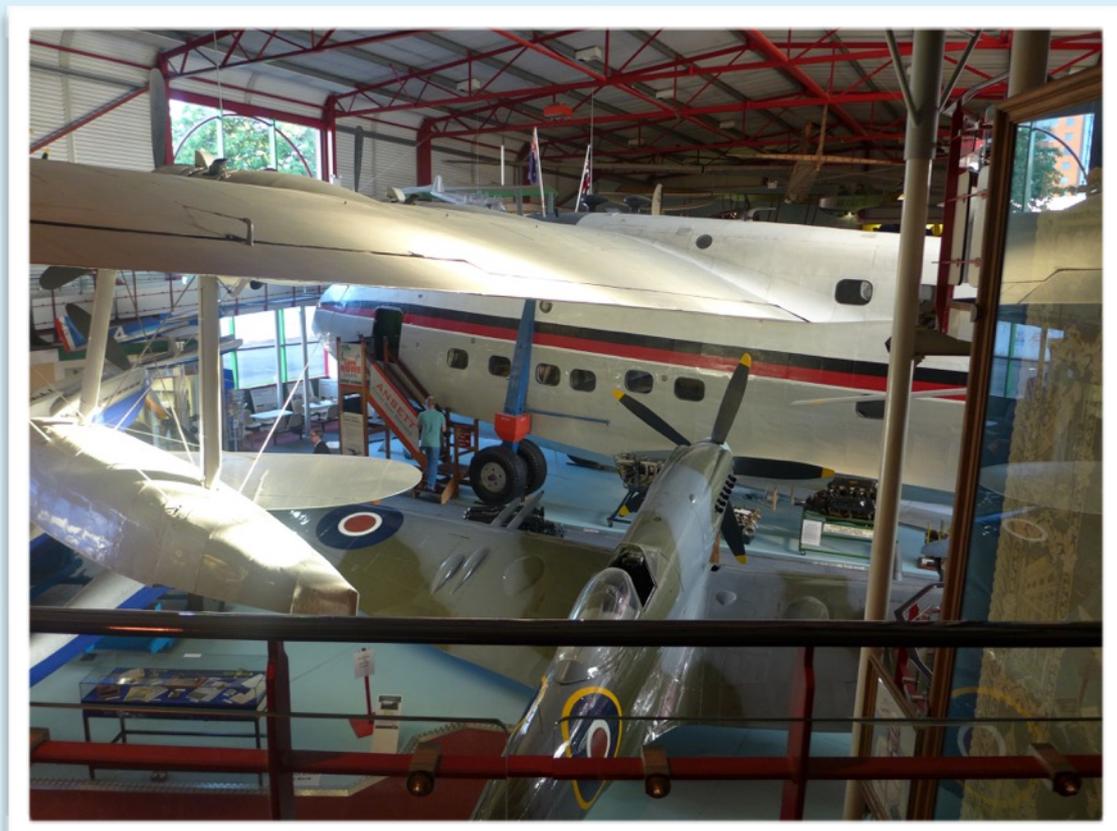


May Club Night - Solent Sky Museum

by Stuart Thompson

For the May club night we did something different, at least we hadn't done it for a long time. A lot of TR enthusiasts like planes, so we went to visit Southampton Sky, otherwise known as Southampton Aviation museum. Tucked away in the not very salubrious back streets near the old Ocean Village area in Southampton, it can take some finding. It is not exactly on the tourist circuit.

Twenty of us turned up for a private viewing at 7pm. We were treated to an amusing introductory talk from Steve, our guide for the evening. I hadn't realised that Woolston was the first airport in the UK - on the sea. It was here that RJ Mitchell developed the highly successful Supermarine seaplanes (winner of the Schneider trophy, three times) into the famous Spitfire. It was interesting to learn how much flying history there is in the Wessex patch.



The museum appears to be built around the huge Short Sandringham "Beachcomber" VH-BRC. This plane is the centrepiece of the museum and started life as a Short Sunderland before being converted. I used to have an airfix kit of one hanging from the ceiling of my bedroom and it used to dwarf all the other models hanging up there. The real plane was in the colours of the Australian Ansett Flying Boat Service - white. It carried 30 passengers in comfort. I found myself sitting in Maureen O'Hara's place on the flight deck. Her husband once owned the plane!



Other notable exhibits were a Vickers Supermarine Spitfire Mk 24 built in 1946, a Supermarine S6A, a reserve aircraft that was never one of the winners of the Schneider Trophy. There was a most peculiar looking seaplane jet fighter whose name escapes me but the concept of a jet fighter being a seaplane is a bit of a jump. The large gaping air intake under the body gave it the appearance of a whale just about to swallow you up. There was loads of photographs and smaller exhibits, much too much to see in the time we had.



It was a very pleasant way to pass 2 hours and I would recommend anyone who has not visited to try and get along. If you can find it. I understood there are plans to relocate and expand to a better location.

Neil Reynolds a long term member of Wessex TR Group was there with Piper. Neil was looking extremely smart in his father's uniform and you might find some of his history interesting.

The story of a Dress Uniform

by Neil Reynolds

Last club-night at the 'Air Museum' I wore a dress uniform which attracted a little bit of attention, I would like to share with other members the story behind the uniform.

The Uniform was actually my Father's, which he had to purchase himself.



James Edward Reynolds was born on the 31st October 1923. So by the time WWII broke out in 1939 he was 16. A year or so later he was called up to serve our country.

14231073 had now replaced his name, which was his Tag No. He was drafted into the Tank Regiment, more specifically the 23rd Hussars, who were part of the

11th Armoured Division. His duty was Driver/Gunner of a Sherman 'Firefly', which had the 75mm 17lb shells, the more common Sherman's only had the 50mm Ammunition. The 'Firefly' actually had the ability to take out a German Tiger/Panzer tank. His tank was actually propelled by a 9 cylinder aero-engine of which an evolution of the 'Alvis' they had on display at the museum.

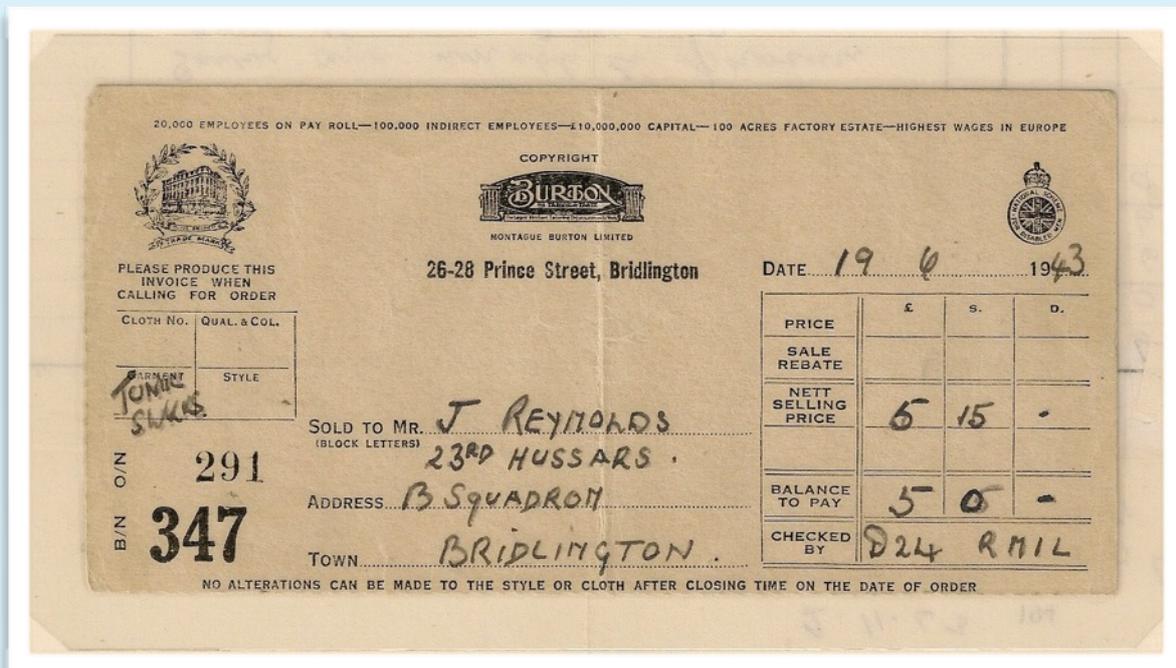
His training was mainly done in Bridlington, Yorkshire, and then he moved down to Aldershot.

He went over on D-Day + about a week, he wasn't really sure, he didn't need to know, but he knew he set sail from Stokes Bay just off the East Side of Southampton water, and where he landed he didn't know for 60 years. It wasn't until my Father and I went on a 'Hero's Return' Trip to Normandy in 2004 (60th Anniversary of D-Day), when we were shown around the Museum at Arromanches that was when he realised where he landed all those years ago. 'Mulberry B' harbour was not complete when my Father landed, which confirms it was within 10 days of D-Day.

After they landed they turned left, Falaise Gap, Villers Bocage. There is a hill just outside Caen (named HILL - 112), a very commanding hill, and whoever had command over this hill had a great advantage over Normandy. It was a very bloody battle, which 7000 men lost their lives over, My Father didn't take this hill but was the second squadron in to defend it.

They pushed on taking Amiens, Antwerp, Ventlo, then all the way through to Hamburg in Germany. My Father was active until V.E. Day on the 9th May 1945. He was then Occupied Germany until his release in 1947 when he finally came home.

This is the 23rd Hussars 'Dress Uniform'. The receipt is dated 1943 and the tailors was 'Burtons', £5 15 Shillings (£5:75p) doesn't sound much these days, but I am told it was 3 weeks money back then. This uniform is regularly worn by myself to the 'Goodwood Revival' and gets quite a lot of attention.



Spa Classic 2015



After the madness and noise of Le Mans Classic in 2014. This year we opted for the peace and quiet of the Ardennes Forest! Early planning told us you should prepare for winter and hope for sun! Rain seemed pretty certain at some point so we packed accordingly with plenty of warm wet weather gear and left the shorts at home. Typically the weather was glorious, with sun the whole time we were there!

Rather than the ferry we let the train take the strain and had an easy crossing on Le Shuttle having caught up with friends in a yellow midget, we then stopped in Calais to fill up with provisions before catching them back up as we headed towards Brussels. Or rather joined the traffic jam that surrounded Brussels, the midget chose the ring road and we pushed our way straight through the middle, neither was pleasant and not to be repeated. Apart from a crawl through Liege we made good time and arrived at our rather posh rented house minutes after our other friends had arrived in their 6 having driven up from the Pyrenees over two days. Unlike Le Mans where we were 30 minutes away from the circuit this time it was just 4km and a breeze to get in.

Where Le Mans was pretty manic the whole time we were there with large crowds and long queues to get anywhere, Spa was a delight. We parked so near to the track we could have sat in our car and watched the racing, plenty of space to walk around and nowhere off limits. Even the obligatory mayonnaise and fries were reasonable. We set up base camp in one of the grandstands overlooking the Drivers Club at the bottom of Eau Rouge and settled down to watch the racing. Where the Lola's and Ferraris were loud and very quick it was the Mk1 Lotus Cortina's that were the most entertaining, building speed from La Source and keen not to lose momentum they drifted through and up Eau Rouge with a great sideways action, followed at a respectable distance by a Mini Cooper S flat out, engine screaming and never actually in a straight line.



In between racing there were the so called 'parade laps', where for a fee you could drive your own classic around the circuit. The idea apparently is for everyone to follow a pace car, not overtake and enjoy a leisurely drive around the circuit taking in the atmosphere and imagining the great races that have taken place on the same track you are now driving on. Only it doesn't quite work like that, the Ferrari pace car exited the pits on a mission and the next time you would see it was when it lapped you. In it's wake were the pseudo Grand Prix drivers in their Dodge Vipers, Porsche's and rented for the weekend Ferraris. Depending on how many laps we had done the asthmatic British contingent were either



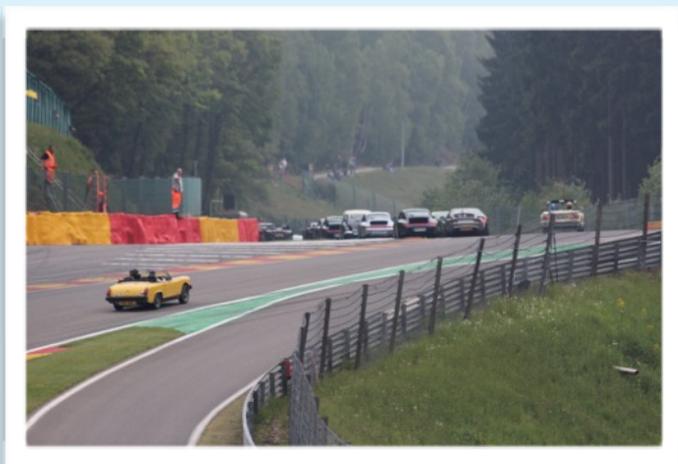
bringing up the rear or slowing down the front runners, all sounds a bit dodgy but it was great fun looking in the rear view mirror and seeing a 911 trying to outbrake you as you cover the apex at Blanchimont Gate. Several owners of exotica also discovered armco barrier is very unforgiving if you exceed your abilities. Fortunately there was a free recovery vehicle that picked them up and dropped them where everyone could see them.

Midge' the Midget set herself up for a series of overtakes on the Dodge Vipers as she comes up to lap them!





Each time this little mini and 'Bev' came round she had a huge grin!



Someone won't be driving their supercar home tonight! Tow truck on way, Gave a chance for 'Midge' and the jasmine 6 to catch up though.

It was a great weekend, plenty to see and do. If you got bored there was a Bonhams auction to spend your pocket money on. We wandered in as an Aston Martin was reaching 500,000 euros, not a good time to scratch your nose!

Jim Pullen

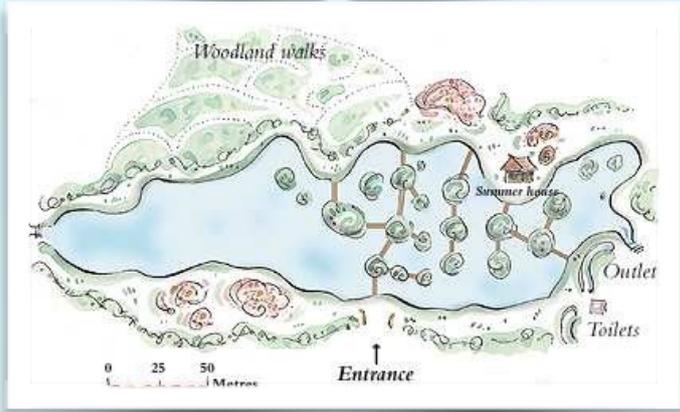
June run to Longstock Water Gardens

Our June run which is being led by Geoff and Jane Glover will take us into the beautiful Test Valley for a visit to two venues.

We will be leaving Ower at 1030 on Sunday 21st of June to get to our first stop. This will be at **Longstock Park Nursery** where you will have the opportunity to browse the lovely collection of plants and other items and also have some lunch in the Farm Shop cafe. The estate is owned and run by John Lewis and so the food will be of the standard you can expect at their premises. They do not serve Sunday Lunch but lots of other lighter items are available.



Once you have eaten your fill and bought something nice for the garden, we will make the short journey up the road to the **Water Gardens**. They open between 2pm - 5pm and so there should be plenty of time to explore what has been described as “The finest water garden in the world”. Look forward to seeing you there.



Clean Car Night

Club Night on the 23rd June will be our 'Clean Car Competition' at IBM Hursley. You are all cordially invited to attend from 1900hrs for an informal Pride of Ownership competition where we judge the cars ourselves and award cups for the best TR2/3, TR4/4A, TR5/6 and TR7/8 and 'Best in Show'.



Once again we will have the Barbecue fired up for you so bring your own sausages and burgers to cook. The social club will also be serving bar meals and drinks.



Last year was a great evening as you can see from the pictures and we look forward to seeing you all again this year.

Driving from North/East via M3 (London, Heathrow, Oxford)

Leave M3 at Junction 12, signposted A335 Eastleigh (N). At roundabout take first exit signposted to Chandlers Ford and Otterbourne. Proceed for 200 metres and at mini-roundabout, turn right down Otterbourne Hill towards Otterbourne and follow this road northward for just over a mile. At the mini-roundabout just after the petrol station, turn left down Poles Lane signposted Hursley.

Follow Poles Lane for 2.5 miles and at the junction with the A3090 signposted Winchester (part time traffic lights), proceed straight over into unmarked entrance to Hursley Park (note tree with stone circular seat). Continue on site perimeter road for 1 mile to Hursley House and follow signs for visitors parking.

Driving from South/West via M3 (M27, Southampton)

Leave M3 at Junction 12, signposted A335 Eastleigh (N). Do not take exit 13, also signposted A335 Eastleigh. At roundabout take second exit signposted to Chandlers Ford and Otterbourne. Proceed for 200 metres and at mini-roundabout, turn right down Otterbourne Hill towards Otterbourne and follow this road northward for just over a mile.

At the junction just after the petrol station, turn left at mini-roundabout down Poles Lane signposted Hursley. Follow Poles Lane for 2.5 miles and at the junction with the A3090 signposted Winchester (part time traffic lights), proceed straight over into unmarked entrance to Hursley Park (note tree with stone circular seat). Continue on site perimeter road for 1 mile to Hursley House and follow signs for visitors parking.

From Winchester

Take the A3090 road signposted Romsey which leaves Winchester by the Westgate (note the road bends round the old Westgate arch) and proceed up the hill. Follow signs for Romsey for about 5 miles. Look for the 'Hursley' village sign and immediately turn right into the IBM entrance, marked with an IBM sign. At the mini-roundabout, bear right and follow the signs for visitors parking.

From Romsey

Take the A3090 eastbound sign- posted Winchester for about 6 miles. At first set of part-time traffic lights (junction signposted Chandlers Ford) continue round bend to left and proceed for 200 metres.

At the junction of A3090 with Poles Lane (also with part time traffic lights) turn left to the unmarked entrance of Hursley Park (note tree with stone circular seat).

Continue on site perimeter road for 1 mile to Hursley House and follow signs for visitor parking.

July Club Run to Bucklers Hard

Pitched in the middle of summer to give us the best chance of great weather here are the details of our run to Bucklers Hard on the 19th July. Although the run is for TR's, the activities at Bucklers Hard are open to all family and friends and they are welcome to join us there.

Starting with a run we will have a leisurely drive through the prettiest parts of the New Forest before arriving at Bucklers Hard.

No parking with the tourists in the general car park on this one! We will take a small detour and park on the main street of Bucklers Hard, on the gently sloping grass. A fantastic photo opportunity in itself!



To engage you further you will have access to the Maritime Museum, Shipwrights' Cottage St Mary's Chapel and the new Shipwrights' school. Plus the opportunity to take the river cruise (additional payment required) or the lovely walk alongside the Beaulieu river to Bailey's Hard. For the more energetic there is the Montague Arms just a little further on.

Whilst admiring the cars and taking in the vista you can enjoy a picnic on the grass or have a meal in the Master Builder Pub, they might even be running their outdoor barbecue. You can also enjoy food in the Captain's Cabin Tea Rooms and enjoy an afternoon tea with sandwiches, scones, cakes and hot drinks.

You will also have the chance to take a Kayak on the river for a trip upstream to check out the moored yachts and river side homes. It's a great way to unwind and go with the flow, watch the wildlife and generally chill. Changing rooms and showers are available and you won't fall in unless you want to! All safety equipment is provided, you and your family will be in safe hands. Each kayak will cost £10.



For those of you who can't fit in the TR you can come along as a family and just pay the same discounted rate as the cars which is £10 no matter how many people you squeeze in. The day has been planned as a family event with a TR theme, we hope to see you all here with your families to enjoy a lovely day messing about on the river and enjoying what Bucklers Hard has to offer.

We do hope you can join us on what promises to be a fantastic day and I hope you enjoy the pictures from last year.



International Weekend

7th - 9th August Three Counties Showground, Malvern

For those of you planning to attend this years IWE we would like to remind you that tickets are available from the Register office on 01235 818866 or by visiting the TR Shop and offer significant benefits over buying tickets at the event.

New this year

- Free Drinks reception on Friday evening for TR Register members. Ale, Wine and Soft drinks available
- An audience with Wayne Scott - "Winning Wedges" a conversation with key figures from the TR7 / 8's competition history
- New Saturday evening show: Adam Knight the Comedy Hypnotist! - Not to be Missed
- Triumph Survivors display of unrestored vehicles

Plus

- Largest display of TRs on the planet
- Autojumble
- Trade exhibition
- Concours and Pride of Ownership
- Autosolo and precision driving displays
- Arena presentations
- Evening entertainment
- FREE Technical Seminars

Celebrating 60yrs of TR3, 50yrs of TR4A and 40yrs of TR7.

Discounts for advance booking, so don't miss out! Closing date to buy your pre-booked tickets is the 26th July.

IWE 2015 Advance ticket sales



2015 Diary of Events

Wessex Group Events

June 2015

- 21st Club Run to Longstock Water Gardens leaving Ower at **10.30am**
23rd Club Night - Clean Car Night at IBM, Hursley, SO21 2JN from **7pm**

0July 2015

- 19th Club Run - Bucklers Hard and Family Fun Day Leaving Ower at **11.30pm**
28th Club Night - Invited Car Night at IBM, Hursley, SO21 2JN **7.30pm**

August 2015

- 7th - 9th International Weekend, Three Counties Show Ground, Malvern
16th Club Run to The Boot Inn, Houghton, Stockbridge, Hants
SO20 6LH **11am** at Ower <http://thebootinn-houghton.co.uk>
25th Club Night - Natter and Noggin, Nondescripts Club, Lyndhurst

September 2015

- 13th Club Run - The Cream Tea Run
22nd Club Night - Barbecue at Nondescripts Club, Lyndhurst

October 2015

- 27th Club Night - Presentation by Vintage Tyres of Beaulieu
<http://www.vintagetyres.com>

All events are covered in full on the Wessex Tr Register Facebook page and any late updates or cancellations will be published there.

Other events of interest

June 2015

25th - 28th Goodwood Festival of Speed

Festival of Speed

July 2015

5th Broadstone Family Fun Day with classic car display

Broadstone Recreation Ground, Lower Blandford Road, Poole BH18 8EA

11th New Milton Classic Car Show - **Apply Here**

18th Fordingbridge Summer Festival Car Show - **Apply Here**

24th - 26th Silverstone Classic, Northamptonshire

<http://www.silverstoneclassic.com>

August 2015

2nd Lymington Spectacular Classic Car Show - Woodside Park Leamington

Apply Here

9th Newbury Classic Vehicle Show, Monks Lane Newbury RG14 7TD

10am - 4.30pm **Apply Here**

16th Hampshire Classic Motor Show - Breamore House, Nr. Fordingbridge,

Hants, SP6 2DF **Apply Here**

22nd Simply Classics - National Motor Museum, Beaulieu

<http://www.beaulieu.co.uk>

September 2015

5th - 6th Beaulieu International Autojumble - National Motor Museum

Buy tickets **Here**

11th - 13th Goodwood Revival

Revival

Weekly events - Classic cars on the Prom too many dates to add them all but various meetings in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Highcliffe Castle all over the summer.

Group Leader & Chairperson	Stuart Thompson	01794 512867
Deputy Group Leader	Jim Pullen	01425 618532
Treasurer	Roy Clough	01980 626236
Regalia Manager	Tony Alderton	01425 477674
	Sue Chorley	02380 293492
	John Davies	07884 267479
	Geoff Glover	01202 861939
	Neil Winscom	01425 653336



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