

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club

Great Western Section Newsletter – Winter 2013



Our Treasurer Charles with “Angels” at The Dorchester RREC Yearbook Launch

Club & Section Events 2013

Sunday 24 th March	Icebreaker at Wadworth Brewery Visitor Centre with lunch.
Sunday 14 th April	Haselbury Mill, Classic Car Show
Tuesday 16 th April	Summer Spring Lunch at The Batch at Lympsham
Saturday 11 th May	Pangolin Foundry/ Sculpture Gallery & Painswick Rococo Gardens
Monday 20 th May	Brympton D’Evercy House & Gardens Picnic
Sunday 9 th June	Gloucestershire Motor Show at Highnam Court
Fri/Sat/Sun 14 th /15 th /16 th June	RREC Annual Rally, Rockingham
Sunday 30 th June	Cirencester Park Polo Club – Polo and Picnics
Sunday 14 th July	Powderham Castle - South Western Section
Wednesday 31 st July	Highclere Castle – visit and picnic
Saturday 3 rd August	Prescott Hill Climb practice day – picnic
Tuesday/Friday 24 th /27 th September	Gibbon Bridge Hotel, Forest of Bowland, Lancashire

Details in next Newsletter

September	Vineyard visit with wine-tasting
Sunday 24 th November	AGM & Lunch (provisional)

We are pleased to welcome new members:

Steve Grimes of Seend, Jean Watt and Mr. R. Hendry, of Chippenham, Paul Dezelsky of Cheltenham, Stephen Harding of Weston-super-Mare, Philip Treleven and Ms. C. Bishop of Stanton St. Quintin, Andy Tuck of Chippenham also Derek Bailey who has recently moved to Yeovil from London.

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club

Chairman's checkpoint

A very happy 2013 to all our members. The committee was very pleased with the encouraging comments received after all our events last year and hope for your support throughout the next season.

You will see below that we have already organized some expeditions but always welcome suggestions and offers to arrange an event. We are here to help those who have ideas but are not sure about the nuts and bolts.

Once again I would like to emphasize that the Great Western Section of the Club website www.rrec.org.uk will have details of what is going on. If you have mislaid your password please e,mail the Hunt House at admin@rrec.org.uk and they will send you a reminder. Remember also that the Club website has extra-ordinary amounts of information available and the Hunt House staff are always there to help and advise.

If you have photographs which we can upload to our section of the website please send them in the first instance to Section Secretary Margaret Ball margaret.john@btinternet.com. It is helpful if you state the full details of the car/s featured, particularly the chassis number.

Many of you will have heard of Cross Manufacturing which, for over 70 years, has been developing and manufacturing high quality products for applications demanding accuracy and integrity. References to some of their achievements can be found at www.crossmanufacturing.com.

The Chairman Rodney Cross has invited members to visit the factory (opposite St Martin's Hospital in Combe Down, Bath) in small groups.

If groups of 4 would like to get together and contact me with working day dates I will forward the request to Rodney. He would prefer small groups so that all aspects of their processes can be appreciated.

Valsmallwood@googlemail.com 01225 426063

Annual Rally Seminars 2013

Again this year we are grateful to our members who have agreed to present and share their knowledge and experiences with us at our Annual Rally this year. The list of seminars we will be providing this year is as follows.

Friday 14 June 2013

1000hrs – 1130hrs. Norman Geeson will present an interesting lecture on post-war rear axles and differential units..

1200hrs – 1330hrs. John Reynolds will give a very informative description of his restoration of his Phantom II Continental.

1400hrs – 1530hrs. Jeremy Green from Perth, Australia on his experiences touring in his Silver Ghost open tourer.

Saturday 15 June 2013

1000hrs – 1130hrs. David Dudley will carry out a presentation on the Cooke Street factory with illustrations.

1200hrs – 1330hrs. Terry Lee from Bentley Motors Ltd will give a presentation on Crewe Genuine parts.

1400hrs – 1530hrs. Michael Evans will describe the restoration of his Silver Ghost (72MG) and the return to the road of the fastest production Silver Ghost.

1600hrs – 1730hrs. Will Fiennes will explain the purpose and repair work to the pre-war crankshaft damper.

There is no charge for the seminars. All we ask is for you to indicate on the Annual Rally booking form if you wish to attend so we can work out numbers. Please support these seminars as the time and resources are given free by the people giving the presentations.

Steve Lovatt - Chief Lecturer

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club



Oliver Perks 10.2.1920 – 3.11.2012

Oliver Haslewood Perks, a well-loved, kind and generous husband, father, grandfather, friend and colleague, was well remembered and commemorated by a congregation of around 300 gathered in Wrington Church on Monday 26th November. Oliver dedicated his body for medical research so the service combined the commendation of his soul and remembrance of a life full and varied, with songs from the shows and tunes ranging from *Dad's Army* to the *Pirates of Penzance*.

Oliver, a Club member for 51 years, also was a founder member of the Great Western Section and seventeen members attended the service that included both hymns and a rousing rendition of the 'Blaydon Races', interspersed with tributes from his daughter Rose, grandchildren and nephew Hugo.

Oliver had an impressive WWII service, publishing his memoirs on www.oliverperks.com and a love of cars from an early age, but it was a change of job in 1954 that led to his first purchase of a Rolls-Royce, a 1926 20hp Rippon Tourer **GMJ 31** which he used for everyday travel for very many years. In his time he owned a number of others. A 1938 4 ½ litre Vanden Plas Drophead Coupe was followed in 1958 by a 1922 Silver Ghost Barker Pullman Limousine **56HG**. In his 1925 Silver Ghost Hooper Tourer **31EU**, originally KI 4869 and known as Kathleen, he was seen at numerous events including the 1973 Alpine Rally. Later he owned a black Silver Dawn **SOG 18**, an S1 Bentley Continental and finally a 1952 Mark VI Bentley Mulliner which he greatly enjoyed driving.

Joining the club in 1961 his 50 years membership was honoured by Club Chairman Jim Fleming during the Section's 25th birthday party in 2011, by which time Oliver had parted with the Mark VI and he and his wife Philippa were attending events in his beloved red Austin 7 Ruby

Back in the 1960s, Oliver was employed by the Bristol Motor Company as a salesman of Rolls-Royce Cars, taking out each one for a high speed (100 mph...) test-drive. In 1968 it was Oliver who suggested to Section member Richard Welch, who had just joined the company, that he should look in Clevedon for a home and invited him, his wife and 2 sons to stay with him and Philippa for the weekend so that they could go house-hunting, even caring for the boys whilst they did so.

Some 3 years later Oliver left the company, subsequently joining the National Westminster Bank in Wrington. During the service, nephew Hugo summed up Oliver as "modest, self-effacing, humble, a deep talent for sustaining friendship, having great wisdom, a sense of humour, a twinkle in his eye, a true English gentleman with an enduring smile" descriptions echoed by everyone leaving the church to the spirited Radetzky March.

Oliver Perks, on receiving his badge to celebrate his 50 years membership of the Club, said how privileged he was to be only the 8th person in the country to be so honoured, and "out of all the clubs of which I have been a member in my life, this is the best" and "marrying my wife and buying my Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars were the best decisions I ever made"

Celia Fitzhugh and Richard Welch.

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club



RREC Great Western Section Icebreaker
Wadworth Brewery Visitor Centre,
New Park Street, Devizes SN10 1JW
Arrive by 10.45 am on Sunday 24th March 2013

For our 2013 **Icebreaker** we have arranged to visit the Wadworth Brewery Visitor centre in Devizes, followed by a two course Sunday Lunch at the Crown Pub next door.

Sample the delights of traditional beers and discover the history and heritage of Wadworth brewing in their interactive Visitor Centre, situated on the main road through Devizes. See the wonderful Shire Horses, their brasses and finery. These horses and their carts still deliver the barrels of beer Monday to Friday to Wadworth's Pubs within a radius of two miles from the Brewery.

There are two different tours available: both start at 11.00-

- 1) **The Main Tour** is within a Victorian Tower building which consists of four very steep staircases, narrow corridors and uneven floors. All members taking this full tour need to be able to walk unaided – this is a health and safety requirement. This tour is 2 hrs long. Cost per head **£22.00** including coffee on arrival and a 2 course lunch.
- 2) **Condensed Tour** consists of seeing the Shire Horses and their finery and history, the sign writing studios, cooperage, brewing history and sampling etc, all on the ground floor only. This tour is 1 hr long and you can relax in the bar to wait for the others.

Condensed Tour with coffee on arrival and two course lunch is **£19.00** per head.

There is a private car park attached to the brewery for approx. 20 cars and we would like to see as many members as possible for our first event of the year, so please support us in your Club car if possible, but, if not, we still want to see you.

Please return form by 15th February to:- Wendy Parfitt "Old Quarry House", 56 Stonehouse Lane, Combe Down, Bath BA2 5DW. wendyparfitt@hotmail.co.uk Tel:- 01225834400 or 07850533493

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Sunday 24th March Icebreaker – Wadworth Brewery Visitor Centre

Name(s).....

Address:.....

.....Postcode.....

Telephone No:..... RREC Membership No:.....

Email.....@.....

No of persons..... at £22.00 per head = £.....

No of persons..... at £19.00 per head = £.....

Cheque enclosed payable to R-REC Great Western Section for £.....

Car details Make.....Model.....Year of manufacture.....

Coachbuilder..... Registration No.....

Chassis No.....

Please return form by 15th February to:-

Wendy Parfitt "Old Quarry House", 56 Stonehouse Lane, Combe Down, Bath BA2 5DW.

wendyparfitt@hotmail.co.uk Tel:- 01225834400 or 07850533493

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club

If you have received this by post, we would be grateful to receive a donation towards the cost of postage – thanks to those who responded to the previous request.

If you would like to receive future Newsletters by Email - Please Email Margaret.john@btinternet.com telling us your electronic address and you will then be added to our RREC address book – it is that simple!

We are experimenting with A5 format for those members we don't often see – if you have received a small copy but would prefer the usual A4 – call 01275 874077

Sunday 14th April – Haselbury Mill – Classic Car Show

Those of you who attended the Ariel Atom event last year will be familiar with the lovely location and its surroundings in which to display our cars.

Numerous other Car Clubs will be in attendance, together with a variety of stalls, car related and otherwise.

NO PICNICS as the Restaurant, Bar and a Hog Roast will be available throughout the day.

The address is Haselbury Mill, Haselbury Plunknett, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 7NY

Arrive from 11.00am onwards.

A token fee of £1.00 per person will be collected on the day to cover Section costs.

Reply by April 10th in order that the Mill can be informed of the number of cars attending.

Please return slip to Charles Randall, Orchard Furlong, Latcham, Wedmore, Somerset. BS28 4SA.

Tel. 01934 712320

Sunday 14th April – Haselbury Mill – Classic Car Show

Name(s):

Address:

..... Postcode:

Telephone No. RREC Membership No:

Email@.....

Car details Make: Model Year

Coachbuilder: Registration No. Chassis No.

Replies to: Charles Randall, Orchard Furlong, Latcham, Wedmore, Somerset. BS28 4SA.

Tel. 01934 712320

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club

RREC Great Western Section

Tuesday 16th April 2013

Somerset Spring Lunch at The Batch Country House,
Lympham, Somerset BS24 0EX

By popular demand enjoy a Two Course Lunch & coffee
12.30pm for 1pm at **£18.50** per head.



Menu Choices:

- (A) *Supreme of Chicken topped with Thatcher's Cider, Cream and Sage Sauce* **OR**
- (B) *Oven baked Seabass served with a white wine and prawn sauce* **OR**
- (C) *Brie Courgette & Almond Crumble (Vegetarian)*

Followed by:

- (D) *Fruits of the Forest Cheesecake with a Raspberry Fruit Sauce* **OR**
- (E) *Vanilla and Toffee Ice Cream in a Brandy Snap Basket with Maple Syrup* **OR**
- (F) *Individual Platter of Cheese and biscuits*

Tea/Coffee & Choc Mint

Batch Country House is run by fourth generation James and Anna Brown, a family in residence since 1870. Situated overlooking the Mendip Hills, it is mid-way between Burnham-on-Sea and Weston-super-Mare. From the M5, north or south, turn off at Junction 22 and at the roundabout exit take the A370, signpost Weston-super-Mare, after 3½ miles turn left into Lympham village (signposted to the hotel): after 1 mile turn right into Batch Lane (a no through road) and follow for ¼ mile. Post code BS24 0EX. Telephone 01934 750371 or 01934 750501

Please complete the form below and, with your remittance, **NO LATER THAN 30th MARCH 2013** send to
Mrs C. Fitzhugh, Arden House, 26 Dunkleys Way, Hillyfields, Taunton, Somerset TA1 2LX -
Tel: 01823 256979 Email: celiafitzhugh@ymail.com

Somerset Spring Lunch at The Batch Country House Tuesday 16th April 2013

Name(s):

Address:

..... Postcode:

Telephone No. RREC Membership No:

Email @ No of persons

Car details Make: Model Year of manufacture

Coachbuilder: Reg. No. Chassis No.

Menu Choices: (1).....A/B/C..... followed by.....D/E/F.....

(2)..... followed by.....

(3)..... followed by.....

(4)..... followed by.....

Cheque/Cash for £.....at £18.50 per head payable to RREC Great Western Section

Return form by 30th March 2013 to:

Mrs C. Fitzhugh, Arden House, 26 Dunkleys Way, Hillyfields, Taunton, Somerset TA1 2LX
Tel: 01823 256979 Email: celiafitzhugh@ymail.com

(organised by Celia with back-up support by GW Section Secretary Margaret Ball)

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club

PANGOLIN FOUNDRY & SCULPTURE GALLERY & PAINSWICK ROCOCO GARDENS

SATURDAY MAY 11th 2013 - 9.45 am for 10.00 start

9 CHALFORD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, CHALFORD, GLOS, GL6 8NT

www.pangolin-editions.com

Thanks to the hard work of Jackie & Russell Herbert we are fortunate to have been offered one of only 2 visits per year to one of Europe's leading sculpture foundries. Pangolin use traditional methods coupled with cutting edge technology to produce works of extraordinary accuracy. This is an opportunity not to be missed.

Our visit will start with coffee and biscuits before we separate into groups for the tour which will take approximately 2 hours. Please wear suitable footwear for visiting an industrial plant.

At the end of the visit we will drive to Painswick (**GL6 6TH**) to visit the rescued 18th century Rococo Garden where lunch has been arranged (at our own expense depending on what we choose). There is also a picnic area outside the garden if that is a preferred option.

www.rococogarden.org.uk

The pleasure garden fell into a ruinous wilderness and lay forgotten for several decades before a restoration project, similar to the Heligan project but on a smaller scale, started in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

The foundry tour and the garden visit are both included in the £34.00 per person charge.

Detailed instructions of how to find the industrial estate and the foundry will be sent to all who book.

We have been asked to let the foundry know as soon as possible how many people will attend so that they can release any spare places to people on their waiting list.

Return form ASAP to:

Dr Valerie Smallwood, 6 Upper Church Street, Bath, BA1 2PT. Valsmallwood@gmail.com

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PANGOLIN FOUNDRY & SCULPTURE GALLERY & PAINSWICK ROCOCO GARDENS – 11th MAY

Name(s):

Address:

..... Postcode:

Telephone No. RREC Membership No:.....

Email@.....

No of persons at £34 per head = £ This includes entry to both venues.

Cheque enclosed payable to **R-REC Great Western Section**



Car details Make: Model Year

Coachbuilder: Reg. No. Chassis No.

Return form ASAP to:

Dr Valerie Smallwood, 6 Upper Church Street, Bath, BA1 2PT. Valsmallwood@gmail.com

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club

Monday 20th May 2013 – Brympton D'Evercy House and Gardens - BA22 8TD

Situated on the western outskirts of Yeovil, Somerset, Brympton House has been described as:

“The most incomparable house in Britain, the one which created the greatest impression and summarises so exquisitely English country life qualities” (Christopher Hussey Country Life Magazine 1927).

The house is set in the most magnificent Grade 2* listed gardens which are breathtakingly beautiful at all times of the year.

During its long history, Brympton D'Evercy has belonged to just five families. The D'Evercy family began building the house in 1220 and it has been added to over the centuries.

This house is being restored by “Bill and Sara”, who live in just two rooms and are renovating the house to a high standard, and we hope to have an enjoyable day as their guests. We can park outside the front entrance of the house, picnic in the grounds, or, if the weather is inclement, have out picnic in the Old Kitchen and Dining Hall.

Arrive on site at 12.00pm – Cost £15 per person to their charity to renovate the property + £1 for section funds.

Returns with cheques payable to Great Western Section RREC to Wendy Parfitt, Parfitt, “Old Quarry House”, 56 Stonehouse Lane, Combe Down, Bath BA2 5DW. wendyparfitt@hotmail.co.uk

Tel:- 01225834400 or 07850533493 by 7th May

Monday 20th May 2013 – Brympton D'Evercy House and Gardens - BA22 8TD

Name(s).....

Address:.....

.....Postcode.....

Telephone No:..... RREC Membership No:.....

Email.....@.....

No of persons..... at £16.00 per head = £.....

Cheque enclosed payable to R-REC Great Western Section for £.....

Car details Make.....Model.....Year of manufacture.....

Coachbuilder..... Registration No..... Chassis No.....

Please return form by 7th May to:-

Wendy Parfitt “Old Quarry House”, 56 Stonehouse Lane, Combe Down, Bath BA2 5DW.

wendyparfitt@hotmail.co.uk Tel:- 01225834400 or 07850533493

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club

Great Western Section Visit Sunday 9th June

Gloucestershire Motor Show
Classic Cars at Highnam Court
8th & 9th June 2013



If you are able to attend, please could you fill out and return the form at the bottom of this letter. You can attend either one day or both days for the show! You will need to arrive prior to the public at 10.30am and leave once the gates are closed at 5pm as the cars are located on the lawn around the rose garden in front of the house.

Once you have registered we will send you a ticket for your car windscreen nearer to the event. This will admit your car and two people.

Please note dogs are not allowed at the show unless they are assistance dogs.

Yours sincerely



Robin Pugsley,
Classic Car Manager

.....
Gloucestershire Motor Show – Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club Great Western Section

Name:

Address:

.....Post Code:

Contact no: Email:

Car make / year

Gloucestershire Motor Show: Saturday / **Sunday** / Both (Please delete as appropriate)

Please return to Richard West, The Pied Piper Appeal Office, Gloucestershire Royal Hospital,
Great Western Road, Gloucester. GL1 3NN or 03004 226119

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club

Wednesday 31st July – HIGHCLERE CASTLE RG20 9RN – house and gardens



We have been lucky enough to secure a group visit to Highclere Castle, home of the television series Downton Abbey. Unfortunately we are restricted to 20 cars and 40 people and we envisage this event being oversubscribed, so to avoid disappointment please book early if you are interested because, as you can see from the booking form, we have to give definite numbers many weeks before the event. In view of their booking and cancellation policy, if you cancel after booking, the entrance fee will be non-refundable unless we can fill the place with people on a waiting list.

On their recommendation we have opted to pay the entrance fee for the House and Gardens only at £9.00 each plus £1 per person for club funds, but if you wish to visit the Egyptian Exhibition you may pay by cash on the day at £5.50 per person extra.

We have to meet in the main car park, 100 metres from the Castle by 10am at the latest. We can park together, organised by our own Marshalls, with enough room for our picnic tables between our cars. If weather inclement there is a Tea Room where we can buy food and drink.

Highclere is near Newbury in Berkshire post code RG20 9RN and is approx 1hr 20mins from Bath.

Returns with cheques payable to Great Western Section RREC to Wendy Parfitt, Parfitt, "Old Quarry House", 56 Stonehouse Lane, Combe Down, Bath BA2 5DW. wendyparfitt@hotmail.co.uk a.s.a.p.

Wednesday 31st July – Highclere Castle

Name(s).....

Address:.....

.....Postcode.....

Telephone No:..... RREC Membership No:.....

Email.....@.....

No of persons..... at £10.00 per head = £.....

Car details Make.....Model.....Year of manufacture.....

Coachbuilder..... Registration No..... Chassis No.....

Wendy Parfitt "Old Quarry House", 56 Stonehouse Lane, Combe Down, Bath BA2 5DW.

wendyparfitt@hotmail.co.uk Tel:- 01225834400 or 07850533493

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club

THE VINTAGE SPORTS CAR CLUB HAS AGAIN OFFERED US ALLOCATED PARKING AT THE PRESCOTT HILL CLIMB THIS SUMMER ON SATURDAY AUGUST 3rd

PACK A PICNIC AND COME ALONG FOR A DAY OUT WATCHING DRIVERS PUT THEIR CARS TO THE TEST.

VENUE: BUGATTI OWNERS' CLUB, PRESCOTT HILL, GOTHERINGTON, CHELTENHAM, GLOS. GL52 9RD



This is the practice day for the hill climb on the Sunday and it is just as interesting as the Sunday. Details can be found on www.prescott-hillclimb.com

Prescott Hill Climb – Practice Day Saturday 3rd August

Name(s):

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone No. RREC Membership No:

Email@.....

No of persons at £14.00 per head = £

Cheque enclosed payable to **R-REC Great Western Section**

Car details Make: Model Year of manufacture

Coachbuilder: Registration No. Chassis No.

Return form by May 29th to:

Dr Valerie Smallwood, 6 Upper Church Street, Bath, BA1 2PT.

valsmallwood@googlemail.com 01225 426063

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club

RREC Great Western Section

Gibbon Bridge Hotel, Chipping, Forest of Bowland, Lancashire

PR3 2TQ www.gibbon-bridge.co.uk tel 01995 61456

24th – 27th September (3 nights)

We are very pleased to have been offered rooms at the 30th Anniversary rate at this very pleasant hotel in wonderful driving countryside. I have been to stay with Club member Janet Simpson who owns the hotel and can see why the venue is very popular with classic and vintage car clubs. They even have a security barrier across the parking area. We will be spoilt for choice of wonderful places to visit. Suggested routes and details will be available to all participants. For the less active it is also a great place to relax.

Single occupancy rooms are £360.00 dinner, bed & breakfast for 3 nights

Double/ twin rooms (2 people) £540 dinner bed & breakfast for 3 nights

To book please call the hotel on 01995 61456 and give them your room requests. They will take a £50.00 deposit and the balance will be payable later. They will also advise you of their cancellation policy. Mention RREC Great Western Section and the dates.

The earlier you book the better the room you will be allocated.

When you have booked please fill in the form below and post/ email it to me at the address below.

GIBBON BRIDGE HOTEL 24th – 27th September (3 nights)

Name(s):

Address:

..... Postcode:

Telephone No. RREC Membership No:

Email@.....

No of persons Single or double room

Car details Make: Model Year

Coachbuilder: Reg. No. Chassis No.

When you have booked with the hotel please return form to:

Dr Valerie Smallwood, 6 Upper Church Street, Bath, BA1 2PT. Valsmallwood@googlemail.com

Tel 01225 426063