

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club

Great Western Section Newsletter – Autumn/Winter 2017/2018



Forthcoming Events

Tuesday 12th December – Launch of the New Bentley Continental GT – Cribbs Causeway

Sunday 7th January – AGM and Lunch at The Walton Park Hotel, Clevedon

Proposed Events for 2018

Ideas being investigated by your Committee include visits to

The New Concorde Museum

The Home of The Earl of Oxford - The Bombay Sapphire factory

A Vineyard Tour - The Bicester Heritage Centre - A Food Factory tour

The Jet Age Museum at Gloucester Airport

Polo at Westonbirt - An Icecream Factory Tour with a picnic

Acton Court Tour - A further visit to the Aston Martin factory.

A demonstration by an artisan coach-liner.

**We are delighted to welcome as new members our winning apprentices
Rebel Eratt-Camp - Sam McClintock - Lloyd Saunders - Cameron Sinton.**

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club



Dear Classic Car Club Chairman,
Dear Classic Car Club Secretary,
Dear Enthusiasts,

The post-war return to car manufacture marked a new and exciting renaissance for Britain and the world and it was in 1948 that Earls Court reopened its doors for its first post-war motor show.

We, the Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club, are opening our doors and holding a special celebration to mark this unique moment in British motor manufacturing history by presenting this **70th year Tribute to the 1948 Earls Court Motor Show**.

As your members are proud owners of cherished classic cars and motorcycles, we are calling **ALL** post-war 1940s vehicles, for the very first time, to come and participate in this very special weekend event, which is to be held in conjunction with our annual **Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club (RREC) Rally & Concours at Burghley House, Stamford, Lincolnshire, PE9 3JY next 22-24 June 2018**.

Burghley House is a stunning location with a magical fairy tale backdrop for classic cars and it provides an interesting venue to visit, and is regarded as the finest Elizabethan house in the UK.

As well as having all models of 1940's cars and motorcycles on display and to help create the atmosphere, participants will be encouraged to wear period dress with 'best costume' prizes awarded, along with period stalls, book signings, exhibitions, presentations and more.

We would like to have your presence to share the experience with other significant Classic Marques, American and Continental, that either launched or exhibited at the Earls Court Motor Show in the 1940's. Please feel free to share this information with your members via your website, Club magazine, newsletters or e-bulletins.

We would like your help with your club members, to make a selection of five **1940's motors**, especially from 1948, which will enhance this event with their stylish presence, and will be made most welcome.

The cost of this event is reduced to £15 for all 1940's motor cars and motorcycles and covers admission to the Earls Court Motor Show celebration, the welcome reception on the Saturday, and the rest of our weekend Rolls-Royce Rally & Concours event, Trade tents etc on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

We are also holding a celebratory themed Roaring 1940's Gala Evening, on the Saturday evening, 23 June, to which your club participants are invited to attend - this is an additional cost of £48 per person.

If your members would like to join in this unique event please email the following information to the ECMS chairman, details as below.

Name:
Postal address:
Email address:
Telephone/Mobile:

Classic vehicle:

Marque:
Model:
Date of manufacture:
Chassis/Registration number:
Brief history, and if possible a few electronic photos:

We will require this information to keep you up to date concerning this event as the month's progress.

Thank you!

Kind regards

Gerard Le Clerc
RREC ECMS Chairman
RREC International Correspondent
leclerc.g@sunrise.ch
Mobile: +41 76 335 1883

Secretary: Margaret Ball, Chaseside, Kenn Street, Kenn, Clevedon, Somerset BS21 6TL
Tel. 01275 874077 – Fax 01275 342050 – email Margaret.john@btinternet.com

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club

Chairman's Checkpoint

The Great Western Section has had one of its best seasons and this is due to the planning and research undertaken by the committee members.

The work put in has all been achieved whilst making sure that we all have fun but without losing sight of the fact that we are a car enthusiasts' club. All who have organised events have ensured that standards are maintained and that fresh ideas are utilised.

Our very successful Apprentice Scheme has been very hard work and I owe a vote of thanks to Russell Herbert, Keith Taylor and John Ball.

Please join us at the NEC and, more importantly, at our AGM in January and when you will learn more about how we intend the scheme to move forward.

On a personal note: the support which I have received following my loss of Simon will not be forgotten.

May I wish you all a Happy Festive season and hope to see you at the AGM.

Valerie



Ted and Viv Carter with their 20 year badges

Valerie on the footplate, having received her 40 year badge.



Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club

Apprenticeship Scheme News from Russ Herbert

GWS members will now be aware of the completion of the first complete cycle of our Apprentice Award Scheme and the award ceremony which took place at Fiennes Restorations Ltd. on the 3rd. September.

This initiative has generated significant interest within the Club, which was well represented at the ceremony by David Maykels, General Manager, and other staff from the Hunt House.



The awards were also communicated to the RR&BSA and more comprehensive details discussed with senior members of the FBHVC responsible for preparing training material in traditional skills for young people and other enthusiasts. Both organisations were very supportive of the Scheme.

The Section is now delighted to learn that an article prepared by Keith Taylor has been published on the FBHVC website under the heading Heritage Engineering, which details the awards and individual achievements.



The GWS initiative would also appear to have influenced a nationwide member survey launched by the FBHVC into the means of communication with the membership and most importantly, the support of member clubs for apprentice training schemes in traditional skills.

We have every reason to believe this survey will reflect well on the Club.

Keith Taylor will be escorting three of our award winners to the NEC Classic Vehicle Show over the weekend 11/12th November as part of the prize. They will no doubt be

welcomed onto the RREC stand as both winners and new members

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club



**Tuesday 12th December
12.30pm at Bentley Bristol
The Laurels,
Cribbs Causeway Centre
Bristol BS10 7TT**

With a completely new 6.0 litre, twin-turbocharged W12 engine, a step-change in technology and a truly stunning design language, the new Continental GT is unmatched in its class. This Bentley GT coupé is the quintessential grand tourer – phenomenally powerful, beautifully designed and exquisitely crafted.

You'll be among the first to see and feel the sleek lines of a grand tourer that has been completely re-imagined by Bentley's design team. Under their expert explanation, you'll begin to understand why the world's automotive press has lauded the new GT and you will have the opportunity to configure your own Continental GT.

Bentley Continental GT - PREVIEW

**Tuesday 12th December 12.30pm - Bentley Cars
(and Rolls-Royce of course, but especially Bentley Cars)**

We are invited to a light buffet lunch at Bentley Bristol and the opportunity to discover the wonders of the latest offering from the Bentley stable.

If you would like to come along, and bring your car as part of the welcoming display, please fill in the reply form and let Margaret have it as soon as possible.

Closing date Saturday 2nd December.

Tuesday 12th December Bentley Continental GT - PREVIEW

Name Tel. No.

Address

Email address.....RREC Membership No.....

Car Reg. No. Chassis No. Year

Model Coachbuilder

Please return your slip, to Margaret Ball, Chaseside, Kenn Street, Kenn, Clevedon, Somerset BS21 6TL
Tel 01275 874077 - email Margaret.john@btinternet.com by 2nd December

Secretary: Margaret Ball, Chaseside, Kenn Street, Kenn, Clevedon, Somerset BS21 6TL
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Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club

**Great Western Section
32nd Annual General Meeting to be held at
11.30 am Sunday 7th January 2018
Walton Park Hotel, Wellington Terrace, Clevedon, Somerset BS21 7BL**

Agenda

1. Welcome by the Chairman.
2. Apologies for absence – David Bailey
3. Minutes of the last AGM held 22nd January 2017
4. Matters Arising - Apprenticeship Scheme
5. Chairman's Report
6. Secretary's Report
7. Treasurer's Report – Accounts will be available before the Meeting
8. Election of Committee
9. Future Events
10. Any other business

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club

Sunday 7th January 2018 AGM and Lunch at Walton Park Hotel, Clevedon

You are warmly invited to our Annual General Meeting and Lunch which will again be held at The Walton Park Hotel, Wellington Terrace, Clevedon BS21 7BL overlooking the Bristol Channel.

We are delighted that Allan Fogg will attend as representative of the RREC Board of Directors.

We shall arrive from 11.00am for coffee, and the meeting at 11.30am followed by lunch 12.30 for 1.00pm

MENU

Starter – 4 options including Soup and Melon

Main Course Options – 3 Meats, 1 Fish, 1 Vegetarian

Dessert – Choose from a selection

Fresh Coffee and Mints

No need to inform us of your choice of menu – you can select on the day

Cost £25 per person

Please return your slip, with your cheque payable to RREC Great Western Section by Friday 29th December to:

Margaret Ball, Chaseside, Kenn Street, Kenn, Clevedon, Somerset BS21 6TL Tel 01275 874077

- email Margaret.john@btinternet.com

Sunday 7th January 2018 – AGM and Lunch at Walton Park Hotel, Clevedon BS21 7BL

Name Tel. No.

Address

Email address.....RREC Membership No.....

Car Reg. No. Chassis No. Year

Model Coachbuilder

I enclose my cheque, payable to RREC G.W. Section for £..... @ £25.00 per person

Please return your slip, with your cheque payable to RREC Great Western Section by Friday 29th December to Margaret Ball, Chaseside, Kenn Street, Kenn, Clevedon, Somerset BS21 6TL Tel 01275 874077 - email Margaret.john@btinternet.com

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club

GREAT WESTERN SECTION

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 22nd January 2017 11.30 am at The Walton Park Hotel, Clevedon

Present: Valerie Smallwood Chairman Keith Taylor Treasurer
John Ball Vice-Chairman Russ Herbert Committee Member
Margaret Ball Secretary Ted Carver Committee Member

40 Section Members were present.

1. **WELCOME:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially Lindsay Robotham as Management Board Representative together with Jackie his wife Club publications manager.

Malcolm Tucker took the chair for a period of silence in memory of Celia Fitzhugh, Charles Rendall, Simon Smallwood, Robert Hobbs and Caroline James all of whom had passed away during the past six months.

2. **APOLOGIES:** – Ashley James, Debbie Fenton, Wendy Parfitt, Reg and Paulette King, David and Drusilla Smith, Howard and Andrea Ridley, John and Nicola Wilson, Douglas Shaw, Maureen and Tony Giddings, Michael Rogers and John Moore.

3. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: 10th January 2016.** These had previously been circulated to members. It was proposed by Malcolm Hobbs that they be accepted. Mark Griffiths seconded this motion and all members were in favour. They were signed by Valerie Smallwood, Chairman

4. **MATTERS ARISING – APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME** Russ Herbert described the manner in which the GWS Apprentice Award Scheme had been developed, by focusing on companies resident in our region and who were members of the RRBSA, routinely advertising in Advertiser section of the RREC Journal, or similar high class publications. The objectives of the scheme are to build a relationship with such companies, encourage the training of apprentices and reward, where appropriate the latter's achievement on the road to becoming craftsmen. It is not the intention of the scheme to identify high fliers capable of designing the next Phantom.
Of the 10 companies approached, only 4 were training apprentices and enthusiastic over the implementation of the Scheme. Documents to manage the Scheme and evaluate apprentices fairly were produced, supported by the GWS Committee and circulated to participating companies. The timescale envisaged for the process anticipated evaluations in the autumn 2016, for awards to be made at an appropriate GWS function later, (probably the AGM). The Committee had agreed funding in the first year of £1000 and participating companies agreed contributions of £250. It was expected from the outset this could be a long term commitment and cement further relationships, awards would be agreed with the relevant company and the apprentice(s), but focus on tools, instruments, etc. useful to a craftsman. Timescales have slipped, due to a variety of reasons, not least the changing employment situations and ability of companies to supply evaluation data. However, it was anticipated that interviews would commence shortly with a total of six apprentices employed by three companies.
Prior to commencing the Scheme, contact had been made with SHRMF to ensure no conflict with an initiative the Foundation was contemplating with apprentice awards. The GWS was advised of no conflict but surprised at the manner by which the Foundation, in conjunction with the FBHVC, proceeded to focus on only one company (P&A Wood) to make awards in a high profile manner to all eight of their apprentices. The GWS Committee has subsequently exchanged correspondence to ensure a full understanding of each organization's direction.

The GWS supports almost any initiative to foster the employment and training of apprentices and believes there is benefit to be gained from involving RREC Sections with the specialist companies in their region, thus the SHRMF approach represented a missed opportunity. RH and KT were requested to be delegates to the Club Conference in April to table this as a subject for discussion.

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club

5. **SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Margaret thanked her fellow Committee Members for all their work during the past year, especially to Russ for his dedicated work. The section has supported various charities, joined up with other sections, visited castle and museums, joined with other car clubs at Chippenham, Gloucester and Bath, visited the new RR and Bentley dealership at Cribbs Causeway. Enjoyed lots of lovely lunches, teas, and picnics, especially popular is our regular visit to watch Polo and a technical day to finish.
6. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** The accounts were circulated. Keith Taylor 'Apprentice' Treasurer reported a satisfactory year, with an increase in funds. He noted that interest received amounts to 12p per month. We are one of only a few sections who do not charge for membership but request donations for postage where appropriate.

The profit of £460.00 for the year would help to finance the Apprenticeship scheme.

It was proposed by Katy Spinks and seconded by Russ Herbert that the Treasurer's Report be adopted and this was carried unanimously.

7. **ELECTION OF COMMITTEE:** At this point the committee stood down and President Malcolm Tucker took the chair. He thanked the committee for all their work. Members standing for re-election – **John Ball, Margaret Ball, Ted Carver, Russ Herbert, Reg King, Wendy Parfitt, Valerie Smallwood and Keith Taylor.** It was proposed by Anthony Spender and seconded by Malcolm Hobbs that the Committee be elected en-bloc and this was agreed unanimously.

Valerie Smallwood, asked that members consider if they might like to join the committee as we now have two vacancies and John Ball emphasized that is a most enjoyable and not too onerous a position.

8. **FUTURE EVENTS:** Margaret listed planned events for 2017 and committee members gave details of their events – full details on the web-site, the Bulletin and Section Newsletters.

9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

Car Cleaning - Following the Technical Day, Keith Taylor has compiled a guide on cleaning our cars. This is now on the Club web-site, and details Code Clean products which are available from the Club Shop. It includes links to the various products recommended and will be available electronically as well as hard copies. Paper copies were available for members.

Anthony Spender kindly invited Great Western Section members to join Wessex to picnic among his bluebells early in May. This will be added to the events list.

Malcolm Hobbs noted that Robert Hobbs, a Master Blacksmith who has recently passed away, had done much restoration work in the dining room of the Great Britain which we will be visiting in March.

Mark Griffiths wondered whether we would need to charge for section membership in future to cover the costs of the Apprenticeship Scheme. Valerie assured him that the small, but regular charges made to those who attend events should cover this. Great Western Section likes to be 'different'.

Valerie noted that with the passing of Celia Fitzhugh, our part of the web-site is not up to date and appealed for help. Anthony Spender offered his services.

The meeting closed at 12.10p.m

Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club

Great Western Section AGM - Sunday 7th January 2018

Great Western Section's 32nd AGM will take place on Sunday 7th January 2018 at The Walton Park Hotel, Clevedon commencing with **coffee at 11.00am** followed by the **meeting at 11.30am**.

All committee members are willing and eligible to stand, and under Rule 4.3 of the Section Rules, are deemed to be nominated. Nominations for the committee are now requested.

A committee member is expected to attend the 3 – 4 committee meetings held each year and also to arrange and be responsible for some events, so you will see that duties are not arduous and a great deal of enjoyment can be had. If you have some good ideas and enthusiasm then please consider it.

Below is a nomination form, which it is necessary to complete and obtain a proposer and seconder, each of whom must be a Club member, of any Section, themselves.

The Secretary must receive completed forms no later than **Saturday 25th November 2017**

Depending upon the number of nominations it may be necessary to hold a ballot of members at the AGM. Any member wishing to vote by post (in the event of a ballot being necessary) must apply to the Secretary for a ballot paper.

Annual General Meeting

RREC Great Western Section - Sunday 7th January 2018

Nomination Form for Committee Membership

Persons willing to be nominated to serve on the Committee of the Section for 2018 should indicate their agreement below and be supported by a proposer and seconder.

Nominee's name (Block Capitals)	Nominee's Signature	Proposer's Signature	Seconder's Signature

Please return this form to: M. A. Ball

Chaseside, Kenn Street, Kenn, Clevedon, Somerset BS21 6TL

Email: Margaret.john@btinternet.com

Closing date Saturday 25th November 2017