

### Curborough Shakedown day 26 March

From Chas Reynolds.....

9-off Morgans, 11-off 500s, one Go-kart and one very little motorbike. That was the entry for this test day now in its third year and which continues to attract.

The day started a little cool but the weather forecast came good and from lunchtime with a glorious sunny and warm day.

After some deliberations (organising team Ian Haynes, James Smith and Chas Reynolds) and prompted by requests for additional second drivers, we extended our insurance to cover up to 40 drivers. The effect of this meant there was always a queue and thought is being given to best make sure all, next year, can have their fair share of track time. The £70 entry fee – per car – resulted in a small surplus which we are retaining and will use to keep costs down next year.

Oliver Tomlin had a disaster with his newly fitted 4 speed box in his Morgan on his first run so he was early off home to survey the carnage. The motorbike was a 50cc Kreidler. Asked the power band was, Mick said (if my memory serves me correctly) 14,600 – 17,400. WHAT!!! It was ear-splitting.....

We are always impressed with the number of folk who come to spectate, take photographs and help. They are always welcome and add to the atmosphere.

The Camerons were as usual out in force and it was especially good to see Fergus driving the Morgan to good effect. Dave Cameron gave his recently re-bonneted ex-Howard Chivral Morgan a thoroughly energetic wheel-lifting thrashing. It sounded glorious.

There was a fair amount of work required in the 500s chain department but I think all was recovered as required.

A thoroughly good day.

Chas Reynolds

### Blyton Park Track Day - Monday 7 April

Congratulations to Keith Cook for organising this event. A track day was an entirely new venture and naturally its success was always going to be uncertain. Initially it was supported by entries from some of the regulars, but at one stage it was doubtful that the required 24 entries would be achieved. Then an anonymous donor stepped forward to sponsor three under 30s – Tom Mould, Noah Bibby and Morgan Thomas. Sue Darbyshire put the word around her VSCC contacts and suddenly there was a full list.

The event itself was a great success. Keith will be doing a full report for the May Bulletin. In the meantime he sent these quotes.

From Nancy Thomas on the Morgan Three Wheeler Racing Facebook page:

*"I must thank Keith Cook and the rest of the group for a fantastic day at Blyton Park. Obviously the weather helped and it was great to see so many like minded people doing what you are supposed to do with Morgans?- Having fun!*

*Great to catch up with old friends and great to see the legend Bill Swallow swapping 2 wheels for 3 and 4!!*

*Thank you yet again*

*Nancy "*

And from Geoff Wilson on the VSCC Enthusiasts page:

*"What a fantastic day! This is the sort of thing the The Vintage Sports-Car Club - VSCC should organise if they truly want to increase the membership Tom Walker. The day was totally relaxed, no pressure to be on the grid at a set time. Everyone got as much track time as they wanted. You could take passengers, which meant people who had never experienced vintage cars got a chance to "feel the fun" for real. No need to buy expensive FIA safety kit and at £150 for the day, it was amazing value for money. Many thanks to the The Morgan Three Wheeler Club, Keith Cook for organising the day and Sue Darbyshire for sharing the opportunity to non members of the MTWC."*

Andy Spicer, auctioneer of Spicers, sponsors of our Curborough sprint emailed to say *"I thoroughly enjoyed my track day in Danny's car at Blyton on Monday, it was very kind of him to let me out in it. Kind regards, Andy"*

#### Hereford Speed Trials Centenary Tour – Friday 4 April

Five Morgans attended: Dave Anscombe (F4), Tim & Alison Giddens (Super Aero JAP), Dave Pitt (Aero JAP), Tony Quinn (SS MX2) and of course Colin Bromley co-organiser (Sports 'Safari' JAP). We met up along with a variety of pre-WW2 cars in the centre of Hereford by the Town Hall, outside which was displayed a magnificent trophy awarded in period for the Fromes Hill speed trial. Local TV and press were in attendance. We were set off at about 11:00am on a 65 mile tour in excellent weather.

We (Tony and Lily) didn't see as much of the tour route as planned due to a couple of unplanned stops to assist Dave Pitt with a few issues on his Aero. Dave ended up with very dirty hands whilst we went for lunch. Hopefully Colin and/or Stephen Kay will have written a report for the Bulletin to do justice to this celebration of motor sport in Herefordshire.

#### VSCC Silverstone – 5 April

From Sue Darbyshire.....

Hi Tony, Here's a short report from VSCC Silverstone -

Only one Morgan three wheeler at VSCC Silverstone this year, the Super Aero of Sue Darbyshire, running in the Fox and Nichol Trophy Sports Car Race. I started the day with no great expectations as I was running on the old race engine which had done sterling work 6 or 7 years ago but which had appeared well down on top speed at Spa last September. It just shows how things move on over the years. However, George did some tweaking with some new cam lobes from Ewan Cameron, and we changed valves, guides and valve springs, and were delighted to qualify in 4<sup>th</sup> place in a field of 30+ cars.

The day was bright and cold but very windy, a full head wind on the start and finish, and looking at all the runners I think it had some effect on lap times. The race ran very smoothly initially, the lead was held by Adam Moody's very fast Riley and a slow starting Rob BeeBee came through from behind with his superfast Nash to take the lead on lap 9, whilst I held a steady second then third place. Adam developed a misfire which dropped him back to third and I took over in second, about 4 seconds behind the Nash. The race descended into chaos when Rob saw the chequered flag on lap 11 but none of the rest of us saw that flag so carried on racing for another lap whilst he slowed right down. The results were declared on lap 12 which meant that I had won so we had all the podium etc but as a result of a complaint from Rob the results were revised to stand from the previous lap and he was correctly declared the winner. Apparently a faulty flag was blamed!

So a very brief win but a perfect second in the circumstances we were delighted. The winter refresh had really transformed the engine, and now we are looking forward to getting a new engine from Ewan up and running in time for the next event.

Kind regards, Sue

#### Calling all under 30s and their generous relatives....

At its January meeting the club's main committee approved a 50% subsidy of entry fees for under 30s at Loton Park hillclimb, the club's Curborough twisty sprint and the NHCA's all-bike hillclimb at Shelsley Walsh. This is subject to an overall cap of £1,000 and is yet another great opportunity to help in securing the future of Morgan competition and club activity in general.

#### Calling all 'oldies'

Don't forget that day licences for hillclimbs and sprints are available to all competitors provided that they hold a valid DVLA driving licence. In anticipation of a flood of entries from coffin dodgers, Lesley has stocked up with ACU one day licence pads.

#### **Upcoming Events**

Loton Park Hillclimb - Easter weekend - Sat/Sun18/19 April

We have the largest entry for Loton for some years. The F type racers will be there in force as will the methanol burners of Tuer, Shotton, Rew and Cowley. Touring Mod will be represented by Tony and Cathy Quinn in the SS MX2 and F2 respectively. Steve Lister is bringing out his lovely Aero with ex-Clive Lones KMB Blackburne too, so why not come to spectate?

#### Wiscombe Park – Saturday 10 May

Organised by the 500 Owners Association hillclimb near Honiton, Devon who specially put on a class for Morgans under ACU rules. Entries so far are Tony, Tim/Alison Giddens, Phil Yarnall and Alistair Rew/Jenny Baker. Alistair is also entering the VSCC event at Wiscombe the following day.

#### Curborough – Sunday 8 June

This year is looking good for our very own club sprint. At £90 for a day's sport it's pretty good value by today's standards. And remember it's only £45 for under 30s entering in a Morgan.

If you are new to competition we can link you with a buddy to guide you through the preparation for this event

#### MTWC Challenge Series 2025

Sat/Sun 19/20<sup>th</sup> April – Loton Park Hillclimb, Allberbury, Shropshire  
Sun 8<sup>th</sup> June – Curborough Sprint course, nr Lichfield, Staffordshire  
Sat 5<sup>th</sup> July – Shelsley Walsh hillclimb, Worcestershire  
Sat/Sun 12/13<sup>th</sup> July – BHR Darley Moor race circuit, nr Ashbourne, Derbys  
Sat/Sun 16/17<sup>th</sup> August – BHR Anglesey race circuit  
Sat/Sun 13/14<sup>th</sup> September – BHR Cadwell Park race circuit, nr Louth, Lincs

#### Feedback and News Items

Many, many thanks to contributors to this month's Competition News. More please.

*Tony Quinn*

Competition Treasurer

And finally, some photos. Photo credits are sometimes best guesses. Apologies if I have got any credits wrong. Scroll down the pages.....



Oliver Tomlin with the 3 speeder Super Sports JAP JTOR at the Curborough shakedown. Photo: Chas Reynolds



Richard Simonite pilots the lovely ex-Dave Pittuck Darmont racer at the Curborough shakedown. Photo: Chas Reynolds



Dave Cameron exploring the handling limits in the ex-Howard Chivral racer. Note the new low bonnet that Dave has made. Photo: John Harwood



All ready for some track work. Keith Cook's F2 at Blyton. Photo: Keith Cook



Five Morgans lined up at Hereford Town Hall. Note the impressive Fromes Hill trophy being guarded at the entrance. Photo: Dave Anscombe



Sue at VSCC Silverstone Spring Start meeting. Photo: Glyn Evans

Thanks to those who kindly gave permission for their photos to be used.