

North Devon Sports & Classic Car Club

October 2025



CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Just to finish off August we went to Uffculme where we encountered some inclement weather, but the new dome gazebo came into its own, giving us some shelter from the wet sunshine!! The show itself had a great vibe even with the showers and I would encourage more of our members to give it a try.

As we leave September behind, I looked back at a great month for the club, it all started with a visit to North Devon Metalcraft, I did not attend but from all accounts it was well worth a visit and hear about their workshop, my thanks go to Mike Simpkins for organising this.

Then on to bingo night at the Roundswell Community Hall. At the start of the evening we had a talk from Phil of South West Blood Bikes, which we all found very insightful regarding what the guys do as volunteers and the impact it has on the local NHS, how they are able to save them money and free up NHS personnel so they can carry out more duties helping the public ie: us.

With good attendance some fun was had, what with Clare Kane on calling duties and Judy Down passing out the prizes for the winners a great time was had. Ann Whitehead ran a raffle and between the two, we managed to raise £370 a great effort and thanks to Judy Down for organizing the evening.

Castle Combe Autumn Classic, a small but enthusiastic number of members went and watched some classic cars giving it there all in dry weather, our thanks go to Tim Hatcher for organizing this.

The nice surprise event was Heanton Nursing Home, where we were asked to bring along some cars to show the residents and locals and to help raise funds for Alzheimers Research UK. The home had put on a BBQ and hot and cold drinks only asking for donations and again the members did not disappoint when it comes to giving, helping to raise the great sum of £355 on the day. Our thanks go to Alister Young for doing all the work to get our first visit off the ground.

To finish the month off the club attended the event at the Big Sheep, where the weather returned giving those who attended a lovely day, with over 140 vehicles the show was full. It was a busy day for all, our thanks go to Mike Simpkins and his team of helpers for making sure all got a space. The Big Sheep provided some prizes to be handed out, which were gratefully received by the winners, and we managed to recruit 10 new members—welcome.

This was the last of the outdoor events, apart for the Autumn run to Haynes Motor Museum, if you think this is something you would like to do please contact Robin Smith (robin@rjs61.net) and he will book you in.

Our last event of the year where we can show off our cars is The Pannier Market, where come rain or shine, we will gather in the dry and you can book in with me. At the show we will be presenting a cheque to this year charity Southwest Blood Bikes plus we still will be fund raising on the day with a draw and the Tombola, so lets finish the year on a high.

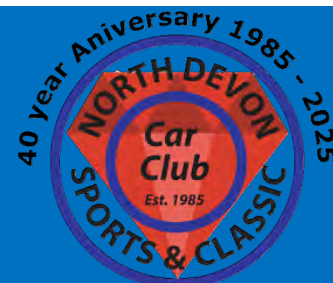
We still have things to attend like Breakfast meets, book with Judy Down and we also have the Nosh and Natters please contact John & Geraldine Kenyon if you wish to attend any of these, all events are in this Newsletter.

And last of all my thanks go to all the event Organizers and all those who gave their time to make all the shows the success they ended up being and to you the members who have once again showed just how generous you are and to the people who have attended as non-members who have always been greeted with friendliness and goodwill, I thank you all.

Bye for now

Mark

NDSCCC COMMITTEE - 2025 /2026



CHAIR

Mark Coles - 01271 375952
gardenbirds1962@gmail.com

VICE CHAIR

Ian McPhie— 07360 220093
ian.mcphie@live.co.uk

SECRETARY

Clare Kane
 152 Moreton Park Rd
 Bideford
 Devon EX39 3HB
 07837 364841
ndsccecsec@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Bob Meller
 40 Daneshay
 Northam
 Devon EX39 1DG
 07773 578282
ndsccec.membership@gmail.com

TREASURER

Clive England
 The Acers
 Goats Hill Rd
 Northam
 Devon EX39 1AJ
 07771 887094
clive@spikynorman.net

EVENTS CO-ORDINATORS

Di Coles - 01271 375952
macdes54@gmail.com
Mike Simpkins
m.simpkins893@btinternet.com
Ant Kane — 07823 447469
antkane25@gmail.com
John Whitehead—01271 866213 - 07752 576668
johnwhitehead1947@gmail.com
Alastair Young
alastairjyoung@gmail.com
Robin Smith—07971493811
robin@rjs61.net

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Bob Meller
 07773 578282
ndsccec.newsletter@gmail.com

SOCIAL REP.

Judy Down — 07870 818011
jdown24@hotmail.com

CHARITY & FUNDRAISING LIAISON

Ann Whitehead — 01271 866213
annwhitehead1947@hotmail.com

MERCHANDISE CO-ORDINATOR

Rob Martin
robjohn.martin60@gmail.com

MEDIA TECHNICIAN

Tim Barker - Website / Social Media
tjambarker@yahoo.com

NDSCCC EVENTS CALENDAR—2025

IMPORTANT - Please note:

At all Club events, a member of your committee may take details of you and your car. This is for several reasons:-

- 1 — It allows the Club to check that your membership is current and therefore you are covered by our insurance
- 2 — It allows the Club to keep the database of vehicles current
- 3 — It allows us to track attendance to see how viable / popular events are

All information is solely for the use of the Club and no information is passed on to third parties. We trust you will support us in this matter.

If you do not agree, please let the Membership Secretary know.

MEETING POINTS FOR EVENTS

To keep things simple, the following meeting points will be used for events

Bideford – Affinity (Atlantic Village) Main Car Park, Clovelly Rd, Bideford EX39 3QU

Barnstaple – Tesco Car Park, Rose Lane, Barnstaple EX32 8PG

Tiverton—Homebase Car Park, Lowman Way, Tiverton EX16 6SR

South Molton – Eastbound Truck Stop on A361, South Molton EX36 4RZ

NDSCCC— Where We've Been Heanton Nursing Home

Almost to the minute on Sunday 21st September as the cast arrived, the clouds parted, the sun came out and the BBQ started.

Such a lovely local, informal event for the residents, their families and some locals. It was kindly organised by the Home for World Alzheimer's Day. Incredibly based solely on donations from those attended, in a relatively short period of time, we raised an amazing £355 for Alzeihmers Research UK. Excellent and thank you.

Great selection of 15 cars from all eras, Club members (and their dogs!) and together with the blue sky, a fabulous view over the estuary and an abundance of chicken wings (!!) it was one of those occasions you just wanted "to bottle".

As we head towards the close of the busy season thanks must go to all of you and your generosity in attending not just Heanton but elsewhere.....here's to next year.



NDSCCC— Where We've Been Castle Combe



NDSCCC— Where We've Been Big Sheep



NDSCCC— Member Contribution

Graham & Polly Hawkes



We were Invited to take our 1971 Morris Traveller to Haynes Motor Museum on the 7th of September to the inaugural classic car show to celebrate the life of the late John Haynes and the 40th anniversary of him opening the Museum in Somerset. The showground was packed with vehicles from the 1930s right up to fairly modern

Above is a display of Morris Minors that came off the production line but were a bit different from the normal Morris 1000s being made.

To the left is one of the very first lowlight split windscreen Morris's and one of the very last; it being our Traveller which they wanted mainly because of the colour which is "Limeflower". Very few were ever made in this colour, used only in the last ten months of production.

Next was a Minor Million it being one of only 350 ever made to celebrate the manufacturer of one million Morris Minor's. These were all painted Lilac with white upholstery and 320 of them were distributed to the Morris dealerships in the U.K. The remaining 30 went to dealerships abroad.

The next was a G.P.O. van, although quite a common sight on the roads at one time most of them were run into the ground so this is a rare sight to see one complete with ladders and all the equipment inside.

Finally there is a pickup which is still a great little workhorse for a roofing contractor.

The showground looks a little empty but I waiting until nearly everyone had left to get a photo without crowds of people blocking the line up. It was a marvellous show very enjoyable.

NDSCCC— Member Contribution

Tim Hunt

Tim sent this discussion piece for your perusal

At the age of 79 I like to think my driving technique is pretty well sorted. However, every day is a school day at the wheel and one should always be open to learn. I must confess that for many years, when approaching road works on a dual carriageway or motorway when signals warned of one or more lanes closed ahead I would take the open lane early and be happy to join a line of slow moving or stationary traffic while the other lanes might remain nearly empty. I used to think of overtaking drivers as selfish 'queue jumpers' and even welcomed the practice of some HGV drivers who would stop in an open lane some way short of the restriction to prevent just this sort of overtaking. I now recognise that this is a silly and potentially dangerous practice and am now convinced that I was wrong and the best approach is to merge in turn as recommended in Rule 134 of the Highway Code. You should drive right up to the line of cones used to close a lane and then merge in 'zip' mode. In this way all vehicles will stay in their lane right up to the lane closure. Any tailback is kept to a minimum since slow moving and stationary vehicles are spread over all available lanes right up to the lane closure(s). A reduction in the difference in speeds between the lanes, without the urgency to move over, makes the merge easier and safer. The length of a queue is reduced by up to 50% and, when nobody has a perceived advantage, the potential for 'road rage' is reduced significantly. It is noticeable that the road signs 'When Queueing Use Both Lanes' and 'Merge in Turn' are becoming more widespread. It is to be hoped that with time this practice will become universal with its advantages widely recognised.

Tim Hunt

NDSCCC Membership

CLUB SHOP

MERCHANDISE UPDATE

We have a quantity of items which have been carried for some time. They are slowly reducing in number and I feel that it is now time to refresh our stock.

It is your club and if you have any suggestions of merchandise we could offer, do please let me know at robjohn.martin60@gmail.com

I look forward to hearing your ideas.



THERMAL INSULATED MUGS £8 each, 2 for £15

UMBRELLAS £20

CAPS AND BEANIES £10 each

NOTEBOOK/PEN SET £5 each

CLUB KEYRING £2 each

IRON ON CLOTH BADGES £3 each

NDSCCC - Members Advertisement

NDSCCC does not endorse any product or service appearing in the classified advertising featured in this Newsletter.

Members are invited to advertise here free of charge.

Adverts will run for 3 issues unless the Editor is contacted to renew / cancel.

Anything car / garage related – for sale or wanted.

Or items you wish to pass on Free of Charge

WANTED

Any automobile related signage, suitable artefacts etc. for my "man cave".

Cash waiting. Please contact Tim timhatcher63@gmail.com or 07968434577



Stock photo – not really Tim's Man Cave

NDSCCC - Members Advertisement

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FOR SALE

002

1975 MGB Roadster

After 13+ years of enjoyable ownership, I have decided to sell my MGB. Although I'm a big MG fan, and have owned four over the years, I now wish to look for something else. My MGB is running very well and will hopefully provide a new owner many years of enjoyment.

Below is a precis of the MGB; -

An MGOC Ivor Searle reconditioned unleaded 1798cc engine has been recently fitted, and covered only ~1300 miles since fitment, and is maintaining 60psi oil pressure.

To complement the engine replacement, a new balanced clutch kit, balanced flywheel and slave cylinder were fitted, plus a new 123 electronic ignition.

Other enhancements added are; -

- o New Alternator.
- o New water pump.
- o Replacement vinyl seats and carpet.
- o Chrome bumper conversion.
- o Stainless Steel Exhaust
- o Telescopic Bonnet Struts.
- o Upgraded heater matrix and two-speed fan.
- o MGOC Balanced Propshaft.
- o Replacement electric fuel pump.
- o Replaced rear wheel bearings.
- o Replacement radiator and full set of hoses.
- o Polished Alloy Rocker Cover.
- o Half & Full Tonneau covers (incl. headrests & Steering Wheel covers).
- o New lightweight high-torque starter motor.
- o New fuse box.
- o Reconditioned dashboard in crinkle black finish.
- o Moto Lita Steering Wheel.
- o 4 x New MGOC alloy wheels and tyres.
- o MGOC seat belt guides.
- o Replacement oil cooler and stainless-steel pipes.
- o MGOC Reconditioned axle/differential.
- o Full repaint (coach/hand painted).
- o New front and rear springs, bushes & shackles.
- o Mesh Wind Blocker.

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More photos on next page.



NDSCCC - Members Advertisement

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FOR SALE

1975 MGB Roadster Cont'd

The MGB comes with a fully documented history/purchases.

The MGB has a working overdrive on 3rd & 4th gears. And has been recently serviced and tuned.

The MGB has always been garaged, everything works, it runs lovely, and is in very good condition throughout.

I am open to sensible offers. If you are interested, please give me a call on 07901 906006 (Gary).



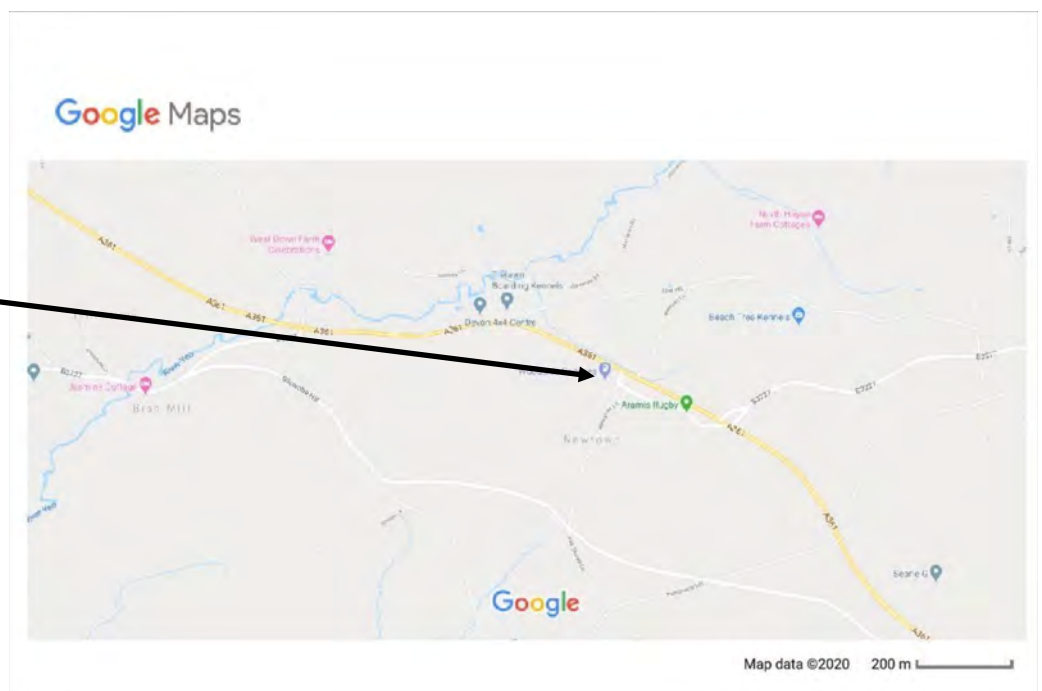
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Woodside Garage
Newtown
Bishops Nympton
South Molton
Devon
EX36 3QP

A small petrol station built in the 1950s, on the old route of the A361. The road was realigned in the 1980s, and re-joining the road when heading east requires a short detour.



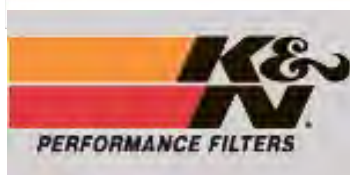
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Hobbs Auto Electrics

Peter Hannam (HOBBIT)



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Radios, Car Phones, Fault Finding
on Cars, Lorries, Buses, Campers, &
Boats



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