



Forest Forays.



April 2005
Issue 44



The Annual Lunch & Prize Giving

Sunday 10th April dawned with a clear blue sky; an ideal day for a drive to Sway in the heart of the New Forest for the Annual Lunch to celebrate 26 years of the MSCC New Forest Centre.



This year's venue was the Sway Manor Hotel, who had provided us with designated parking and their "washer-up" as our very own car park attendant.

The room was beautifully laid out for us and Hazel Bartholomew's fantastic flower arrangements added the perfect finishing touch.

In the main lounge, a pianist played jazz in a mellow tone and members were welcomed with a glass of Bucks Fizz which helped them catch up with friends. Meanwhile outside, the local newspaper reporter photographed the cars and spoke to their owners, putting together a potted history of the club. Tables were each named after a race track; imagine the dilemma as to where to place our racing hero Rick Lloyd! The service was excellent and the meal seemed to please everyone. When it came to deserts each table was called up one by one to choose from a trolley groaning with puddings to die for; it was said that Paul Bompas thought he had died and gone to heaven!!!!

After lunch Peter spoke briefly about the club's activities in 2004 and thanked the committee for their support, especially Colin who keeps us on the straight and narrow. He thanked all those who have organised noggins and scenic runs and said how much he appreciated the newer members involvement in adopting a noggin; he also congratulated Steve and Tina and welcomed Kathryn Scholey as the youngest member of the club. Special thanks went to Hazel Bartholomew for the beautiful table decorations which were later presented to the ladies in a flower raffle.

Mention was made of sending the newsletter by email to those members online. The upside of this is that you will see it in full colour; the club cannot afford to produce colour hard copies and so this is the next best thing. For those on broadband, the download will take about 2 minutes. The downside is that those with a dial-up connection will have to be patient and download it at a quiet time as it will take about twenty five minutes. Your dilemma will be whether to print it or not. Those members not online will be sent their usual black and white copy by post; the first e-mailing will happen shortly

Entertainment followed in the shape of a musical slide presentation of the Camm's visit to the Arctic Circle, complete with the song 'Morgan Driver' which came as a surprise. By the time the 'virtual' journey had been through Norway and Lapland, finally reaching Sweden en route for home, the room was rocking to the sound of the members singing along with Abba; maybe we should have a Karaoke evening (joke)!!!!



Alan & Jane Foster win the Keith Allen Memorial Trophy

Paul Bompas then gave an excellent dissertation leading up to the 2004 winner of the Keith Allen Memorial trophy. Alan Foster had absolutely no idea it was he Paul was speaking about and nearly fell off his chair when his name was announced! Likewise when Loretta and Peter Simpson were awarded the very first presentation of the Ken and Janet Hill Challenge Trophy. With a total of 32 points they were well ahead of the other members. Congratulations to both the Fosters and the Simpsons.

The surprise raffle caused a great deal of fun and a scene reminiscent of Christmas with parcels being unwrapped with great excitement and hoots of laughter. It was altogether a very good day out and now presents the committee with a real challenge to find a venue equally as good; if you know somewhere, please tell me.
Editor



Loretta & Peter Simpson win the Ken & Janet Hill Trophy



Irene Helme collects the trophy on behalf of Team Spotmog

After a five-year gap it was time for a return skittles match with the Gloucestershire Centre "SpotMog," playing for the coveted trophy made by one of their members.

And so it was, that on a bright Sunday morning many Morgans headed for the pub at West Lavington in Somerset.

Our youngest team member was Kathryn Scholey aged four weeks, therefore reducing the average age of our team well below SpotMogs'. We thought we were in with a good chance of winning. !

After a roast lunch and a sticky pudding to give us strength the first ball was played and battle commenced.

Both teams played extremely well and the going was tough; balls literally *bounced* down the alley!

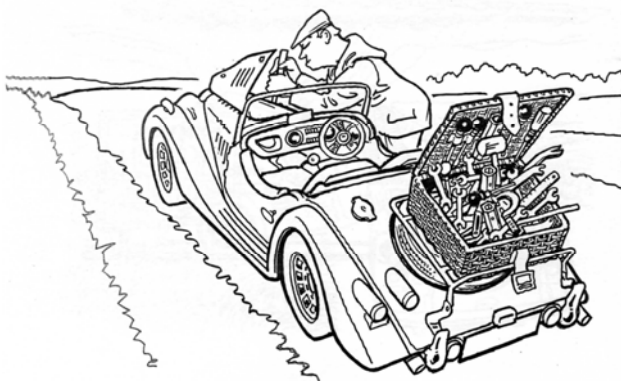
LogMog were 2 points up as, with baited breath, the final ball was bowled.

Success was so nearly ours; however in true sporting style, SpotMog allowed us to come a respectable second!

Thanks to all who travelled to play in the match and to SpotMog our sincere congratulations.

You know you've owned a Morgan too long when.....

- You always park downhill.
- Melvyn Rutter is listed as a dependent on your income tax form.
- You get in a car and are surprised when all of the instruments work.
- You tell your wife that you were out until 3AM because the car broke down...and she believes you.
- The family is no longer upset in having to share the dinner table with a bunch of SU parts.
- You don't trust anyone named Lucas.
- When your generator dies, you just pull another out of your Lucas pile of bits.
- You wash your hands BEFORE working in the engine compartment.
- You'd rather give the family pit bull a bath than grease your front suspension.
- You allow four hours for a trip, 3 for repairs and 1 for driving.
- You can un-stick a jammed starter in the dark, in the rain, in 5 minutes and don't think it's a big deal (though it still takes you 4 hours to put the top up.)



- When there's no oil on the garage floor so you know the car is completely empty.
- Your car makes an almost indiscernible funny sound and you immediately know what's wrong, how much it will cost, and what tools you will need to repair it.

As seen in go Mog



Introducing Kathryn Ellen Scholey
 Born February 10th weighing 9lb: 5oz
 LogMog's Youngest Member who
 attended her first Noggin at 4 weeks old.
 Many Congratulations to Tina and Steve

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- SPOTLIGHT COVERS - in black vinyl and inner padding..... £15/pr

All prices include VAT & Mainland Postage



Classic Le Mans 2004 - A Hybrid Trip

Half the pleasure of these things is in the planning. We had been to the inaugural Classic Le Mans in 2002 which was a fantastic experience. I have been an old car fan since I was a child as result of going to Snetterton every other week-end with my father who was Medical Officer, and to VSCC meetings at Silverstone. Classic Le Mans had cars racing from the 1920's up to the 70's on the most legendary circuit in the world - heaven!

2002 had been accomplished using my 1936 Riley Lynx. This time, having acquired my first Mog in the interim, was to be Morgan mounted. So how shall we go, independent or commercial tour? The best way clearly was going to be with the MSCC and the wonderful Quentin and Anne. I would like to have joined the full Morgan tour but my very good chum Jim Watters is always up for these trips. Jim is a diminutive Scot who has a breadth of engineering knowledge and has helped (and taught!) during the Riley re-builds. An all-round good egg but for one thing; poor miss-guided boy has a 1982 911! Therefore we couldn't join the rest of the MSCC in their accommodation, but Quentin was more than happy to fix tickets and circuit entry, including the Morgan parking area for both of us, and track laps!! The 911 became an honorary Mog for the week-end. Very appropriate!!

We fixed ferries/accommodation with Continental Car Tours and the morning of departure dawned bright and sunny, ideal for the (very) early run to Portsmouth. The ferry over was as always a plethora of delicious motors, an impressive turnout of Sunbeam Tigers and quite a few other Morgan's and much back slapping as old acquaintances were renewed.

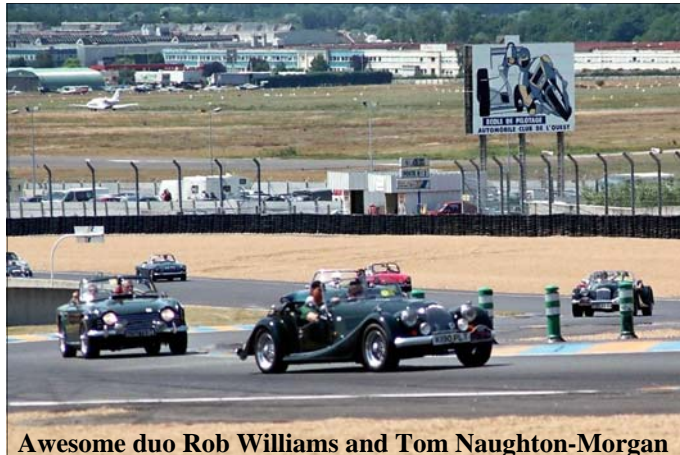
After a pleasant crossing (the Club cabin is always worth the extra tenner!), we set off to Le Mans with the Porsche leading to do the map reading, but after we had done a tour of Le Havre the wrong way, I took the lead as I have done trip quite a few times. At Pont de Normandy an impressive thunder storm started and as we ascended onto the bridge, forks of lightning were going past us into the ground!! Shortly after, a deluge started; I of course had the lid down and to stop would have guaranteed a soaking, so press on regardless!! The +4 performed brilliantly in the wet, but Jim was all over the place with the 911's ridiculously wide boy racer tyres. After that we had an uneventful run to our hotel in the centre of Le Mans. Most of the other rooms were taken by Continental Car Tours, so more fun. Jim, in true Celtic fashion nearly had a 'set to' in the garage with a somewhat anal Brit who ironically was a Porsche Owners Club official, over a parking space. Then we helped an Essex boy with a GT40 Rep with a slow puncture.

The only jack that would go low enough to go under the GT40 was, you guessed it, mine from the Morgan!

Friday was hot and we went early to the circuit to catch practice. The usual French may-hem to get into the Morgan parking, perfectly situated behind the Dunlop bridge, then off round the paddocks, each divided into the racing groups. A wonderful opportunity to really look at the cars, particularly Morgans and Rileys. You can't really get this close at many other meetings, certainly not the ordinary Le Mans.

Friday night was spent in pleasant company in Le Mans Old Town, and so as Mr Pepys would say, to bed. An early start Saturday morning as we had to be at the Morgan parking by 10.00am, partly not to miss anything and partly to be ready for THE TRACK LAPS! This was just the best fun. At the last minute I was joined in the Mog by another friend Tom Naughton-Morgan (very appropriate!) who jumped over the crash barriers just before we went out, having spent 3 hours

fighting his way into the circuit and then having to threaten several French officials with a very unpleasant death to get his tickets.



Awesome duo Rob Williams and Tom Naughton-Morgan

The sight and sound of 80+ Morgans streaming put onto the track was quite awesome, (picked that up from the teenagers -hope you are impressed!) Doing 2 laps of Le Mans was a real experience; some of the corners are really tight. Goodness knows how the boys get round at racing

speed. So to the racing. Wonderful Le Mans starts, very close racing, excellent performances from the Morgans. TOK is such a good sight at speed.

The Saturday/Sunday melts into a "petrol-head heaven "blur. The lovely French girls selling the programmes (I bought one and then had to go back another one, the lass was so sweet! -programme that is!); dinner in Arnage village and the night racing at Arnage corner, chats with other Morganeers in the Espace Club, the smell of Castrol R. The Sunday lunchtime cheese pique-nique with ALL the racing Morgans and drivers has already become a legend-it really was that good! Eventually the chequered flag came down on the last race and we reluctantly left the circuit for a final meal in Le Mans Old town enlivened by a Russian folk band. Monday was a straight run back to Le Havre and back to work next day.

Classic Le Mans is an outing not to be missed. The friendliness of all the Morganeers makes a wonderful event great. If you haven't been, make sure you do in 2006. Will I be going? Well, life can be so cruel. The youngest off-spring's end of A-levels Speech Day and Ball is the same week-end and even I have to admit that *that* will not be repeated. The Classic will be there in 2008. However I hope a good Logmog contingent will be there next year.

The Morgan Factory Visit



1 Dickson Smith, Vice-Chairman of MSCC, was our host and guide for the factory visit. Here in the dispatch shop he outlined the set up of the factory.



2 We were then free to wander through the workshops watching the craftsmen assemble the skeletons of the cars. Jobs at the Morgan factory are much sought after with over 140 applicants for just one position



3 Here we watched how the aluminium is laid over the wooden frame, buffed and polished in preparation for the paintshop.



4 The highlight of the day was spotting the magnificent Aeromax, Morgan's concept car, funded by and built for a Swiss Prince. The Aero 8 pales into insignificance beside this retro star.



5 With a price tag in the region of £100k there have already been forty customers interested in placing an order. During the course of the day not one criticism of the Aeromax was voiced and it was agreed that it was an outstanding success for the company.



6 As the visit drew to a close Charles Morgan told us that due to his PR and overseas commitments, a new Chief Executive had been appointed to run the factory on a day to day basis but that ultimately the buck stopped with him. An interesting day indeed for us all.

An Intimate Experience with the Morgan Front Suspension - demonstrated by George Proudfoot

Considering it was Good Friday evening, the committee were not sure whether they'd get an audience for the George Proudfoot lecture and demonstration at Damerham Village Hall. They need not have worried; the room was packed with members eager to learn from George's wealth of experience. In fact Sue Paz was so keen she arrived in time for lunch in the pub and a country

ramble with Julie Fancy! They were the only ladies at the demonstration; the others all disappeared for a "girls night out" at the pub.

George, in his inimitable style, had spent a great deal of time preparing for the lecture. He bought both a Series 1 and a Plus 8 crosshead with him together with everything else needed to build up the suspension. He even had a cut down main spring to avoid the possibility of springs bouncing about the room with possible risk to life and limb.

His explanation and demonstration were brilliant



and the newer members amongst us now really know how the front suspension works. Even the old hands enjoyed themselves but George was not to be drawn on his trade secrets. Nevertheless everyone learned something and there was a lively question and answer session afterwards with some of the old hands (notably Peter Gutteridge) giving us the benefit of their experience.

The general consensus was that George's was the best demonstration of its type we had ever seen.

After the demonstration we joined the ladies in the pub and the session continued for another hour or so. Thank you George for a marvellous evening; it was certainly one of the best noggins we have ever had and the members are still talking about it!

The committee are now looking for someone to give a technical talk next year. Are YOU the person we are looking for - could YOU adopt a workshop?

Peter Camm

"What a great innovation having a mechanical talk on the Front Suspension of the Morgan" said Jill Gutteridge enthusiastically; "better leave the men to it then".

A convenient pub just opposite the village hall seemed to be the best place for the ladies to meet. We had a very enjoyable evening; topics of conversation ranged from felling overgrown leylandii, reconstruction of fences, dodgy neighbours, books and families.

Whilst the men were enjoying the intricacies of engines over coffee and chocolate biscuits, we had a glass or two of delicious wines and ordered our choice from the comprehensive menu. By the time the men joined us later on in the evening we were well away in more ways than one!

I say lets have more technical talks! *Please!!!!!!*





REPORT FROM THE MSCC AGM DINNER/DANCE



We had the hood up as we drove to the Abbey Hotel on a fairly wet and miserable day, calling into Steve Simmonds smart new workshop with a view to fitting a strong box into the car for the Morgans over America trip; he was closed!

Onwards to the Abbey Hotel in Great Malvern; a rabbit warren of a place, rambling in all directions and best described as “shabby chic” (and a tad passed its sell by date). We were shown to our “upgraded” room, complete with four poster bed, three piece suite (with loose covers actually in tatters) and a bathroom complete with a “mature” Jacuzzi.

We mooched down to the most splendid Waitrose (for vital supplies) and then with time to relax before dinner, tried out the room facilities – a leisurely bath (taking care to preserve the new hairdo for the following night’s dinner/dance). What a wonderful way to relax after “blasting” up the motorway I thought, as I lay submerged with my gin and tonic; now, let’s switch on the Jacuzzi. In a nanosecond I was almost DROWNED by thundering water jets akin to fire hoses – they shot up the wall, onto the ceiling and everywhere else, nearly blowing my head off and completely saturating my hairdo – what a hoot!

The welcome dinner was great fun – and really delicious, and gave us the opportunity to meet up with Morgan friends and also to meet Jeremy Harrison, the UK Organiser of MOA (Morgans over America) and Elaine Fisher the USA Organiser. Elaine and husband Phillip had flown in especially for the event, to meet the UK participants, answer questions and to give us all the opportunity to choose regalia for the trip.

Next morning we met up for a full English breakfast, after which everyone did their own thing until the AGM. We heard that Steve Simmonds was opening up shop especially for the weekend so went along to meet him. His shop was full of Italian Morganeers buying all kinds of regalia and then some, whilst the Garage was full of Brits admiring the beautiful cars Steve was working on. Here a magnificent bright yellow Bentley and over there the Morgan that Steve is converting for his personal use (now that IS worth a look)!!! Several of us were drooling over a scintillating silver Aero 8, being checked over by the new owner, whose wife and two children were wondering where they might fit into Dad’s new toy.....and then there were the Americans, who had come to order new seats for one of their Morgans, but hadn’t bought measurements with them; all very entertaining. Steve, ever the perfectionist, actually measured me up whilst I sat in the car, to ensure that my feet were in the correct position before fitting the box and then fitted my seat with an inflatable lumbar cushion, it’s fabulously comfortable.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

After a pub lunch with the CranMog crowd it was back to the hotel to grab a seat for the AGM. Only those producing their membership cards were given an orange voting card; a few folk were upset about this but those are the rules and they stuck to them! The room was packed, with people standing at the back. At 3.00pm precisely Malcolm Lamb began the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking everyone for all the “man hours” they put into “keeping the club alive”.

Financial matters followed; details of which you have seen in Miscellany.

- We were told that the reason the calendar cost £8k this year as opposed to £4k last year was because last year the calendar was posted with Miscellany and MSCC got clobbered for extra postage costs.
- One member questioned the cost of the calendar and we were advised that the cost was reviewed annually.

Charles Morgan has become the new club President.

Peter Morgan:

- Many donations were given towards the cost of the stained glass window in his memory, although only one centre contributed.
- The surplus £500 after the purchase of the window, is being donated to the church.
- Following approval by Malvern Planning Dept, it is hoped that a statue of HFS and Peter Morgan will be erected on the green, facing the old Morgan factory site.

The new Chairman and Committee were voted in and Malcolm Lamb was thanked for all that he had done for the club. Malcolm presented the incoming chairman Tony Oliver with an original painting of the Morgan range, to be held by him during his term of office.

The meeting ended at 4.15pm after which there was a meeting with Jeremy Harrison and the MOA participants. A great deal of time was spent in discussion about insurance for the cars and participants and the regalia selected – very nice it is too. It was interesting to meet our fellow travellers, some of whom are joining us from Belgium, Switzerland and the Isle of Man. It was also interesting to note how many couples who own two Morgans (!) are travelling in their four-seaters (more luggage –ha ha)

The Dinner/Dance was held in the Elgar Suite with about 300 people dressed in posh frocks and DJ’s including our own 007 look-alike Alan Foster. We were placed amongst the MOA crowd so that we could all get to know each other better. The meal was delicious; I gather there is a new chef who is evidently far, far better than the previous one. The raffle followed the meal, with the factory donating a leather flying jacket worth £400.

The speeches were highly amusing with Charles Morgan in great form; he told many stories including a quote from the last president of the Honda Company who said that “*at the way the automobile industry is going there will only be five big manufacturers left*” and then after a slight pause added – “*and of course Morgan*” at which the room erupted in applause. He also said that the company were proud of having introduced four new models in the past year and mentioned the new roadster lightweight to encourage motor racing.

The presentation of trophies was next and included mention of three won by our own Rick Lloyd – well done Rick. Then it was on with the dancing.....

There were many bleary eyes at breakfast after which everyone made a bee-line for the “Spares Fair”. There were lots of stalls selling all manner of things Morgan, both new and second-hand. The Regalia stand was open for business and there were also craft stalls of all kinds. Gradually people drifted off home or to the Noggin at the Swan. We fully intended to go to the pub but found to our dismay that the foot-wells in our car were full of water; hey-ho another “thing to do” before we go on holiday! We decided to abandon the pub and make for home as it had stopped raining and we could at long last put the hood down. We had a great journey home – freezing cold, conducive to broken veins in the cheeks, but bracing!!!!

Would we do it again? Yes we would. We have never been to the AGM before but we will certainly go again having enjoyed ourselves enormously. I would have no hesitation at staying at the Abbey, the food is great and the deal is a good one. There is a re-modernisation programme in progress which I guess will take a while to complete as it is such a large hotel. I hope some of you will join us next year, it would be even more fun to make up a party. The weather this year was appalling, which was a great pity as the surroundings are so beautiful and we were keen to go walking – maybe next year it’ll be dry; will you join us?

Pauline



**THE WRINKLEYS &
CRINKLEY'S INVASION OF N.Z.**
18th October – 8th November 2004

**Richard & Carol Worrall
Bob & Chris Wright &
Peter & Loretta Simpson**
Article by Loretta and Peter

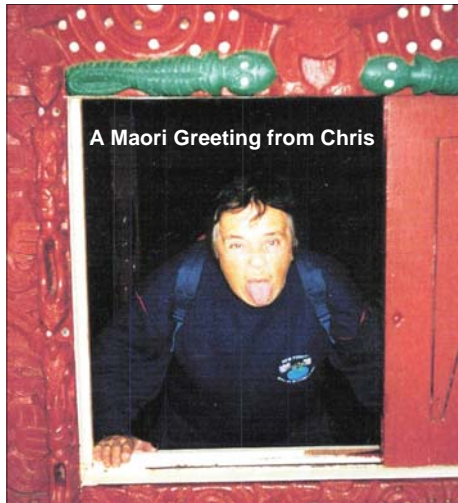
It started on a cold wet summer afternoon in July 2004. 'How about a holiday abroad' said Richard, waxing lyrical about driving his beloved Betsy round New Zealand (he doesn't do Little Dreams). The idea was terrific but impractical due to the timescale, so we modified it to Camper Vans.

Within 2 weeks we'd booked our flights. The plan was to fly to Auckland, tour North Island, take the ferry to South Island, see all the sights & fly out of Christchurch. Sound simple? Believe me it wasn't. We all flew out of England on different days, visiting different countries en route & travelling with different airlines. Don't know how we did it but we all arrived at the van hire company on the same afternoon. Pete & I were the last to arrive at Auckland Airport, and as pre arranged, we rang Adventure Travel to be picked up. Imagine the scene; extremely tired after flight from Singapore, pouring with rain, very cold & along comes a white van flashing its lights & with a banner flying out of the window with 'Welcome to N.Z Mummy & Daddy'. 'Our son' Richard was on top form and my day was suddenly much better & brighter.

Each couple hired a 5 berth Camper Van which had looked good in the brochure; panoramic back windows, well equipped, all mod cons. We were not disappointed; mind you by the time we'd stowed everything 5 people would not have fitted in without at least two strapped to the roof! After sorting paperwork & maps we set off to fuel up & buy groceries & booze. Then our leader said 'Follow me, we've a 3 hour journey to first camp site, heading for Pikiri.' Now, I was told N.Z is wonderful, you can travel miles without seeing another vehicle. Simple thought I, not even pulling a map out; they should have said that excludes Auckland! First we hit peak traffic, did about 10 miles in first hour & got lost several times. By the time we reached our destination, desperately hanging onto Richard's tail, I thought the end of the world had come. Being the only non campers in the party was quite a cultural shock, but one I planned to overcome, quickly, very quickly!

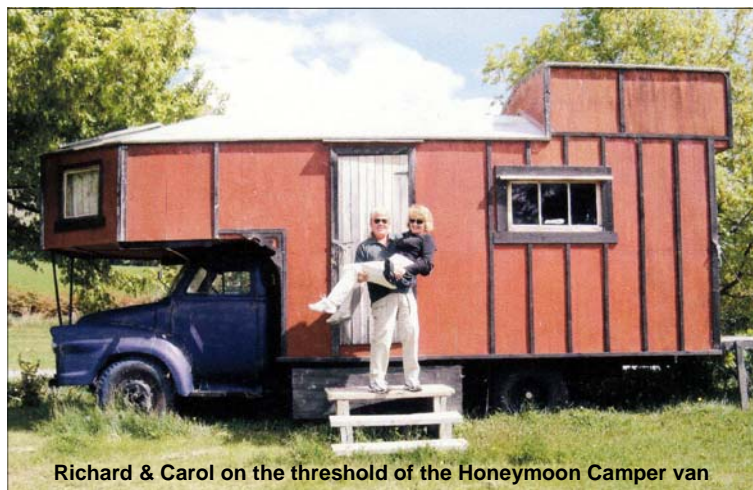
After a good sleep & a hearty breakfast, we set off for the real start of our N.Z adventure. Richard & Carol had visited the Islands twice before so we were in good hands. Now I was wide-awake, with maps ready. It wasn't long before our men had been

given suitable nicknames. Richard our leader, became 'Herr Gruppen Fuhrer,' Bob was daubed 'Bobbikins' (this will be explained later), Pete for his sins was of course 'Father'



We visited all the hotspots in North Island, from Pikiri up to Bay of Islands, back down through Waipoua Forest, Thames, Taunanga, Rotorua to the famous Geysers & Mud Pools at Whakarewarewa Maori Arts & Craft Centre, where Chris impressed us with her interpretation of a Maori greeting. On to Taupo where we watched Bungee Jumping. Can you believe it was teeming with rain & they were queuing to throw themselves off a rickety platform strung by what looked like a flimsy frayed rope attached to their ankles, how crazy can you get? Then, 2 Japanese girls insisted on having photographs taken with me; Pete got quite excited, he thought he'd managed to sell me.

Next was Napier, then on to Palmerston North to meet up with Gary Moles, President of the N.Z. Morgan Club. He made us most welcome; showing us extensive historical records of every Morgan in N.Z. His garage appeared to wrap around his lovely Art Deco home which housed 3 cars, & he had several more at his son's place which included two 3 wheeler Morgan's. His partner Lyn Price owned & raced a Plus 8, adapted to take aviation fuel. She took up racing at the age of 56 & had many trophies to prove her success. She told us a great story about how she used to come off the



racetrack adjacent to the fuel station driving her Plus 8 in racing leathers & helmet, she wasn't permitted to fill her tank with aviation fuel directly from the pump, but had to pour it into a can then decant into the fuel tank! Alternatively Gary would drive up in his pickup truck with large cans, fill them, then drive back to the racetrack to top up her tank. Both appeared to be much more dangerous than refuelling straight from the forecourt pump.

We left North Island on 26th October for the 3 hour ferry journey (normally rough) to reach the larger South Island. The day we crossed it was flat calm, deep blue skies; could only have been Herr Gruppen Fuhrer's command to 'him above'. The views going through the Fiords to Picton were stunning. When we disembarked we journeyed onto Blenheim, Nelson, Hanmer Springs, Arthur's Pass, Franz Joseph Glacier, Milford Sound (escorted by Dolphins

& Seals) Manapouri, Queenstown Wanaka, Lake Hawea then to Omarama to meet Morganeer's Lyndsey & Bev Purvis who run the very impressive & busy Marino Café. He is the proud owner of a 1979 Plus 8. Mount Cook was the next, Lake Tekapo, then gradually making our way back to Christchurch for our trip home.

We found both Island's stunningly beautiful; North Island is the more Tropical but both have a strange mixture of Art Deco houses & small wooden single story dwellings with tin roofs. South Island is attracting many foreigners who are having much larger houses built, some of brick. The main occupation is Cattle, Sheep & Deer farming; followed by tourism, which is their largest asset & they are brilliant at it. 90% of the campsites are on lakes or by the ocean; all sites are top quality, electrical hook-ups, fully equipped kitchens, showers & toilets, laundry rooms, some have restaurants, all are spotless & very reasonably priced.

South Island is quieter & much friendlier, with lakes as far as the eye can see. Each day we thought it couldn't get any better, but believe me it did. Bobbikins said he thought I was biased & trying to please the rest of the party, (not true); it really was a new exciting experience for me, the beauty of it all blew me away.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS THAT MAKE ME GIGGLE WHEN I RECALL THEM:

Chris leaping out of the camper van at a pit stop to seize a small wheel complete with tyre, running back to the van to seek Bob's approval, he shook his head, she dutifully put it back down & climbed back into the cab. Viewing this from our cab window I was helpless with laughter at the thought of her packing the wonderful find in her suitcase. As Bob said later 'The man from Delmonti said no'

Carol trying to do a back-flip at one of our many BBQ's, deftly caught by the irrepressible Richard; no mean feat after Champagne Wine & Brandy!

Loretta asking a café owner the name of a huge bird sitting on a rock outside. 'Shag' was not what I was expecting to hear, so I asked if he could repeat it!! Carol thought I'd pulled; we laughed so much we thought we might be escorted outside & fitted with straight jackets!

The Very Irrelevant Richard Worrall conducting the 'serious business' of renewing *our* wedding vows for us, much to the amusement of other campers at Te Anau.

'Father's' picnic chair collapsing at another fab BBQ at Lake Tekapo; this had to be seen to be believed. He reckoned our leader must have spiked his drinks with rocket fuel, especially when he thought a firework display on the foreshore of the lake was just for us. O.K. so it was 5th November, but he was in no state to know that!



"Father's" Collapsible Picnic Chair - hic!

Asking a cheeky lad serving in a café what really was the difference between Café Latte & Cappuccino & being told 'Nothing love, just the price' but hey he was so good looking & had a lovely smile.

Kick starting **Carol's** heart with a generous 'bucket' of wine when she spotted 2 birds performing their 'Art' on the pavement right in front of us; (wanton little hussies) - well, it was Spring!

Not for our boys the indulgence of 'Wife Swapping,' but we did have a fetish for 'Van Swapping'. Reason being the 3 vans were identical apart from the number plates (& you don't check that every time you go in & out unfortunately). This resulted in much hilarity;. I was the first victim just 3 days into the holiday. After an early morning walk I opened the door to find Chris dressing &



"I now pronounce you Man and Wife again"!!!

Bob sitting at what I thought was our table reading a book! The penny dropped real fast, oh no I've blown the holiday, but Bob bless his heart, lowered his glasses to the end of his nose, raised an eyebrow & said 'Good Morning Loretta' very sternly but with a grin creeping out which turned into a real bellow of laughter (hence he earned the name 'Bobbikins') & Chris acted as though people often dropped in whilst she dressed. Next, Pete attempted to empty Bob's waste tank, stopped just in time by Richard. Chris went into Richard & Carol's van & started to put her pots & pans in the cupboard, then Bob was seen leaving our van with his head in his hands muttering 'not me as well.' It has to be said Richard & Carol at no time entered into this game; perhaps due to the additional Honeymoon camper van that took their eye; me thinks they were making their own fun. Thanks must go to them both for all the hard work planning the itinerary & wet-nursing me!!

Best of all was the constant sound of laughter that rang out on a daily basis. We travelled with our companions for 3 weeks covering nearly 4,000 kilometres & had the time of our lives. A great big thank you to Richard, Carol, Bob & Chris from the 'Rookie Nomads'

Peter & Loretta Simpson

Ed—I 'm sure they could sell the film rights..... What a hoot

Fun and Frolics at the Christmas Barbecue



The Barbie was held at Dick Riddle's farm with fab food, scrumptious mulled wine and a wacky raffle. Funny how the men always cook the BBQ but never lift a finger to cook at home. Looks more like a "picket" than LogMog!



It was "Payback Time" for Paul Bompas as he proudly sported the yellow silk posing pouch; an early Christmas-gift from Dick Worrall. Just the thing for keeping the bits warm on a cold day and a great laugh for everyone.



ALL NEW MORGANS ARE FITTED WITH THE SAME BONNET BADGES (WHAT A SHAME)

I know *we* all know which model we drive, but hey - it's nice to have an individual badge on the front telling the 'great uninformed' what's under the bonnet. I noticed when we were up at the factory recently that all cars leaving the factory were fitted with the Morgan Wings and just the name of the marque (see above).

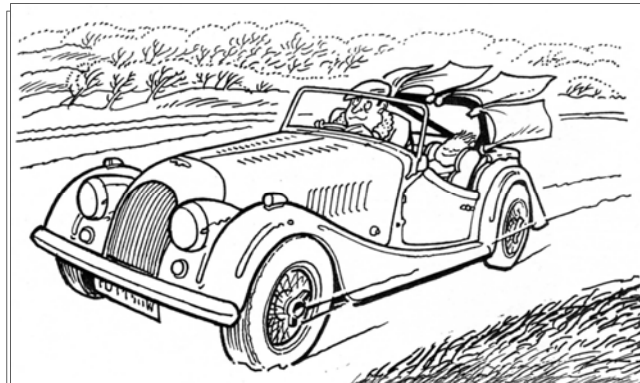
Charles Morgan said that it was because they are so proud of the Morgan Wings they didn't want to detract from them; (a likely tale I reckon). Don't tell me that the addition of a + or a 4 or an 8 detracts from the wings (we love 'em).....more likely it's a cost saving exercise or maybe since they've had a major tidy up at the factory it's a lack of storage problem!

One thing's certain, I'd be totally peed off if I bought a new Moggie and couldn't show off the model number on the bonnet. I'd be off like a rocket to the nearest shop that sells numbers and jolly well stick it on, then cover it with a couple of layers of varnish—just like the chap polishing the cars in the workshop said!

A TRUE STORY

A young man drove his brand new car to pick up Granny from her home and drive her to Dorset to spend Christmas with the family. On the way home, after Granny had admired the new car, she sat quietly for a while then said "I'm so looking forward to the Christmas present from your mother; it's just what I need" "Really Granny" said Sam, "tell me what has she bought for you then?" "Incontinence knickers" said Granny!

(She had a great sense of fun and was only teasing the lad)



After the fitting costs of the Morgan Super Dooper Baby-Car Seat, the anti-roll bar took over as the tumble drier!



**Have you always wanted a three-wheeler?
No waiting list for this one!**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2005

*The programme for the coming year is full of interesting days out and relaxing evenings at inviting hostelrys where you are assured of a warm welcome and good food. The committee has tried to arrange events in all four corners of our area; we hope you approve. You will see that there are **FOUR DATES** still waiting for someone to adopt them. How about **YOU** arranging something? Whether you are a long standing member or a rookie, I bet you could organise a noggin somewhere different. Please have a go! Contact a committee member with your idea and **ADOPT A NOGGIN**.*

April	29-2	Annual Visit to Padstow - Arranged by Richard & Christine Mutlow
May	1	BBQ at Drifthole Cottage, Blackhill Road, Bramshaw. BYO food & Drink 12.00 onwards
	8	9.30am Big Boy's Breakfast at Compton Abbas Airfield & Scenic Run - Adopted by Rupert & Lizzie Spicer-Short
	Tues 24	Noggin at The Grove Arms, Ludwell. - NO FRIDAY NOGGIN THIS MONTH
June	3	A one hour walk starting at 7.30pm followed by BBQ at Dick Riddle's home Copley Farm. Bring your own food/drink
	11	Bently Drivers at Silverstone. Please note - this event is being held earlier than usual
	12	Lunch at Bramble Hill Hotel, Bramshaw - Please let Colin White know if you are coming
	24	White Buck Inn, Burley, New Forest - Adopted by Peter and Loretta Simpson
July	10	Scenic Run Winchester to Uppark House - Adopted by Steve and Tina Scholey details to follow
	17	Poole Bay Classics at Braemore House - Simon Dale-Smith
	26	The Peter Morgan Memorial Race Meeting - Mallory Park
	29	please someone adopt this date
	29-31	MOG 2005 @ Gaydon
August	14	Annual Barbecue at Dick & Carol Worrall - bring your own food and drink - ring before 10am if weather looks dodgy
	26	The Snakecatcher, Brockenhurst station - Skittles Match vs Thames Valley Club Adopted by Peter and Pauline Camm
	26-28	Thames Valley Centre camping in New Forest - meeting with them over weekend
	28	Rally at National Motor Museum, Beaulieu Meet at 10.00 for special parking
September	11	Scenic Run - Sandbanks to Blue Pool - Adopted by Peter and Gill Gutteridge (Pick up an Echo "What's On" for a 2 for 1 ticket)
	23-26	New Forest Visit to Quiberon, Brittany - organised by Dick & Carol Worrall
	30	please someone adopt this date
October	9	Treasure Hunt - Organised by Steve and Tina Scholey
	28	Skittles Aston Martin Club (2BConfirmed)
November	13	please someone adopt this date
	25	Visit to Hall & Woodhouse Brewery (2B confirmed) - Adopted by Colin & Jenny White
December	11	please someone adopt this date
	30	No Noggin arranged due to too much Christmas!
Please check Miscellany "Centre News" for finer details of the above programme or ring a committee member		
1st Monday of the month (in summer) there is a regular meeting of car enthusiasts at the Cock & Bottle @ Morden - Ring and book a table if you wish to eat there		

Please send articles, photographs, letters to the Editor and anything that members might find interesting to me via email pcamm@lesterhouse.fsnet.co.uk or snailmail: Lester House, Linden Avenue, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1EJ. Telephone or Fax: (01305) 250250.

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