



**WESTCOUNTRY CLASSIC VEHICLE CLUB (WCVC)**  
[www.westcountryclassicvehicleclub.uk](http://www.westcountryclassicvehicleclub.uk)  
**Newsletter August 2018**

**Editorial:**

**What ho dear friends;** we now have enjoyed a number of car gatherings, all successful, well attended and enjoyed under cloudless blue skies but very hot with each event seeing increasing temperatures. The first event at Newton Abbot saw a record attendance as did the Den at Teignmouth. Torre Abbey was smaller but equally good. Other events at which WCVC attended were at the giant gathering at Powderham where the blisteringly hot weather made life difficult. WCVC also had a slot at TOWC's annual big bash at Paignton Green which was tightly packed with cars and equally tightly packed with crowds of visitors and the sun shined ever hotter and without mercy. The aroma of factor 50 sun screen was ever present; it seems that the available space for cars on the green grows smaller each year..

**At the WCVC monthly gathering** on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July, we had an evening of presentations and hobbies. First presentation was by Jim Cowdery who introduced and presented a fascinating DVD about London Transport's vast service, repair and rebuild facilities for their huge fleet of single and double-deck buses in the 1950's and 60's. This was followed by John Glanville displaying his scale model of the Torbay based passenger launch, the Lady Cable, and then giving an illuminating talk about its history and its involvement in the Dunkirk rescue of 1940, its career thereafter and its ultimate unfortunate demise into a derelict hulk. Presentations like these are very much appreciated, enjoyed and also welcome, and we extend our thanks to Jim and John for their time and effort. More information about the Lady Cable is on the features page.

**The WCVC** newsletter is supported by the WCVC web-site which can be accessed by the address as shown at the newsletter heading above. The newsletter can be sent to you via email, please send your email address to Chris Baker at [bakerchrissue@aol.com](mailto:bakerchrissue@aol.com).

**Chairman's Report.**

Hi there, the year progresses and, having now passed the half-way mark, we are on the downhill run. So far the year has been superb; all the shows that the club have attended and presented have gone extremely well supported by wonderful weather. The attendance at all the shows has been exceptional, with record numbers of cars. We would like to see an increase in attendance at the club nights; the skittles evening had fewer participants than before.

However the hobbies evening was a success with two fine presentations. Jim Cowdery introduced a film show about London Transport's servicing depot of the 1950's and '60's; this was followed by John Glanville displaying his model of the passenger launch, Lady Cable, and its involvement in rescuing soldiers from Dunkirk, and its career thereafter. Sadly the boat has turned into a rotting hulk after all the money the public put into it. Thank you to John Glanville and to Jim Cowdery for their talks.

It is unfortunate that the idea of a "Roast and Run", where members would gather at the Toby Inn by the Penn Inn roundabout for a carvery lunch and then a classic car run thereafter, has proved to be unsuccessful. Perhaps we can revive it at some future time.

Sadly I wish to mention the death of Jim Cudlipp on the 5<sup>th</sup> July. He was a regular at the shows with his Albion lorry and was last seen in the cab at our Newton Abbot show. I understand that his daughter intends to do her best to keep the Albion in commission. His well attended funeral was on 31<sup>st</sup> July. We extend our condolences to his family and friends

I would like to thank the club members on behalf of my boss, Margaret, on our 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. A bouquet was presented to us on skittles night. Boy was she surprised. Thank you all.

Finally I would like to thank all those members that assisted in organising the shows, and those who attended.



**John Bartholomew**, Chairman

**Feature:** : “Pistons as big as top hats, going up and down like Otis lifts” (Sir Henry Royce).

At the recent Paignton Green gathering, we spied the exotic film-star car Chitty-Chitty-Bang-Bang, or at least one of the several replica versions of it that still exist. (right). This is the 50<sup>th</sup> year after the making of the film and it gives me the excuse to delve into motor car history and how early enthusiasts used giant aero engines to achieve speed.



**Chitty-Chitty-Bang-Bang** was a story for children, dreamed up by James Bond author Ian Fleming. He gained his inspiration for the tale from the giant racing cars developed by Count Louis Zborowski who constructed four of these cars, three named Chitty Bang Bang. The name came about through the noise of the clattering valves and frequent back firing of the first engine, a 23 litre Maybach engine from a WW1 German Gotha Bomber. The engine could produce 300 hp and in 1922, Zborowski achieved 113.45 mph at the Brooklands racing circuit. Chitty 2 used an Edwardian era (pre WW1) Mercedes chassis fitted with a 19 litre Benz engine but was not successful. Chitty 2 was modified for road use and had several owners, one of which was Sherlock Holmes author Arthur Conan Doyle. The third of Zborowski's cars, Chitty 3, was also built around a modified Mercedes chassis, this time with a six-cylinder Mercedes aircraft engine tuned to develop 180 hp. This car raced at Brooklands, where it achieved a top speed of 112 mph

**Zborowski's fourth** and final aero-engined car was the Higham Special. Created in 1924 the car was powered by a World War I, V12 Liberty engine with a displacement of 27 litres producing 450 hp and the gearbox and chain-drive of a pre-war Blitzen Benz. The Higham Special achieved a speed of 116 mph with Zborowski at the wheel. After Zborowski's death at Italian race circuit Monza, racing enthusiast J.G.Parry-Thomas bought the car and rechristened it Babs, and in 1926, he set a new world record with a speed of 129 mph. He then took Babs to Pendine sands in Wales where he achieved 169 mph. Parry-Thomas returned to Pendine in 1927 but on the first run, his chain drive shattered, killing him. Parry-Thomas' crew buried Babs in the sand, where it remained until Owen Wyn Owen excavated the car in 1969 and restored it to working order in 1985. The car still performs regularly.



**Fitting aero engines** to cars is still a popular pastime and a number of cars are regularly performing at speed trials and hill climbs. The Napier Lion aero engine is very popular, being compact with its W formation of three banks of 4 cylinders and 24 litre capacity. Reid Railton, gifted engineer and car designer, put together the Napier Railton (left), a wonderful looking car that still gives outstanding performance at regular events. Railton, when asked if the car was difficult to maintain, said “...well you put water in here, oil in there, petrol in here. Apart from that, we don't do anything other then grease here and there”.

**Another successful marriage** has been with the Napier engine shoe-horned into a W.O.Bentley 6.5 litre chassis, and equally so has been the fitting of 27 litre Rolls Royce Merlin engines into a number of Rolls Royce Phantom 2 chassis. The most successful of these is shown to the right where the beautiful English bodywork was completed in the 1980's. The Merlin unit used came from an early prototype of the Mosquito bomber of 1938, the Phantom II chassis is an XJ series of 1929. The car is now in the United States.



**At a recent gathering** of Edwardian aero engined specials, a journey from the UK to Ostend in Belgium was carried out with 15 cars going by ferry. Imagine the scene on arrival with 15 ancient cars, all well over 100 years old, spitting, smoking, barking and banging as they started up together to leave the ship and motor to their destination, suffering pouring rain most of the time. Amazingly they all managed to achieve their intended tour, with perhaps a few mechanical adjustments here and there. One car, a 1906 200 h.p. Darracq, consists of a chassis, vast engine, gear box and final drive, controls, no bodywork except for two seats, no weather protection, open exhaust without silencer. Brave souls these drivers.

**Lady Cable.** In 1924, Morgan Giles of Teignmouth designed and built Lady Cable for Alf Pittaway. Lady Cable was a typical Morgan Giles design of the period, nothing flashy and built to the highest standards. The craft was 40 feet in length and powered by a Kelvin of Glasgow engine Named after Lady Cable of Lindridge, Bishopsteignton, who launched her, the boat has been a passenger pleasure craft for most of her life.. In 1936 Lady Cable was sold to C.



& N. Mott of Torquay, and was the only boat to go from there to Dunkirk for the evacuation of British troops in 1940. During the evacuation, she is said to have taken 550 men from the beaches out to the larger transport ships in seven trips, and she finally returned full of troops to Dover. Her final return voyage was full of danger and trepidation with the engine failing and the boat drifting. The craft then came across a damaged and deserted Royal Navy patrol boat which the Lady Cable crew boarded and managed to get one of the patrol boats engines started. With the Lady Cable tied alongside, the voyage continued and successfully reached Dover without further problems. The Lady Cable is often regarded as being the last small boat to leave Dunkirk.

### **WCVV Club Nights:**

**Our Club Nights** are located at Old Forde Hall Social Club, Brunel Road, Newton Abbot TQ12 4AG. WCVV club nights take place on the third Friday of every month at 7.30pm. Dates for your 2018 diary are:

**Friday 21 September – Club matters and social evening**

**Friday 19 October – Skittles with TOWC (WCVV will provide the raffle prizes and TOWC the buffet)**

**Friday 16 November – Fish & Chips Supper Night**

**Friday 21 December – Xmas Evening**

### **WCVV Classic Car Events for 2018:**

**Below** we list the dates for the forthcoming events for the 2018 season. The dates as shown are correct as at this time. For full information on shows, gatherings and events, please contact **MARGARET MALIN, 28 FIRST AVENUE, TORQUAY TQ1 4JB** for entry forms for the following events, or download from the website.

**Show 4 World of Country Life, Sandy Bay, Exmouth.**

**Sunday 16 September.**

Always well attended, this event allows participants to take advantage of the Victorian shops, vintage farm machinery and vehicles, the Country Life's own collection of classic cars and commercial vehicles, and all the other family activities that make the event a classic of its own. Any club member with a hobby that they would like to display, for example stationary engines, miniature steam engines, model vehicles and similar, can reserve a table. Booking Form available at the end of this newsletter.



**Show 5 Newton Abbot Town Centre, Saturday 29 September.**

Sited directly in the centre of the town adjacent to the clock tower, with all the town's shops and facilities close at hand. Presentation of awards takes place at 3.00pm.



**All show times** are from **10am – 4pm**; club members showing their vehicles should be on site by **10.00am** and **not** leave the site until after **4.00pm**.

**WESTCOUNTRY CLASSIC VEHICLE CLUB  
(WCVC)**



**Entry Form for the WVVC 2018  
Shows**

**NAME:** .....

**ADDRESS:** .....

.....

**POSTCODE:** ..... **TELE NO:**..... **EMAIL ADDRESS:**.....

**MEMBERSHIP NO:** .....

**VEHICLE DETAILS:**

**MAKE:** ..... **MODEL:** .....

**YEAR:**..... **REG NO:** .....

**Vehicles less than 25 years old will only be accepted at the discretion of the Committee if the vehicle is interesting, rare, unusual, historical or important.**

**PLEASE TICK FOR THE SHOWS ATTENDING:**

Tick Box			Members	Non Members	M/C & Trikes
	Sunday 16 September	WORLD OF COUNTRY LIFE	£5.50	£7.50	£3.50
	Saturday 29 September	NEWTON ABBOT	£4.50	£5.50	£3.50

**Cheques made payable to:**

**WESTCOUNTRY CLASSIC VEHICLE CLUB,**  
**PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM AND FULL PAYMENT WITH A S.A.E. (Stamped/Self Addressed Envelope) TO: MARGARET MALIN, 28 FIRST AVENUE, TORQUAY TQ1 4JB**

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**  
**BASIC RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR CLUB EVENTS**

Dear Member,

The Committee members have taken every step to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all persons visiting or connected with the show.

Please make yourself familiar with the health and safety notices and precautions in place for your protection.

Everyone is required to observe all such precautions and signals given by the Marshall and Committee Stewards. Should you feel that any health and safety issues have arisen that we are not aware of please bring this to the attention of the Safety Officer.

Parents and Guardians must ensure that children in their care remain under control at all times.

**No vehicles – exhibits or otherwise, to be driven at more than 5mph anywhere on the rally ground. Please note that all exhibitors must have completed and signed a rally entry form. No vehicle movement between 10.00am and 4.00pm during the show WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE SAFETY OFFICER.**

All drivers must be qualified in law and insured to drive the class of vehicle exhibited. No more than the intended number of persons to be on a moving engine, tractor or vehicle.

All entries must be insured against third party risk, fully licensed and tested as appropriate for us. The Safety Officer reserves the right to ask for proof such item.

No exhibits to be left running unattended. All vehicles to be properly braked or have the wheels chocked.

The organisers, employees, helpers or the land owners can NOT be held responsible for any loss, damage or injury during the event. In the unlikely event of a dispute, the organisers reserve the right to ask any exhibitor, trader or participant to leave the site.

**No joyriding at any time on the site. Please put litter in the bins and bags provided around the site. No dogs (except guide dogs) allowed at THE WORLD OF COUNTRY LIFE.**

Note: Should the Rally/Event be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances Westcountry Classic Vehicle Club will not accept liability for any financial loss incurred by entrants.

**PLEASE SIGN BELOW THAT YOU UNDERSTAND AND WILL ABIDE BY THE CLUB RULES. BRING A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT WITH YOU TO EACH EVENT YOU WILL BE ATTENDING.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**WESTCOUNTRY CLASSIC VEHICLE  
CLUB (WCVC)**



**Booking Form to Reserve Table/s for  
WORLD OF COUNTRY LIFE 2018**

**NAME:** .....

**ADDRESS:** .....

.....

**POSTCODE:** ..... **TELE NO:**.....**EMAIL ADDRESS:**.....

**MEMBERSHIP NO:** .....

**PLEASE RESERVE** ..... **(QTY) TABLES FREE**

**TYPE OF MODELS ETC:** .....

**MODEL VEHICLE:**.....

**STATIONARY ENGINE:** .....

**MINITURE STEAM ENGINE:**.....

**OTHER:**.....

**Please return form to:**

**Mrs Margaret Malin, 28 First Avenue, Daison, Torquay, TQ1 4JB**

**For confirmation of booking please enclose S.A.E. (Stamped, Self  
Addressed, Envelope)**

## Other Classic Car Events for 2018 (including where WCVV have a stand)

Seaton Sea Front	Sunday	26 August		0129722109
Ottery St Mary	Sunday	26 August	Contact Laura Dyer	07791686546 01404815853
Aveton Gifford	Monday	27 Aug		01548550785
Plymtree	Monday	27 Aug	01884277963	
Kingsbridge Show	Saturday	1 Sept		07720863626
Buckfastleigh Railway Heritage Gala	Sat/Sunday	8/9 September	Pre 79	01364644370
Sidmouth Car Show	Saturday	15 Sept		
Entry Forms From April 2018	Contact Edwina Ford	enquires@sidmouthclassiccars how.co.uk		

**Membership Details and Data Protection** . The new **Data General Protection Regulation (GDPR)** comes into effect on 25 May 2018 and will replace the existing DPA. All organisations are legally obliged to protect any personal information they hold. WCVV will only hold such details of its members and non members which it needs to contact them, i.e. name, address, phone number and email address, in as far as each member is willing to supply these details.

These details will only be available to WCVV officers of the club who need to carry out their legitimate tasks for the club. e.g. Chairman, Secretary, Membership Secretary, as appropriate. We use members' data for the administration of your membership; the communication of information i.e. newsletter via post and email and the organisation of events.

WCVV do not divulge member's information outside of the club. Your club and members' data is recorded in our membership database, which is stored in digital form on a computer, password protected and held via a club officer. Email addresses stored online are password protected as they are when sending out newsletters and email via BCC, so protecting the member's email address. Any written documents including non members attending WCVV shows are stored safely with the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer in a secure location, as appropriate.

If you want to see the basic membership data we hold about you and you can opt out at any time, you should contact Sue Baker or John Bartholomew. Your membership data can be deleted or corrected by contacting Sue Baker.

Under the GDPR we do not have a statutory requirement of have a Data Officer. The person who is responsible ensuring WCVV discharges its obligation under the GDPS is the Chairman.

Full information about the new GDPR can be found on the website; there are plenty of websites to select. We are also waiting to hear from FBHVC to act on their advice when received.

Sue Baker

**WESTCOUNTRY CLASSIC VEHICLE CLUB (WCVC)**  
**Membership/Renewal Form 2018**



**FULL NAME:** .....

**ADDRESS:** .....

.....

**POSTCODE:**..... **TELE NO:**..... **EMAIL:**.....

Would you like to receive your newsletter by email **YES/NO**  
I/We agree to abide by the club rules and regulation **Signature:**..... **Date:**.....  
Your details will not be shared with any other organisation. WCVC fully complies with Data Protection legislation

**Spouse/Partner/Children up to the age of 16 years**

**Names:**.....

**VEHICLE DETAILS:**

**MAKE:** ..... **MODEL CC:** .....

**YEAR:**..... **REG NO:** .....

**ADDITIONAL VEHICLE DETAILS:**

**ANY OTHER RELEVANT INTERESTS:**

Cheques made payable to:  
**WESTCOUNTRY CLASSIC VEHICLE CLUB**  
**PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM AND PAYMENT WITH A S.A.E. (Stamped/Self Addressed Envelope**  
**TO: Membership Secretary**  
**Mr J Bartholomew**  
**12 Landridge Road, Paignton TQ3 3PT**

<b>Memberships:</b>	£ 6.00	<b>Single</b>
	£10.00	<b>Family with Junior (up to the age of 16 years old)</b>
	£ 3.00	<b>Social Members Single</b>
	£ 5.00	<b>Social Members Family</b>