

WOLSELEY WORLD

The Journal of the Wolseley Register

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Editor's Corner

Amy Egan, Editor [6547]

At the time of writing, my parents Jenny and Graham Ryder are setting up the Wolseley Register stand at the NEC for the *Practical Classics* Restoration Show.

This event will shortly be followed by our Annual General Meeting, so both of these events will be reported on next time.

I also hope that the next edition will have lots of your photos from Drive it Day, so do share those with me.

Thank you to those who have contributed to this issue. I do have a few more articles set aside for future issues, but I always appreciate when members send me articles and letters – big or small.

My calendar is filling up with events, so I hope to see you over the coming months.

Cover: A Wolseley in a carpeted ballroom?! Arnold Imrie's Wolseley 6/99 was invited to be displayed at a car show inside the Slieve Donard Hotel in County Down. See page 35.

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9 May, 4 July, 5 September,
7 November



Chairman's Report

Graham Ryder, Chairman [4746]

As I write this report, we are preparing for the Classic Restoration Show at the NEC. Our display focusses on keeping our cars in good working order. The latest in our series of profile books: *Wolseley Four-Fortyfour and Fifteen-Fifty: a Super Profile* is being launched at the show. Our thanks go to Anders Clausager for an excellent job, and to the owners of the display vehicles for giving up their time to bring their Wolseleys along for the public to enjoy.

At the forthcoming AGM, all existing members of the Management Committee are seeking re-election for a further 12 months. However, as previously stated, any member interested in shadowing a particular post, especially Secretary or Treasurer, is welcome to make themselves known to the committee.

My thanks to Terry Arnold who has agreed to take over the role of East Anglia representative and contact. Jenny and I attended Chris' funeral in January, and I was pleased to be able to help get his Wolseleys on the road to be a part of the day.

As the Rally season gets underway, Register members have the opportunity to support Childline by purchasing the FBHVC Drive it Day Rally Board, sales of which aim to raise another significant donation for the charity.

As you will see, many Regions have submitted a diary of events which I hope many members will be able to support. Members of any club which is part of the Morris Vehicles Association (MVA) are also welcome members to attend each other's events. It is always good to see other marques and models that share our motoring heritage. The MVA Rally is being hosted by Morris Minor Owners Club at their National Rally weekend in Moreton-in-Marsh at the end of June. Please see page 26-27 for details of a few opportunities with our 'sister' clubs.

The National Rally at Beamish Living Museum is attracting many entries, and it will be good to meet up with members from different Regions as well as the overseas members who are joining us.

To close, I do hope you are able to get out and enjoy your Wolseleys this year. Even if not to a big event, do take some photographs to share with others via our Editor, Amy in *Wolseley World* or on our Facebook pages.

Letters and Emails

Happy 100th birthday

Michael Seaward [7273]

Earlier this year, my Dad's (Peter Seaward [237]) Wolseley 11/22 Doctor's Coupé 'Rupert' turned 100. First registered on 14 February 1925 in Leeds, most of its life has been in Yorkshire, with a brief sojourn to Africa in the 1960s. This picture was taken at the National Rally last August.



Drive it Day: Sunday 27 April 2025

Amy Egan, Editor [6547]

I know that many of you make the effort to take to the roads on Drive it Day, so this is an appeal for members to write-up their activities, big or small, for *Wolseley World*.



Don't forget you can buy your souvenir Drive it Day rally plaque from www.driveitday.co.uk/shop. Prices start at £12.50, and all profits will be donated to NSPCC Childline.

Out and About in the Wolseley World

NORTHERN IRELAND REGION

Philip Preen [7561]

The 2025 show season got off to a flying start on the weekend of 7-9 February. A mainstay in the show circuit is the Classic and Sports Car Show held in the ballroom of the Slieve Donard Hotel in Newcastle, County Down. (*I hope there were lots of drip trays to protect the carpets! – Ed.*)

The theme this year marked 50 years of the Mk2 Ford Escort. Several Escorts were on display, including a genuine ex-works Boreham Mk1 Twincam which was driven by the late Roger Clark.



But not all exhibits were from Dagenham – many cars from BMC, Rootes Group, Standard Triumph and Rover were on display at the invitation-only event.

Register member Arnold Imrie was asked to exhibit his recently-acquired 1961 Wolseley 6/99, which made a very graceful addition to the ballroom setting.

The calendar is rapidly filling up, but these shows need particular mention:

- **Sat 14 June:** The Stormont Classic Car show at Parliament Buildings, Belfast. Now in its third year, and with over 1,000 cars on display last year it is an excellent day out. We're hopeful there will be tours of the building.
- **Sat 21 June:** Kilbroney vintage show in Rostrevor, County Down. This long-running event is one of the biggest car shows on the island of Ireland, attracting a range of cars, tractors, steam engines and motorcycles.
- **Sun 22 June:** Classic car show at Montalto in Ballynahinch. Yes, that's the day after Kilbroney – there'll be no gardening or grasscut that weekend!

I'll be at all of these shows in my Wolseley 1500, and would be happy to meet up with other Register members from NI. Please contact me if you would like to arrange a meeting point and travel plans.

SOUTH & WEST WALES REGION

Ernest Jones [6955] with John Manning [7474]

Here are a few events planned for our Region in the coming months, which are open to all makes of vehicles. For more information on any of these events, please contact Register member John Manning (☎ 07544 056315 ✉ john.flmanning@ymail.com).

- **Sun 20 April:** Join up with the South Wales Classic Car Club for their Annual Show Day at Cardiff City Football Stadium.
 - **Mon 21 April (Bank Holiday):** Assemble at Coleford, Gloucestershire for the Carnival of Transport and Classic Car Show near Hereford.
 - **Mon 26 May (Bank Holiday):** Support the Vale of Glamorgan Classic Car Show at Sully.
-

SCOTTISH GROUP

Michael Seaward [7273] & Dick Peters [3566]

To mark the 35th anniversary of the formation of the Scottish Group this year, we have booked a stand at Fife Historic Vehicle Club's show at the Scottish Vintage Bus Museum, Lathalmond, KY12 0SJ, on **Sun 15 June**. This is an excellent venue, enjoying easy access from the M90 and ample hard standing. There is something for all the family, including the large museum itself, autojumble, steam/diesel train rides and, of course, a vast array of classic cars. All members are most welcome, and entries should be with Dick Peters by 10 May.

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The Jaguar Enthusiasts have invited us to be their “guest club” at their show in the beautiful setting of Drum Castle, Aberdeenshire on **Sun 27 July**. This is a great opportunity for our members in the North who are unable to travel to central belt activities to display their Wolseleys.

Finally, we shall be attending the Fife Association of Vintage Vehicle Owners' show at Brucefield Farm, Ladybank, KY15 7UL, on **Sun 24 August**. This show has grown progressively in stature over the past few years and, again, attendance is highly recommended. Applications should be made by 7 July.

For all enquiries and further information, please contact either:

- Dick Peters (☎ 07900 675410 ✉ dicky3600@hotmail.co.uk)
 - Michael Seaward (☎ 07958 007107 ✉ mermot72@hotmail.com)
-

SOUTH WEST REGION Kevin Sweet [7516]

Now that spring is on the way, it's time to start booking in for local events. I have already ordered my Drive it Day plaque! The first show for 2025 that I have entered is the Castle Combe Steam Rally on **17-18 May**.

There promises to be a good selection of steam engines, tractors, trucks, stationary engines, cars, motorcycles and a few stalls. For more information, please see www.castlecombesteamrally.co.uk. I intend to be there on the Saturday with the Norton Radstock Classic Vehicle Club, so do pop along and say hello if you are there.

NORTH EAST REGION

Peter Seaward [237]

For our New Year luncheon, there were 31 attendees as usual from all over – Nottingham, Lancashire, Cheshire and North, South and West Yorkshire. We were particularly pleased to welcome National chairman Graham Ryder and Regalia manager Jenny from the Midlands.



National president Geoff Craggs presented the Terry Faulkner memorial shield to Rob Sargeant on behalf of himself and wife Rachel for the fantastic effort they made for the 60th anniversary weekend, the highlight of which was the visit to their amazing premises and the fantastic buffet provided along with the challenging and scenic route for the Saturday road run.

As usual the Bridge Hotel were most accommodating and supportive. The raffle raised an incredible £139 for regional funds, thanks to Fiona for persuasive ticket selling.



We have confirmed our place at the Ripon Old Cars gathering on **Sunday 27 July** at Ripon Racecourse – please contact me for an entry form. As per the previous report, I would appreciate any support from local members to suggest activities, and to act as Regional contact.

MIDLANDS REGION Stan Hogg [2991] and Jenny Ryder [4747]

Midlands monthly meetings north and south of Birmingham welcome local members on the second Thursday of the month. 'South' meetings are now being held at The Nailers Arms, Bournheath, Bromsgrove, B61 9JE. The next meeting there will be **Thurs 10 April**. The next meeting at The Parson & Clerk Toby Carvery in Streetly, B73 6SP will be



Thurs 15 May. Midlands members are welcome to attend either location. Just let us know in advance so that enough table space can be booked. **NOTE:** The August 'South' meeting will be held a week early to avoid clashing with the National Rally, so that will be **Thurs 7 August** at The Nailers.

We are sharing details of these meets/events but there will not necessarily be an official club presence:

- **Tuesdays 8 April, 13 May, 8 July, 12 Aug, 9 Sept:** Evening meeting at Stoke Prior Sports and Country Club, B60 4AL organised by Shakespeare Rally Promotions. No pre-booking required. Note: June meet up will be Sunday 15 June – Father's Day Car Show and Craft Fayre.
- **Sun 11 May:** Buses and Commercial Vehicles Rally at Apedale Valley Light Railway, North Staffordshire. Entry form: ✉ operations@avl.org.uk.
- **Sundays 11 May & 7 Sept, 9.30am:** Stratford Autojumble, Stratford Racecourse, CV37 9SE: No advance bookings or club stands offered for classic cars – pay on day £5 for driver and £7 each pre-booked passenger. Public entry is bookable in advance at £5 or pay on day £7.
- **Bank Holiday Mondays 21 Apr, 5 & 26 May, 25 Aug, 9am to 4pm:** A47 Autojumble/Classic Vehicle Show, Thurlaston Showground, LE9 9JE. No pre-booking – free for classic car driver and one passenger. Public £5.
- **Sundays 4 May, 1 Jun, 6 Jul, 3 Aug, 7 Sept, 5 Oct, 9.30am to 4pm:** Middleton Motors Monthly: No pre-booking – £5 per classic vehicle allows access to the Hall, gardens, grounds and Courtyard outlets. Opens to public from 11am, who pay £9.95 (children £5, under-2s free).
- **Sat 17 May:** Classic Motor Show display in Redditch town centre B98 8AA. Cars must remain static 10am to 4pm. Food stalls, live music, fun fair. Apply ASAP as spaces are limited. www.redditchmotorshow.co.uk
- **Mon 25 Aug (Bank Holiday):** Classic Car Day at Apedale Valley Light Railway, North Staffs. Steam trains will be running, and the heritage centre and café will be open. Entry form: ✉ operations@avl.org.uk.

Other events with Wolseley Register club presence – please let us know your plans so we can allow sufficient space to park together:

- **Sat 19 - Bank Holiday Mon 21 Apr:** Easter Vintage Gathering and Model Show, Stoke Prior, Worcestershire (Shakespeare Rally Promotions).
- **Sat 26 Apr:** Pride of Longbridge, Cofton Park, Birmingham B31 2BQ. Celebrating the Longbridge factory, its workers and the cars they produced.
- **Sun 27 Apr (Drive it Day), 10am to 4pm:** Invitation to attend the Birmingham Morris Minor Owners Club Rally at Statfold Country Park, Tamworth. Book direct with Statfold (www.statfold.com/whats-on), then choose Exhibitors and Drive it Day event). £5 per car gives driver and one passenger access to museum, railway, diner, etc. Additional passengers pay full admission to access areas other than the car display. £1 payable on the day for your rally pack is in aid of Warwickshire Search and Rescue. For more details and queries: ✉ birmingham.branch@mmoc.org.uk.
- **Sun 8 Jun:** Morris Minor and Nuffield Day at Great British Car Journey, Derbyshire. Details on page 26.
- **Sun 15 Jun:** Father's Day Rally at Belbroughton Cricket Club. £5 per car goes to Mary Stevens Hospice. To book: ☎ 07805 161063 or contact Graham.
- **Sun 13 Jul:** BMC Day at British Motor Museum, Gaydon. Club space booked – entries will be co-ordinated by Graham and passes issued in early July.

For the most up-to-date listings of local events, please see our webpage: www.wolseleyregister.co.uk/midlands-region-programme-of-events, or call Jenny and Graham Ryder (☎ 0121 445 1872).

ENJOY A FREE DAY OUT ON THE SEVERN VALLEY RAILWAY!

There are several opportunities this summer, with two 'Freedom of the Line' tickets per car to be used on the day of the event. Cars to remain static at the station they are booked into.

- **1940s weekends 7-8 and 14-15 June:** Application forms available from Graham Ryder by post or email and must be returned by 1 May. Spaces at Highley and Bridgnorth.
- **1960s weekend / 60th anniversary of SVR 26-27 July:** Apply via <https://svr.digitickets.co.uk/event-tickets/63752?catID=61185> for Kidderminster, Highley or Bridgnorth.
- **Vintage vehicle extravaganza 9-10 Aug:** Space available at various stations for pre-1980 vehicles. Apply via <https://svr.digitickets.co.uk/event-tickets/63752?catID=61185>



EAST ANGLIA REGION Terry Arnold [6441]

As Chris' co-driver in so many ways, I feel it is my task to continue these updates from East Anglia, and am happy to do so. I wanted to thank all those who helped to give Chris the wonderful Wolseley send-off he deserved. I think he would have been impressed by the three-page obituary in *Wolseley World*. I did feel sorry for the old cars having to escort Chris at walking speed through the village to the Church, but they did look good standing alongside the funeral cars.



For Drive it Day on **27 April**, we have decided on a visit to the “We’ll Meet again” WWII Museum in Freiston Shore near Boston. We’ll depart from the service area at the roundabout of the A17 & A1101 near Sutton Bridge at 10.30am.

Please note these upcoming events: Tydd St Mary on 11 May, and Ramsey Fen Fair on 8 June. For details please contact me or keep an eye on our monthly newsletters.

EAST MIDLANDS GROUP

Local member and Eight owner Adam Westwood invites membes to his ‘cars and coffee’ meet on **Saturday 24 May**, 10am to 4pm at Wilford Lane Garage, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7RL. Food and drinks will be available.



As previously mentioned, Earls Barton Transport Show on the bank holiday weekend **23-25 August** has free entry and free camping for exhibitors at Whites Nurseries, Earls Barton NN6 0EP (just off J10 A45). Graham Ryder (☎ 0121 445 1872) is co-ordinating a club booking.

NORTH WEST REGION Mike Stanley [1234]

It already seems that the Christmas season was a long time ago, and this year seems to be at no slower pace than the last! We've enjoyed a couple of our mid-week meetings, with the last one at Huntleys at the end of February being particularly well supported by 20+ members!

Now it's very much time (certainly in my case!) to start investigating just what is under the dust-sheets in my garage and gently coaxing signs of life. While I use antifreeze regularly, I do have a 'maximum and minimum' thermometer hanging inside my garage, and am encouraged that at no time over the winter has it recorded a reading below zero.

With Drive it Day looming on the horizon, we are finalising an outing to suit as many of our members as possible, but at least encourage them to make a trip around the block! We will be also arranging a number of club stands at various locations throughout our area, starting again with the show at Gawsworth Hall near Macclesfield, which is a brilliant venue.



Plans are well under way for this year, and if any members (including those from neighbouring regions) would like to join us, please get in touch with John Platt as soon as possible (✉ john.a.platt@hotmail.co.uk ☎ 0161 794 3940 / 07831 119046). We're happy to see all Wolseleys, of any size.

During the winter, I've come across a cache of old programmes from various events over rather a long time now, the oldest dating from 1982 at Rotherham of all places! While I'm proud to have shared adventures with others who joined the Register at about the same time, I'd like to invite those newer members to join us in our activities. For more information, please contact myself, Peter Cope or Colin Briggs.

WILTSHIRE GROUP Steve Grimes [7338]

With the clocks going forward, we are now meeting on the third Wednesday of each month from 5pm. All are welcome. Please sign up to our mailing list to make sure you get the latest updates.

SOUTH EAST REGION Stewart Payne [1612]

I write this report just before the South East Region committee was due to meet to consider a new season of classic car rallies, weekend gatherings and other activities that bring our club members together.

Already in our diary is to join with our South West Region counterparts at the invite of the Dorset Morris Minor Club to share in its annual rally at the National Motor Museum, Beaulieu. This takes place over the weekend of **17-18 May**, and coincides with the Spring Autojumble – the perfect opportunity for classic car owners to find all manner of elusive parts for their restoration projects. Rally entries closed on 31 March, but contact me if you are interested and I will see what I can do.

You can still book via www.beaulieu.co.uk/events/spring-autojumble – and if you arrive in a classic car you will probably get a parking spot in a prominent position. Do come and find us in among the 200 or so Morris Minors. Register chairman Graham Ryder and wife Jenny will be there with their 1500.

At our committee meeting we will be considering how to mark Drive it Day on **27 April**. This is regarded as a “season-opener” and clubs up and down the UK arrange events to mark the occasion and draw attention to the classic car movement. We will also be looking ahead to a late spring or summer rally, perhaps somewhere on the south coast, and further information will be in my next report.

There has been plenty of good news from around our region, none more so than the emergence of fellow committee member John Blackburn’s 6/80. He says: “After nearly six years battling against a seized engine, water leaks, a blown core plug and more pounds spent than I care to think of, it has finally moved off the drive under its own power”.



New member Peter Yeoman in Hampshire has been in touch to introduce himself, having recently purchased a 1971 Series II “Landcrab” 18/85. He says the car was imported from New Zealand in 2016 by someone who has since developed Parkinson’s disease.

It came with little history and its owner believed it had only done 18,000 miles. Since Peter acquired it – delighted at how rust-free it was – he has been delving into its history. He discovered it was purchased new in New Zealand by a lady who kept it until 2012, and at that time it had, in fact, clocked up 101,000 miles. The 18/85 is now a companion to Peter’s other classic car, a Sunbeam Alpine.

Of the 18/85 he says: “I have never had one of these before. It is a pleasure to drive. It is now two-tone blue; the top half having been resprayed because of crazing in the paintwork.” Peter organises classic car events in and around the beautiful Meon Valley area, usually on a Sunday morning. “It is not a club, but a group of over 500 owners who take part when they feel like it. We usually get about 30 to 40 at each meeting”.

I am planning on attending and meeting Peter, taking my 4/44. For more information, and details of where meetings are taking place, please see Peter’s website – www.yeomansyearbook.org.uk

Mark Greening’s 6/110 had been laid up with a starting problem while he prioritised working on his Morris 6, but is now planning on attending rallies in the Eastleigh area of Hampshire.

Al Smith, a Register member in Kent who also runs the Elf/Hornet Register, reports that his grey Hornet has been off the road. “He went lopsided due to a nearside hydrolastic leak. I am pleased to say this was an easy fix. But we now have the top end of his engine in bits and awaiting parts. Meanwhile, my green Hornet, Rusty, continues to provide solid reliable service when called upon”.

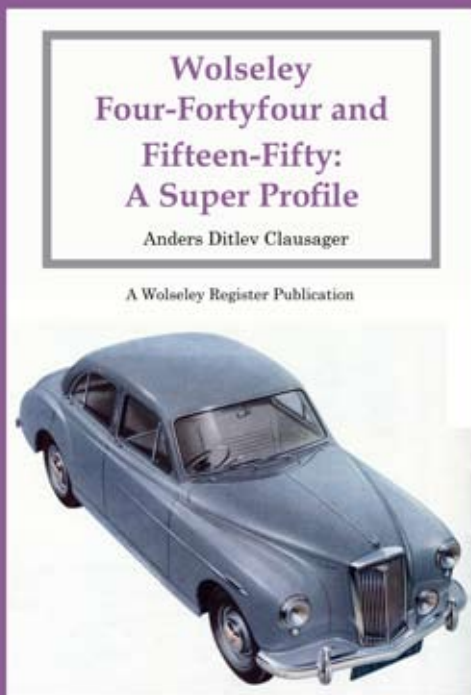


Finally, the SE committee delayed its Christmas lunch gathering until the New Year when, in early January, we met at The Pheasant at Buckland, on the edge of the Surrey Hills near Reigate. Nelson Ferreira arrived in his New Fourteen, Andrew Bull in his 1500 and I took my 4/44, back on the road after a head gasket replacement. We were joined by Jim Beaumont and John Blackburn, and together with partners, we had a convivial meal.

NEW WOLSELEY REGISTER PUBLICATION

Wolseley Four-Fortyfour and Fifteen-Fifty: A Super Profile

Register member and former archivist and historian to the British Motor Industry Heritage Trust – Anders Clausager – has added another comprehensive book to our 'Profile' series.



This 76-page, full-colour, A4 softback is a must-have guide for owners, future owners and enthusiasts alike.

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