

TRIUMPH MAYFLOWER CLUB

AGM REPORT

SUNDAY 29TH MARCH 2015

Meeting held at: EXPRESS HOLIDAY INN, TEMPUS DRIVE, WALSALL

IN ATTENDANCE were: John Castle; John Oaker; Chad Brown; Peter Benfield; Phil Benson; Paul Norton; Brian Redshaw; Frank Russell, Kath Russell, John Fletcher and Don Fox.

Apologies received from: Malcolm Barnsley, John Gogay, Terry Gordon, Clive Lungmass and Howard Pryor.

Chairman's report:

John Castle opened the meeting by welcoming the members who were attending, especially those newer members attending for the first time. He thanked the secretary, John Oaker for making all the arrangements for this meeting.

In his report, he described some of the rallies that he had attended last year. He had usually gone in his modern car or with other members as his Mayflower had been down most of last year. He had been to RAF Cosford in July for the joint rally held with the Triumph Razoredge Owners' Club which was unfortunately not very well attended by either of the clubs members, only 18 cars in total of which the majority were from the TROC members.

He had also been to Stoneleigh on August Bank Holiday Monday with Chad and John. There was a fly past by a Hawker Hurricane and two Spitfire aeroplanes.

This was a very good show but as it is organised by Coventry City Council via the Coventry Motor Museum, funding for 2015 is not available due to the council's austerity measures, therefore this year it has been cancelled. However, it is understood the museum is trying to organise a 2015 show in Coventry itself.

He advised that Bob Wyatt from the Triumph Roadster Club had stated that they did not attend the Stoneleigh Triumph/MG day last year because they had only been allotted space in one of the old cow shed buildings that were not up to scratch. He hoped this year to be allotted a space in a better position in one of the other halls.

The Chairman had received a phone call from a gentleman who had inherited his father's old Mayflower and wanted to dispose of it as it was only a spares/project vehicle. John had passed the information on to the Spares Secretary and hoped Brian would advise some details later in the meeting.

The club had also received an invitation from Lynda Homer to attend the Standard Triumph Forum meeting so the Chairman and Chad Brown had attended last Saturday. They had both been made very welcome and the meeting and the people had been very interesting.

One was Tim from Triumph World Magazine who told them that he would welcome more features on the older Triumph models and in particular a piece of the Mayflower. The Chairman will be following this up shortly. He also reported that the motoring journalist Graham Robson had been awarded the Harry Webster award by the forum. (Keen Mayflower owners will be aware that it was the late Harry Webster who designed the Triumph Mayflower).

The club had recently received an invitation from Bob Wyatt to put a Mayflower onto the Triumph Roadster stand at the Practical Classics Restoration Show at the NEC in Birmingham but as this was on the same weekend as our AGM the club had decided to decline this kind offer.

The Chairman reminded members that theft of classic cars is on the increase so should beware of scammers and opportunist thieves etc. and always lock their vehicles up securely, even in garages etc. at home.

Secretary's Report:

John stated that this would be his 22nd report. The number of members for each of the last 20 years are:

Number of members

1996 152	1997 167	1998 151	1999 144	2000 151
2001 144	2002 150	2003 144	2004 131	2005 142
2006 148	2007 141	2008 139	2009 139	2010 145
2011 134	2012 124	2013 124	2014 100	2015 117

Of the 100 members at 31-03-14: 90 members re-joined, 5 former members have re-joined, there are 6 honorary members and 16 new members, taking the total to 117.

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
103	105	96	89	88	71	86	UK & Ireland
13	16	16	11	15	10	11	USA & Canada
4	6	3	6	6	5	7	Australasia
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	Japan
10	11	10	9	8	7	6	Europe
2	1	1	1	1	1	1	Africa
6	6	6	6	5	5	5	Honorary members
				1	1	1	Life President

Treasurer's report:

The club remains on a sound financial basis despite the dips in membership, mainly due to the strong reserves. The membership fees have not changed for several years and are well below the level of other clubs. We are due to discuss membership fees as a separate agenda item but my recommendation is that they remain unchanged this year but warn that an increase is inevitable.

Date	Payee	Cheque No.	Amount
14/05	Ripon rally stand	314	30.00
11/04	FP 148	316	494.00
01/05	FBHVC Annual subs	317	56.80
08/07	FP 149	318	494.00
16/07	Rally trophies	319	41.97
22/07	Rally food etc.	320	60.00
26/09	FP 150 less USA subs	321	352.00
07/10	Website hosting	322	74.39
23/12	Aston Scott insurance	323	553.33
27/01	Website renewal	324	11.38
27/12	FP 151	325	444.00

Spares Secretary's report:

The secretary informed the meeting that cost of new parts was balanced almost perfectly with sales. However, he noted that many members advised him the club was selling items at a higher cost than it was often possible to get them on auction sites. He explained that this was due to the volumes we order. Where items are common to many classic cars they can be ordered in much greater volumes by independent commercial suppliers. He advised that the club would continue to hold key supplies when sometimes they were not available elsewhere and he hoped that members would recognise they were sometimes paying a little more to guarantee future supplies and to support the club and other members throughout the world in keeping Mayflowers running.

He advised that he had been re-stocking the club's second-hand spares and could supply many items that were no longer available new. He had also organised the making and supply of switch knobs that were as good as and were identical to the original OEM items.

He pointed out that the spares booklet contained many items no longer available from stock. He assured members that he would always do his best to find such items as quickly as he could. He asked members to always telephone to check availability BEFORE sending in firm orders by post with cheques etc. He asked that this request be shown on the club website so all members were reminded of it.

He explained that he had travelled to see a couple of project/spares vehicles recently including the one passed on to him by our Chairman. Neither of them had been worth anywhere near the value that their owners were expecting so he had a 200 mile wasted trip both times.

Regalia Secretary's report:

(John Castle is currently acting Regalia Secretary but would welcome offers to take this role on.)

John has been able to source and supply all the clothes items currently listed on the club website. Sales are about the same as that spent on stock. (Clothing sales £53, replacement stock £55.) He is currently trying to source a new supplier of the club car badge as we have almost run out of them.

Election of Officers:

As there were no resignations being offered and there had been no opposing nominations the meeting unanimously accepted a proposal by John Oaker and seconded by Phil Benson that the officers and other committee members be re-elected for a further term.

Membership fees:

Chad Brown opened the debate on this topic by stating that we were well below the level of other club fees he is aware of including several other clubs he belongs to. Other members felt that in a time of austerity we should try to hold costs down as far as we could.

It was noted however, that club insurance charges had increased almost 50% over the last three years. Following a quite lively debate it was proposed by Brian Redshaw, seconded by Peter Benfield and agreed by the meeting with one abstention, that as we were also struggling to get content for the club magazine from members we should trial a reduction from four magazines per annum to three saving around £500 in production and postage thus allowing us to defer an increase in membership fees for the current year.

The Chairman will ask the Editor to organise the new magazine schedule with immediate effect. A proposal to increase membership fees from £25 to £30 for the following year (2016) was agreed in principle.

Rally Matters

The Rally Secretary proposed that TROC were going to rally at Kimbolton Castle in July this year at about the same time as the Mayflower Club Northern Rally would take place in Ripon in Yorkshire.

He suggested we should decide whether to rally with TROC again or to make the Ripon Rally our Annual Rally venue. He explained that at either Ripon or Kimbolton we would be a part of a much larger event with several hundred cars attending of mixed makes.

After a discussion, it was decided that we would hold our annual rally at Ripon Racecourse this year on Sunday, July 26th. Peter Benfield volunteered to make the booking.

Chad gave details of the Standard Triumph Forum and the Roadster Club Rally.

Website Ideas:

It was suggested that the spares booklet be put onto the website. No prices to be shown as they change too often to be able to maintain them. Brian requested again that his warning re availability be clearly shown alongside items listed. It was agreed that John Oaker would co-ordinate this with Brian Redshaw and Robert Gannon.

Robert Gannon thought that members be asked to submit e-mail pieces about 300-400 words describing their cars and activities and send in photos which then could be put on the website.

Any other business:

Following on from the comments about lack of articles in the magazine and on the website it was suggested that prizes be awarded for the best article of 300 words or more. It was agreed that any of the regalia items offered for sale by the club could be given for the best article chosen by the Editor or for best website article each quarter. Members are to be requested to state what prize they would like if they were chosen.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 5 pm thanking everyone for attending and wishing them a safe journey home.