



The Morgan Club hits the town



Endless Morgans fill Station Road

for him but he has had to hit the ground running!

We are all finding August/September tough with up to 8 on holiday most weeks; and are hoping October will be easier. Phil Tompkins our bus guru is looking after the Commercial workshop with Martyn looking after the Bodyshop and hovering over the business. So now the hard sell! Usual plug for MOT's, tyres, all the services you would expect, servicing, air con, diagnostics, and not forgetting the body shop and paint shop which carryout small dents to large accident repair. We remain an independent family business who prides ourselves on a personal service and endeavours to meet all your motoring needs. New to the area? Please drop in to see us and see what we might be able to do for you or otherwise the only number to call is 01749 813655!!

A Ramble

Treated by the family for a birthday present we rented a house for all of us in mid Wales. A joyous occasion culminating in a footplate ride and a reserved carriage on the Talylyn railway. A picturesque railway and blessed with good weather the experience was complete when the driver was one of my oldest friends, a good 'ole Bruton boy, Bill Tyndall. With my initials on the loco name plate, what more could a chap wish!

Whilst in that area we visited a unique museum, Internal Fire Museum of Power, in Tan-y-groes, Wales. What an amazing place. Another man and wife of vision set up all on their own this huge collection of monster engines, some steam, some diesel, but the work they put into

Thoughts to Ponder

The lack of guidance a nation falls. But many advisors make victory sure. (Proverbs 11:14)

A Cheerful look brings joy to the heart And good news gives health to the bones. (Proverbs 15:30).

this is just remarkable. I recommend everyone to visit if in the that far flung parts of the empire! <https://www.internalfire.com>.

Many of you would have witnessed the huge development at Hadspen House over the last few years but to visit the now open complex of gardens, walks, cyder mill and restaurants will guarantee to leave you in wonderment. Again the vision, the expense and the results are down to one man and his wife.

How lucky are we to still be able to make a mark on this world and hopefully leave it the better for our passing? So there is another trip 'The Newt' <https://thenewtinsomerset.com>.

Brexit looms/can't avoid it! I believe we are all sick to death of it and I cannot believe we have wasted over 3 year's prating about. I feel that even in the many and heated conversations we have all endured that even some remainers just want to move on. Whatever will be, will be...

No doubt it will be a rough passage but this guy for one sincerely believes we shall survive, we will be OK. (He says with his helmet on!)

Anyway, happy days and as I tell my valued staff – "Every day is a bonus!!"

All the best, wherever you may be and remember coffee and biscuits await and we are only here to serve! Wishing you and your vehicles good health and happy motoring for 2019 and beyond.

Jordan. W. Fry

Autumn WEST END GARAGE (BRUTON) LTD NEWSLETTER 2019

"Lazy; indolent; could try harder ", sounds like a school report. Truth is one seems to be run off one's trotters this year! With the passage of the years I am told life should be at a slower more enjoyable pace but I feel it's just gone into overdrive!"



... March 28th ... destination – Bruton

Discipline, that's what it's all about! You will sit down, concentrate and do a newsletter, cannot put it off anymore. Bit like Brexit whereby if you keep putting off the decision, maybe it will go away! So are you ready? How on earth can I condense the 2019 activities into a page or two, include

some photos and stop you being bored? I am totally responsible for the failure – folk keep asking, where is the newsletter? Have I missed it? Please send one! Not only by the paper version but even by the electronic means! There is nowhere for you to hide!

Never has Bruton been so much in the public eye – what greater accolade than having HM the Queen to visit and spend some time here? Flags, throngs of folk, school children and royalties alike as the Bentley glided around the town. From the train at Castle Cary to Paul Nicholls' stables at Ditcheat, to Kings School to celebrate 500 years of the school. What an achievement. Just imagine what life would have been like for you 500 years ago (reckon I might have been busy as a Blacksmith!). To open and celebrate the fantastic Queen Elizabeth Music Hall and then have lunch, served by the Kings students "Hospitality Core" and pop into the Hauser &

Wirth gallery before flying back home. The photos show her relaxed, smiling and enjoying herself.

One person was lucky not to be put into the tower for treason having refused the lunch invitation. Being a staunch Royalist and enjoying good food, how heart breaking to be in South Africa at the same time and to miss this greatest of occasions.

The celebration of 500 years of Kings and 400 years since the death of our great benefactor Hugh Sexey could not be ignored and a re-enactment of a moment in the history of the Civil War took place in Bruton as the Parliamentarians from Batcombe and Royalists from Bruton had a punch up.



Loyalists – One and all!

Having marched through town (led by the Military band from Yeovilton) and assembled on the Abbey field, the roar of cannons and continuous Musket fire left many dying soldiers all over the place. Talk about blood and bullets but I believe they all recovered to fight another day after a miraculous blessing from the priest!

SOUTH AFRICA – what a beautiful fantastic country to visit for our holiday of a lifetime. Cape town must be the jewel in the crown but deeper in land not quite such a relaxed ship. Board the Blue Train for a trip to the Maluti Mountains in the Eastern Free State on the very border with Lesotho. It would take a very special person to arrange for the whole of the Blue Train to go where it had never been before and to stop on your own farm/estate



The Sandstone Mountaineer Underload

WEST END GARAGE (BRUTON) LTD

MOT'S CLASSES 4, 5 & 7
CARS, CAMPERS, VANS &
COMMERCIAL VEHICLES
ALL MAKES SERVICING & REPAIRS
AIR CONDITIONING
SPECIALIST IN 4 X 4'S & PEUGEOTS

STATION YARD
STATION ROAD
BRUTON
SOMERSET BA10 0NL
T 01749 813655/813261
F 01749 812880
info@westendgaragebruton.com
www.westendgaragebruton.com

for 3 days before going back to Pretoria. Who on earth would have a narrow gauge (2ft gauge) railway adjacent to the main line that would run for the best part of 30km around your estate? That is just the start. For those of us lucky enough to stay for the 10 days at the 'Stars of Sandstone' it was a mind blowing experience. The first 4 days I just wandered in total amazement at the vast engine sheds (30 + steamers), carriages, trucks (too numerous to count). Huge sheds packed with tractors, combines, old machinery. Did I mention the steam traction engines/ rollers and lorries?! Then there are the huge Caterpillar D9's, Earth Graders etc. Not to mention the vast army section from tanks, transporters, gun tractors and their associated artillery, armoured personnel carriers etc etc.

Board the train and watch the dozen or so special bred original African Oxen about their work and run alongside the private road as old classic cars and trucks race the trains.

Double headed huge Garrett engines thunder up the mountain hauling a heavy load of carriages with spellbound passengers. Passing a school the children race the train as it fights the gradient and then passes heavy goods trains loaded with all sorts of freight bound for the army of photographers to capture that special photograph in the wondrous South African light. If you want to alight at the Sandstone Airport and have a trip in a Tiger Moth, Chipmunks, Harvards, helicopters or balloons – off you go. In between its harvest time and huge tractors and trailers constantly being loaded by massive combines all succeed in blowing your mind – such is the wonder of Sandstone. Don't believe me? Look up 'Stars of Sandstone' on your computer. Thank you Wilf for your vision, fortitude and generosity for others like me and others from all over the world to be able to live the dream!



"Off to the foreign!"

Avid readers know that 2 years ago we embarked on a major project to source and convert a 120+ ton tank transporter and trailer from left hand drive, service and repaint etc. This job was finally completed and has resided in a barn ever since

in Wiltshire. Eventually an export licence was granted and only a week given to fire it up, sort out, clean and prepare for its voyage to South Africa and deliver to Southampton for loading along with other vehicles. Mission accomplished! The highlight was to overtake another Oshkosh tank transporter (albeit loaded) on the A303 (Totally legal I assure you Officer!). Sorry about all the waving and horn blowing!

Back to Blighty from the virtual Disney Land experience it was time to load up and embark on D.Day 75th Anniversary. The platoon joined our other 2 local Matadors and motorcycle outrider and headed to Portsmouth over the calm sea to Normandy. The "Bruton Expeditionary Force" consisted of 18 troops and 5 vehicles (no guns this time) and swept in from Caen to Pegusus and onward to the other beaches etc.



Bruton Expeditionary Force



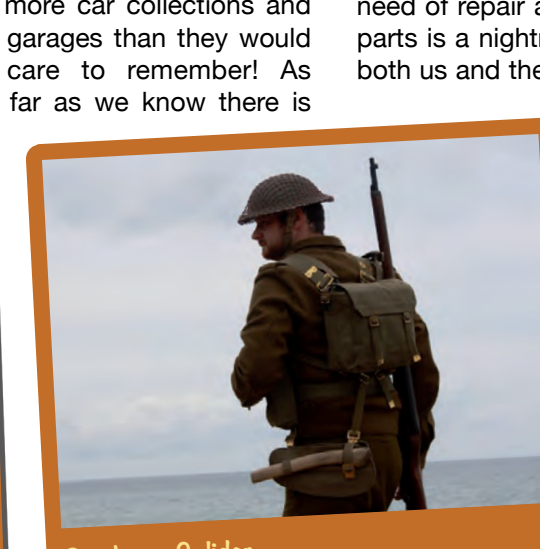
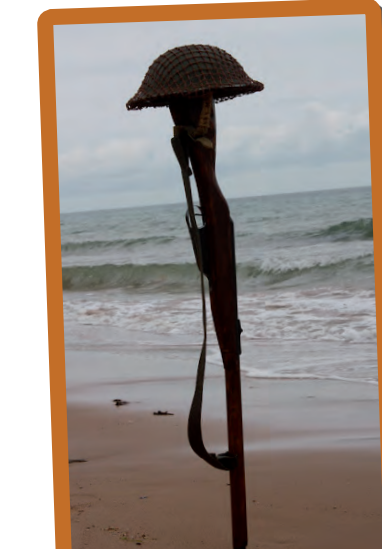
Bruton D.Day Convoy

First class camping facilities made for an enjoyable week but saddened by the lack of British vehicles – you could believe it was an all American operation but there was no doubt with our Union Jacks, helmets etc that the Brits were there. The magnitude of the operation and the horrendous losses and bravery of all those soldiers becomes all the more apparent when you visit. Pleased to take my Grandsons but horrified to see all the gravestones with the fallen and some of the same age as my eldest.

More events followed. The Old Duffers platoon seem to be all over the place towing our Howitzer and 25 pounder gun and joined the Embarkation weekend at Weymouth, Yeovilton air day and 1940 weekend at Cranmore and even more events without the guns – can't keep them at home!

Tuesday is 'Duffers Day' when the work is done keeping this now ageing fleet (80 years old) on the road. Grateful thanks to them otherwise they would just sit in a shed forlorn and forgotten but like all us old things, like a bit of action!!

We do have hectic visits from clubs and interested parties asking to look around as word has got out that actually there is a lot to see and we are not your usual garage. Even the ladies are enthusiastic having been to more car collections and garages than they would care to remember! As far as we know there is



Our Lone Solider



WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

nowhere else that covers the range of vehicles and does what we do, which always surprises our visitors and the accolades keep coming.

Since our last rendition we have been overwhelmed by our involvement with Hinkley Power Station project. Whilst the nuclear aspect is best left to others, we amuse ourselves with the repair of the huge fleet of buses that transfer the staff to site. Unfortunately as my brain cannot deal with the 'modern' registration numbers and the fact they are all white and look the same I wander in total confusion as to what is repaired and what has just arrived. As with buses you wait for one and then four turn up! Pressurising our already compact site!

We are having an unprecedented run of petrol and powder tanks as virtually all of our customers have problems at the same time – we prefer to spread it but life doesn't work like that so we can only adopt the adage of making 'hay while the sun shines!' We never ceased to be amazed as MOD vehicles and others just roll up and drop off vehicles to be repaired (but are often reluctant to take vehicles that have been repaired back with them – different units/different camps!). Other customers organise changeovers on their night shifts. Always a wonder what you might find outside in the morning!

Added to the mix is an influx of beautiful old buses in need of repair and TLC whilst a pleasure to see, getting parts is a nightmare and the time delay is frustrating for both us and the customer.

So apart from being fun city and endless holidays, the show must go on. As ever, staff changes with Dave Collins our Car Service Manager dared to admit to the ageing process and wanted to retire – time waits for no man! Our new service receptionist, Raven, with her big smile and helpful nature, is fast growing into this difficult role. Barrie Worrell with his lifetime experience in the trade has moved from the Commercial side over to look after the cars/reception etc. I assured him it would be an easier life