



WESTERN VETERAN AND VINTAGE MOTOR CLUB, LTD.

Newsletter March 2003

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1935 Riley Monaco

Some Pictures from the French Run



Padraic & Nell Giblin with Austin A40 and Joe & Helen Conneely with Triumph Herald Convertible outside the Ibis Hotel in Caen.

Larry Murphy (Austin A60)
Padraic & Nell Giblin (Austin A40)
Tasmin Folan (Ford Granada Coupe)
Miriam Mullan (Wolseley 1500)
Helen Conneely (Triumph Herald Convertible)



Normandy Beaches!

Brian Doody and Tasmin Folan at Batterie de Longueurs.

Newsletter, March 2003



WESTERN VETERAN AND VINTAGE MOTOR CLUB, LTD.

W.V.V.M.C. Limited, Registered Office: 25 Nun's Island, Galway. Reg. No.: 132186

Directors and Officers for 2003:

President: Bill Fennell

Vice President: Ray O'Donoghue

Chairperson: Larry Murphy

Treasurer: Padraic Giblin

Secretary: Frank Mullan

Membership: John Dooley

Summer Run: Sergio Magnetti

Summer Run Assistant: Pat Mullins

Overseas Run: John Downes

Insurance: Larry Murphy

Scrutineering: James McDonagh

Technical: John Folan

Members: Jimmy Francis

Communications Committee: Ray O'Donoghue, David
Fennell, Ernst Wijnekus

Social Committee: Helen Quinlan, Pat Conacur, Joe O'Neill,
Ray O'Donoghue.

From the editor

WVVMC newsletter is published quarterly. Letters, trip reports, articles, cars for sale or parts wanted, interesting articles, advertisements etc. etc. for the Club's Newsletter, can be sent to: Ray O'Donoghue, Dublin Road, Oranmore or e-mailed to: odonoghu@iol.ie
See also our website: www.wvvmc.com

If you want to have a photograph of your classic or vintage car printed on the front page of the cover please send me a good photograph + car details (colour or black/white but no Polaroids).

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John Folan's Page

After the end of another Irish winter and the start of our "run" season, it would be a good idea to give our cars a quick "once over". Not all of us run our cars all year round and it is surprising how many cars that drove into the garage, refuse to come to life when we finally decide its time to show them the light of day again.

If your car has not been run in a while there are a number of faults that can develop while it just sits there, electrical being the most common.

Assuming that your battery is in good condition, there are a few areas which would be worth having a look at before you start pulling your hair out. Start by checking earth lead connections, both from the battery to chassis and engine to chassis and that includes battery terminal - these connections must be clean and tight. A good indication of bad connections is heat. So if your car turns over too slowly to start but your battery is good, feel for heat in these cables and connections.

So, now it swings faster, have you checked the coil? Are the push-on connectors a little looser than they should be? - a rub of emery paper on the lugs and a small squeeze of a pliers should help. Now the HT side, or plug and coil leads. Make sure they are clean and tight also, open the distributor cap and check the rotor arm and the inside of the cap. Dust inside the cap can cause a spark to jump randomly and make a car misfire or fail to start completely.

Oh, and one other thing, I know we don't do huge mileage on our cars but I still think its a good idea to change spark plugs at least once a year.

Finally, fuel. Petrol can evaporate if a car is idle, or sometimes just leak. If your float chamber is empty, it may take quite a few turns to pump up enough fuel to fill it again, sometimes running your battery down before the car starts. Some older cars have a manual primer on the pump, some are electric and fill the chamber quickly, but some cars have a mechanical pump driven by the engine. In any case 30 seconds of turning the engine over should fill the float chamber, and providing all else is well, you should hear your car purr to life...

So go on then, get your hands dirty and lets see all your cars out on the "Meals after Wheels" run.....

Now try our easy car quiz.....

1. In what year was the Morris Minor introduced? _____
2. Where would you find a "Crown Wheel"? _____
3. What was the last car to carry the Triumph name? _____
4. What is so special about a car with a Crayford Badge? _____
5. Name two reasons why lead was added to petrol. _____
6. Where would you find a "Dwell Angle" being used? _____
7. On a Rover P5B, what did the B stand for? _____

continued on page 7 

Some Photographs from the 25th Anniversary Run to Kilfenora



JULY 25th. 2002

Western Veteran and Vintage Motor Club Ltd.

Calendar of events

April 6th.	Spring Run - Meals after Wheels (See details in page 12)
May 8th-12th.	Overseas Run to Wales.
June 1st.	Bank Holiday Charity Run (See details in page 12)
July 25th-27th.	Summer Run - West Run 2003 - Clifden (See page 12)
Sept. 13th-14th.	Autumn Run - Liscannor. (Details next newsletter).
Nov. 3rd.	Annual General Meeting.

Subscriptions now due

A club such as the WVVMC depends largely on the membership fees of its members for its existence. For the past two years, some members have not renewed their membership and some have failed (forgotten?) to update their standing orders for the currency changeover. The final tranche of membership cards for 2003 are about to be issued and in order to avoid being left out, this final appeal is being made to those members who have not paid at all or who have paid the incorrect amount, to rectify the situation immediately. The amount for this year has not changed from last year i.e. €38.00 in cash or a standing order for €32.00.

If you have any queries re. the above please contact the membership Director, John Dooley at 091 791970 or 086 8819458.

Car quiz continued from page 5

8. Who had a series of engines called Kent, Valentia, Essex, Cologne? _____
9. What are the four strokes of a 4-stroke engine? _____
10. In what year was the entire mini team disqualified from the Monte Carlo rally after finishing 1, 2, 3.? _____
11. Why were they disqualified? _____
12. On Fiats 128 3P, what did 3P mean? _____
13. Who had a range of cars called the 100, 120, 140, 160, 180, 200 etc.? _____
14. If someone said he had twin SU's, what had he? _____
15. Who were the makers of Delboys 3-wheeler? _____

Please send your answers, with your name, address and phone no. to Ray O'Donoghue, Dublin Road, Oranmore, Co. Galway before May 16th.

WVVMC France Trip 2002 aka "If you want trouble drive an old car"

Friday 20th September

4 cars gathered at the Quality Hotel, Oranmore, for light refreshments before the off!

I was driving my '67 Austin-Healey Sprite Mk IV on which I had just finished replacing the camshaft and followers.

We left Oranmore at 11.15am and headed for the ferry. The other two cars were travelling independently with a view to meeting up with us in Rosslare about 4.00pm. The trip was uneventful and the weather fine as we crossed the Shannon and proceeded to Birr. However at a sharp corner outside Riverstown I braked and the pedal started to drop alarmingly, sure enough a defective rear wheel cylinder was at fault and after about 20 minutes we managed to fix this and the journey continued. After a light Lunch at the Leix County Hotel in Borris-in-Ossory we continued on our way(well everyone else did), but the rear exhaust hanger bush on the Sprite gave up the ghost outside Durrow, followed in rapid succession by the rotor arm just outside Kilkenny City - all fixed in record time with assistance from John Folan . "that's it, nothing else can go wrong" I said to Steve Brownless, who was travelling in the Sprite with me. Well I was right, nothing else did go wrong - well not until New Ross that is! The car started running on three, then two, then one cylinder (it certainly felt like one) at the traffic lights beside the bridge. This plagued me for the rest of the trip and in the end it turned out to be the rear SU carburettor flooding out through the jet at tickover. In any event we arrived in Rosslare with time to spare and I coaxed the Sprite onto the Ferry using varying numbers of cylinders! The other two cars were already there having arrived earlier. The Ferry left promptly and the forecast was for light seas, it was definitely time to head below decks for food and drink!

Saturday 21st September

Boat docked about 12.00 local time in glorious weather, We grouped up outside the port and headed for our first stop at Dinan. Upon reaching there I parked up and myself and Steve travelled into the town with Larry and Marie. We spent the afternoon in Dinan which is a medieval walled city with much of it's original architecture intact. Parking is easy and cheap and all agreed that it would have been a lovely place to stay overnight. However time was against us and we had to hit the road for Rennes.

Myself and Steve were at the rear of the contingent and Padraic seemed to have gone a different way altogether, however everyone knew where the Hotel was and each had maps. At the Rennes Ring Road we could see the rest of the contingent about a mile ahead but they kept straight into the city, we took the ring road and were very lucky not to get caught in a massive tailback at the football stadium exit where a game was imminent. (believe me - when you've got a car that won't tickover you don't want to spend any time in a traffic jam!!) - In any event we arrived at the IBIS Hotel Rennes about 2 minutes before everyone else including Padraic! Parking was in the station car park below the Hotel and was most convenient.

The hotel itself is brand new and centrally located. After settling in, we all headed out to a restaurant called the "Cafe Noir" which I have to say was one of the best meals I ever had anywhere.

We then retired to the bar across the road till (very) late!

Sunday 22nd September

Bright-eyed and bushy-tailed (well some of us), we headed for Mt. St. Michel. It is difficult to describe the first views, the view from the car park, the narrow medieval streets, the crowds, the climb to the top and the eventual vista from the summit. Suffice to say that this is a world heritage site and deservedly so. Highly recommended - don't come to this part of France without a visit. Myself and Steve were travelling about an hour ahead of the rest of the party in case of problems but the car was running well on the open road. Late afternoon we arrived at the IBIS Hotel in north Caen. Everyone was tired after the day's driving and so we decided to eat at the hotel.

Monday 23rd September

In the morning we visited the Caen Memorial, this is a peace memorial and Park which describes the conflicts of the last 100 years and examines, by means of exhibits, possible future solutions to the need for conflict. It is a very impressive and memorable exhibition - but difficult to do justice to in the couple of hours we had allotted. In the afternoon we drove north towards Arromanches where there was a very fine view of the 'Mulberry' or artificial harbour which was used to ferry the supplies ashore in the weeks and months following the Normandy Landings. Next stop was at the Battery de Longuers' which is the only surviving WWII coastal battery in France - which has its guns intact. To round off the afternoon we visited the American Military which overlooks Omaha Beach. Even today in the sunshine, the beach is a

mournful place and row upon row of white crosses in the immaculately maintained cemetery serve to reinforce this feeling. That evening we left the old cars behind and taxied into Caen 'Centre Ville' for some entertainment.

Tuesday, 24th September

Bright and early we headed northeast for Honfleur, stopping at a small town enroute where a large street market was in progress.

We passed through Pont L'Eveq which truly was a sight to behold with it's beautiful architecture and flowers. Honfleur was reached in time for a great 4-course lunch followed by a stroll around the cobbled streets and harbour - truly magnificent! Watch out for the zealous parking attendants though!! The afternoon consisted of a lazy trip back down the coast visiting the twin towns of Trouville and Douville and a chance for some early wine shopping! That evening we had a fine night out in a Chinese restaurant in the centre of Caen.

Wednesday, 25th September

Alas it was time to head north for the return to Ireland. Some stopped at Bayeux to view the tapestry and some just headed directly for Cherbourg. We visited 'La Cite de la Mer' which is a museum dedicated to underwater exploration situated in some of the old transatlantic departure Halls in Cherbourg. They have the original Bathyscape of Marianas Trench fame and a newly decommissioned France nuclear submarine 'Le Redoutable' which is open to visitors. This is an absolute must if you are in the area.

After the obligatory trip to the local supermarket (It's amazing how many bottles can be packed into one small car!!) we arrived at the Ferryport in good time for departure.

Thursday, 26th September

Arrived in Rosslare at 12.30 after a calm crossing.

Uneventful drive to Galway

All in all a great trip, but if you want peace of mind get a reliable old car!

Brian Doody

—> *See Pictures inside front and back covers.*

For Sale:

PARTS - Ford Prefect E493A 1951 - Bonnet, Grille, Wings, Wheels, etc.
Very good condition.
Contact Sean McGreevy at (091) 794916 or (086) 2585009.

WVVMC Overseas Trip to Wales

A total of 32 people in 13 cars have signed up to travel to Wales on Thursday, May 8th and will attend the Annual Classic Car Show and Autojumble organised by the South Wales Classic Car Club. 13 hotel rooms have been booked and Ernst Wijnekus is organising number plates, plaques and flags for the cars. The group will be located in the Heronston Hotel in Bridgend where an informal dinner is planned for the Thursday evening. Participating WVVMC members have been invited to the South Wales Club's 20th anniversary celebration dinner on the Friday 9th May. A run will be organised for Saturday 10th and the main event, The South Wales Annual Classic Car Show and Autojumble will take place on the Sunday. The group will travel home on Monday, May 12th. This trip is being organised by John Downes and a full report will be available for the next issue of this newsletter.

The New Year's Party

The Social sub-committee organised a successful party in the Oranmore Lodge Hotel on January 25th. Almost 100 people attended and enjoyed dining and dancing into the early hours of the morning. The band, the Oyster Boys from Clarinbridge, provided excellent music that kept the floor full for over three hours. While the evening was a social success, the organising committee were disappointed with the attendance from the membership and are currently reviewing the situation as to whether such events should take place in the future and if there is really an interest from the general membership which is currently just over 200.

The Irish Morris Minor Owners Club

The Irish Morris Minor Owner's Club will hold their Affiliated Club Run at Belvedere House, Mullingar on Sunday 13th April. They are meeting in the Car Park of Belvedere House at 1.30 pm. Entries will be taken on the day, but they would encourage members to contact them in advance so they will have an idea of numbers attending.

The contact person is Maureen Dillon, Secretary IMMOC, 48 Merchamp, Seafield Road East, Clontarf, Dublin 3.

Event Details

April 6th. Spring Run - Meals after Wheels: This Run will leave the Promenade carpark in Salthill at 2.00pm and head west for Carraroe, through Barna, An Spidéal, Ros a Mhíl and Costelloe. There will be light refreshments in Óstán an Dóilín. The return trip will be via Costelloe, left to Screebe, right to Maam Cross and right for Galway, through Oughterard and Moycullen, to arrive in Galway for dinner in the Sacre Couer Hotel at 6.30pm. The total cost is €30.00 per person and this will be collected at the start of the run.

The Run Marshall is John Folan.

June 1st. Bank Holiday Charity Run: “The David Hickey Poker Run”

This is a fun event, and is being organised to raise money for a fund in the name of Mr. David Hickey, Transplant Surgeon in Beaumont Hospital. Mr. Hickey, the former Dublin footballer, works very closely with the medical personnel in Cuba where, due to the embargos from America, they have difficulty in purchasing any medical equipment or drugs that would originate in the States. Mr. Hickey purchases any obsolete equipment etc. and sends or brings it to Cuba. The recipient of a double transplant at the hands of Mr. Hickey has decided to try and organise a fundraiser to give back something, and recently presented her plans to the WVVMC who have agreed to stage the event. All cars will check in at the start (place & start time to be announced) Each vehicle will receive a number & folder, also a playing card. At each stage each vehicle will receive another playing card. At the final stage each vehicle should have five playing cards i.e. a poker hand. Should a participant not be happy with their hand, they may exchange up to three cards (at a price). There will be prizes for the best hands, the worst hands, the most unusual hand etc. and there may also be a wild card in the deck.

Full details will be circulated later.

July 25th-27th. Summer Run - West Run 2003:

The Club’s main event is the annual Summer Run and this year’s run will take us to Clifden on the Saturday. Arrangements are already well advanced with the local Development Association in Clifden and we are assured of a great welcome to their town. The static display on the Friday afternoon will take place this year at the Spanish Arch, from 2.00pm to 6.00pm, with the social activities in the Corrib Great Southern Hotel on the Friday and Saturday nights. There will be a short run to a location yet to be announced, followed by a light lunch, on the Sunday morning.

more details later

Saint Patrick's Day Parades

Gort's Very Successful Parade

Gort had it's most successful parade todate and much of the credit must go to a very energetic organising committee. One of the main highlights of the parade was the massive turnout of vintage cars and tractors from all over Galway and the surrounding counties.



The Tuam Parade

The Tuam parade has always attracted a large number of vintage cars and this year was no exception. Marching groups and school bands were very much to the fore and as usual the WVVMC brigade created a notable presence.

Great turnout for Oranmore Parade

The Oranmore parade was held at 3.30pm on Saint Patrick's Day. There was a



real carnival atmosphere on a day of brilliant sunshine with a very large turnout of vintage and classic cars. Over 40 cars and tractors took part and the organisers, the Oranmore Community Development Association Limited, have asked us to convey their sincere thanks to all those who turned up.

Trips to other classic car events

The **WVVMC**, through it's social sub-committee, is endeavouring to organise trips to other club's events. Below we give a list of events, as we now know them, and we ask anybody who intends to take part in any of these events to get in touch with **Pat Mullins** at **091 525289**.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Event</u>
April 20th.	Donegal Vintage and Classic Car Club.	Static Car Show and Sale in Letterkenny
April 27th.	Charleville and District Veteran, Vintage and Classic Car Club.	Spring Run
May 3rd.	Lakeland Vintage Club Ltd.	2nd Annual Car Run in Abbeyshrule, Co. Longford.
May 9th-12th.	Kinsale Vintage and Classic Motor Club.	International Classic Car Rally.
May 11th.	Celbridge Classic Car and Bike Club.	Annual Show.
May 11th.	Muskerry Vintage, Veteran Car and Tractor Club Ltd.	Spring Run to West Cork.
May 18th.	Carrick-on-Suir Motor Club	Fun Run.
May 25th.	West Cork Vintage Club	West Cork Run.
May 31st-1/6	Limerick Classic and Vintage Car Club.	Summer Run and Show.
June 1st.	Breffni Vintage Club.	Robert Good Memorial Run.
June 4th-8th.	Irish Veteran and Vintage Car Club.	Gordon Bennett Rally.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Event</u>
June 10th.	Kinsale Vintage and Classic Motor Club.	Mystery Summer Tour.
June 14th.	Irish Morris Minor Club.	Trip to Kilbroney.
June 20th.	Imokilly Vintage and Classic Club.	Annual Summer Run.
June 21st-22nd.	Tipperary Light Car and Motorcycle Club.	Annual Stonethrowers Run.
June 29th.	Breffni Vintage Club.	Virginia Vintage Weekend.
June 28th-29th.	Connaught Veteran and Vintage Car Club.	Main Weekend Run, Ballina.
July 4th, 5th, 6th.	Mallow Veteran Vintage Classic Car Club.	Annual Vintage Weekend.
July 13th.	Donegal Vintage and Classic Car Club.	Annual Run, Ballybofey.
July 20th.	Trim Vintage and Veteran Car Club.	Trim Show.
August 3rd.	Breffni Vintage Club.	Bawnboy Vintage Show.
August 17th.	Limerick Classic and Vintage Car Club.	Hot August Run.
August 17th.	Irish Morris Minor Club.	Trip to Powerscourt.
August 22nd-24th	Midland Classic Car Club.	Leisure Weekend.
August 24th.	Carrick-on-Suir Motor Club.	Fun Run.
August 31st.	Duhallow Veteran, Vintage Classic Car and M/cycle Club.	Annual Run.

Vintage Day in Mountbellew

There was a special vintage day in Mountbellew on March 16th. There was a large turnout of vintage cars and tractors from the WVVMC. As well as the 1951 Ferguson 20 tractor, David Fennell from the communications sub-committee of the WVVMC took his camera along and has provided all the pictures for this page.



The Cullinan Chamois Run in Tuam

This annual event has become a great success and again this year was no exception. On Sunday February 16th, 54 people in 29 cars took off from Parson's garage in Tuam and headed for Finn's of Miltown where an excellent lunch was served. After lunch the group headed off for Newtown House in Abbeyknockmoy where they were hospitably hosted by Mr. Wyn Rees and his wife Chris. Mr. Rees is a member of WVVC and a well-known Jaguar enthusiast. The photo below shows the house and courtyard at Newtown House. At the end of the Run, a voluntary collection for Tuam Cancer Care raised €350.



More Photographs from Newtown House.....



A new Stretch Limo for the Chairman!

Obituary

At a recent WVVMC meeting the Committee noted with sadness that Sean Mullins, brother of committee member Pat Mullins, and Rosemary Bowley, sister of member Sean Casey, had died since the last meeting. The club sends it's condolences to both members.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-ainmneacha dílis.

Some More Pictures from the French Run

Antique Merry-go-round at Honfleur



The American Cemetery, Normandy.

"Just how much wine and beer can you put in the back of an old Wolseley?"





Top Part Motor Stores are in:

Top Part, Ballast Quay, Sligo. 071 50050

Partway Auto Factors, Tuam Road, Galway. 091 755997

Partway Auto Factors, Vicar Street, Tuam. 093 28731

Banner Motor Factors, Cornmarket Street, Ennis. 065 6820355

Top Part, Dublin Road, Limerick. 061 417822

Kingdom Motor Factors, Rock Street, Tralee. 066 7122700

Top Part, Dosco Ind. Est., South Douglas Road, Cork. 021 897979

***Main Sponsors to the Western Veteran and
Vintage Motor Club Limited.***

We thank the following contributors to this issue of the newsletter:
Brian Doody, John Folan, Frank Mullan and Padraic Giblin. Photographs were
supplied by David Fennell, John Folan, Padraic Giblin and Ray O'Donoghue.

Sincere thanks to all. the editor