



The MESSage

Newsletter of the Middlebridge Enthusiasts Scimitar Set

 : middlebridge@live.co.uk



April 2016

MICK'S MESSage

Wow, the MESSages do seem to be coming thick and fast at the moment! Since our last epistle I have met with Bruce and George and apart from a great evening we have hopefully now furnished Bruce with much of the data to assist him in his new role as Events Co-ordinator.

Middlebridge Website

We have had a hiccup on our website divert system. This means we would not have received messages sent to us directly via the website contact page. I'm not sure how long this fault has been present. We can only apologise to anyone for any inconvenience caused and assure everyone that work is in progress to cure the issue. (Caused by our web' hosts.) A message has now been uploaded to the contact page that will overcome the issue while a permanent solution is found. Once again were very sorry to anyone affected.

MICK'S MIDDLEBRIDGE

Good news! Finally, after over 4 months, my manifolds have been manufactured and delivered to Andy, who quickly fitted them. Andy has also completed the other work on my to-do list and on Saturday 12th March, I collected my car from Gloucester and enjoyed a great drive home on the nicest day of the year to date. I still have jobs to do on her but I'm looking forward to the summer and getting out & about. Andy and myself are somewhat disappointed with the manufacturers of the manifolds, firstly because of the massive delays beyond the two week 'quoted' lead time, although eventually my manifolds were delivered and they were to specification, fitted great and lined up directly with front silencers. (So happy days for me)



Just in case you have forgotten what Mick's car looks like!

(I will run out of these "stock" photos soon!)



MICK'S MIDDLEBRIDGE



Micks Manifolds!!

two weeks later however, the other manifold sets were delivered to Andy's but when Andy inspected them they

were not made to the same specification or design as my set. It transpires that they did not make any templates or jigs and needless to say they do not line up with the std' exhaust system.

Unfortunately the mandrel bent manifolds cannot be altered to fit, they need to be completely re-manufactured from scratch. I believe they are collecting the manifolds and crediting Andy the cost. (This is a real shame as they eventually did a fantastic job with my manifolds.)

On a good run I noted that my engine was running a little rough on tickover/low down, on checking this we discovered that the primary air flow meter fueling level was way down and the secondary also slightly down, when these were adjusted and set it made quite a significant difference to the cars performance. This was quite a surprise and shows the difference that a quality, properly set-up freeflow system can make. ;o)



Shiny Manifolds before Fitting

Marque Awareness

Great news, after being contacted by Classic Car Mart magazine, at very short notice we “convinced” Jonathon Smith, the owner of MB28 to make his car available and two weeks later the article was for sale on the shelf. ;o) In my opinion the article reads very well for both the Middlebridge and our Reliant cousins. (CCM Vol.22 No.04 April 2016)



An Image from the Photoshoot for CCM Magazine

There has also been a small Middlebridge article with a picture in the Sun newspaper!

What would really help the marque would be people taking a few min's to contact any of the relevant magazines about their cars, whether it be a recently finished resto, your 'pride n joy' or event pictures etc.

Anyone following Graeme Conway's restoration of MB37 on the Facebook page will have seen the shell being returned after paint. It looks excellent and I can't wait to see the car once it has been reassembled, surely a candidate for a magazine article and NEC show car this year or next.

Facebook

On the subject of Facebook, We, (well 'Beckie' actually!) have now created a new Middlebridge Scimitar page so please feel free to have a look and post something.

This is not an area we were looking to explore at this time but one of our ongoing projects has forced us to create it now. It

will be very interesting to see how it progresses over the coming months and please don't worry if you are a novice as I am too. ;o)

Please try the Facebook page as it is clearly a window to a wider audience and it would of course be good to see it actively used. Have a look here: -

<https://www.facebook.com/Middlebridge-Scimitar-758762984161950/>

OH NO!

Jonathon Smith's family have realised he has caught the MB “bug” and are clearly tailoring his presents to suit—Jon told us: -

“I opened it.....and straight away I filled with emotion and the odd tear at the sterling work of my granddaughter, now aged 2. In fact, I thought her mum may have obviously helped her. When I calmed down my wife explained that no one other than her was involved in this masterpiece. A friend had taken her to a pottery class and I was presented with the result....thank goodness it is a one off. I had no idea she hated me that much!”



Jonathon and his “One Off” MB Plate!

Bruce's MESSage April 2016

Yes another month on and all is rapidly moving forward with so many exciting new shows and projects but there is only so much we can do in one year.

As the poster below suggests we need your support, it would be nice to see new faces and vehicles attending various events.

MIDDLEBRIDGE EVENTS



**NEED
YOUR SUPPORT**

MOTORSPORT AT THE PALACE

Crystal Palace Park,
London

Date: 29th & 30th May 2016

Entrance fee: Entry for one show car to include driver and one passenger
Is free of charge.

Please advise if you would like to attend this show.

Deadline for applications form to be returned 2nd May.

Maximum of 5 cars required for a club stand.



Motorsport at the Palace Crystal Palace Park, London 29th & 30th May 2016

Live Promotions will drive London's Motorsport at the Palace event into a new era, after taking over the two-day event held at Crystal Palace on Sunday 29th and Monday 30th May 2016. Previously organised by Sevenoaks and District Motor Club since its revival in 2010, Live will work with the club to grow the event both on and off the circuit using its valuable knowledge of outdoor events.

Held at Crystal Palace, one of the oldest venues used for racing in the world and the first place from which live televised motor-racing was ever broadcast, the event attracts racing drivers from all over the world and boasts some of the greatest names in motorsport taking a run around the circuit including Sir Stirling Moss, Jim Clark, Graham Hill and James Hunt.

Tom Siddall, Event Director, said: "This is a fantastic event held at an amazing venue, steeped in motoring history. Working with Sevenoaks and District Motor Club, we will look to expand the motorsport offering, attracting more high profile and diverse cars as well as encouraging other clubs – with both modern and classic marques to make this a true celebration of all this motoring."

With around 35 clubs displaying their cars at the 2015 event, Live Promotions is looking to expand this by offering clubs a five-car display space as well as growing the trader village. There will also be new attractions such as live music and a family fun fair

Motorsport at the Palace will be held on Sunday 29th to Monday 30th May 2016 over the Bank Holiday weekend. Tickets are now on sale, with adults passes from £12 and children from £5 when booked in advance. Car parking is available on-site and is free to visitors. For more information, race updates, and booking details, visit www.motorsportatthepalace.co.uk





AUTOKARNA 2016

Wollaton Park

Nottingham

Date: Sunday 5th June 2016

Cost: £5.00per car

Again to make this a memorable occasion, we have to display a minimum of 6 cars or more to be allotted a dedicated show area. All MB owners wishing to attend and display their vehicles please download entry forms at www.pwa7c.co.uk, or email and I will send Exhibitor Entry Form, complete form sign date and enclose £5.00 cheque, payable to PWA7C Ltd.

Due to a large number of entries last year, The Pre-War Austin Seven Club has restricted the number of entries to 750, so please send completed form and cheque to.

Middlebridge MESS

Bruce Beauchamp

27 Bridge Fields,

Kegworth,

Derby.

DE74 2FW

Before 19th April any cheque received after this date will be returned.

All details and passes will be posted nearer to the show date.

Vehicle interest: if you are in the process of restoration work and all will be completed prior to the show let us have the relevant details, this will help to promote the Middlebridge marque.

Seaburn Classic Car Show Tyne and Wear

SDCV 1996-2016 20th Anniversary Year

Date: 12th June

Time: 10am to 4pm

Venue: Seaburn Show, Recreation Ground. Sunderia. SR6 8DB

This event has been organized by Jim Pace of the RSSOC and we would like to thank him for inviting MB owners and enthusiasts to attend the Seaburn Classic Car Show. It would be fantastic to see a gathering of MB's from the North and South and make it a memorable day for all Scimitars owners at this North East Show.

Mick has attended previously and found it to be one of the friendliest events he has ever attended. All the MB owners/enthusiasts have to do is turn up on the day as everything is laid on.

For those enthusiasts traveling any great distance and wish to make it a long weekend, Durham Regatta is another attraction to visit on the Saturday 11th June see details.



183rd

DURHAM REGATTA CRAFT MARQUEE

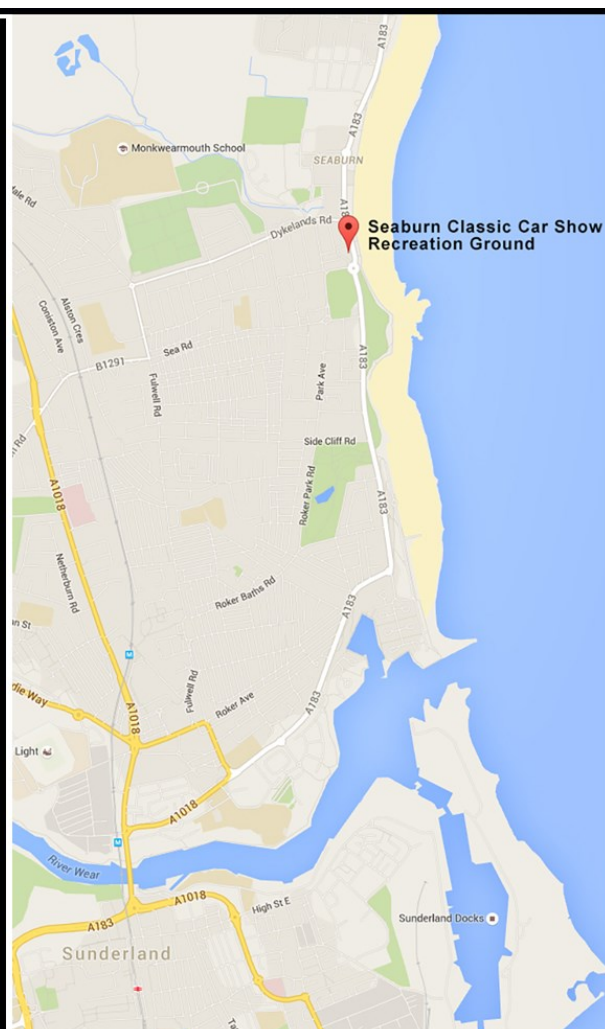
Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th June 2016



**Rowing Regatta, Classic Car Rally and
Family Entertainment on the River Wear**

Following the success of the inaugural craft marquee in 2015, Durham Regatta will be hosting a craft marquee again in 2016.
£68 per table for the weekend (6ft tables with two chairs provided), with trading between 08.00 and 18.00 each day

More information available from the Regatta Secretary Mr. J. Lamb.
E-mail secretary@durham-regatta.org.uk Tel. 07816 269770
<http://www.durham-regatta.org.uk>



Bristol Classic Car Show 2016

Date; 18-19 June

Time: 9.30 am – 4 pm

Venue: Bath and West Showground

Location: Shepton Mallet, BA4 6QN

We have had a request to see if we can help David Asselbrough, the organizer of the club stand on the Bristol & West Show. He would like to include a Middlebridge in the display this year, along with a SE5 and an early Sabre to show the development and changes from the early cars to the latest.

The show takes place on the 18th and 19th June and cars are expected to be there from Friday 17th to the Sunday.

The show promotion says: "As one of the UK's biggest classic car events, the Footman James Bristol Classic Car Show welcomes thousands of enthusiasts for its annual, early-summer running at Somerset's Royal Bath & West.

Hundreds of traders are housed in the venue's halls offering a range of four-wheel related bargains including parts, spares, tools, accessories and memorabilia, along with a range of superb displays from the country's top car clubs.

Special exhibits, a classic car park and interactive experiences add to the weekend line-up before it culminates with an auction of classic vehicles from Dorset-based sales outfit Charterhouse."

This will be a RSSOC stand but you don't have to be a RSSOC member to have your car included. It would be good for the Marque to get a Middlebridge in a large show like this.

If anyone would like to offer to display his or her car please email me and I will put you in touch with David to discuss further.

(Just a quick one in here that Bruce does not know about! - **Historic Wheels Show at Brodie Castle** near Forres, 13th/14th August contact Will Anderson for details)

RSSOC National Sporting Weekend 2016

Date: Sunday 21st August

Venue: Curborough Sprint Circuit, WS13 8EJ

Event details to be finalised.

Heritage Day at Barton's

Beeston

Nottingham

Date: 10th September

Event details to be finalised end of April.

Classic Car Show Manchester



The Footman James
**CLASSIC CAR SHOW
MANCHESTER**

100s of Iconic Cars from All Eras Popular Classics, Classic Sports & Supercars

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
Click on the link, or call
0844 888 9991

SEPTEMBER 17-18 2016 | EVENTCITY

Event details to be finalised.



Join us for this year's Footman James Sywell Classic – Pistons and Props motoring festival, combining historic racers, hot rods and motorbikes with classic planes and vintage music to create a fantastic two-day event, celebrating classic motoring on the ground and in the air.

Watch amazing live action on the transformed 'Racing Runway' and 'Sprint Strip' with iconic Formula 1 cars, Group B Rally cars, Hot Rods, Dragsters and Motorcycles all in action throughout the weekend.

Up in the skies; expect to see a variety of breath taking aerial displays & acrobatics from a variety of display teams.

Live Music will be played throughout the weekend with a superb line of bands performing in the Footman James sponsored Scarf & Goggles bar



Sywell Classic "Props and Pistons"

Date: 24 -25th September

Venue: Sywell Aerodrome, Northants. NN6 0BN

Minimum of 5 maximum of 10 vehicles

Admin charge £5 per car to include driver and passenger

Website www.sywellclassic.com

Deadline for Application Form to be returned 8th August

Event details to be finalised.



Event details to be finalised.

BAD NEWS

Last months MESSage displayed the pictures of MB car badges with prices, unfortunately due to the supplier having just registered for the good old VAT.

there will be an increased in cost, sorry folks but there is nothing I can do about it.

GOOD NEWS

LAST CHANCE to add a Middlebridge Scimitar Silver Anniversary Keyring's to your MB memorabilia to commemorate the MB's 25th Silver Anniversary event at Gatcombe Park.

The Keyring's of which there where only 50 produced, 38 have been purchased leaving a balance of 10 with white background and 2 with silver background to the MB emblem.

(The remaining keyring's were ordered but not purchased these will be on sale again, as priced for Gatcombe Park £6.50 + postage)



MIDDLEBRIDGE SCIMITAR Silver Anniversary at Gatcome Park

Limited Edition

Keyring with Silver Anniversary logo, a 60 year perpetual calendar on the reverse has been produced to commemorate the event at Gatcome Park 20th-21st September 2014

Diameter: 3.5 cm
Total length 6.9 cm

Keyring price £6.50 plus postage

Last Chance

The commemorative keyrings of which there where only 50 produced, 38 have been purchased leaving a balance of 10 with white background and 2 with silver background to the MB emblem..

(The remaining keyrings were ordered but not purchased)

bruce.beauchamp@virginmedia.com

Badges for SE6

Prices will be released in next months MESSage if there is sufficient interest from current owners.

All badges are printed on chrome finish self-adhesive then domed; badges can also be colour coded to vehicle.

The decal can be applied direct onto existing shield providing the surface is smooth. Badly pitted shields would require flattening and then black or silver spray paint applied to create a flat surface to apply badge.

See red grill badge applied to the front of red GTC.



SE6 Badge insert red shield, alternative shields and petrol cap badge photo.

MB enthusiast interested in displaying their vehicle at any of the above events or require any further information please contact; bruce.beauchamp@virginmedia.com

All application Forms and cheques to be returned by due dates

To:

Middlebridge MESS

Bruce Beauchamp

27 Bridge Fields

Kegworth

Derby

DE74 2FW

Middlebridge 43

Middlebridge 43 is one of our best cars and has represented us at the NEC and other events in the past. Her current owner has had her for around 10 years after purchasing her via Ebay.

At some point in the cars earlier history her original VIN plate was replaced with one from a SE5a . There's a myriad of reasons why this may have been done but we don't know for certain.

Anyway, fast forward to a year ago and the current owner decided to register the car correctly with the DVLA. A DVLA representative duly came out and looked at the car, and a letter arrived to say that there was serious registration issues with the car and it would probably end up with a Q plate.

To avoid this fate the DVLA now needed a full Middlebridge build list with chassis numbers, colour, specification etc. We had much of this information but put out a SOS to the owners of cars where we did not have

full details and, as usual, you all came up trumps, so many thanks to all that helped. This was all supplied to the DVLA within the two week time limit and weeks later the owner John Nutting received a letter stating that they were looking into the possibility of the car having been stolen many years ago and they had contacted the Metropolitan Police.

John kept on pushing the DVLA for answers to his questions about his Middlebridge and showing photographs of the cars VIN No on the chassis as proof along with plenty of supporting signed paperwork. John now just wanted an end to the uncertainty with regards to his car.

Anyway approx a year after starting this process John has just received official notification that his car is his and that it is still a Middlebridge Scimitar. They have since issued him with a new age related plate and correct registration documentation as well. Happy days at last and Well done John.



Middlebridge 43 at Gatcombe 2014

Unique Middlebridge For Sale

Middlebridge No 29 is now for sale at a reduced price of £16,000 Louis the owner loves the car but however can now no longer use her. Louis has had a wonderful time driving her around Europe, From the Alps to Monte-Carlo, from England to Provence. He has also been a fantastic ambassador for the marque throughout Europe. She is a totally unique Scimitar 'registration wise' and can also boast being the greenest Scimitar GTE by far. More information can be found on the Middlebridge website in Gallery position 29 and also in the For sale area.

Coming and Going

The new owners of MB's 10, 45 and 60 have made contact so welcome to Rex, Geoff and Graham. George has decided to hang onto MB63 for the moment but would be open to offers if anyone was seriously interested in the car.



Middlebridges 40, 14, 33, 13 & 63 outside the Bee Keeper 2013

The Bee Keeper, Nottingham ;o(

Unfortunately I must end my MESSage with a bit of bad news, we were contacted via Facebook, by the ex landlord of the Bee keeper Pub (Middlebridge Local) it was about to under go a full refurb and would we like all of the Middlebridge Pictures that have been hanging on the walls for years. Of course we said yes and we would arrange collection by someone local. Unfortunately our contact, the ex landlord was re-posted and the pictures have apparently all now been skipped at the start of the renovation. ;o(. This is very disappointing especially as one of the pictures featured HRH and her MB and had a collage of different rare shots form Lilac Grove.

George's MESSage on Badges

I recently had a request from a fellow Middlebridge owner for a replacement Grill Badge as his current badge wasn't in good condition any more.

It's worth reminding every owner who has such an adornment, that you **MUST, MUST, MUST** return your old badge before a new one can be issued. In this particular case, the owner has convinced us that he has destroyed his original badge, consequently a replacement will be issued costing him just the usual £65.

At a recent meeting and including text conversations with Will, it has been decided that any future owners who commit a similar sin will be charged **DOUBLE** the usual price, as above. The main reason for being so determined in this edict is to prevent these personalised badges from falling into the wrong hands. This nasty event has happened in the past, before the badges became available, so it's in your own interest to keep this in mind.

My recent house move prevents me from supplying his new badge as all the relevant elements are buried in a 40' container some 20 miles away. This house renovation is quite a 'finger in the dyke' job, so it'll be quite a while before I can get him sorted. Sorry!

My new address, should you wish to send a donation to the MESS, is 106 Carlton Road, Bilton, Rugby, Warwickshire CV22 7PE. Phones remain 01788 812348, or 07816 448494. Thanks everyone.

PS: it may make sense to print this article and place it in your Handbook for future reference.

George Sampford

MESS Chancellor

MIDDLEBRIDGE SCIMITAR

25TH ANNIVERSARY



LIMITED EDITION WHISKY MINIATURES

Produced for the participants of the Gatcombe Anniversary event, these Glenfarclas 25 year old 50ml Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky miniatures feature the Middlebridge Scimitar 25th Anniversary Shield and are personalised with the chassis number of the car.



We still have labels to produce these for the owners of cars who were unable to attend the Anniversary Celebration at a cost of £15 each, plus postage and packaging.

The numbers still available are 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 16-20, 23-25, 30-32, 34-38, 41, 42, 48-50, 52-55, 57-59, 61, 62, 64-66, 68, 70, 71, 73, 75-78

A number of the bottles produced were given to the VIP guests in presentation boxes. We have been able to source a limited supply of these and can make them available, on a first come first served basis, at £10 each plus P&P.

All profits will go to support MESS.

The numbered bottles will only be available to verified Middlebridge Scimitar owners. To order your car's number and/or a presentation box contact Will Anderson by email at:

will_anderson@live.com

