










Welcome to your February 2025 Newsletter.

	Noggin news	Page 1
	The Inn at Whitewell Meeting	Page 2
	Stoke Lacey – The Morgan Family Connection	Page 3
	The Morgan Runabout	Page 6
	NorceMog Event Calendar Suggestions	Page 7
	NorceMog events 2025	Page 9
	And Finally	Page 11

Front cover picture: The Morgan Runabout in the Morgan Archive

Contributions to NorceMog News always appreciated.
Please send your articles to norcemog@gmail.com

Noggin News

By Andrew Threlkeld

February 9th – Lunch (& Walk!) at Swan with 2 Nicks. Click here for [Details](#) - [Closing date – January 31st!](#)

March 9th – TBC - Please feel free to volunteer!

April 13th – AGM at Vale Royal Abbey. It's not too early to book. Menu and costs to follow. Click here for [Details](#)

May 18th – Houghton Manor – Sunday lunch & privilege parking. Click here for [Details](#)

Events added / confirmed since January Newsletter

Feb 9th – As above

May 11th – Cheshire Candles Charity run – full details now available. [Details](#)

Jun 14th – Leyland Festival, Display opportunity [Details](#)

Jun 15th – Lytham Car Show, in aid of Rosemere Cancer Foundation. [Details](#)

Jun 29th – Arley Hall – 7 places remaining. [Details](#)

Jul 25th – 27th Oulton Park Gold Cup – Applications now open. [Details](#)

The Inn at Whitewell Meeting: 12th January

By Simon Drew

The NorceMog season opener was the traditional annual lunch at the Inn at Whitewell in the Forest of Bowland, Lancashire.

The Inn itself is a former coaching Inn dating from the 16th century used for travelers to rest on their journeys to and from Lancaster. The Inn sits on the bank of the River Hodder. Old beams and stone flooring greet you as you enter the Inn, along with multiple open fires all busily crackling away keeping you warm. Its certainly one of those places where you can easily spend the whole afternoon just enjoying the atmosphere and surroundings.



Being January, the previous week had seen quite a lot of snow across much of the county, and there was still a lot laying on the ground in the fields and on the houses, making it very picturesque.

Fortunately though the roads were passable with a bit of care, although no one ventured to the Inn in their Morgan!

About 30 NorceMoggers (if that's the collective noun) arrived around noon for a chat before ordering their Sunday lunches at the bar. You could hear that the conversations where enquiring of "how was your Christmas and New Year?", "have you been out in the Morgan ?" and "what holiday plans have you made for 2025 ?" etc etc.....

Although we all ordered separately via the bar, it seemed that as a group we were largely eating at the same time. The staff did a great job of trying to ensure that the 5 or so tables all received their tables food at pretty much the same time.

The menu was very exciting, with Venison, Partridge and homemade Fish Pie competing with the more traditional Lamb and Roast Beef dishes. I assume the vegetarian / vegan options were as equally exciting ?



2½ hours later, after much chatting and consuming fine food, we started to leave, but not after exploring the shop of fine wines from around the world and local produce that the Inn sells.

The Inn also has a number of bedrooms, and a one or two night stay to explore the Inn and the surrounding Forest of Bowland which is an AONB is well worth doing.

The final point was made by a few members, which was the recommendation of visiting the Inn again, but this time in summer!

Stoke Lacy

By Roger Benton



On one of our many visits to the Morgan factory, David Roberts and myself stop on the way back at the village of Stoke Lacy.

Stoke Lacey is a village with a unique connection, via the local church, to the Morgan family, it lies roughly fourteen miles West of Malvern towards Hereford.

If you visit the church, [St. Peter & St. Paul](#), you will find several plaques describing the Morgan family connection to the village and a number of stained glass windows dedicated to the Morgan family.

Henry Morgan	1798-1886	Rector Stoke Lacy
Henry George Morgan	1852-1936	Rector Stoke Lacy
Henry F.S. Morgan ('Harry')	1881 - 1959	Founder of the Morgan Motor Company (MMC)
Peter Morgan	1919 - 2003	M.D (MMC)
Charles Morgan		M.D (MMC) & Patron of Stoke Lacy Church

So, with permission and acknowledgement to Stoke Lacy church, I reproduce here from the plaques in Stoke Lacy church extracts of the Morgan story and Stoke Lacy:

“The church of St. Peter & St. Paul in Stoke Lacy is integral to the story of the Morgan family. Henry Fredrick Stanley (HFS also known as ‘Harry’) Morgan’s grandfather, Henry Morgan became the village Rector in 1871. He was greatly loved and respected in the village for being a very caring man who went the extra mile for his parishioners quite literally, in fact, when looking after the sick and infirm.

Reverend Henry died in 1886 and was succeeded by his son Henry George who became the life and soul of Stoke Lacy holding the post of Rector for 50 years.

George and Florence married in 1875 celebrating in the village. Harry (HFS) was born six years later in the 11th August 1881 at the “New House” in Moreton Jeffries. George had already followed his father into a career in the church as Curate at Stoke Lacy and in 1886 George moved his family to Stoke Lacy on becoming the Rector.

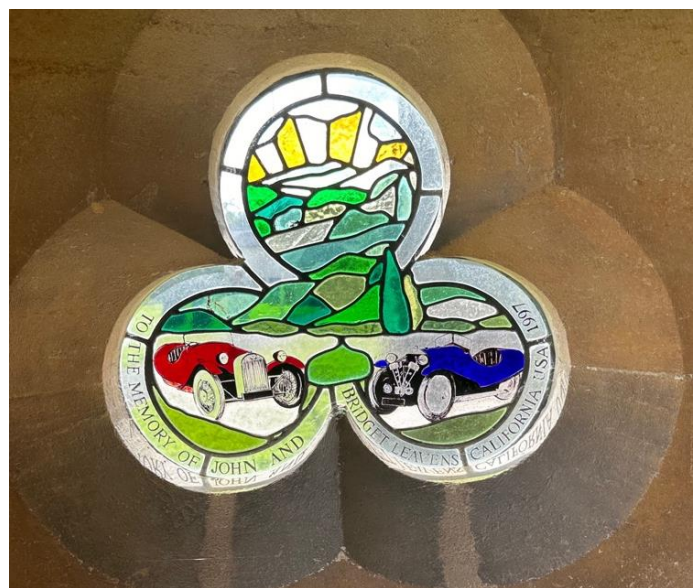
George Morgan was a man who seemed to hold the whole community together and somehow everything revolved around him. Social events of every kind, as diverse as fetes, theatrical events and the village children’s Christmas parties, were organised and often paid for by the Rector, many being held in the Rectory grounds.

Harry’s family remained living in Stoke Lacy while he developed his design and engineering skills ultimately establishing his motor car company in 1905 with his first garage. Working in Malvern and using suppliers in nearby Bromyard, Harry and his sister Dot were often seen driving their various prototype cars at some fearful speed through the village. Local newspapers provide evidence of not one but many road offences such as travelling without a light or at excessive speeds of 20 miles per hour! When he wasn’t ministering to the Parish or enjoying his hobbies, George was trying to placate the local constabulary with regards to yet more of Harry’s driving misdemeanours.

1912 proved to be momentous year for the young Harry. At the age of 31 he established the Morgan Motor Company with his father the Rev. George as Chairman. Harry and George were the only two shareholders. The company was to major solely on the "Runabout".

Later that year Harry married Hilda Ruth Day on the 12th June 1912. Ruth was also the daughter of clergy, her father being Rev. Archibald Day, Vicar of St. Matthias Church Malvern. She was a lively and extroverted lady who proved a good match for the introverted Harry. A year later the couple had their first child Sylvia, soon to be followed by Stella, Brenda, Eileen and, eventually, Peter Morgan who became a much loved friend of the current day Stoke Lacy residents.

Harry's only son, Peter Morgan, became the Managing Director of the Morgan Motor Company in 1957. Like his grandfather and great-grandfather before him, he became a great friend to the village. Peter's own children Charles and Jill are now Patrons of the church."



Peter Morgan was a loyal patron of this church. His father H.F.S. Morgan founded the Morgan Motor Company. His grandfather and great grandfather were Rectors of this church from 1871-1937. Peter Morgan enjoyed a special relationship with Morgan enthusiasts. In appreciation, a group of Morgan enthusiasts and clubs around the world contributed to this window in his memory.

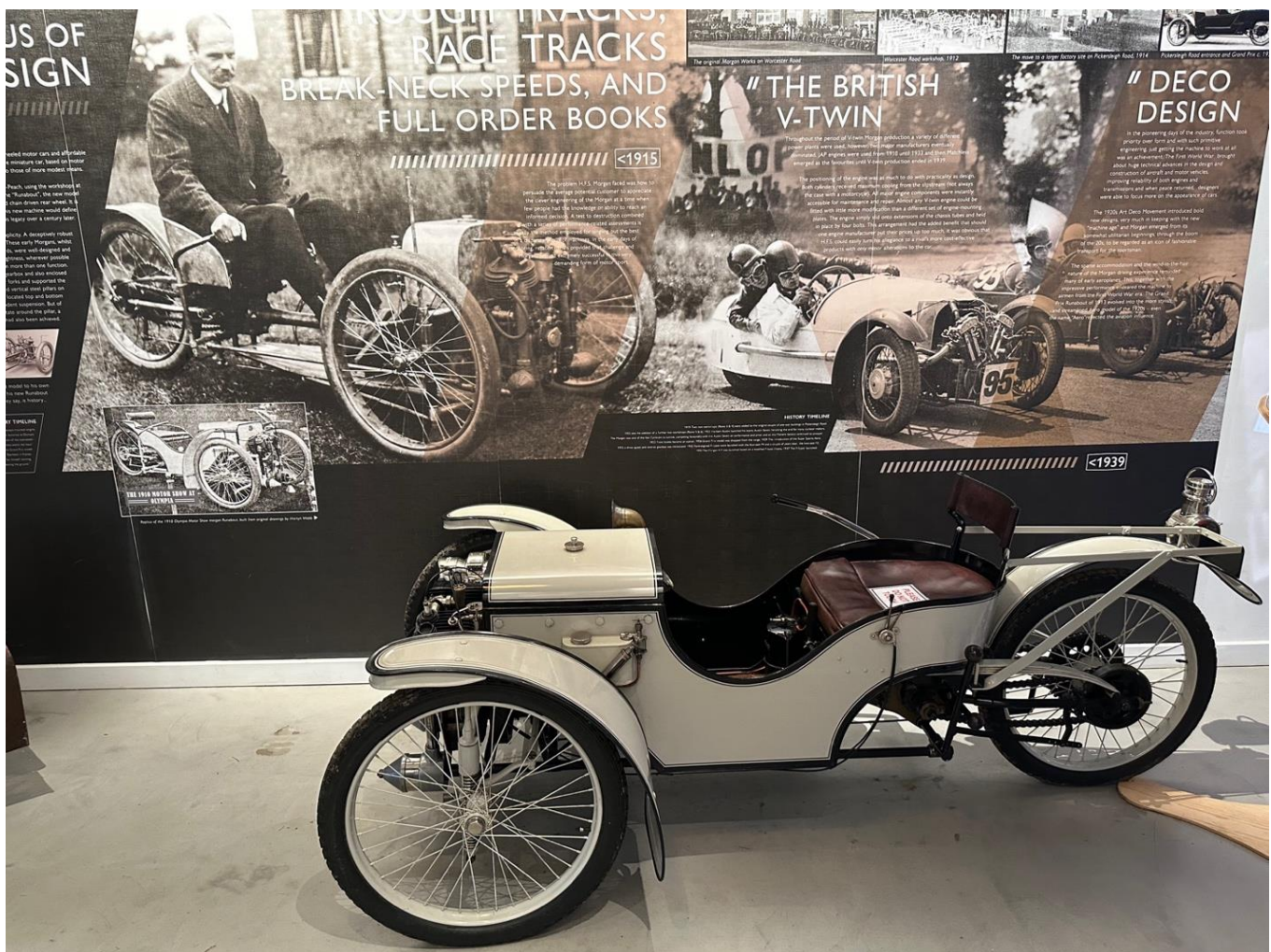
Stained glass windows in the porch of Stoke Lacy Church and a dedication plate also in the porch.

Morgan enthusiast should visit, with their Morgan, the church of St. Peter and St. Paul at Stoke Lacey; in an automotive and non-ecclesiastical way, it's rather like travelling to Rome or Mecca!

Note from David Roberts: 'Incidentally, the design of flowing front wings and cowl, that replaced the early Flat Rad Plus 4's bluff frontal appearance, were directly influenced by Peter Morgan. Furthermore, the 4/4 Series II of 1956 with its lower body line gave its lines to the Plus 4 that won the 2 litre class of the 1962 Le Mans 25 Hour race and went on to create the Plus 4 Super Sports model. More importantly, Peter Morgan's 4/4 Series II low line body continued virtually unchanged, on all 4/4 models from 1956 and, in widened and lengthened form, the Plus 8 and Plus 4 up to 2019 and the end of production of the traditional steel chassised cars.'

The Morgan Runabout

By Roger Benton



Morgan 'Runabout'

The Morgan factory has an Archive Room containing several historic Morgans one of which is a reconstruction of the first Morgan, the Runabout. Here is an extract of the description of the Runabout contained in the archive:

"A development of the 1909 prototype, the Runabout was one of the first ever vehicles created by the company founder, HFS Morgan. Unlike a modern car, the throttle is controlled by hand, and it is steered with a 'tiller' rather than a wheel! This steering

method meant it wasn't popular to begin with, until a conventional steering wheel was added the following year.

However, it was considered advanced for its day, with its light weight tubular steel chassis and 8 bhp V-twin JAP motorbike engine. It features two forward gears, but no reverse, so the driver would have to get out and push it backwards if required.

As none of the original 1910 vehicles survive, this particular car was built using the remains of the 1914 chassis and many genuine period components. The engine is original dating back to 1910, but still runs. In fact, the car is driven regularly, it has raced at Chateau Impney hill climb and at Montlhery near Paris, reaching nearly 50 mph."

Event Calendar Suggestions

By Andrew Threlkeld

Would you like to volunteer to organise an event? There is a list below with some ideas or if you know of another venue / event that would be suitable please let us know.



- Lancaster Canal cruise from Barton Grange
 - [Barton Grange Afternoon, Cream Teas, Lunch and Dinner Cruises \(kingfishercruise.co.uk\)](http://kingfishercruise.co.uk)
- Steam Museum, Poynton
 - <http://www.enginemuseum.org/index.html>
- Bowland Brewery at Clitheroe
 - [Bowland Brewery | Clitheroe, Lancashire](http://bowlandbrewery.co.uk)
- The Carding Shed –
 - <http://thecardingshed.co.uk/>
- James' Places – Different venues
- JCB tour – mid week includes lunch.
 - [Factory Tour | JCB.com](http://jcb.com)
- RHS Bridgewater in Spring or Autumn
 - [RHS Garden Bridgewater / RHS Gardening](http://rhs.org.uk)
- WWT Martin Mere
 - [Martin Mere Wetland Centre | WWT](http://wwt.co.uk)

- The Mill at Condor Green – Meal or midweek break
 - [Mill At Conder Green -](#)
- Skipton Castle
 - [Skipton Castle, Superbly Preserved Medieval Castle, Yorkshire](#)
- Lancaster Castle
 - [Home | Lancaster Castle : Lancaster Castle](#)
- St Catherines Hospice – organise a car meet on some Sundays.
 - [St Catherine's Hospice | Quality of life to the end of life \(stcatherines.co.uk\)](#)
- Bancroft Mill Engine Trust & Museum
 - [Bancroft Mill Engine Museum | Bancroft Mill Engine Museum, Barnoldswick](#)
- Anderton Boat Lift
 - [Anderton Boat Lift & Visitor Centre, Cheshire | Canal & River Trust \(canalrivertrust.org.uk\)](#)
- Keighly & Worth Valley Railway
 - [Keighley & Worth Valley Railway - Keighley & Worth Valley Railway \(kwvr.co.uk\)](#)
- Bury Transport Museum
 - [Bury Transport Museum - The East Lancashire Railway \(eastlancsrailway.org.uk\)](#)
- National Trust property visit
 - Various locations [Home | National Trust](#)

Please contact Andrew at norcemog@gmail.com if you are available to volunteer.

NorceMog Events Calendar 2025

See below



Diary of NorceMog Events

Enjoy meeting up with your fellow members

Keep a check on this Website for any Event Updates

2025

Highlighted - Events organised by NorceMog. **Dates/Events listed in Red** - to be confirmed/finalised

Feb 9	The Swan with Two Nicks, Nr Altrincham, WA14 4SU Contact – Peter & Rosemary Murphy Email = petermurphy@live.com Full Details	
Mar 9	TBD	
Apr 4 - 6	MSCC Spring Dinner Dance & AGM Week-end Burn Hall, Huby, Nr York Contact - Jan Lawson Email: jan.lawson@janmail.co.uk Full Details Booking Form	
Apr 13	NorceMog AGM/Lunch, Vale Royal Abbey, Whitegate Contact Andrew Threlkeld Tel 07912 494768 Email: norcemog@gmail.com Full Details	
Pre order Meals		
May 11	Cheshire Candles Charity Run Organised by West Cheshire MG Owners Club - Morgans welcome Entry fee £25 Limited to 150 cars Full Details	
May 18	Haighton Manor, Haighton Green Lane, PR2 5SQ Lunch & dedicated parking area at this Brunner & Price establishment. Contact David Sims Email: simswasindubai@gmail.com Full Details	
Jun 8	Gymkhana & Concours The British Commercial Vehicle Museum, Leyland Contact Bryan Rawlinson Tel 01995 604716 Full Details	
Jun 14	 Leyland Festival, Worden Park, Leyland, PR25 3DH Organised by Leyland Festival Committee in association with South Ribble Borough Council Full Details	

Jun 15	Lytham Car Show - Lytham Green, FY8 5QJ Organised on behalf of Rosemere Cancer Foundation Display £15 minimum donation - ALL proceeds to Cancer Foundation Full Details & Tickets	
Jun 27 - 29 50% Discount Ends 29 Feb	MOGFEST - New Forest, Hampshire Full Details & Booking Form	
Jun 29 Free Admission maximum 10 cars	Arley Hall Garden Festival, Arley, Cheshire Contact Andrew Threlkeld Tel 07912 494768 Email: norcemog@gmail.com Full Details	
Jun 29	Lancashire Classic & Performance Car Show At Hoghton Tower Nr Preston, PR5 0SH Organised by Great British Motor Shows More Details & Tickets	
Jul 13	TBD	
Jul 22 - 25	Fat Lamb Tour: Lakes & Dales Contact Adrian & Dot Long Tel 07831 377255 Email: adrian.long@icloud.com Full Details	
Jul 26 - 27 50% Discount	Oulton Park Gold Cup Contact Andrew Threlkeld Tel 07912 494768 Email: norcemog@gmail.com Full Details	
Aug 10	TBD	
Aug 31	Cheshire Classic & Performance Car Show Venue to be confirmed Organised by Great British Motor Shows More Details & Tickets	
Sep 5-7	Morgans at Windermere. A FellMog Event Contact Les Ellis Tel 07900 962348 Email: les2mog@gmail.com More Details	
Sep 14	TBD	
Sep 14	Southport Classic & Performance Car Show Victoria Park Rotten Row, Southport PR8 2BZ Organised by Great British Motor Shows More Details & Tickets	

Oct 12 TBD

Nov 2 TBD

Dec 14 **Christmas Lunch & Annual Awards Presentation**

Barton Manor Hotel, Barton, Preston, PR3 5AA

Contact Linda Fearn at[Full Details](#)

If you have an idea for hosting one of our monthly events, we welcome proposals.Contact Andrew Threlkeld, Centre Secretary Tel: 07912 494 768 Email: norcemog@gmail.com

And Finally



Our intrepid Newsletter editor, Roger Benton, is currently on Safari in Kenya.
I hope he keeps the hood up!



Contributions to NorceMog News always appreciated.

Please send your articles to norcemog@gmail.com

NORCEMOG - NORTHERN CENTRE



THE MORGAN SPORTS CAR CLUB