



## Welcome to your April 2025 Newsletter.



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Front cover pictures: Morgans at the Italian Orchard.

Contributions to NorceMog News always appreciated.

Please send your articles to [norcemog@gmail.com](mailto:norcemog@gmail.com)



## **Noggin News**

**April 13th** – AGM at Vale Royal Abbey. **URGENT** - Menu and costs now available. Click here for [Details](#) and to **CHOOSE YOUR MEAL**

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

**June 22nd** – Revised date confirmed for Gymkhana, back at The British Commercial Vehicle Museum, Leyland, PR25 2LE [Details](#)

Thank you to those members who have already organised or are currently exploring venues for a Noggin. Your endeavour is greatly appreciated

## **New Members**

We would like to welcome back Andrew & Lynn Brown into the NorceMog fold. Andrew has recently undergone a knee operation resulting in his ability to climb back in (and out of!) his Morgan. We look forward to seeing you at future events soon.

## **2025 / 26 Subscriptions**

Please note that subscriptions (£10) for the forthcoming year are now due and may be paid at The AGM on 13<sup>th</sup> April as above.

For those preferring to pay by bank transfer details of the NorceMog account are:

Bank                      HSBC  
Account Name        MSCC Northern Centre (Norcemog)  
Sort Code              40-43-56  
Account No.          01160427

Please email Linda Fearn at [lindafearn737@gmail.com](mailto:lindafearn737@gmail.com) if paying through the bank.

We thank you for your continued support

## **Upcoming Events**

### **13<sup>th</sup> April: [Lunch and Norcemog AGM](#)**

If you're coming to the AGM please let Andrew know on:

Tel: 07912 494768 or  
E-mail: [norcemog@gmail.com](mailto:norcemog@gmail.com)



Privilege parking on the lawn as per previous years.

Cost is £24.25 which includes Tea and Coffee on arrival and a 2 course lunch (Starter & Main course) served at 12.30. **Please advise Andrew of your choice of meal.** The menu can be found [HERE](#).

As in previous years Sue and David Roberts have very kindly invited everyone back to their home for Tea & Cakes plus the exciting opportunity to view David and Roger's Drop Head Coupé project.

## **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025: [Lunch at Haighton Manor](#)**

Haighton Green Lane, Haighton, Preston PR2 5SQ

Contact – David Sims  
Tel - 07932 548047  
Email = [simswasindubai@gmail.com](mailto:simswasindubai@gmail.com)  
BOOKING ESSENTIAL by 9<sup>th</sup> May 2025

After a successful trip in 2024 we return to Haighton Manor to enjoy a mid-summer visit.

Arrive by 12.30 for lunch to be served at 1pm in the Conservatory Restaurant at this Brunner and Price establishment. Meals will need to be pre-ordered,

We will have our own dedicated parking area to the left of the main entrance.



For many years the manor was used as a hospital and the beautiful views that you can now enjoy from our garden room helped to lift the spirits of those convalescing. Now the building has been lovingly transformed into what you see today, a country pub bursting with character and original features with a big old bar at the heart of all things, serving local ales and packed with our collection of whiskies and gins.

We have a mixture of rooms to suit your mood, light and airy or snug and 'beamed' with roaring fires. We even have a beautiful terrace just in case the sun shines.



## **NorceMog visit The Italian Orchard – March 8th 2025**

A report by William (AI) Shakespeare

Few commoners would have believed there wast residents of this glorious island driving open-top sports cars in the throes of early March.

Welcome to NorceMog!

With many Morgans in the car park, hoods down, thou canst imagine the weather was 'spring-like' as four and thirty NorceMoggers didst gather at The Italian Orchard near Preston. This family-owned eatery, being part of the San Marco group, did serve a varied fare with both modern and traditional Italian dishes. It hath expanded much since our last visit over ten years ago, now seating more than three hundred souls.

Our company was seated together and served with great efficiency by amiable staff. Authentic Italian food and drink were enjoyed by all.

Conversations didst range from future holiday plans to notions for forthcoming gatherings as distinguished members circulated around the tables. The chariots outside attracted much admiration, with discourse continuing under the sunlit heavens in the car park.

We express our gratitude to Heather and Simon Drew, fine, noble persons of our community, who didst organise such a splendid gathering and are already proposing new venture ideas for future times. We heartily thank you both and wish you well for many more adventures to come!





## **A Drop Head Coupé Project**

By Roger Benton (not AI)

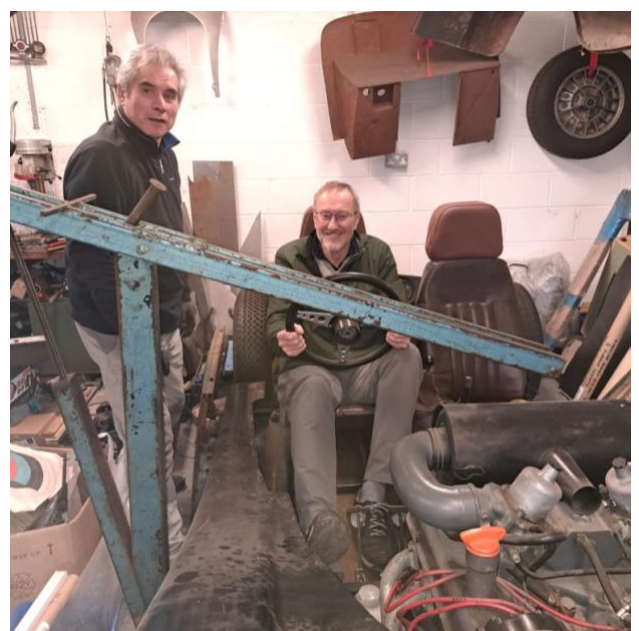
This is project started by David Roberts over 30 years ago and was reported on in the June 2023 issue of the Norcemog newsletter. The objective of this project is to produce a period correct +8 Drop Head Coupé based on the last DHC produced by the Morgan factory, this factory car was built on a +8 chassis with Rover V8 and Borg Warner automatic gearbox. This final DHC was built for Peter Morgan's wife Jane Morgan.



The pictures above show Jane Morgan with the DHC and lower right the car as it is today in the Morgan factory museum.

My involvement in this project started on the 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024 (at 15:35 to be precise) with a text from David asking if I would like to be part of this project. My response was yes but with a caveat – would I be able to fit in the DHC and do so comfortably?

David was very accommodating by being willing to adjust the seat position (allowing to slide further back than normal) and pedal positions and even the steering wheel position. The picture on the right shows myself sitting in the DHC though you might need to use your imagination a little but from this I was very encouraged that this





project would work for me. I also liked David's philosophy of wanting to produce a car that would look amazing and be suitable for what the original was designed for and that is long distant comfortable cruising in a stylish eloquent car.

David also introduced me to Dixon Smith, who was the subject of an article in the October 2023 issue of Miscellany, who also owns a DHC and it was a chance to have a close look at an original DHC. I did try to sit in Dixon's car but Dixon is not tall and I'm 6'2", I couldn't even get a leg in the car!

The Morgan factory have been exceptionally helpful in allowing us to crawl all over Jane Morgan's in the Morgan Museum. I was particularly encouraged when I sat in the car finding the driving position to be exceptionally comfortable, see the picture on the right.



Over this past year progress on the car has been a little slower than desired but has been steady. I am particularly pleased with the Ash frame made for us by Nigel Hall. New valances and bulk head have been fabricated in steel and the bulk head as been powder coated. Recently we fitted the steering box, column and steering wheel and for the first time we could sit in and steer the car!

One big decision was to where to have the car panelled, we visited '[Pristine Panel Work Ltd](#)' owned by Lee Irish, his work shop was very impressive so we are hoping that at the end of April we will be delivering the car to Lee Irish for panelling. This will take about 2 months to complete and will transform the look of the car.



Those attending the post-AGM afternoon tea event will be able to see the project's progress 'in the flesh' and even get a chance to sit in, what it is hoped will become when finished sometime next year, a rather special Morgan motor car.

# NorceMog Events Calendar 2025



## 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

<b>Apr</b> <b>4 - 6</b>	<b>MSCC Spring Dinner Dance &amp; AGM Week-end</b> <b>Burn Hall, Huby, Nr York</b> Contact - Jan Lawson Email: <a href="mailto:jan.lawson@janmail.co.uk">jan.lawson@janmail.co.uk</a> <a href="#">Full Details</a> <a href="#">Booking Form</a>	
<b>Apr 13</b> <div style="background-color: #4F81BD; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Pre order Meals</div>	<b>NorceMog AGM/Lunch, Vale Royal Abbey, Whitegate</b> Contact Andrew Threlkeld Tel 07912 494768 Email: <a href="mailto:norcemog@gmail.com">norcemog@gmail.com</a> <a href="#">Full Details</a>	
<b>May 11</b>	<b>Cheshire Candles Charity Run</b> Organised by West Cheshire MG Owners Club - <b>Morgans welcome</b> <b>Entry fee £25</b> Limited to 150 cars <a href="#">Full Details</a>	
<b>May 18</b>	<b>Haighton Manor, Haighton Green Lane, PR2 5SQ</b> Lunch & dedicated parking area at this Brunner & Price establishment. Contact David Sims Email: <a href="mailto:simswasindubai@gmail.com">simswasindubai@gmail.com</a> <a href="#">Full Details</a>	
<b>Jun 22</b>	<b>Gymkhana &amp; Concours</b> <b>The British Commercial Vehicle Museum, Leyland</b> Contact Bryan Rawlinson Tel 01995 604716 <a href="#">Full Details</a>	
<b>Jun 14</b> 	<b>Leyland Festival, Worden Park, Leyland, PR25 3DH</b> Organised by Leyland Festival Committee in association with South Ribble Borough Council <b>Car display CANCELLED - Apologies for any inconvenience</b>	
<b>Jun 15</b>	<b>Lytham Car Show - Lytham Green, FY8 5QJ</b> Organised on behalf of Rosemere Cancer Foundation Display £15 minimum donation - ALL proceeds to Cancer Foundation <a href="#">Full Details &amp; Tickets</a>	
<b>Jun 27 - 29</b> <div style="background-color: #4F81BD; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">50% Discount Ends 29 Feb</div>	<b>MOGFEST - New Forest, Hampshire</b> <a href="#">Full Details &amp; Booking Form</a>	



<b>Jun 29</b>	<b>Arley Hall Garden Festival, Arley, Cheshire</b> Contact Andrew Threlkeld Tel 07912 494768 Email: <a href="mailto:norcemog@gmail.com">norcemog@gmail.com</a> <a href="#">Full Details</a>	
Free Admission maximum 10 cars		
<b>Jun 29</b>	<b>Lancashire Classic &amp; Performance Car Show</b> <b>At Hoghton Tower Nr Preston, PR5 0SH</b> Organised by Great British Motor Shows <a href="#">More Details &amp; Tickets</a>	
<b>Jul 13</b>	TBD	
<b>Jul 22 - 25</b>	<b>Fat Lamb Tour: Lakes &amp; Dales</b> Contact Adrian & Dot Long Tel 07831 377255 Email: <a href="mailto:adrian.long@icloud.com">adrian.long@icloud.com</a> <a href="#">Full Details</a>	
<b>Jul 26 - 27</b>	<b>Oulton Park Gold Cup</b> Contact Andrew Threlkeld Tel 07912 494768 Email: <a href="mailto:norcemog@gmail.com">norcemog@gmail.com</a> <a href="#">Full Details</a>	
50% Discount		
<b>Aug 10</b>	TBD	
<b>Aug 31</b>	<b>Cheshire Classic &amp; Performance Car Show</b> <b>Venue to be confirmed</b> Organised by Great British Motor Shows <a href="#">More Details &amp; Tickets</a>	
<b>Sep 5-7</b>	<b>Morgans at Windermere. A FellMog Event</b> Contact Les Ellis Tel 07900 962348 Email: <a href="mailto:les2mog@gmail.com">les2mog@gmail.com</a> <a href="#">More Details</a>	
<b>Sep 14</b>	TBD	
<b>Sep 14</b>	<b>Southport Classic &amp; Performance Car Show</b> Victoria Park Rotten Row, Southport PR8 2BZ Organised by Great British Motor Shows <a href="#">More Details &amp; Tickets</a>	
<b>Oct 12</b>	TBD	
<b>Nov 2</b>	TBD	
<b>Dec 14</b>	<b>Christmas Lunch &amp; Annual Awards Presentation</b> <b>Barton Manor Hotel, Barton, Preston, PR3 5AA</b> Contact Linda Fearn at <a href="#">Full Details</a>	

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](mailto:norcemog@gmail.com)



## **And Finally**

Thanks to all the contributors to this month's newsletter, especially Shakespeare.

Last year myself and others went to the Festival of Motoring Great British Marques event on the Isle of Man organised by Scenic Car Tours and had a great time. Scenic are repeating this event in 2026, [Festival of Motoring](#), and myself and Peter and Rosemary Murphy have booked for this event. It would be great to have more NorceMog members coming along and share in the enjoyment of driving on unrestricted, pothole free roads on a beautiful island where the locals really make you very welcome.

If you are interested then the best way to book is to call Scenic direct. We are staying at the Sefton and, if you wish, just mention my name to be included in the group, Scenic then ensure the group will be together at the various events.

Best wishes  
Roger.



On the Isle of Man, clear skies, clear roads, great car – doesn't come better than this.

