

# The GBZ Newsletter

Volume 1

October 2003

Number 6

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## *The AGM Cometh...*

After a shamefully long summer break we are back with the newsletters. We would like to apologise for not providing one sooner but the fact of the matter is that not much has been happening during the summer months from a Classic Car point of view, coupled to the fact that there have been NO submissions whatsoever from any member and everyone's summer holidays naturally do not occur at the same time. Hopefully with winter on its way there have been some classic car acquisitions over the summer? Please let us know! Very important: The **AGM** will be held on Tuesday the 4<sup>th</sup> of November at Bayside School, 7pm. **Ed.**

## *The President Speaks*

Like the articles on supermarket counters we all have a 'best before' or 'expiry' date. There comes a time to move on and the time has come for this President to make way. Two and a half years ago I was approached by a group of friends and fellow enthusiasts who encouraged me to form an organisation that would further the interests of the classic movement on the Rock. At the time I was reticent but was finally convinced of the need for such a body to exist locally. The events of the past two years speak for themselves and today the Gibraltar Classic Vehicle Association is a respected body representing the needs and aspirations of

enthusiasts on the Rock.

During the past two years the GCVA has established the classic vehicle movement in Gibraltar in a way that that had never been done before. More and more enthusiasts are taking the plunge and investing in a historic vehicle on which to lavish their time, expertise and earnings! The results are encouraging and hardly a day goes by without classic vehicles winding around our roads on their daily business much to everyone's delight. Our participation in the 2002 Cavalcade drew much favourable comment, not to mention applause on the night itself and from that moment there was no turning back.

On the international scene Gibraltar has certainly left its mark with Gib cars attending many fairs, meets and rallies in the Sevilla, Cadiz, Malaga and Granada provinces. This has allowed us to establish new friendships and compare notes with our counterparts north of the border with whom we have enjoyed very cordial relationships. At the request of the Tourism Ministry we have also hosted a number of visits from abroad with Paul the

Postman and the Austin Sevens being the furthest travelled.

The monthly meets at Safeway continue to attract interest and usually provide us with a surprise or two. This, of course, is not the ideal venue for our get-togethers but, in the absence of suitable premises, it has proved useful in maintaining contact and giving us some exposure. I must record my appreciation to the Safeway Management for having had us and hope that we will be allowed to continue gathering there in the foreseeable future.

The two Gibraltar Rallies have been our flagship projects and anyone who witnessed these celebrations of motoring history would have to admit that they certainly did the whole of Gibraltar proud.

In one of my television interviews last May I mentioned that there were two issues crucial for the well-being and even perhaps the very survival of the classic movement on the Rock. These continue to be classic vehicle legislation and the granting of suitable premises to the Association. Unfortunately, as I write my last 'presidential' contribution to GBZ, I am very conscious that little or no progress seems to have been made on these

matters. At our meetings with Minister Holliday and his officials the Association has always been well received and Mr Holliday has stated both privately and publicly that he sympathises with the aims and aspirations of the club. Despite repeated promises of helping out on these issues, two years down the road, we have little to show other than a relaxation (by verbal agreement) of the strict MOT testing that would have seen all our classics off Europa Point! This has obviously been a source of personal disappointment to me as, I am sure, to all GCVA members. Nonetheless, I thank Mr Holliday and the Staff of the Tourism Ministry and the Gibraltar Tourist Board for their time and any assistance they may have been able to afford us. Of course, the events that I have mentioned above did not simply happen... they were the fruit of much planning and hard work by a good number of people. I think it would be inelegant of me to mention anyone by name as the list would be long and I might inadvertently omit someone worthy of the accolade but those who deserve my thanks know who they are and I

hope that they will accept my sincere gratitude in helping me make a dream come true.

And what of the future? Well, the Annual General Meeting will be taking place on the 4<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm at Bayside School and a new Committee will take off from where this one leaves. I hope that as many members as possible will make the effort to attend. The new Committee will need to know that the membership or, at least, the majority supports them. The Gibraltar Classic Vehicle Association is no different to any other body in having its share of whingers and bellyachers who seem happy only when conducting whispering campaigns against what others are trying to achieve. Invariably, these are the members who only seem to want to 'take' rather than give and, in the final analysis, do least. Fortunately, those who 'give' far outnumber them and I thank them for having given me their advice, support, loyalty and friendship throughout this time.

I now look forward to enjoying our noble hobby and to friends new and old: a wave and cheerio!

**John A Ferrary**

# Enthusiast of the Month



This issue's 'Enthusiast of the Month' is none other than Francis Mena. He of 'Staying up all night to finish the Minor off and driving straight to the rally' fame.

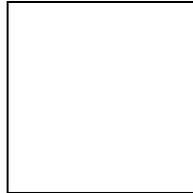
A founding member of the GCVA, Francis has shown sheer determination in the face of adversity in the recent restoration of his Morris Minor, whilst moving into a new home, running a Triumph Spitfire also and now acquiring a Sinclair C5 and possibly a Triumph Herald...

We can but admire his wife for her great patience!

# Recent Acquisitions!

Francis Mena has been keeping himself very busy over the summer with not one but possibly two acquisitions to his fleet!

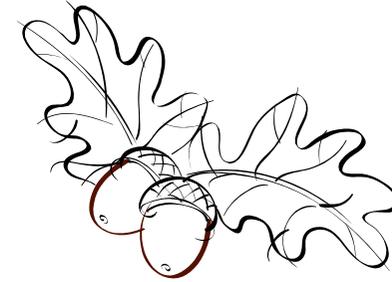
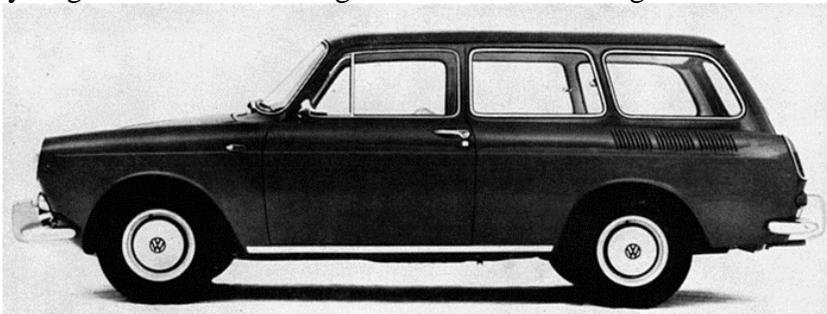
1) A Sinclair C5 electric three wheeler.



Whilst not strictly a classic vehicle in being under 25 years old, it surely is a part of transport history and a very rare item to be found with Gibraltar origins.

2) Possibly a Triumph Herald – Francis’ penchant (or is it weakness?) for Triumphs has got the better of him and he is very tempted by a rather original example that has been offered to him (photos coming soon)

3) Derek Hemmi has, after hankering after an Anglia, succumbed to a very original red Gibraltar registered 1973 Volkswagen Variant L!



## Outings Coming up?

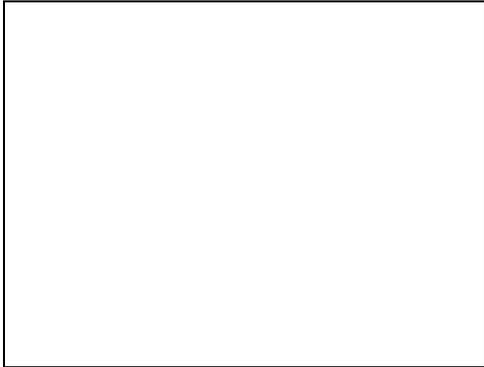
A number of outings will be coming up soon now the Weather is getting cooler.

Please watch this space for details, contact the hotline 54002777, and listen out for press releases.

Alternatively contact John Canepa, events organiser for more details.



## Sad Loss At Birmingham...



**A massive fire which destroyed much of the National Motorcycle Museum near Birmingham, ruining 650 vintage machines, was caused by a "carelessly discarded" cigarette, investigators say.**

Owner Roy Richards started collecting the bikes in the 1970s and the museum opened in 1984 with an initial collection of 350 machines.

It became one of the biggest motorcycle museums in the world and attracted about 250,000 visitors a year. It was also a conference centre.

The destruction could have been worse - scores of bikes were pushed to safety by museum staff and delegates at a business conference on the city.

Exhibits included BSA Gold Stars, Sunbeam Twins, DMW Hornets and Triumph racers. But museum bosses have vowed that the museum will be rebuilt and hopes remain that some of the damaged bikes could be saved.

*(A terrible loss indeed, luckily it's not a problem we have to worry about yet, not having any premises! **Ed.**)*

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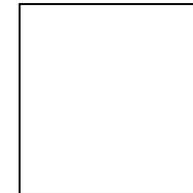
## FOR SALE?

**We have not been contacted with any details of vehicles for sale at the moment.**

**If you have any vehicle you wish to sell please do not hesitate to contact us:**

Email us: [gibclassic@gibnynex.gi](mailto:gibclassic@gibnynex.gi)

Phone the Editor: 54003571



# 'Le Boutique' - **SALE!**

Lots of extra merchandise was made available for the Rally in May.  
There is still some stock left of these items so Hurry if you wish to  
buy something as demand is very very high!

<b>CLUB CAR BADGE</b>	<b>£20.00</b>
<b>CUFFLINKS (CLUB LOGO)</b>	<b>£5.00</b>
<b>PIN BADGE</b>	<b>£1.50</b>
<b>KEY RING (LEATHER, CLUB LOGO)</b>	<b>£3.50</b>
<b>KEY RING (METAL, CLUB LOGO)</b>	<b>£2.50</b>
<b>WINDSCREEN STICKER (CLUB LOGO)</b>	<b>£0.70</b>
<b>ATTRACTIVE MUG WITH CLUB LOGO AND VINTAGE CARS (FULL COLOUR)</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
<b>POLO SHIRTS SIZES M or L</b>	<b>£11.00</b>
<b>Commemorating the Rally '03 with club logo or Non-commemorative Stone or Green with logo</b>	

ALL ITEMS AVAILABLE ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE  
MONTH MEETINGS, OUTINGS AND FROM STEFAN  
NICOLSSON (CONTACT 44643)

## **ANNUAL AGM THURSDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2003**

**THE GCVA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON  
TUESDAY THE 4<sup>TH</sup> OF NOVEMBER 2003, 7PM AT BAYSIDE  
SCHOOL.**

**PLEASE LISTEN OUT IN THE PRESS OR ASK ANY COMMITTEE  
MEMBER FOR THE DETAILS.**

**REMEMBER THE AGM IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR THE GCVA  
TO CONTINUE TO WORK AS AN ASSOCIATION AND TO WORK  
FOR ITS MEMBERS. PLEASE ATTEND URGENTLY.**

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*GCVA Hotline 54002777*

Email us: [gibclassic@gibnynex.gi](mailto:gibclassic@gibnynex.gi)

Web: [www.geocities.com/gibclassics](http://www.geocities.com/gibclassics)

**CONTRIBUTIONS VITAL! PLEASE CONTACT ED. on 54003571**

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## ***Haynes Manuals – The truth at last!***

For those of us that have ever used a 'Haynes Manual':

### **Haynes: Rotate anticlockwise.**

*Translation:* Clamp with molegrips then beat repeatedly with hammer anticlockwise.

### **Haynes: This is a snug fit.**

*Translation:* You will skin your knuckles!

### **Haynes: This is a tight fit.**

*Translation:* Not a hope in hell matey!

### **Haynes: As described in Chapter 7...**

*Translation:* That'll teach you not to read through before you start, now you are looking at scary photos of the inside of a gearbox.

### **Haynes: Pry...**

*Translation:* Hammer a screwdriver into...

### **Haynes: Undo...**

*Translation:* Go buy a tin of WD40 (catering size).

### **Haynes: Retain tiny spring...**

*Translation:* "Jeez what was that, it nearly had my eye out"!

### **Haynes: Press and rotate to remove bulb...**

*Translation:* OK - that's the glass bit off, now fetch some good pliers to dig out the bayonet part.

### **Haynes: Lightly...**

*Translation:* Start off lightly and build up till the veins on your forehead are throbbing then re-check the manual because what you are doing now cannot be considered "lightly".

### **Haynes: Weekly checks...**

*Translation:* If it isn't broken don't fix it!

### **Haynes: Routine maintenance...**

*Translation:* If it isn't broken... it's about to be!

### **Haynes: Compress...**

*Translation:* Squeeze with all your might, jump up and down on, swear at, then throw at the garage wall.

### **Haynes: Inspect...**

*Translation:* Squint at really hard and pretend you know what you are looking at, then declare in a loud knowing voice to your wife "Yep, as I thought, it's going to need a new one"!

### **Haynes: Carefully...**

*Translation:* You are about to cut yourself!

### **Haynes: Retaining nut...**

*Translation:* Yes, that's it, that big spherical blob of rust.

### **Haynes: Get an assistant...**

*Translation:* Prepare to humiliate yourself in front of someone you know.

### **Haynes: Refitting is the reverse sequence to removal.**

*Translation:* But you swear in different places.

### **Haynes: Prise away plastic locating pegs...**

*Translation:* Snap off...

### **Haynes: Using a suitable drift...**

*Translation:* The biggest nail in your tool box isn't a suitable drift!

### **Haynes: Everyday toolkit**

*Translation:* Ensure you have an RAC Card & Mobile Phone

### **Haynes: Apply moderate heat...**

*Translation:* Placing your mouth near it and huffing isn't moderate heat.

### **Haynes: Index**

*Translation:* List of all the things in the book bar the thing you want to do!

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