



Monkey Business

No 135 - November 2022



Written By Chris Taylor

Bunged Together By Simon Griffiths

What a horrible night to come out, wet windy and cold, but that was no discouragement for 15 hardy friends to brave the definite change of season now underway. I am really sorry to report ill health stopped Tim & Jayne from being with us again, as we haven't seen them since August, I am really missing their input to the gaiety of the meeting, but I am pleased to report they are joining us for the December Christmas meal, health permitting, so we should be back to full strength on the 6th.

Only one Alvis in the carpark which I know you will need no prompting to work out that it had been driven from the Wirral and safely delivered Charles and Judith Van Ingen to the Deanwater.



Judith and I had a discussion about a musical instrument called the Cimbasso, this is a comical looking affair that actually looks like it would be more at home bolted atop one of those large American normal control tractor units, or an exam piece for the fellowship of the guild of master plumbers, than in an orchestra pit. However, it seems opera writers such as Verdi scored for it, apparently preferring its sound to the tuba, so there must be something more than its looks about it.



Great to see both Simon and Melissa who had managed to arrange vehicles and people to be in the right place for them both to join the throng. Next to be mentioned is Elizabeth Bennett who Stalwartly (very appropriate to an Alvis audience) joins us from Chester and always adds a great deal to all of the limitless topics of conversation we seem to cover.

Tari and Michelle were both with us this month and Michelle is settling into her new job and was on great form, so it is true that a change is as good as a rest. Actually, when I think back 2022 has been quite a momentous year for changes which include; Tari and Michelle getting married and change of job; Peter Lakin and myself retiring; and Simon moving to his new business in Manchester; Mick Fletcher, together with much support and help from Gez Holt, Stephen Walley and Tim Brown all overcoming their medical problems. We all deserve a prize at this year's Christmas do, which we will get by being all together again as, with 27 of us assembling, it's going to be a bumper night.

Norman Blundell, our meeting mascot, was busy flitting from chair to chair as, without Claire's controlling hand on his shoulders, the stick was propped up in a corner and Norman was to be seen enthusiastically buzzing round. Dave Culshaw and I were busy working on identifying an SC Speed 20 DHC I had spied on a Talking Pictures film, and, for once, it was something Dave didn't know about!

Our numbers were completed with Richard Plant-Locke, the E on the end of those devices that I have bothered with most of my working life (thanks Mick) always amuses me as some locks in the UK were suffixed with an E following harmonisation with European standards, I don't think that quite applies in Richard's case though.

Well, that's all I have to report for November's gathering only to say that whilst it has been an absolutely superb Alvis driving summer, how did it go by so fast? Anyway, just one more bash to send 2022 into oblivion, which, is of course, our Christmas bonanza dinner on the 6th December at 7 for 7.30. All our menu choices have been submitted and paid for along with the gratuity so all you have to do is turn up at the Deanwater - SK7 1RJ - and enjoy yourself. We are in the lovely room at the top of the stairs through the bar and remember if, as the night progresses, you think you may have enjoyed yourself more than a driving licence can stand then join those of us that are staying and book a room.

It goes without saying that there are no rules for the night so if any of you wish to bring anything or wish to speak please feel free to do so - it's your meeting as well you know, anyone not dining is more than welcome to join us, but I would suggest a late arrival around 9.30 ish.

See you Tuesday

And now a quick word from Dean O'Spyder, our roving reporter...

It seems that Judith and Charles are determined to carry off the "Greatest Miles Travelled in an Alvis" Trophy as I spotted them in Newton Stewart near Galloway.

After a chase through the countryside I finally managed to get this photo of the TE21 by the Mercat Cross in Wigtown – Galloway's booktown.

