



# Monkey Business

## No 150 - February 2024



*Written By Chris Taylor*

*Bunged Together By Simon Griffiths*

It's quite incredible that we have held 150 meetings, since I started the Cheshire based gathering, and for this month we tried the third of our short-listed new homes.

This was the Legh Arms at Prestbury and, so far, I think it is winning. We had three notable absences on the night namely; Mick, Gez and David Culshaw, due to seasonal illness. My circumstances meant I had to leave early so as I was driving straight to the hotel in Bulkington ready for work the next day - so much for retirement! it is possible that D O'S may be able to add a few notes about any happening after I had left if he was in the area.

However, a strange set of circumstances occurred such that Peter Lakin and I arranged to meet early at the pub, so I could get away straight after my meal, as I arrived and was shown to our reserved area in the dining room I sat and waited - and sat a little longer and waited! Until about half an hour had passed and I was just about to phone Peter when he, Elizabeth, Tim, Jayne and Duncan Mather all arrived together. I enquired if they had all come by bus but the explanation was that they had all come through from the car park, which is at the rear, and, in doing so, passed the snug and decided that was just right and made themselves at home; so they were at one end of the pub and I was Billy-nomates where we should have been! This of course didn't matter one jot except it cut my short time down even shorter but that was of no real consequence.

We were joined by Simon and Melissa, Richard Plant-Locke and later by Charles and Judith Van Ingen in their TE which I am delighted to report they used the public car park without issue. The car park is accessed by a couple of back roads

but there is a walk through that brings you almost to the pub door so, although that seems tortuous at first, it's one of those things that, once achieved, becomes the norm and a non-event. Duncan supplied me with a photograph of BTS's car park pal for the night, so whilst I have no idea what it is, it's enough to tell me there are no worries at using this park if the one at the pub and the street outside the pub are full. It may well become first choice if the Legh Arms becomes our permanent home, of which more later in this report.

It was great to see Norman and Claire join us to try out the venue, so we were a good cross section of our usual revellers, including Mike Robinson. Who brought a mystery tool with him, so if any of you can identify its use please contact Mike and I'm sure there will be a prize for the one with the answer; of course the usual rules apply so the prize is only claimable at the meeting.

So looking forward to March; Because of this somewhat chaotic introduction to the Legh Arms Tim showed me the actual 'Snug', which is a great room and exactly what we are looking for. It lies to the rear of the pub and away from the general hubbub and will suit our needs perfectly, so we have taken to the decision to use the Legh Arms once again for our March gathering. This time, though, the Snug has been reserved exclusively for our use, so, whether you enter through the rear doors, or the front please, make your way to the snug where we will hold our next our meeting on our usual first Tuesday of March (the 5th).

As we will be able to experience the Legh Arms to its full potential this time we will have a group discussion to chat through our options going forward.



**Some poseur's car is properly upstaged by Charles' arrival in the car park - what are the odds of that thing being around in 60 years?**

Hope to see you at the Legh Arms Prestbury, SK10 4DG at 19.00 ish.

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

After Chris left the meeting I sneaked in just in time to see Charles's taking delivery of his new Hare mascot, from Melissa. He had been so pleased with the miniature ones at Simon and Melissa's wedding that he's asked for a full size one. As you can see, he was very pleased with the result - we expect to see it in the car at all the shows Charles! Maybe it'll be entitled to share the Bent Valve Trophy with you and Judith.

Progress has been proceeding in Simon's garage, on BVC, his Firebird. A quick look through the window showed he is frantically trying to get it finished in time for his stepson's wedding. As is so often the case with refitted wings they don't match up with the lamp bar ends so I saw him making up some angled packers to take up the gap.

Not much progress in the garage at Taylor Towers though - it all seems to be about clocks there. Eavesdropping on conversations has led me to believe that it is the painter who is holding up the job at the moment - does no one in the old car industry work to a regular timetable?



**Charles was delighted with his new hare mascot - delivered safely by Melissa**