

Report for 2024 AGM from Bob Allan

This year has been phenomenal with a number of major achievements to report.

For the months Feb-Aug'2024, including National, we have turned over approx £46,860. This compares to the previous 12 months total of £48,463, so a massive enhancement even allowing for increasing prices of everything. There is no reduction in demand.

Our highlights include:

1) Conclusion of a joint deal with the Clan Owners' Club. We have purchased their slow-moving stock of basic Imp spares allowing them to focus on Clan specific items. Their members will in future purchase Imp parts from us thus expanding the somewhat limited market and consolidating opportunities. Thanks to Scott Clements for helping with the negotiations and Les Elliott of CoC. Unfortunately Les has had to resign and Lance Davidson is now the Clan Club spares contact.

2) It was a massive shock when Speedy Spares announced in February their pending closure after 58 years of being the main supplier of new old stock spares for all Rootes vehicles, not just Imps.

The reasons they cited include: "recent years have seen many challenges. Brexit, the pandemic and the cost of living crisis have all taken their toll. With increased manufacturing costs, escalating operating costs and a dwindling demand for classic car spares, it has become impossible to continue trading."

We had very little time to respond, so backed up by the Committee I was immediately in contact with Sarah Benson to discuss how The Imp Club could help them and we agreed a plan to purchase a quantity of stock with items which Club members are regularly in need of.

We eventually paid for a large quantity of potentially useful Imp spares at a considerably reduced cost, around £20k in total. I was receiving deliveries via our local DHL driver for around 10 weeks. The last being 187kg in 5 boxes, which he could only just lift and I definitely could not! Where to put all the parts? Some boxes are now under shelves in my kitchen!

We wish Sarah and all at Speedy Spares thanks for all your help over the years and best wishes for the future.

3) Imp National 2024 - what a fantastic and successful event it was! The highlight was the attendance of the president of the Finnish Imp Club and his friend who had sold competition parts in the 1970s. The

Fins are restoring historic rally cars, think of all the current Finnish WRC drivers and you can imagine their parents all drove Hillman Imps. The restorations are exceptionally high standard and then the owners go out rallying and ice racing...

They wiped me out of many small items on the first day, and overall at the event I turned over around £7.5k.

Now its time so sit down, reflect, drink another beer, and think what else I could achieve in the coming year if I am voted back into post.

Bob Allan