

Area Centre Reports

AGM 2024

Report from South East Wales a/c for 2024 AGM:

Regular monthly meetings continue. In addition to those we've had a Christmas meal, a meet out for Drive-it-Day, and, of course,organise and hold the annual Wicked Welsh Weekend.

Roy Blunt

Gloucester AC Report

Unfortunately this year we have suffered the sad death of previous Area Centre Organiser Keith Evans who was a big personality locally and across the Imp Community. Attendance at monthly meetings is consistent with last year. We are still experiencing some lack of attendance due to health issues for some local members. I've recently looked at where our members all live and found a new venue for Area centre meetings that's better for the majority location wise so will see how that goes. There seems to be a core group who regularly attend Area Centre meetings and go to car events both locally and Nationally.

Kind regards

Karen

Heathrow AC Report

Not a massive amount to report on, as numbers are still quite low.

Heathrow is still attended by us every month, but numbers vary from 2-6.

Christmas dinner always has a much higher attendance, but this does involve me ringing round to draw everyone in. This Christmas dinner is also attended by members from (what used to be) the Reading AC. This is understandable that it would be a 1 off special occasion due to the further distances involved, so further regular visits to Heathrow through the year would not really be expected.

Hope that helps

Cheers

Graham

Cornish AC Report

The Cornish centre still meets regularly but numbers are declining. I do a call to arms for our regulars on Facebook. This may make it appear like a lively group with many active members but sometimes I am the only one who turns up at our monthly pub meets. We usually have 2 or 3 as well as me. I might start a Whatsapp group to confirm numbers before each meet up. Members have attended a few shows over the last year but usually just as a single car. Cornwall is a long thin county and members are geographically dispersed but we have a shiny new dual carriageway A30 now so travelling east to west should be easier from now.

Yours sincerely

Bob Blackman

Sheffield and North Notts AC Report

Sheffield and North Notts had gone through a quiet period but are now getting busier again and starting to grow.

We have now agreed on a new location and regular meets, and these will be the second Tuesday of the month from 7pm at the following address

The Olde House

Newbold

Chesterfield

S40 4RN

We have had a few months at the venue now and everyone is happy with the location. We regularly get 4-8 people at the meeting. Between us we manage to attend the Ecosse weekend, National and Wicked Welsh club events and several members are keen supporters of the Imps in the classic touring car races. In the summer months, weather permitting, we do attend the meeting in the Imps.

At present we don't do much as a club at local events, but we do all get out to various car shows and pub meets individually with the cars. Following on from this year's national we are looking to arrange a few more events for the local area centre including a Christmas dinner and go kart racing, if these events prove to be successful we will look to arrange more events and potentially open them up to other area centres.

From our members who attended the recent National we all enjoyed the location, runs, evening entertainment and the new layout for the show field is something that should continue.

I hope this helps but if you need anything further, please let me know.

Best regards Darren

York AC Report

I haven't been well recently and am finding it difficult to continue.

I have an email list of York AC Members and circulate them before each Meeting.

But the regular attendees is about 3.

I have analysed the membership by location and found that the membership is spread across the area, but there was evidence of a cluster around Hull.

It is too far for them to come to York, although the Dunnington venue is on the east side of York.

But to my knowledge no Hull area member has ever been to the Meetings.

I have tried emailing the Hull area members with a view to holding a one off meeting in the area.

I have not had much response. Somewhere in the low single figures.

So there didn't seem much chance of getting a number of the local members out to form a quorum to form a Hull AC Group.

I'm at a loss as to what else I can do to galvanise enough members to form a Hull AC.

I am quite willing to attend a meeting in the Area maybe several whilst they get themselves organised.

But it is 1.5 hrs to Hull but I can't make that a regular commitment if no one from the Area is prepared to attend.....

I am at a loss as to what else I can do.....

Of the 20+ members who are in the York Area only about 3 reliably turn out for the Dunnington Meeting.

I email all the members of local Events

So in truth we are struggling.

I can remember when we used to have well attended Monthly Meetings, Start & End of Seasons Runs etc.

But since COVID it seems to have fallen apart.

I don't know what to do.

If I stop doing the ACO Role then York will close down.

Dave Cull stepped down as ACO.

Regards,

Colin Valentine

Edinburgh & Fife Area Centre (Fife side report)

Monthly meeting numbers remain healthy with typically between 10 and 20 members attending most months. We have attended a couple of shows and in particular, we had a large Area representation at the Glamis show, organised by Gordon Ritchie. I have a Club stand organised for Scone Farming Yesteryear show later in September with 17 cars booked in.

In my role as ACO, I have been able to help several members in their quest for local bits for their cars and even managed to find new homes for a couple of Imps that have changed hands this year. Unfortunately other time constraints have meant that I haven't managed to organise any runs this season but my thanks must go to local member Dave Scott for kindly organising our annual scenic run in August that takes in a local show at Ladybank.

We are currently operating a floating venue at the moment as our previous long term venue, The Crooked Glen has shut it's doors to non residents. The plan is to try a few alternatives before settling on a suitable replacement venue.

Regards, Jim

Edinburgh & Fife Area Centre (Edinburgh side report)

In contrast to the Fife side despite having the same membership we have only 2 regular attendees with the odd addition member turning up. We did look for a venue near the Forth Road Bridge to see if a closer venue to Fife would encourage more people to attend but were unable to find anywhere suitable, parking was a particular problem

Cheers

Scott

Tees valley area

Meet from April to October

4 area members regularly attend meet plus me

5th attends occasionally

Fish shop scenic run and Christmas lunch well attended

Attended one local show this year , Ormesby Hall Middlesbrough and Graham Townsend organised a Club stand at Croft Darlington where we had a fantastic positive experience with the general public

Two Teeside area area members attended IMP club national at Ellesmere Port.

Sadly another area member has died this year, 3 of us attended the funeral with our cars, as requested by his widow

Happy to continue as ACO

Blackheath and North Kent ACO report

In the past year we have continued our monthly meetings with the faithful few who regularly turn up. In so doing we have helped each other with things more than just Imp related.

I have reached out to East Kent members as I feel they get neglected somewhat but as yet that has not had any response.

To broaden the experience of everyone associated with this area centre, I invite non members with other interesting cars to join us on occasions and explain a little about their chosen classic.

I have continued with the concept of "street meet" since lockdown and we had 10 interesting cars recently of all makes ranging from an un restored 1927 Austin 7 to a 1977 Ferrari and a 2022 hybrid London Taxi.

Because of the low number of members who wish to take part in events, I have been inviting others to simply join me at events that I will be attending rather than book an Imp Club stand only to find I am the only person to turn up.

I am aware of a number of members who live locally yet take no part in the area centre. I don't feel I should bother them if they feel this area centre has nothing to offer but the welcome is always there if they wish to make contact.

Linwood ACO report

Normally 6/8 turn up and we spend the time talking about men's health and Imps!!! The usual suspects.

I usually only get a few responses, normally to tell me they cannot make the meeting. However, Mr M always responds to my Monday Monthly Musings.

My last email to area members resulted in no responses regarding the proposed increase in membership fee's. I think this is ridiculous, the Chairman mentioning that the prohibitive costs of producing the magazine, well should they not be looking at seeing if there is a cheaper alternative? And the loss of a prominent sponsor as well. Who is the club being run for the members or some peoples ego's?

And did the club get three quotes when Grahame Pearson decided to come back into the club at the expense of Gillian Hill? For Imp60 I was told to get three quotes for a couple of items that I had to purchase.

Imp Ecosse 2024 Balloch

Thought that it was a great event, Plus the weather played its part too. Had several emails thanking Kathleen and I for a good job done. Happily do it again. Goes to show that you don't need the marquee and vast amounts of planned activities to have a good event. The tee shirts, well I didn't put a mark up on them (I spoke with Jim about this), just the accumulate cost divided by 33, Prints were supposed to be £10 but was only charged £8 (cash). Don,t get why the National tee shirts were £18? Does the club own the electronic for the logo? If not why not? Coasters worked well too, £1.10? each. Also, have to say thanks to your good self and Sue for helping with the tee shirts etc.

The hotel was a nightmare to be honest but I wouldn't hesitate in using it again as a base. I didn't wander into the Holiday Park, but had been in there several times to try and see about a discount. By all accounts, it was a nice comfortable setting.

Down side so far has been people who ordered tee shirts/prints not paying for them. Only two. I need to sort this out when I get back. Another issue was the guy in America who wanted a tee shirt and a print. It would cost a fair bit to send them so will send him the electronics for a fee and he can sort it out for himself.

Cost wise I do have a spreadsheet with all outgoings and income. Gave the bar staff £100 gratuity as they did a god job over the piece. About £40 profit as far as I remember.

Getting into the old office was a nice touch. The guy from ESP is the guy who services our house alarm. I was told that the office now has a reprieve to the 22nd August. However, the building manager will now not let me into the premises.

Best regards

Alex

N E Hampshire and SW Surrey Report

Since moving to Farnham, we have picked up a couple of new regular attendees. Our regular shows have been well attended, with 11 cars at Popham and 10 cars at Basingstoke despite the poor weather at Popham and the Basingstoke show's clash with other shows. For Drive-It Day we drove the route from the Imp National 2022 around the Meon Valley which some of the participants did not have time to do at that event. In September our very popular show at Tilford Rural Life Centre is returning after a two year break. We expect to have 20 cars in attendance. During the year we get together with some other area centres, particularly Hampshire and Heathrow and Cornwall.

Kind Regards

Tim

ACCO Report

We still have a number of vacancies for ACO's but the lack of willing volunteers continues to be a handicap. The feedback from the ACO's is that getting engagement from the membership is challenging, we have a core of regulars who are active but there are many members who don't attend meetings or events which of course is their prerogative.

The big task for this year is getting the ACO's consent to sharing their personal information, it has taken too long for a number of reasons, we are now at the stage of having reduced the information that will be shared to Name, Contact No. and masked email and only in Impressions paper copy, just need to get the remaining ACO's to either agree or remove them from Impressions if they don't want it shared. All other media where the Area Centres or Meeting venues are listed will have the masked email addresses only.

(Masked email in this instance is where it's shown in the format ACO0xx@theimpclub.co.uk which is then forwarded to the appropriate ACO)

Despite having thoughts about stepping down from the committee unless there is someone who wants to take on this role I'm willing to continue for another year.

Scott Clements