

JERSEY OLD MOTOR CLUB NEWSLETTER

September 2026



Patron: His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of Jersey, Vice Admiral Sir Jerry Kyd KBE CBE



President's Comments

Special thanks go to Simon Slaffer and Colin Griffiths for their hard work in organising the special photograph to show off our '60', written in cars on Gorey Common.

Also to the marshalls who helped organise the parking, Rob and Lynda Allo, Angie Slaffer and Tim and Pam Pallot. In fact, to everyone who came along and made it a success, thank you, one and all.

I have mentioned recently that we are in dire need of more committee members and this has not



changed, as nobody has come forward. Two of the last four meetings were cancelled as we were not quorate. Even if you have been

on the committee before, you are not excused. Your club needs YOU!

Happy Motoring!

FIRST SUNDAY PUB MEETING
Les Fontaines Tavern, St John
Sunday 6 September 11.30am-1pm

THIRD SUNDAY PUB MEETING
The Priory, The Devil's Hole
Sunday 20 September, 11.30am-1pm

Club away trip 2027

Next year is the 100th anniversary of the Coupe Florio, which will be held from Friday 10 to Sunday 13 September inclusive. Many of you will have been on this before and will know how fantastic it is and how well we are looked after.

Obviously, they will be pulling out all the stops for their 100th anniversary. What I would like at the moment is sincere expressions of interest. The ferry timetables are

certainly not out yet but it would help enormously if we have some idea of the number of rooms needed and car parking spaces.

Nathalie LeFevre, who many of you know, has offered to assist us and the more information we can give her the better. The event is always well attended and, I think, will be even more so next



year, so please let me know if you are interested by emailing joana-gardner@hotmail.com.

The JOMC WhatsApp Group

The JOMC has a WhatsApp group. It has been used to update members on event news and provide technical exchanges of information on keeping our cars on the road.

The committee would like to increase the club's usage of the WhatsApp group to use it as an up-to-date news platform and encourage the exchange of experiences and technical informa-

tion between members.

If you have a Smartphone and would like to join in, please email or text me your mobile phone number and I will add you to the group.

All messages stay confidential to the enrolled club members. To find out more, contact Keith Ahlers by emailing keith.ahlers@btinternet.com or calling/texting 07768 232116

Pub Meet, third Sunday in every month



I did send out an email informing everyone that L'Auberge du Nord has closed, and therefore our venue would be changing for each third Sunday.

This will start on the next third Sunday next month, 20 September, when the meeting will be held at The Priory, Devil's Hole, St Mary, JE3 3BD at the normal time of 11.30am-

1pm. All pubs nowadays provide a variety of non-alcoholic beverages as well as coffee and tea. This is for a trial period so we would appreciate your feedback.

Late Summer Run, 20 September

Our next outing is a 'run' only and details will be sent out shortly, although

it will probably finish at The Priory, Devil's Hole, to coincide with the third

Sunday Pub Meet. There will be our usual meeting at Les Fontaines Tav-

ern, St John on the first Sunday of the month, 6th September.

Rally to Jersey: The 20hp Register returns to Jersey for another unforgettable Island adventure

By Simon Slaffer

A total of 40 participants were booked on the rally, which took place exactly ten years after the last 20hp visit to Jersey, which had commemorated the unveiling of a 20hp mural. Participants arrived on ferries from Poole, Portsmouth and Plymouth (via Roscoff and St Malo) from as far away as Cumbria, Lancashire, Devon, Cornwall, Dorset, Kent, Herefordshire, Hampshire, Middlesex, Sussex, Buckinghamshire and Suffolk.

Organisers Simon and Angie Slaffer only had to travel five miles from their home in Jersey to St Brelade's Bay Hotel, but ran out of fuel on the way. Following a warm welcome with drinks and canapés provided by the hotel, members enjoyed a superb evening meal each night, prepared and served by its large multicultural team. Throughout the eight-night stay, the hotel staff could not have been more welcoming, attentive or helpful.

The first day involved a beautiful north-coast tour, participants being blown away by the beauty of the Island. A hearty 'light' lunch had been preordered at Ransoms Garden Centre, but the



lure of superb gâteaux was too much for many who failed to keep the meal as light as intended.

After lunch, a scenic cross-country route passed by the Orchid Foundation (fresh from their serial Gold Medal win at Chelsea) and Pallot's Steam Museum. The museum holds an eclectic collection of ancient farm tools, musical instruments, Jersey memorabilia and post-war classic cars. Many of the group returned to these venues later in the week.

The second day started with morning refreshments at the home of Simon and Angie, where a serious offroad experience in a field led to the parking area. The cars then proceeded in convoy into St Helier, where there followed a fantastic cavalcade right through the middle of the city,

with sports car participants from the Jersey International Motoring Festival.

This was a rare excursion through normally busy streets which had been cleared by the honorary police and marshals from the UK attending the Festival of Motoring. The streets were lined with crowds of spectators. The entourage had exclusive use of a parking area at the Weighbridge where the line-up attracted many admirers.

On the third day there was a visit to Le Riche Automobile Restorers. There was a fascinating talk by director Joe Castellino who talked knowledgeably about the firm's restoration skills, using their worldwide recognition of the renovation of original Swallow motor cars as an illustration. Le Riche restore and

look after every type of car, from pre-war to modern supercar, which they also store for international customers. The premises were filled with a huge selection of classic cars.

On the fourth day there was a private guided tour of Jersey Zoo, which was founded by Gerald Durrell in 1959. Durrell was a contemporary of Sir David Attenborough who had a huge respect for him and regarded him as being decades ahead of everyone in his conservation work, with the Zoo being the best example in the world of the breeding of endangered species.

Simon was the honorary medical adviser to the gorillas and orangutans and could be found during the visit residing in his own cage. In the afternoon, there was a

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Rally to Jersey: An unforgettable adventure

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technical seminar in Simon and Angie's garage on adjustment of the front and rear brakes of the 20hp, together with adjustment of the servo. A poorly adjusted car was raised off its wheels on jacking beams front and back. With the engine running, the driver engaged the rear wheels. The second operator spun the front wheels by hand. The brakes were engaged and the servo adjusted until the front wheel brakes came into play.

On the fifth day participants were literally blown away, not this time by the scenery, but by force seven gusting winds which, together with copious rain, some-

what put a damper on the proceedings of the International Motoring Festival. This spoilt the viewing of the Jaguar XJ13, the car that was built for Le Mans in the 60s but never raced. It has gone down in folklore as the car that never raced but would certainly have won if it had. Notwithstanding the weather, the local car clubs were out in force and everything from post-war classics of every decade including Ferraris, Lamborghinis, Porsches (47 counted) and Land Rovers were represented.

The jewel in the crown was the sixth day, where the participants were guests of the Jersey Old Motor Club who had organised a very rare tour



through the grounds of ten of the Island's historic manor houses. This started at Samarès Manor with refreshments and a walk round the botanical gardens.

Some manor owners absolutely loved the cavalcade of approximately 50 pre-1955 motor cars passing through grounds. They had arranged for their families, friends and staff to watch from their well-manicured lawns.

Following a free day, the traditional mascot competition took place, the winners not only receiving the engraved silver plate, but also a free overnight stay in the hotel, kindly provided by St Brelade's Bay Hotel.

After a sumptuous gala dinner with live music and dancing, some participants repeated some of their favourite scenic routes on their last day before boarding their ferries to return home.

President's Picnic in Pictures





Events calendar



Calendar Plans for 2026 (note – events with no direct JOMC involvement shown in italics)

Event	Date(s)
2026	
<i>Goodwood Revival</i>	<i>18th – 20th September</i>
Late summer run	20 th September
Pumpkin breakfast & run	18 th October. Breakfast at La Brise, Golden Sands
Annual Dinner & Trophy presentation	Saturday 7 th November 6.45pm for 7.30pm at St. Brelade's Bay Hotel
A.G.M.	Tuesday 24 th November, St. Clement's Parish Hall 6.45pm for 7.15pm
Boxing Day Cavalcade	Saturday 26 th December
20	27
Easter Monday, Easter Bonnet	Monday 29 th March
<i>Jersey International Motoring Festival</i>	<i>Wednesday 2nd June – 6th June</i>
Coupe Florio (JOMC Away Trip)	Friday 10 th September – Sunday 13 th (incl.) T.B.C.
Boxing Day	Sunday 26 th December

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