



RSM Motor Club
Imperial College London

Royal School of Mines Motor Club - Autumn Report to CSPB

1. Foreword

As required by the Clubs, Societies, and Projects Board, the RSM Motor Club has prepared this report to inform the Board on the recent goings-on within the club, and what the general state of Clem (the 1926 Morris One-Ton Truck which the club cares for) is.

2. Club membership and health

The club is pleased to announce that we have a healthy number of members so far this year. Our current membership number is 20 out of 10 (a number which was reduced from 20 at a previous meeting of the CSPB), plus a further 3 Life/Associate members. There is no membership fee to join the club.

We have a regular set of members who come to the garage on a weekly basis (including some who complained to the secretary about why there was no session one week), and a further group of people who attend club events but do not look after the vehicle. The club's 'Come visit, say hi, and have a free mug of tea' offer appears to be very successful at drawing visitors to the garage.

Our mailing list (rsmmc-list) currently holds 162 members, and the President of the RSMU is also included on all mailings, the club aims to strengthen the links we have with the Union of which we maintain the mascot of. This mailing list comprises of a variety of current and former students, as well as at least one member of College staff (they occasionally put their name down on the Freshers Fair form). Our emails have also been redeveloped into a 'Newsletter' form, which hopefully will be more useful to members, and most emails now contain directions to the garage (the hidden location of which commonly stumps new members).

The club holds garage sessions on a weekly basis, meaning there are frequent opportunities for people to visit the club and get involved. We have also had regular events throughout the term, which have all been well attended.

3. Events this term

3.1 Welcome Week

As always, the Club started the year with its annual shuttle service from the Evelyn Gardens/Prince's Gardens halls to the Mingle, which this year was utilised by Wilkinson and Weeks, Linstead, and Fisher halls. Whilst this was a decrease on last year's uptake, and very few students from Wilkinson and Weeks travelled on the vehicle (as they all preferred to be inside), those who did travel on Clem had a very good time. The key lesson to take away was to contact the halls earlier next year, as we suspect that the wardening team (understandably) gets extremely busy towards the beginning of term.

The Club also had a presence at Fresher's Fair, where we provide quick drives around the local area, and students could sign up to the Clem mailing list. Historically, RCS MC (who are next to us) tend to get more people on their sign up list, however this year RSM MC actually got more - a welcome surprise.

The first garage session of the year was not attended, however it was felt that this was due to people struggling to find the garage. We have contacted the Union regarding some signage outside the garage (like CGCU Motor have), but have yet to discuss this in detail. We did, however, revamp our email with better instructions and made the secretary stand at Queen's Tower with a bit of paper telling people to meet there. As mentioned, the 'free tea' offer worked incredibly well, especially with a push in the marketing that you can come to the club even if you don't want to do anything mechanical (something which was not said in the past).

As always, we have attended the RSM Fresher's Pub Crawl, which was a relatively peaceful event compared to other years (many thanks to the RSMU for being such excellent hosts!) This is a great opportunity for the club to introduce ourselves to the members of the constituent union for which we look after the mascot of, and is also a fun tradition to maintain.

3.2 Commemoration Day

Unfortunately we were not able to give a lift for the Rector and his guests at this year's Commemoration day - this was due to a suspected issue with the engine causing Clem to lose power. Further investigation with the help of our alumni concluded there was no issue with Clem, but instead just the driver at the time not being as used to the vehicle as other drivers are. Regardless, Clem was parked up outside the Reach-Out Lab for people to take photos by and enjoy.

3.3 VCC London to Brighton Run

With the club being generally happy with Clem's mechanical state, she followed Team Bo' on the VCC London to Brighton Run (Clem cannot enter as she is too young, but instead follows) up until Staplefield in Sussex - RCS MC's vehicle also stopped here. A lovely time was had by all (with huge amounts of food consumed), and many members stayed over at Eastside in the evening to hear many of the club's alumni reminisce about their times at Imperial.

3.4 Sambrook's Brewery

In late November, Clem went on a trip to Sambrook's Brewery in Battersea, where members could enjoy a tour of the brewery. The trip was well attended, with only two tickets left before we sold out. Most people who we spoke to wanted to come but the date was a poor choice, so it is entirely possible that we would have sold out if the event was on a different day. With this in mind, we are considering running another trip in the near future. The club ran this event at cost price, and so made no profit from the tickets (the cost of which covered the entry fee).

3.5 Christmas Lights Trip

The final event of this term is a trip out to see the Christmas lights, which would have just happened when the Board meets. This is an annual event we do in association with the RCS MC, and we take any interested member of College on the vehicle to see the lights around Oxford Street and Regent Street. The number of attendees is not available at time of writing, however will be reported verbally to the Board. As always, free mince pies were available to all attendees.

3.6 Other Activities

We have also been undertaking work to rewire Clem (the electrics of which have not been particularly neatly arranged), with assistance of a Life Member. This work is part of a larger series of works to make Clem's electrics more robust and future proof.

3.7 Other Details

Activities in the club have been impacted by lighting work in the garage (and the associated lighting/electrical work in next door's RCS MC garage) - this has displaced Clem from the garage for a period of two weeks, and filled the garage with objects from the RCS MC garage which needed to be removed whilst work is conducted. We'd like to thank the Union for the assistance they have provided due to this work, and now the new lighting is installed, activities can continue

on their regular basis. The new lighting is a vast improvement over the old, making the garage a much more pleasant working environment.

Future events will be planned after the Christmas break.

4. Finances

At time of writing, the finances of the club stand as follows:

Funding	Amount (£)
Grant	718.77
SGI	-1.03
TOTAL	717.74

Whilst the negative SGI balance may initially look disappointing, there is currently one transaction line where the VAT has not yet been reclaimed, and use of the fuel card comes off of SGI, while the grant from the Union for the fuel sits in Grant. Additionally some of the fuel card lines are from last year's expenditure, and as such are offset against members funds (the Union grant for fuel does not cover the entire amount of fuel expenditure seen).

Therefore Clem's SGI is not in the red, and the total amount of money held by the club is actually slightly more positive than it currently looks. Currently we have not performed a large number of purchases, save some equipment for the rewiring, an affiliation fee (which is pending authorisation), and transactions related to the brewery trip, however it is expected that more investment in the club will occur once the weather warms up and so permits more work on the vehicles.

All necessary corrections to tidy up the accounts will occur once academic deadlines have passed for this term.

5. Other notes

The club wishes to congratulate Stephen Ball and Guy Emanuel, who are now authorised to drive Clem. The abundance of student drivers is something the club has not enjoyed for some time, and allows us to run more events and trips out without depending on alumni, who all have busy schedules in their lives. To drive Clem, a person must be aged 21 and have at least 3 years driving experience, but the Club also expects the members to have some understanding of how Clem works before they are added to the insurance list.

6. Conclusion

Clem has had a very successful first term, and has built up a large base of regular members who help to maintain Clem and enjoy travelling on her to events in London and round the South East. Whilst activities have now calmed down as it gets too cold to work, we will be restarting our usual weekly session early next year.