

Royal College of Science Motor Club – Termly CSPB Report (Autumn 2014)

1. Foreword

As per request from the Clubs, Societies and Projects Board, the RCS Motor Club has prepared this termly report on our recent and upcoming events and the general condition of our club and of Jezebel (Jez) – the 1916 motor mascot of the Royal College of Science.

2. Club Status

Due to a burst radiator in the first week, our freshers' fair stall was not particularly successful (we were somewhat preoccupied with fixing Jez up in time for all of the beginning of term events). We have accumulated a couple of interested members and a few more vaguely interested club attendees over the course of the term. Our student membership currently stands at 26, with an additional 7 life/associate members and half a dozen alumni without membership that occasionally attend to lend a hand and their mechanical expertise.

We have almost finished redeveloping our garage - a process which began at the beginning of the 2013-14 academic year and has been a continuous drain on our time. The garage is now in a fine position functionally; only a few cosmetic jobs remain.

We have donated some of our time to minor redevelopment of the neighbouring RSM Motor Club garage – a job that will hopefully be finished after one more dedicated session.

3. Vehicle Status

Jez is currently in excellent mechanical condition, with only a few minor issues to sort out that are not impacting on her ability to drive around. She does however require a little cosmetic attention; her brasswork needs to be altered to properly accommodate her new hook ladders and she needs to be partially repainted at some point in the near future – preferably before her centenary event in spring 2016. Unfortunately, repainting is a very time consuming task if done properly; it will force Jez off the road for perhaps a few months.

The current issues with Jezebel are:

- The radiator needs to be reassembled properly (this cannot be done until we have a functioning spare radiator as a temporary replacement)
- The spare radiator needs to be sent off to be specially repaired - we do not have the facilities to perform the repairs ourselves (this cannot be done until we can accurately measure all the lengths and angles on the radiator currently – last time her radiator was returned in the wrong shape!)
- The horn needs to be remade such that it will actually function (this isn't a problem when on the road – Jez is outfitted with a klaxon also)
- The glands on the bottom of the gearbox need to be repacked
- The odometer needs to be reattached, as does her revolution indicator

4. Events

We went on a large number of events during the first half of the term, but unfortunately the second half was spent mainly on garage redevelopment. This term, Jezebel has attended the following events:

- Freshers' Hall Trips
- Freshers' Queens Tower Trips
- Freshers' Fair
- RCSU Pub Crawl
- RCSU Autumn Ball
- Undergraduate Commemoration Day (on behalf of the college)
- Tri-Union Bar Night (on behalf of the RCSU)

We have also run a pumping trip to Hyde Park, in which we took Jezebel to the Serpentine to practise using her pump. It is in excellent mechanical condition, although we are short on qualified pump operators – currently only one student is able to operate the pump. Because an experienced crew member must be present to supervise inexperienced members, it is difficult for anyone to learn to use the pump without multiple experienced crewmen present.

We also attended the London to Brighton Veteran Car Run as a major event for the club members and alumni, as well as taking Jez out for a few brief drives over the course of the term and one lengthy drive to assess her mechanical condition.

Remaining for this term is the RCS and RSM Motor Clubs' Christmas Lights Trip. Planning is also still ongoing for Jezebel's Centenary event in spring 2016.

5. Finances

The grant we receive is used to cover three categories of expenditure:

Recurring Expenditure – This covers recurring costs that will either automatically or inevitably be withdrawn from our accounts at some point in the year.

This type of expenditure is covered by the following accounts:

- Affiliation Fees (£21.70 remaining of the £21.70 original budget)
- Entrance Fee Competition (£3.30 remaining of the £3.30 original budget)
- Insurance (£471.00 remaining of the £471.00 original budget)
- Telephones (£76.86 remaining of the £100.00 original budget)

Continuous Expenditure – This covers items that we use continuously throughout the year and so the relevant finances steadily decrease with time. This includes fuel (Travel Expenditure) and some consumables (such as oil and a few items for the garage such as roller towel and tape).

This type of expenditure is covered by the following accounts:

- Consumables (£496.30 remaining of the £803.56 original budget)
- Travel Expenditure (£332.20 remaining of the £732.20 original budget)

Spontaneous Expenditure – This covers the replacement of items that we need in the garage to keep Jez in working order (such as replacement parts for broken machinery) and items that we continuously use, but are forced to resupply via a massive bulk order (a drum of graphite grease, for example). Due to the spontaneous nature of these orders, the budget concerning this type of expenditure decreases suddenly and erratically.

This type of expenditure is covered by the following accounts:

- Consumables (£496.30 remaining of the £803.56 original budget)
- Equipment Purchase (£193.69 remaining of the £263.68 original budget)

As usual, we expect to use our entire grant by the end of the academic year.

Our grant is used to keep the garage maintained and provides the minimum finance necessary to keep Jez running healthily. However, we also provide Jez for appearance at various events around the college, as well as attending various shows purely for the benefit of club members. Due to licencing and insurance policies, we are not permitted to use Jez for hire or reward, but at these events we do ask the members/organisation to pay for the fuel used and to provide some form of donation to cover the wear and tear caused by the event (such as the oil/grease used and a contribution to future repairs). All of this money is stored in SGI to provide a float for fuel expenditure and a fund in case the club requires a large sum of money in the future (in the event of a more spectacular breakdown, for example).

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.

We are aware, following a resolution of the then CSB in December 2012, there is supposed to be a review of the management structure of the Motor Clubs around now. RSM Motor Club's review is we need time to think about this, and so with discussion with the DPCS we have decided to look into this for January CSPB.

2. Club membership and health

Compared to this point last year, membership is on the up. We have 23 out of 10 full members (we have a reduced membership target as per a previous resolution of CSPB, although this needs inputting into eActivities every year as it resets to 20). We have 5 Life/Associate members, some of whom are qualified drivers who occasionally come by to drive Clem on events for us.

Last year, our counts were 20 and 3 members respectively. There are no membership fees.

The club has not been particularly active this term. This is the result of ongoing garage redevelopment, which means we have not been able to do as many trips out as we would have liked to have done. Instead, time has been spent rebuilding garage racking, and generally rearranging garage facilities.

There have been benefits to this. We now no longer have shelving which is liable to collapse, instead having high quality modern shelving approved by the College. We have also inherited some shelving units from the RCS Motor Club garage, which has also undergone redevelopment. Overall we now have a large quantity of new storage space, which is convenient considering the amount of equipment the Club owns!

Work is expected to be done soon, so we can focus on running events. As a result of the temperature we are now reach our traditional reduction in the number of activities we do.

We have built stronger links with the RSM this term, building on an aspiration from last year. Ben Warnick, RSM President, is quite keen to see what is going on in the Club had has popped down to the garage once or twice. We are working with Tor Tennant, RSM Vice President (Activities and Events), to get Clem at some more RSM events. We are their mascot so its a crying shame we haven't done a huge amount with them!

We do charge the RSM for events we do for them (beyond their pub crawl). Due to legal reasons, we cannot make a profit when charging for transport. The minibus insurance policy states we cannot drive the vehicles for "hire or reward". Therefore our charging structure is simply to:

1. Cover the fair cost of fuel used on the event
2. Provide a small amount in coverage for general wear and tear

For the Tri-Union Bar Night, this came to £10.

We are allowed to request donations - although by nature they are not compulsory! When we do events for College, the tradition has been £150 for each of the commemoration days and £50 for the Imperial Festival, however there is no obligation for this arrangement to continue.

3. Events this term

We have unfortunately not conducted a large number of events so far this term, as a result of time being spent on the garage redevelopment. However, here is a brief summary of what we have got up to this term:

- We did our traditional trip from halls to the Mingle. We were lucky to be able to get involved with more halls this year. As well as Fisher Hall (including providing entertainment during their trip up the Queen's Tower), we also transported Holbein and Willis Jackson, Wilkinson, Tizard, and Falmouth/Keogh. Unfortunately we will not be able to provide this service in the same form in the near future, with the closure of Evelyn Gardens restricting the halls we can transport. For obvious reasons we do not transport Beit students, and the other halls are too far away for our services to be feasible. We do not charge halls for this service.
- Freshers' Fair was held as per usual. Unfortunately we did not get a huge number of signups this year.
- We once again took part with the RSM Pub Crawl. Many thanks to the RSM for once again being so splendid! There were no incidents to speak of which is incredibly positive, and we look forward to doing more with the RSM in the future.
- We also were around at the first Tri-Union Bar Night to provide trips around the block to revellers.
- At the time of writing, we are organising our traditional Christmas Lights trip, which will be held on the last Wednesday of term. Free mince pies and a trip around the lights on Oxford Street and Regent Street.
- We've also done the odd drive out when we feel like it - especially to welcome one new student who came to the club in November.

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	971.88
SGI	680.85
TOTAL	1,652.73

Our grant is broken down according to the table on the next page.

Account (Code)	General (00)	Notes
Affiliation Fees (605)	49.96	Awaiting Philip to make a claim for the affiliation fee and then it will be gone.
Consumables (640)	350.00	To be spent. An alumni claim is pending.
Entrance Fee Competition (680)	6.60	Will be spent in May for the London to Brighton Run.
Equipment Purchase (685)	150.00	To be spent. An alumni claim is pending.
Insurance (740)	159.00	Awaiting the Union to charge us as we sit on the minibus insurance and hence should be charged by the vans team.
Telephones (875)	76.91	This grant is run down throughout the year when the Union charge us for telephones.
Travel Expenditure (895)	179.41	This grant is run down throughout the year as we do more trips out.
TOTAL	971.88	

We expect to spend all our grant as per usual.

The amount quoted for SGI is £150 less than eActivities states - this is because Team 'Bo need to charge us £150 for their share of an invoice we made to the College on behalf of all three vehicles.

Our SGI is looking healthy, and should increase, allowing us to organise some new and exciting projects with Clem in the future.

5. Vehicle mechanical status

On the whole, Clem is in good shape. The main issues we are currently fixing are a corroded number plate, a missing wooden plank in the cab, and further wiring issues. Clem is in a perfectly good shape to take out when desired!

In the longer term we plan to:

- Repaint Clem (February onwards)
- Make new seat cushions for the back seats
- Go through our snagging list of minor issues on Clem (listed on the in-garage blackboard if anyone is interested in details)

Team Bo'

Autumn Report for CSPB

Hi CSPB - here's what Team Bo' has been up to this term.



Activities

London to Brighton Run

Our biggest event of the year, The London to Brighton Veteran Car Run, happened on the 2nd November this year. Bo' joined ~500 other veteran (pre-1905) cars in driving from Hyde Park to the pier at Brighton to celebrate the 118th anniversary of the speed limit being raised from 4 to 14mph.

Bo' performed well on the day, we had a small scare when all of a sudden we lost power when heading out of London. As it turned out we had just lost the connection to one of the spark plugs and so were only firing on one cylinder. A small stop off and a spare part was all we needed and we were back on our way.



The weather, as expected, was miserable and it spent most of the day raining on us. That didn't put much of a damper on the day however; we arrived freezing cold and soaking wet but all that mattered was that we arrived. A cracking day out!

Commemoration Day

Bo' was giving rides on commemoration day, both to new graduates and the new college President, Professor Alice Gast. It was also a nice way to send off last year's Bo' driver, Mateusz Gocek, who successfully graduated!

CGCA Decade Lunch

This term we also attended the annual Decade Reunion CGCA Lunch. This year was a chance for engineering alumni who graduated in a year ending in '4' to come back to college for some tasty food and nostalgia. This also gave them the chance to take a ride in Bo' which brought back some good memories!

Tri-Union Bar Night

Bo' also made an appearance, alongside Jez and Clem, at the Tri-Union Bar Night a few weeks back. As well as being a lot of fun it gave people a chance to see their mascots out and about. As if we needed an excuse to take the car for a drive!

Christmas Lights Trip

Next week we will be doing our annual Christmas lights trip to Oxford Street to get in the spirit of Christmas.

Membership

This fresher's fair was particularly kind to Team Bo' this year. We normally get one or two new recruits that turn up regularly to garage sessions, but this year we have five regulars.

Technically speaking our membership target should be 10 members, though it appears it has been set up to 20 again. Either way we currently have 21 members on record including 3 life-time members.

Finance

Financially the club is on track this year, and we're in the process of renewing bits and pieces around the garage. For example, we recently bought a new jack which means we no longer need to precariously balance wooden blocks under the car to jack him up.

Grant Remaining: £1028

SGL Remaining: £680

We still have a number of purchases that we need to make before the year ends, including insurance for Derrick, replacement top hats, spare inner tubes and a number of smaller bits.

Future

Bo' has been behaving himself for the most part this term. Though there are always things to be doing. In particular we're looking at getting the Acetylene lamps back up and running as they haven't been used in a number of years.



We've had to fix the brakes (left) and the steering wheel is no longer falling apart (right).

All in all he's in good shape and ready for next term!