



# WELCOME TO THE SUMMER YTYPE NEWSLETTER

This issue is rare as we have been able to include details and photos of the MGCC Y Register Spring Weekend and the outcome of the 2018 AGM held on Saturday May 12.

(Thanks to Andy for extending the deadline to include this article and photos).

## **Spring Gathering and Run 2018 – Bedford**

Many thanks to Peter and Gillie Sharp, Chris and Annette Callaghan who, with an input from Neil Cairns, combined local knowledge and worked together to pull everything together for a successful weekend. Chris and Annette arranged the venue, Woodland Manor Hotel, Clapham, near Bedford. We held our AGM and evening dinner and awards evening.

## **The Dinner and Awards Evening**

Thanks to Annette for organising the table settings and the reminder of what everyone had ordered! The meal was followed by two awards. *Car of the year* was awarded to all the participants of the Round Britain Relay and the *Jack Murray Helping Hand Award* was awarded to Maggie Grafham.



Maggie with the Jack Murray Helping Hand Award

## **AGM 2018**

This followed the format of 'good' Annual Meeting. That is, non-contentious, all posts filled on the Committee, and finished in around 45 minutes. The key personnel Chris Callaghan (Chairman), Peter Sharp (Secretary), Mike Longman (Treasurer) and the remainder of the Committee were re-elected.

## **Old Tyres**

This is a matter that I have raised before and it never ceases to amaze me just how many classic car owners still are running their cars on old tyres. That is to say, more than 10 years in age.

Indeed in *Classic Car Buyer* (April 18 2018) an article entitled *Old tyres under investigation* mentioned a Department for Transport study that is under way into the safety of older tyres.

Too often folk seem to take the view that their tyres are perfectly okay because they have excellent tread. That may be the case, but as Ben Field from Vintage Tyres states in the article: "we are, as a country, obsessed with tread depth as the key factor that decides if a tyre is safe or scrap". This is only part of the story, as rubber suffers from the effects of sunlight, loads carried and time spent in indoor and outdoor storage. Considering that the majority of us do a very low mileage there is a tendency to often gloss over the state of the tyre and inner tube.

This is foolhardy and the date codes on your tyres need to be

checked. The view in the trade, which is commonsense in my view, is that any tyre over 10 years old should be changed. It is possible that as a result of their survey DfT may include tyre date checks within the MOT and perhaps your insurers, whilst mindful that cars over 40 years old no longer require a MOT, may insist that they are aware of the date of your tyres.

Considering the large amounts of cash that we spend on our Ys, then confirming the state of your tyres is in modern parlance a "no brainer".





Paul and Maggie Grafham with Little Gem at Shuttleworth

## Y TYPE SPRING RUN MAY 12- 13

After the wet, wet Saturday afternoon and evening we awoke to what became a lovely day. Peter and Gillie had arranged the *Spring Run* from Clapham to Old Warden and the Shuttleworth Collection. Other than a few minor misreadings of the instructions in the Route Book, all the 19 participants arrived safely at Shuttleworth.



Alan Chick's award-winning YB (left)



Mike and Sue Silk with their award-winning YT which they have owned since 1971 and Mike restored over many years. Now fitted with a five-speed box and rebuilt engine. A quite superb car





Bill Taylor (left) with Brian Mellem (back to camera) and Fran Smith, with Bill and Jan's two-tone award-winning YA

Traditionally a trophy is awarded to an example of each of the three types of Ys (YA, YB, YT) that are chosen through a self-judging process. This is generally arranged at the final gathering, which tends to allow very little time to look at each of the cars. Peter and Gillie sensibly arranged for this to be done prior to the start so all the participants had the time to look over the cars.

The YA Trophy was awarded to Bill and Jan Taylor, the YB Trophy to Alan Chick, and the YT Trophy to Mike and Sue Silk.

*The Alan Chick Piston Broke Award (this was from the late Alan and not his nephew Alan who took over the car) was not awarded for the run. However, unfortunately Chris and Annette's YB suffered a mechanical mishap. This resulted in their car being relayed home on the back of a large AA flatbed lorry. So they awarded themselves the Piston Broke Award – quite right too! Hope all is well soon, Chris!*



Maggie Grafham with some of the Round Britain Relay participants



Chris and Annette Callaghan's YB (left) and Fran and Jan Smith's YB