

THE HAMPSHIRE RALLY. 14th. August. 2011



I venture to suggest another successful outing for the Club - doing what it does best !

Lunch at the Hollybush at Headley for 21 of us was followed by a rather slow crawl to Selborne as the Apollo was leading 7 Trojans. Which was quite a good turn-out. Probably the maximum one could expect. Mac McKenzie is not too well at the time of writing this article and all of us signed a card for him wishing he was with us.



It was great to see Gerry Michelmore, and his friend Vernon Nowell, with his unique Carden, a two-stroke Twin Cycle-car. It emerged like a chrysalis from the back of a Berlingo to astound us. Going through the ford posed a problem as the carb. is only 11" off the ground. As far as I could see from the front everyone negotiated that obstacle and reached Selborne safely.



The lovely Anna Martin gave us a short introductory talk and then we were left to our own devices to peruse what is the idyllic 25 acres of quintessentially Gilbert White. I was astounded to learn that his book "Flora and Fauna" has been in print for 300 years and is the third most published book in the UK. It seemed to be our sort of place. Across the road the church has stood there since 1180 ! Not sure we will last quite as long !

18 of us had enough stamina to stay for a cream tea. Richard had kindly driven the Achilles for me and took it back early. Parking is almost impossible in Selborne and we had to go into a field some distance away. I made a mistake in that we should have driven up to the HaHa (is that how it is spelt Helen ?!) so that the great and good could have seen the cars.



The Gilbert White museum was a great draw and much appreciated for its diverse interest in the offering of the Flora and Fauna History and the Titus Oates the intrepid Victorian explorer's history. He, of course, was the member of the ill-fated Scott Artic expedition, whose last words 'I am going outside and I may be sometime' has gone down in history.

