



laurence@SP250.net

August 2026 | Edition

Dear All,



Our trusty and much-loved SP has made it into the main stream media, and not any old publication mind you, but *The Spectator* nonetheless, the world's oldest continuously published weekly journal. Boris Johnson was for a time its editor therefore, I would imagine the publication is right of centre on the political spectrum. Dare one to presume that there is an SP within its hallowed editorial offices or in the ownership of one of its major contributors?

The article notes that sales of manual cars have plummeted to less than 8% of new sales as against 86% a generation ago and predicts its demise within 4 years. The cause, by the ever advancing 'screen' driverless technology that begs you to 'watch' and not use commonsense to drive. Now, if you want to watch a manual car being rung to death then do (must) watch Steve McQueen in *Bullitt* as he wrestles his hand on the white cue ball gear lever and uses or abuses the Mustang to its limits - an epic film – I still have it logged in the TV recorder and watch from time-to-time the marathon car chase.

Points to note on the car, left, are; the 'cue ball' gear knob, colour coded to the steering wheel; it is fitted with fog and pass lamps as evidenced by the switches adjacent to the rev counter and at least it's a 'B' spec if not a 'C' spec.

I do hope the owner gets in touch



Amongst the myriad of SPs coming onto the market or on the market is (right) the SP that featured in the opening sequence of a series of the Antiques Road Show. It was restored to mint condition by the late Alan Pegler. When offered to the cameras at Hatfield House so that Fiona Bruce could present a programme. It was so highly polished that they asked if they could dull it down as it was creating so much dazzle back through the camera lens. This they achieved with a light spray of that wonder invention WD40 'the can do tool in the toolbox', and then had it valet. For the past 11 years it has been in the care and custody of David Kramer in Worcestershire - if you wish to acquire this outstanding SP do contact me and I will pass on details

Kop Hill 12th -13th September <https://kophillclimb.org.uk/> is their annual fundraising weekend. When you book a ticket, get transferred to the DLOC stand.

The following weekend 18th- 20th September it's off to the Goodwood Revival where there is always a plethora of SPs around the car parks. <https://www.goodwood.com/motorsport/goodwood-revival/>



Brian Atkinson flying the SP flag, in more ways than one, at 'Mosport Park' Ontario Canada. His best being 1.41 around the track. Brian is running twin HD8s, adjustable front and rear shocks, & a multitude of other modifications. What is an amazing achievement is that he has been constantly racing since 1980, nevertheless, this octogenarian, keeps young at heart and most active – *way to go Brian*

Now this what I call a 'Trailer Queen' Brian's mode of transport for 192 – **THE FLAGS ARE A FLYING**

Last month I mention the sad passing of Allan Lupton and was asked if there is anything about his time as a Handicapper, so have attached the article he wrote for the DM and the bonus within is Barry Thorne's first harrowing race.... And in the wet!



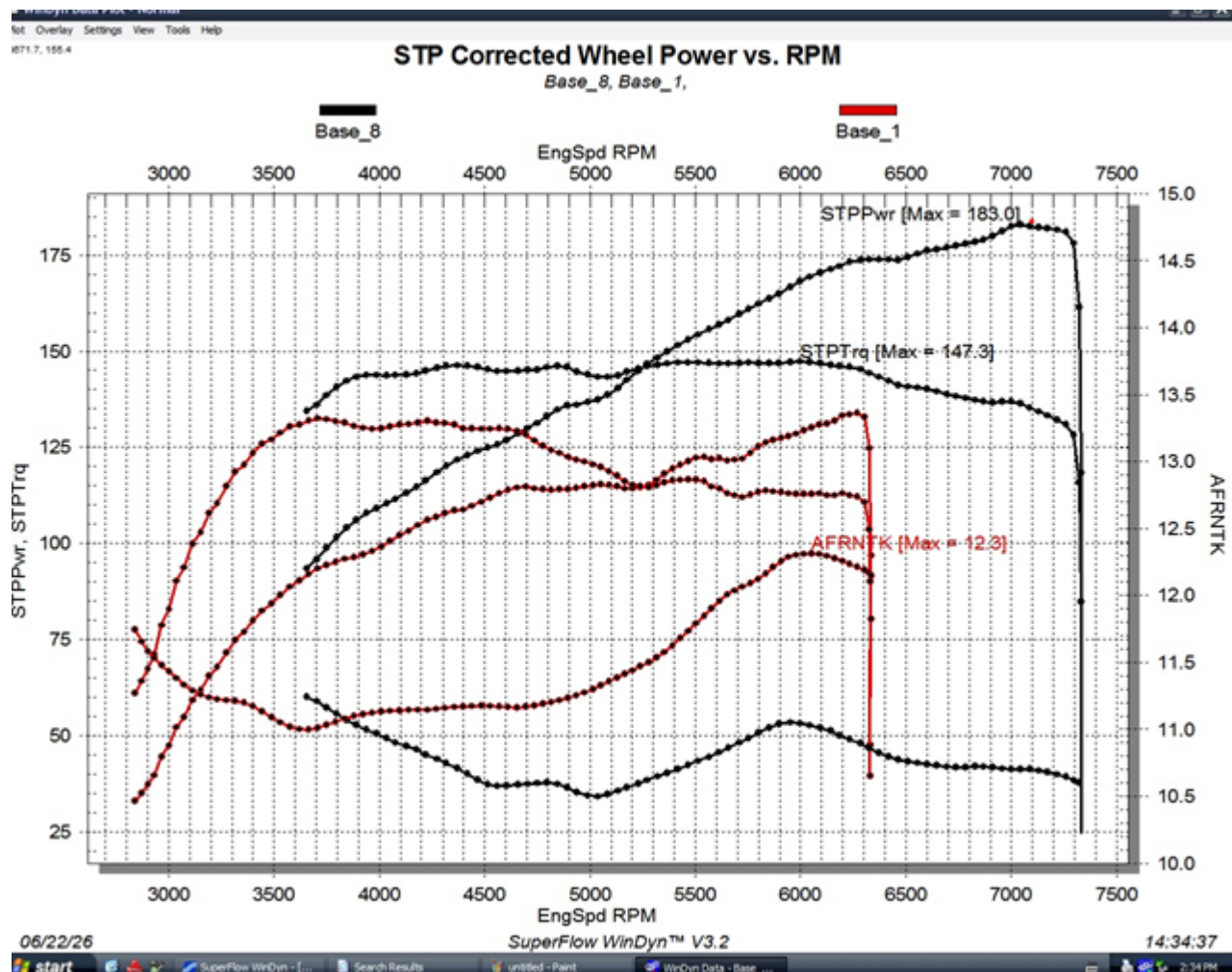
We have as usual booked a stand at the NEC Classic Car show being held on the 13th – 15th Nov. We are stand 380 in Hall 3 and are opposite the DLOC stand itself. The discount code is **CCTDLOCN6** to save a few pounds.

.....All strapped down and now where to go!



It's very dangerous to give Bill Holland and his partner in motor sport crime, Steve Sanett, a 'shed, spanners/wrenches and a *Geiger Counter*' as they are bound to get up to mischief!

Here they made ten goes on the dyno; peaking at the 9th attempt, started with just 133 hp at the rear wheels and with fine tuning including jet changes, carburettor adjustments and hotter plugs achieved 183 at the rear wheels. They took the 'Tiny' Turner hemi-head V8 initially to 6500 revs then upped it to 7000 rpm They will continue to make adjustments to extract more power. *Way to go chaps.....*



See <https://www.pentamotorsports.com/> then fine tune <https://www.pentamotorsports.com/dainler25lhemi>
Steve and Bill do sell many engine modifications for the SP including, roller rockers

Continuing a racing theme, Historical pictures of the Larry Ligas' SP250 in his own way – plus I needed to fill a gap in this bumper newsletter.





John Abel has his hands fall, with his three-car line up: below, his Duncan Black race car that scored so well in the SCCA series in the early 1960s



(Above), the ex-Piers Townsend race car that John has now in the 3 (SP) race car equipe. To complete the trilogy, he has also bought the Ex-Trevor Crisp race car which won the last Le-Mans style race at Goodwood (pre-Revival Meetings) in 1965? This being one of six fitted with rack & pinion at new -way to go John!

Next year's SP250 day is to be held at the Shuttleworth Collection in Bedfordshire. on **Saturday 24th July 2027**. <https://www.shuttleworth.org/visit/before-you-visit/car-clubs> Further details will be published in the Driving Member and I'll keep blasting you with reminders in this newsletter.

Still Wanted urgently - 2 sets of seat runners for Freddie Rayner contact details in pasSPort

- And a rear bumper

Fog and pass lamp brackets – have now been re-manufactured see . <https://www.robertgrinter.co.uk/>

The ultimate *And finally*

... a cautionary tale....in more ways than one



Whatever you do at a concours don't park next to a Ferrari as they will be after your SP's tail lamps!

...and the Ferrari

sold for \$62m!

Yours sincerely

Laurence & Ann

Thought for the day: *Speed has never killed anyone. Suddenly becoming stationary... that's what gets you* (Jeremy Clarkson)