



TALBOT THEMED TOUR JUNE 20-22ND 2016

ROAD BOOK

ABOVE: 20TH EARL OF SHREWSBURY ILLUSTRATED IN VANITY FAIR JULY 1903

INTRODUCTION

This midweek three night tour is an opportunity to explore both the motoring and historical aspects of the Talbot Motor Company, the Talbot name and certain associations with the 20th Earl of Shrewsbury and his antecedents. The tour has a core group of eight cars/entrants from the 1920's to the 1930's with a small number of club participants joining in here and there. **The route will commence** at the rendezvous at the **Cliveden** estate in Buckinghamshire and travel to **Fawley** near to Henley on Thames for privileged access to Sir William MacAlpine's private railway museum. Then motoring to Streatley on Thames overnighting at the Thames-side **Swan Hotel** wherefrom we shall stroll to the former riverside estate of the founder of the Talbot Motor Co, the 20th Earl of Shrewsbury which was a love nest for his mistress, Nellie Brownlee. **On day two** we drive north a couple of miles to **South Stoke** where we shall visit the Old Vicarage vintage car workshops. Heading further northwards, we shall visit the **Bicester Heritage Centre**, moving on cross country to **Kiddington** for a private visit to **Tom Dark Engineering**, a pre-selector specialist. Then on to **Stow on the Wold** by tea time before our overnight stop at the **Wyck Hill Hotel** just south of Stow (swimwear a must). **On our final day** entrants have numerous personal choices of morning and afternoon activities with only one organised event at the Atwell-Wilson **Motor Museum at Calne** where we shall enjoy a traditional **TOC picnic**. The day ends at the **Talbot Inn, Mells** where we have exclusive use of the hotel for our overnight stop where we can enjoy **Talbot Ale on draught**. There will be several Talbot connections along the way, a voyage of discovery! The tour price includes DBB with all extras including lunches, teas and drinks for your own account.

THE PARTICIPANTS

1. Reno & Linda Gatto
2. Martin & Hilary Bryant
3. Roman & Helen Mohr
4. Darrell & Lynn Pickup
5. David & Susann Cook
6. Clive Kent & Caroline Howard
7. Brian & Lynn Philpott
8. Chris & Jean Salmon (in part)

Also joining in are David & Elizabeth Vine for dinner on the first night, Ian Potts for part of Day 2 and Howard Day for part of Day 2. Viv and Malcolm Fishwick will join us for dinner at the Talbot Inn Mells on the last night.

THE ROUTE

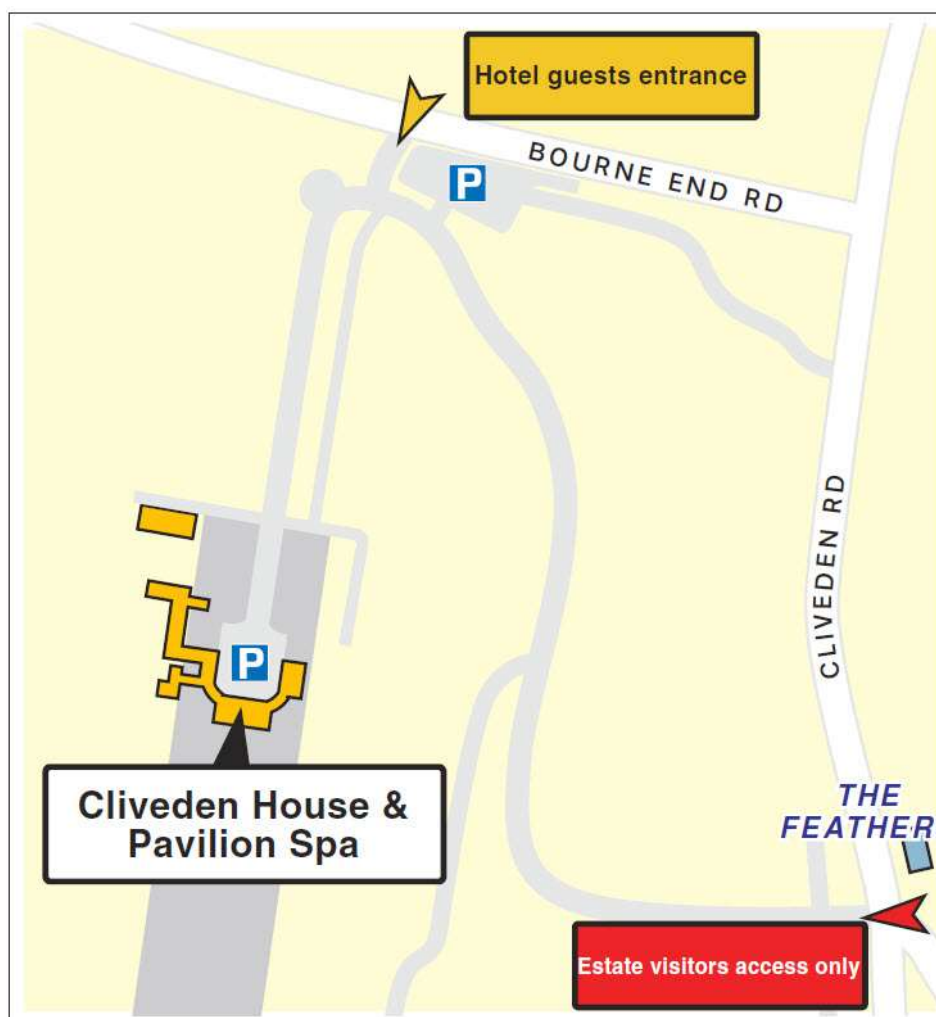
This is a leisurely tour with approximately 285km to cover over three days. Here is the link to the Google MyMap which shows the route and the waypoints. This is a help before the trip as a real map will be needed for the navigator

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1DbkNibxt0azV7LeY8BeIDU1B1mY&usp=sharing>

DAY 1 MONDAY 20TH JUNE

Please be at the rendezvous point in good time for a bite to eat in the National Trust café close to the main house with the scheduled departure for the next waypoint being 13:00hrs. **VERY IMPORTANT:** there are two entrances to Cliveden. **You need to be a member to use the Hotel entrance** as this gets us close to the house and the very nearby café. Cliveden is an enormous estate and if you have to enter by the main entrance you will not be able to park near the house and will be a long way from the action. Hopefully we are all members or will be by the time of the Tour.

11:00 to 13:00



Arrive at Cliveden by the Hotel entrance, on BOURNE END ROAD which does not have a class designation, and drive past the amazing fountain and turn left up the long drive and park as near to the hotel as you can. Please make sure your NT parking sticker is visible. **If you use the satnav reference you will be taken to the NT members' entrance.** There is no access to the main house, even for members unless you want to spend money on food or beverage at mortgage prices. The café is to the right of the house if you are standing with your back to the port-cochere. We have two hours to meet, greet, explore and to eat before we move on. Before doing so, you will hear the tale of the **deadly duel in January 1688, between the 11th Earl of Shrewsbury and the 2nd Duke of Buckingham, the then owner of Cliveden.**



Anna Maria Talbot, “Lady Shrewsbury”

Here is the entry in Samuel Pepys' diary concerning the duel;

“from the whole house the discourse of the duell yesterday between the Duke of Buckingham, [Holmes](#), and one Jenkins, on one side, and my Lord of Shrewsbury, [Sir John Talbot](#), and one Bernard Howard, on the other side: and all about my Lady Shrewsbury, who is a whore, and is at this time, and hath for a great while been, a whore to the Duke of Buckingham. And so her husband challenged him, and they met yesterday in a close near Barne-Elmes, and there fought: and my Lord Shrewsbury is run through

the body, from the right breast through the shoulder: and Sir John Talbot all along up one of his armes; and Jenkins killed upon the place, and the rest all, in a little measure, wounded. This will make the world think that the King hath good councillors about him, when the Duke of Buckingham, the greatest man about him, is a fellow of no more Sobriety than to fight about a whore.

... it is said that my Lord Shrewsbury's case is to be feared, that he may die too; and that may make it much the worse for the Duke of Buckingham: and I shall not be much sorry for it, that we may have some sober man come in his room to assist in the Government.

His wife is said to have disguised herself as a page and held Villiers' horse during the duel and afterwards slept with him while he wore the blood-stained shirt he had been wearing when he wounded her husband” Strong stuff!!

13:00 to 13:45

Motor to Fawley Steam Railway Museum. Leaving Cliveden by the hotel entrance/exit, turn left onto the road towards Bourn End making a left at the first Y-junction down towards the centre of Bourn End, taking a right as you enter the town proper, **A4094**, and continue through towards Marlow. Before Marlow town you will cross the by-pass at the large roundabout on the **A404** and having crossed over you will shortly be in the town and at the third roundabout go straight over towards Henley on Thames. Do not turn left into the High Street, no matter how pretty as time is short. You should be on the **A4155**, Henley bound. Stay on this road for about 20 minutes and you will see a **sign to Fawley, opposite the left turn into Toad Hall garden centre** where you should turn right and proceed up Ice House Lane. **You must take this turning only if chaos is not to ensue.** This road is narrow and steep; go to the end of Ice House Lane ignoring the entrance to Fawley estate on your right. Continue to the end of Ice House Lane at the top of the hill and take the right fork into an even narrower single track lane and then look out for a large wrought iron gated entrance on your right. Go through the gate and follow the concrete roadway to a T junction where you will be met by a steward who will direct you to the correct parking area, probably through another gate and fork right down to the museum. If you need to go through the electronic gate there is an electronic button 20 yards before the gate for the driver to press to gain access.

13.45 to 15:45



Visit to Sir William MacAlpine's private steam rail museum. This is a treat for the TOC as the museum is not normally open to the public other than on specified open days. There is a museum with several thousand objects of railwayana and outside there is a station and a full gauge track with both a steam and diesel engine plus carriages. No steam on this visit but the diesel engine may run. There is nothing else like this in the country. Have some cash with you as we will either be asked to pay an entrance fee or expected to make donations.

15:45 to 16:30

Motor to the Swan Hotel at Streatley on Thames. Return to the **A4155** road to Henley on Thames, turning right at the bottom of the hill. You will enter Henley on the west side of the town, take the first exit at the roundabout into town, and almost immediately cross straight over the small roundabout into town and enter the one way system by turning left. Follow it round to the lights (keep right) with the Thames on your left and turn right at the lights. Go up through the High Street and straight up the hill at the cross roads. You will go cross country through windy bendy roads and will need to follow your paper road map or print the route from the Google MyMap. The waypoints are Badgemore Golf Club, National Trust Greys Court, Shepherd's Green, Highmoor, Stoke Row, Checkendon, Woodcote, Crays Pond, Goring on Thames and

finally Streatley. Once you get into Goring by going over the railway bridge keep going ahead and cross the Thames, the hotel is immediately on the right, unmissable.



Swan Hotel at Streatley

Please do not check in on arrival as you are to be regaled with the story of the affair between the 20th Earl of Shrewsbury and Nellie Brownlee for whom he built a mansion on the opposite bank of the Thames. We shall stroll over to visit the site.



Nellie Brownlee

Check-in after the visit to the site of the mansion. There may be a boat trip organised by a TOC member in his launch if it is sea worthy. Drinks at 19:00 on the terrace and dinner at 20:00

DAY 2 TUESDAY 21ST JUNE

09:30- 09:45

Motor north to South Stoke. Exit the hotel by turning left onto the river bridge and stay on the road though Goring to the T-junction at the railway bridge. Turn left,

B4009, and motor for about 1.5 miles and you will see the village sign for South Stoke. Take the left turn into the village and travel under the railway bridge, turning right at the bottom to the High Street. After 100 metres or so you will see the **Perch & Pike** pub on the right but you need to turn into the **Old Vicarage** on the left immediately before the pub. Carefully park up near the house without blocking the entrance/exit.

The Old Vicarage is the home of the Phipps family who have kindly given us permission to park our cars on their drive.



The Old Vicarage

09:45-10:45

Private visit to the vintage car restorers. Behind the house you will find a number of ramshackle sheds and old agricultural buildings inside which miracles happen. No Talbot specialists but plenty of interest. You have one hour only so please leave promptly for the journey north the Bicester Heritage Centre. If the weather is fine, **Linda will show those interested around her garden which is next to the pub.**

10:45-11.35

Motor northwards to Bicester Heritage Centre. SATNAV OX26 5HA. Exit the Vicarage by turning left and continue until there is a right turn which you take and then under the railway bridge up to the **B4009** where you turn left. Stay on this road until you reach a junction where you turn left towards Oxford, **A4074**. You stay on this road for about 25 minutes all the way to the Oxford ring road when you skirt round the city on the western side; you will arrive at a complex roundabout, stay left and take the road signed to **A34**. Following the ring road you will go north at the major roundabout onto the **A34** posted **M40 and Bicester**. Stay on the **A34** until you reach the **M40** roundabout which you cross to the **A41** which takes you into Bicester town. **Now stay on the A41 which becomes Buckingham Road** and after several roundabouts you will have gone through the town and when you cross the ring road you have arrived but the signage is poor until you cross the final roundabout when BHC is on the right.



11:35-12:35

Visit to the numerous independent businesses. They are too numerous to mention so go on line and look at the specialist list. Time is tight so please be selective.

<http://bicesterheritage.co.uk/specialist/specialists-directory/>

It will be a good idea if you email the businesses you want to see but they do know we are coming. Booking ahead will make sure the owners are there for you. For those not wishing to see the car stuff it is a parkland setting which is quite nice to walk around.

12:35-13:00

Motor to suggested lunch venue at Lower Heyford, The Bell Inn. Exit the BHC and go back the way you came to take the **B4030** signposted Middleton Stoney/Lower Heyford. The B4030 will be a right turn after about a mile. When you get to Lower Heyford, turn right into the village and you will see the Bell Inn. They know we are coming and you can order your snack lunch. The ploughman's lunch is enormous. One hour for lunch please.



14:00-14:15

Go back to the B4030 and continue towards Middle Barton. After 5 minutes or so you get to **Middle Barton** where you turn sharp left to **Kiddington**. Stay on the road, and when you get to a steepish downhill wooded section you are almost there. On the right is a complex of stone buildings, you take the first entrance to the farm yard on the right and go up a steep section to the first level of parking. **Be careful not to damage your tyres as there is a water main in the road.** You have arrived at **Tom Dark Engineering** where we will meet **Tom & Richard the pre-selector specialists. Tea and biscuits will be served. The visit should last one hour.**

15:15-16:00

Motor to Stow on the Wold. Exit TDE by turning right and continue on that road to the A44 where you turn right. You can either stay on the **A44 until after Chipping Norton** you see the sign to Stow, the **A436**, or if you want **something more scenic** take the **B4450** at Chipping Norton. Parking in Stow is the challenge and arriving at tea time will not ease the pain. Stow is great to walk around, shop and to take tea. If you decide to park up then the **Talbot Inn is in market Square for your photo opportunity.** Leave Stow at your leisure, making for the **Wyck Hill Hotel.**



TALBOT Inn Stow on the Wold

Head south out of Stow towards Bourton on the Water on the **A429** and after about a mile there is a **left, off the main road onto the A424** which you take and the hotel is about a half mile on the right. **Swimwear needed for the pool party.**

Wyck Hill Hotel, Satnav GL54 1HY. Tel: 01451 831936



Wyck Hill Hotel, our overnight stay on Day 2

DAY 3 WEDNESDAY THE 22ND JUNE

The final day of the tour is largely down to each entrant to choose their personal interest with only one organised event, at lunch time, at the Atwell Wilson Motor Museum in Calne Wiltshire. You have two alternative routes to Calne, see the My Maps link above, but your route will be determined by your choice of personal visit(s).

Some ideas for the morning:

Birdland, nr Bourton on the Water as well as Bourton itself

Model Village at Bourton on the Water

Mechanical Music Museum at Northleach

Chedworth Roman Villa

Cotswold Wildlife Park and Gardens, nr Burford

Arlington Row at Bibury

Highgrove, nr Tetbury, prior booking essential as security is very high

Chavenage House, nr Tetbury

Westonbirt Arboretum

13:00 Lunch Picnic

The Venue is the Atwell Wilson Museum, satnav reference SN11 0NF. The address is Stockley Lane Calne.



There is a small entry fee of £6pp assuming there are ten of us. Picnic tables are on site so please **come prepared with your picnic lunch**. There may be teas and coffees

on site but there is no café as such. Either before or after lunch you may wish to take a photo opportunity at the Talbot Inn Calne: <http://www.talbotcalne.co.uk/>

Some ideas for the afternoon:

Bowood House and Garden

Lacock including the **Fox-Talbot Museum**

Avebury

Longleat

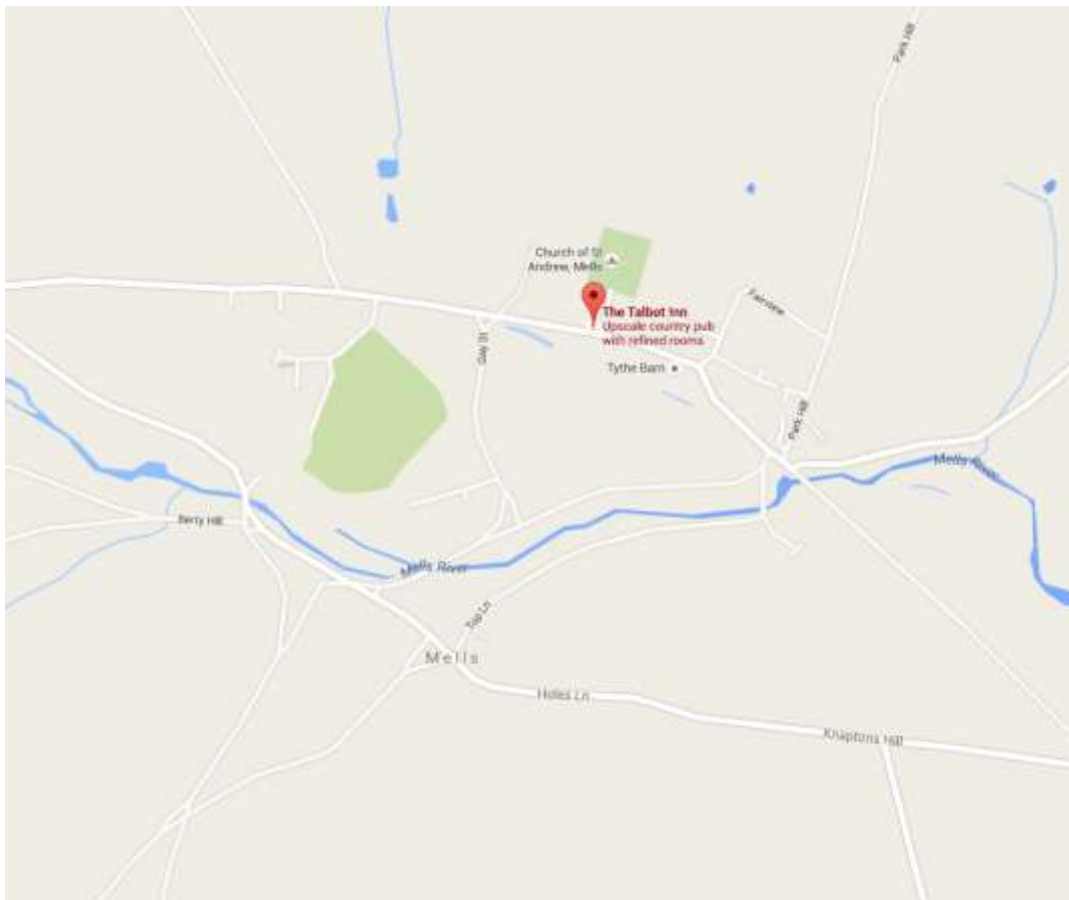
CHECK-IN AFTER 4:30 PM

Rendezvous at our final overnight stop at the **Talbot Inn Mells**, west of Frome, where we have booked all 8 rooms. Dinner at 8pm with drinks from 7pm. Talbot Ale should be available at the bar. Viv & Malcolm Fishwick are joining us for dinner.

The Talbot Inn

Selwood St, Mells, Frome BA11 3PN, SEE MAP BELOW

01373 812254



Mells

AND FINALLY GUESS WHO

