

MGCC South West Centre

Sunday 23 October 2011

Autumn Social Run Clifton Suspension Bridge & Tyntesfield Estate

The **Autumn Social Run** is a free to enter event with no competitive element, and possibly your last chance to exercise your classic car in the company of like-minded enthusiasts before the clocks go back and winter's weather woes fall upon us. So, join us on a visit to two of the South West of England's gems: Brunel's Clifton Suspension Bridge spanning the Avon Gorge and Tyntesfield House and Gardens in North Somerset.



Meet at a popular view point overlooking the Avon Gorge and Brunel's famous Clifton Suspension Bridge on **Circular Road, Durdham Downs, Clifton at 11:00am**. SatNav users; the nearest postcode is **BS9 1ND** or **N51°28'10" W2°38'04"**. If your home base is further afield than Bristol you may wish to meet up with friends from your local Natter, for instance, so you can travel together to the meet point on Durdham Downs. At about midday we will depart for Tyntesfield, which is no more than 10 miles away, our journey taking us across the Clifton Suspension Bridge. The bridge crossing is subject to a toll charge of 50p payable in a coin bin. An alternative route via the Cumberland Basin and Rownham Hill to the Leigh Woods side is available, talk to me at the meeting point beforehand. By the way, there is a visitor and exhibition centre at the Leigh Woods side of the bridge, postcode BS8 4AH, although unless there is a demand I do not intend to stop there.



Tyntesfield House is owned by the National Trust and is Grade I listed. The gardens are extensive and formally laid out with displays of flowers and shrubs, so in late October they will not be showing their best. However, the parkland surrounding the house is planted with trees many of exotic origin. The house itself is a Victorian Gothic mansion remodelled from an earlier Regency house in the mid 19thC. Entrance is at **BS48 1NX** or **N51°26'52" W2°43'07"** if you want to go directly to Tyntesfield. Unfortunately, we won't have reserved parking, but if we arrive together we should be able to park together in the public car park. Normal NT entrance charges will apply. There is a cafe in the (entrance) stable block, which is a short walk from the house itself,

but there is no restaurant. Light refreshments, tea and coffee should be available but my plan is to take a packed lunch and to picnic - weather permitting of course.

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