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By the end of February, over half of our allocated rooms at the hotel were booked at The Mercure York Fairfield Manor Hotel for the annual SVW Event in July and the number of SVW cars looks promising. Details can be found in February's Safety Fast! flyer (Page 85) and also on our Facebook group and website. Bookings MUST be made via Bethany Rankin and not Central Reservations. I've made my booking and my VA Tourer seems to be ready for the trip! If you have any difficulty in booking, the organisers can be contacted on 07484 682516 (Anita) or 07471 606060 (Mark) or use the special email address svwevent2023@gmail.com.

Peter Mace (Vintage Register) kindly dropped off some fourteen photos of SVW cars he took in the 1970s. Peter and I live in neighbouring villages and we both take part in the monthly meetings of The Sussex Wanderers. I shall include some of them from time to time in my notes here. First up shows three VA Tourers, location unknown. Registrations are EYM 323, DOM 752 and ARX 244.



I happened upon an interesting blog by Autoshippers entitled 'Shipping the Countess to Canada' – try Googling it. It recounts some history of this lovely VA (2377) Tickford, registered FOC 832 in the UK and first owned by The Countess of Cardigan. The VA was shipped from Southampton and arrived in Halifax before taking a 4,000-mile train journey to its new home in Western Canada, arriving in January 2022. It doesn't seem too far from home given the city of Surrey is nearby together with the town of Guildford! It's bitter-sweet seeing our lovely cars depart UK shores for new lives abroad, but we are a very international group of owners and it's comforting to read the evident enthusiasm of the new owner; in fact he has joined the MGCC already, no doubt taking advantage of the new overseas membership scheme that is proving rather popular.

