

Monthly Newsletter and Events Update

www.nhaeg.org.uk

February 2007

Another dose of Deja Vu!

Whilst composing this Newsletter and gazing out of the window at a light but nevertheless quite obvious covering of snow outside it occurs to me that Don and Maureen might just have escaped what could turn out to be a spell of wintry weather since they departed yesterday on their marathon trip to the Antipodes. As they're down there in Kiwi Country for some weeks, they should return to the early signs of Spring, with any luck Lucky for some!

Anyhow, while they're away enjoying themselves in a warmer clime I'll do my best to hold the fort so far as the next couple of editions of the club 'bugle' is concerned. So here goes, for February, starting with

Colin's Column

First of all I would like to thank Trevor for taking on the production of the Newsletter for the next two months whilst Maureen is away.

There is not a lot going on at this time of year although I believe there was a very large gathering of cars at the Phoenix on New Years Day which I was unable to get to, I understand however there were quite a few NHAEG members there so perhaps someone will write about it. I did however go to watch the VSCC driving tests at Brooklands on Sunday 15th January and a very good day it was with plenty of sunshine and a good variety of cars taking part ranging from Austin 7s to a very nice Rolls Royce with plenty of other makes in between. Also there from the club were Brian (Adam), Pat (Guthrie-Jones) and Tony (Westhall).

January Club Night

We held our AGM on the January club night and it was very encouraging as always to see so many members attending, 31 in all. Everything went well with no contentious issues to discuss this year and with no new nominations for the committee the existing members will serve for another year. I will not go into any details, as those who were not there will be able to read the minutes.

As usual we asked members to vote for the member who they consider has done a lot for the club over the past 12 months. Quite a few names came up but the one with the most votes was Don (Breakspear) who received the Group Award Trophy to hold for a year. A very worthy winner, thanks Don for everything you have done.

Unfortunately there can only be one winner but I am sure you would all want me to thank those members who have helped with organising events, club nights or anything else for the benefit of the club and members during 2006.

February Club Night

Many thanks to Julie (Els) who has kindly offered to run a quiz on our February club night. Please come along, give her your support and have a good evening.

Brooklands Centenary Event

In 1907 the famous racetrack at Brooklands was opened so in this centenary year they will be holding some special events to celebrate.

The main event is over the weekend of the 16/17th June when there will be flying displays, cars and motorcycles in action on the Mercedes Benz track as well as a re-enactment of the 1907 'Opening Parade'. It should be a very good event, when I have more details I will let you know, in the meantime if you are interested put the date in your diary.

Drive it Day

Another date for your diary is our first event of the year which is 'Drive it Day' on the 22nd April. I have been asked by a number of members if we could finish at 'The Crown' in Pishill as we did last year. It seems that everyone enjoyed the food and service so much they would like to go there again. I will therefore make arrangements with the Landlord and also do a different route to get there.

Parts & Services Directory Update

Last month there was a problem with the above due to word slippage when Maureen added it to the Newsletter and then e-mailed it to members. She therefore sent them separately afterwards. To overcome this problem in future the update will be on separate pages, which hopefully will mean you will get them as I produce them. This will also mean you will be able to print and add them to your Directories for future reference.

Raffle

For the past few years Jean has organised the prizes for the raffles we have at our club nights and some of our events. This is not always an easy job trying to think of things to buy and then having to bring them along to meetings so Ann has offered to take it

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over. On behalf of all members I would like to thank Jean for all her efforts and also Ann for offering to take over.

Please remember we are always pleased to accept any unwanted gifts etc for the raffles as this means we have to spend less on prizes, which helps to swell our funds so enabling us to subsidise some of our events such as the Christmas Dinner. Any donated prizes should be given to Ann at a club night.

Mike Baldwin

While talking to Tony at Brooklands he gave me the good news that Mike is now out of hospital and recuperating at home. I am sure you all join me in wishing Mike all the best and hope he has a speedy recovery and is soon able to join us at the club again.

At the AGM a number of members kindly offered to arrange some runs for us, as soon as we have details and dates etc we will let you know more.

That's it for now; hope to see many of you at the February meeting.

Safe and Happy Motoring.

Colin

A Jotting from Jean

I am in the process of arranging a trip, on Sunday 8th July 2007, to Loseley House, situated near Guildford - (in our old cars, of course!).

Loseley House, together with its estate, is a mediaeval residence having a fascinating history, and is still very much occupied by the More-Molyneux family.

We will drive to Loseley, have coffee on arrival and then go for a pleasant walk in the surrounding area. Then back to Loseley for lunch at 1:30pm in the Chestnut Lodge

The afternoon will be free to visit the gardens - or also the house, if you did not manage this during our previous visit in May 2005.

The walk is not compulsory, of course. If you prefer you can simply 'potter' on the Loseley Estate and then join us for lunch.

Please give me your names if you are interested as I shall need to have a rough idea of numbers to advise the people at Loseley in due course.

This year lunch is £6.00, £1.50 less than in 2005, but does not include a dessert, which, it is believed, may be purchased separately if desired.

Entry to the gardens is £3.00 so the total cost of the planned trip is £9.00. If paying by cheque please payable to 'NHAEG'. The house itself may be visited at an extra cost of £3.00 to be paid on arrival if wishing to do so.

Further publicity will be given later but please make a note of the date and let me know soonest if interested in this trip. Many thanks!

Jean Edwards

Secretary's Scribblings

As Colin observes there isn't a great deal going on right now during the 'quiet-season' for *'vehicules anciens'*, as the French seemingly describe them, though, behind the scenes of course, the committee has already met and have been busy making plans covering some events and activities for 2007. A listing of these appears in the *Events Forecast* elsewhere and naturally includes all the 'old favourites' but we are still short of ideas for some of the club nights, including May, August, September and October so, if you have any thoughts for these or can offer any suggestions as to how we can fill in the blanks, please come forward and make them known.

For example, there might be a niggling suspicion that, although the social aspect of our club is undeniably well-developed and clearly much appreciated by those who regularly attend club nights and other events, perhaps we are in danger of forgetting that we are, essentially, a motoring club and that, therefore, we perhaps ought to place just a little more emphasis on that side of things.

There's nothing specific on the agenda of course but it certainly would be useful to have feedback from members on what they think. Have we got the 'mix' about right or is it biased too much in any particular direction?

Anyway, let us have your comments; we need them!

March (12th) Club Night:

In an effort to introduce a change to our usual fare on offer during this 'quiet time' of the year we have managed to arrange a talk by a retired AA archivist, Michael Passmore, for this particular evening. It is reported that Michael's talks are fascinating and are very well-received wherever he delivers one. He is bringing along slides with him from Salisbury, where he now lives, so please do come along and listen to what he has to say. It would be great if we can give him a 'full house' to make his journey worth while.

Logo'd Garments - update!

I have to apologise once again for the delay in getting these to all those who ordered them towards the end of 2006. I have made a number of calls to the company concerned, made a recent visit to their premises in Camberley and on each occasion have been given plausible explanations as to why they are so slow in being forthcoming. They're a pleasant and friendly enough outfit but, sadly, perhaps, like so many small operations, are not right at the cutting edge of efficiency.

Nevertheless, the latest information is that the goods 'are expected any day soon' so I can only repeat, " please be patient and watch this space"

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Very advanced notice:

We have been advised, by Alex (Woollard) (who many will be aware was a club member and even committee member not so very long ago), that this year's Reading & Wokingham Show is being held this year on the 19th August but at a different venue than in previous years.

The new venue is Loddon Court Farm, Beech Hill, Swallowfield which is less than 0.5 mile from the previous venue and is readily accessed from the A33; signs will be posted close to the time, of course.

Alex asks that you put the date in your diaries and invites everyone to come along to what is, by all accounts, an excellent, even "must attend" ,Summer event.

Last call for Subscription Renewals!!!

There are still a few members who haven't yet renewed their subscription for 2007. No doubt they know who they are and, hopefully, when they see this reminder, will get their renewal form (published in the November Newsletter), together with payment of £8.00, to George (Ewart) **pronto** to ensure continuity of Newsletters.

Failure to renew will mean, unfortunately, that this will be the last Newsletter that will be received.

A7CA 'Grey Buff' Magazines

Following our application for and acceptance as an Associate Member Club of the Austin Seven Clubs Association we are now entitled to obtain copies of the quarterly magazine published by the A7CA. Costs are £1.00 per copy (i.e. £4.00 per annum) if collected at Club Nights, or £6.00 per annum if you would like a copy mailed to your home address.

Anyone who doesn't currently obtain the A7CA magazine via any other source and who wishes to receive it on a regular basis please get in touch with me and forward appropriate payment (cheques to be made payable to 'NHAEG', as usual).

Welcome back, times 2!

We were very pleased to welcome back two returning couples to the Club at the AGM Club Night in January. Ted and Sally de la Riviere, who live in Sherfield on Lodden and who were, it is understood, members some years ago but who have now returned to join our happy band once again.

Also we were most pleasantly surprised to see Pete and Ruth Neighbour turn up; they had been members before deciding to move to sunnier climes and settle in Cyprus where they regularly exercise Pete's two 'real' cars, a 1932 A7 Box and a 1935 Arrow. Pete and Ruth surprised us further by re-joining the NHAEG. Maybe

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we can persuade them to return again in November to run the 'Nightjar' Soup Kitchen which they used to do so well!!!
Welcome back to them all!

Before going off globe-trotting recently Maureen passed the following ad to me requesting that publicity be given to it in the next Newsletter.
Looks like a real gem this one so if anyone is looking for a truly collectors item this could be well worth taking a look at!

Limited Edition

LIMITED EDITION Classic Mini Cooper Sports LE 1997 'R' 1.3i

**Extremely Rare LIMITED EDITION Rover Mini Cooper Sports LE
1997 'R' Registration Model in Limited Edition Almond Green**

- Immaculate Condition -

***In Full Working Order. Great Fun to Drive! Very Economical.
Will be worth a Fortune in the Future!***

- I. 33,000 miles
- II. Taxed until February 2007
- III. MOT'd until August 2007
- IV. Full History
- V. 1275 1.3i Engine
- VI. 4 Speed Gearbox

- I. NEW clutch
- II. NEW brake pads & brake discs
- III. NEW battery

- I. Old English White Bonnet Stripes and Roof
- II. Full Porcelain Green Leather
- III. Burr walnut dashboard with glovebox and ashtray
- IV. 4 x Burr walnut door cappings
- V. Burr walnut centre console
- VI. Black Leather Steering Wheel, Gear knob, Gaiter and Handbrake Cover
- VII. Chrome ringed dials
- VIII. Porcelain Green Carpeting with matching Original Mini Overmats

- I. Driver Airbag
- II. Adjustable seats and headrests
- III. 4 x seatbelts
- IV. Alarm and Immobiliser

- I. Catalytic Converter

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- II. Chrome Brightwork
- III. 4 x Mini Cooper Headlamps

- I. Luxury 'Mini Cooper Laurel' Alloy Wheels
- II. Sportspack Wheel Arches
- III. Chrome Bumpers and exhaust
- IV. Bespoke Aluminium Mini Cooper Laurel Tax Disc Holder

- I. Original face-off security Mini Radio/Cassette Player
- II. Heated Rear Windscreen
- III. 3 way heater (hot or cold air)
- IV. Adjustable air vents
- V. Interior Light and Vanity Mirror

- I. Fully Luxury-Lined Boot

- I. Chrome windscreen surrounds, wash wipers and blanking plugs
- II. Spare wheel and Car jack
- III. Locking wheel nuts

Subframe has been fully treated with heavy duty rust and anti-corrosion converter

Complimentary Extras Included:

- I. LIMITED EDITION Chrome Bespoke 'Mini' 25 Piece Tool Kit (worth £100.00)
- II. Mini Haynes Manual (worth £24.99)
- III. Spare Black 'Mini Cooper Laurel' Overmats (worth £49.99)
- IV. Almond Green Touch-up Paint (Worth £18.99)
- V. Mini Cooper Maglite
- VI. Spare Bulbs
- VII. Spare Light Lenses

Beautiful Condition Car: Lovingly maintained by non-smoking lady owner.

Collectors Item: This car is part of a Limited Edition, so this is a very rare car, and even rarer to find one in such amazing condition! The value of this car will only continue to rise.

Economical: 43 mpg (combined) Low Band Insurance and Tax

Price: £4,650 OVNO

- I. **Collection only.**
- I. **£100 Deposit (payable via Cash or Paypal) will secure the deal.**
- I. **Balance to be paid within 14 days of sale. Car and V5 Document will be transferred to the new owner upon clearance of payment.**

Events Forecast!

- Feb 12th **Club Night Quiz** - Julie Els
- Mar 11th **Austin/Morris Day - Brooklands** *Contact Colin G. for details*
- Mar 12th **Club Night Talk** - Michael Passmore (retired AA Archivist)
- April 14th **ATDC - 'Austins in Action Day'**
- April **16th** **Club Night 'Spring Airing'** - Free draw for those turning up in an historic vehicle - £25.00 M & S Voucher!
(N.B. **NOT** 9th, which is Easter B.H.Monday!!)
- April 22nd **'Drive It Day'** - Run to 'The Crown Inn', Pishill.
Colin G. planning route, etc.
- May 12/13th **Motormart Autojumble, Beaulieu**
- May 14th **Club Night** - *t.b.d.*
- May 18/21st **Cricket St.Thomas trip** - Trevor E.
- June 3rd/7th **D.Day Celebrations, Normandy trip** - Dave W.
- June 11th **Club Night - 'Half-Gallon Run'** Chris Broom/Brian Mayers)
- June 15/17th **Brooklands Centenary Celebrations**
Contact Colin G. for details
- June 30th **Paul Finn Rally (BEN Run)**
Ascot to Lynwood Fete, via Windsor Great Park
- July 8th **Loseley Park** - Run to Loseley House, near Guildford.
Coffee first, followed by walk in surrounding area, then lunch
before
visit to gardens and house (optional) in afternoon - Jean E.
- July 9th **Club Night - Concours d'Elegance**
- July 29th **'Picnic in the Paddock'** - Finchampstead
- Aug 13th **Club Night** - *t.b.d.*
- Aug ??? **Run to Water Gardens, near Stockbridge.** George/Ruth (Ewart)
Date to be confirmed.
- Aug 19th **Reading & Wokingham Show.**
Loddon Court Farm, Beech Hill, Swallowfield
- Aug 27th **Littlewick Show.** Holyport, near Maidenhead

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- Sept 8/9th **Aero and Autojumble, Beaulieu**
- Sept 10th **Club Night** - *t.b.d.*
- Oct 8th **Club Night** - *t.b.d.*
- Oct 16th **B2B Run** - BEN Lynwood to Brooklands
- Nov 12th **Club Night** - **Auction Night**
- Dec 3rd **Christmas Dinner** - 'The Falcon', Rotherwick
- Dec 10th **Club Night** - **Fun and Games Evening** - details t.b.d.

As mentioned, events for some dates, marked "t.b.d.", are yet 'to be determined'. Any suggestions to fill these dates are most welcome. Please give ideas to a committee member or, better still, why not plan something yourself which you think will appeal to club members (legal, of course!) and circulate details.

That's about all for this month, everyone. See you at Julie's February Club Night Quiz but, till then, hoping salt-free roads remain with us, enjoy some

Safe motoring!

Trevor

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