



### AUGUST 2008



Yes folks, believe it or not, it's 20 years since the first edition of the Area 57 newsletter was produced. I bet nobody thought we'd still be doing it after all this time. Just as a matter of interest the first ever newsletter is included at the end of this one, hopefully you will think we've improved a little over the years!



I'll start this month with an item that I should have put in last time; the show at Hoddesdon. The weather was mainly OK and we had eight cars plus Richard's two Bentleys and Brian and Linda's MG. It was nice to resume the usual tea at Keith and Audrey's afterwards. Thanks Audrey and Laura for the excellent cakes.



As the years go by, the chance of finding out about the first car you owned gets less. When we went to the Silverstone Classic meeting at the end of July, Doug spoke to someone from the BMW club who knew immediately who the present owner was, and he took our phone number to pass on. Back in 1955 Doug had borrowed £300 from his dad and bought a 1938 Frazer Nash BMW 328 which he kept for a couple of years. A couple of days after Silverstone, Doug had a phone call from Somerset where the car is now, and he had a good chat with the owner. He mentioned that the car would be at Silverstone the following weekend for a Bentley meeting. As Richard was going to this he agreed to make contact and, as a result, Doug now has some good pictures of the car. It is one of only twenty four right hand drive 328s still in existence so the value is rather more than when Doug had it. The current value is at least £250,000!!!!

We had got our Silverstone tickets through an arrangement that the E-type Register had made with the circuit and we were parked inside the track with all the other car clubs. It was like an enormous classic car show. The racing was for sports and racing cars from the twenties to the eighties so a wide variety of valuable machinery was to be seen.

The Harpenden Show attracted hundreds of varied cars as usual and the lovely weather brought out plenty of visitors. It was an outing that had its fair share of setbacks though. Along with Len, Sally, Ron and Pam we had arranged to meet Keith, Audrey and Brian at a convenient layby near Wheathampsted. Not long after getting there Audrey phoned me to say they were running late as they had gone back for their entry pass. When they joined us, we were just about to set off when Len's car decided not to start immediately. Trying to get out of the layby together proved impossible and the rest of us got separated from Keith and Brian and we missed the turning that they took. Various phone calls between Audrey and I established that we were both held up in different queues of traffic all trying to get in to Harpenden. The chances of parking together if you don't arrive together are pretty slim so Brian deserves a medal for hanging on to a space for us, Len and Ron. Keith was in a hotel carpark just off the Common because his fan had packed up. Luckily Ron was able to do some temporary repairs and thanks to an obliging ice cream man who moved his van a few yards, Keith joined our line and we were parked together against all the odds. When you hear people say that car shows need to be more than just parking in a field, you wonder how Harpenden bucks the trend year after year.



The show in aid of the Little Haven Hospice had a new venue this year not far from Chelmsford and we had eleven of our cars there on what eventually turned out to be a lovely sunny day. It's a very good show with lots to see; heavy horses and tractors both demonstrating ploughing, crafts, live music as well as plenty of cars. As usual, the club is making a donation and Dick is passing on £50 on our behalf.



The midweek show at Croxley Green attracted a very large number of cars according to Brian and Richard. Although we can't go to the meeting there on September 21st as it clashes with the weekend in Norfolk, we can recommend it as the Carter's Steam Fair is there as well as the cars.



This year's vegetable judging for marrows and runner beans took place at Dick and Eileen's again. Thanks for the lovely tea, Eileen. Keith was the winner of the beans and John Wilkinson was the marrow champion.



Further ahead is the Buntingford Show on September 6th. Entry forms can be downloaded from [www.buntingfordclassic.com](http://www.buntingfordclassic.com) or leave your name and address on 01763 273344.



Barbara has booked The Woodman at Nuthampsted on October 12th for our end of season breakfast run. She needs names and £8.50 per head.



On the evening before this Saturday 11th, the Whitewebbs Museum needs our support for a Race Night. As you know the Museum relies on the Enfield Pageant for most of its income so the last three years haven't been very lucrative. The Race Meeting will be at the Museum with the first of eight races starting at 7.45pm. Tickets are £7 which includes tea/coffee and nibbles. Soft drinks and alcoholic drinks can be bought from the bar. You can buy a horse and be the jockey for £5 and maybe win a bottle of champagne and a rosette or Tote betting is £1. Come along for a fun evening and help raise funds.



While on the subject of the Museum, they have got to tarmac the car park, at considerable expense as you can imagine. Individuals can sponsor a square metre for £30 and their name will be on a little plaque. As a club we have given them a cheque for £210. At the Little Haven Show there were enough of us there to agree to this donation on the club's behalf.

## **Area 57 Horticulture Show - The Marrow vs The Bean**

### ***Report by Dick Rogers***

On Sunday 10th August the produce was gathered measured and weighed. Doug's beans were boxed as well, but that's another story. John Wilkinson won the marrow section and Keith Williams the beans. A tie-break of five questions made John the overall winner, which means that he will be the judge next year. The largest tomato is what we will have to grow. Now, back to Doug.... his beans were in a jewellery box, approximately 1.5 inches long each bean. His marrows were smaller than courgettes.

Many thanks to Eileen for providing the food.



### **Report from Mac & Francesca Bowdidge**

Hi to all,

We had booked a weeks holiday in Belgium at the Kasteelhof t'hooghe hotel just outside Leper; this is next to the mine craters from World War 1 and are actually in the grounds of the hotel. The day before we left, we looked at the Last Post Association website to see what ceremonies were on that week and noticed that the Kemmel Historic Comite, (yes it is spelt correctly), were having a wreath laying service at the Menin Gate for the British Cars in Flanders Fields Remembrance Tour. We logged on to their website and found that they were doing a VIP Weekend for British Classic and Exclusive Cars (300 Euro per person for the 3 days half board at the Novotel in leper). 50 cars had already booked, and then we noticed that you could just do a one day tour on Sunday 24th. We emailed and asked if we could join and pay on the day, and received a reply that it would be OK; the cost would be 25 euros per person and this included breakfast, three course lunch and tea.

On arrival at the main square in Leper, we were warmly welcomed by the organizers and given our security passes, a route book, and a nice rally style plaque for the front of the car. Photographers were busy snapping away at the cars and participants, many from Belgium but also a good number from England. Jags were well supported E Type, Mk II, XK120, XK150, XJ6, XJ8, a Jaguar Kougat and an Aristocat XK replicar.

Breakfast was coffee croissants and pastries, and was available until departure time. The drive around the Flanders fields was very interesting, with places that we had not visited before; it was in your own time and you were not rushed. Lunch was at the Old Cheese Factory and Museum in Passendale. After a welcoming speech by one of the staff, the waitresses served Trappist beer and red or white wine. The first course was Cheese Croquettes on a bed of salad. Main course was two thick slices of local ham in a mushroom sauce with side salad, and a huge bowl of frits, followed by apple cake and tea or coffee. After lunch we continued the tour only missing one or two turns, finishing at the Resto Basil restaurant for tea and waffles.

A total of 96 miles was clocked up, and a very enjoyable day was had. Photos from the tour can be found on the Kemmel Historic Comite website, and we can recommend this as a future event should anyone be interested.



## First Area 57 Newsletter - August 1988

Dear All,

In a moment of weakness, I have agreed to take over from Jim, the job of putting out a newsletter. I hope to be able to do this on a regular basis, so that all members, whether Monday night regulars or not, know what has been happening within the club and what future events are planned.

Having had the benefit of being given copies of Areas 23 and 44's newsletters, I feel they both have a successful format which can help me in putting some sort of regular communication out to members.

There are many events throughout the year that not all members go to, so I intend to do a brief write up of events that have taken place in the weeks between newsletters. As Doug and I don't go to all of them, I give due warning that I'll be badgering people to come up with a few notes on events that we don't attend.

I'm hoping that all members will feel free to contribute articles etc. if they would be of interest to the club. Start writing, Chris L; we all want to read about Le Mons! The Brands Hatch Day sounded good too; how about a piece on that please Dick? From time to time, there are Jaguar articles in newspapers or magazines that perhaps everyone might not have seen. These too, could be included

Well, that's an outline of what I hope can be put out regularly, but if anyone has any more suggestions to make a newsletter of as much as interest as possible, let me know.

Just to remind you of the next three outings;

AUGUST 21ST:- VISIT TO NEIL'S - We are meeting at The New River Arms, Broxbourne at 10.30 a.m. ready for the drive up and then Neil will meet us at The Heron Pub, Stowbridge (Just off A10 after Downham Market) at 1.00 p.m. At crossroad to Stow Bardolph turn left and left again to Stowbridge ???  
Phone Chris for meeting arrangements this end  
01-807-7338.  
(Bring food for Bar-B-Que at Neil's)

AUGUST 28TH:- KEW MOTOR MUSEUM - meeting at Roy and Kim's at  
12.00 (80 New Park Avenue, London, N13 5LZ  
tel: 01-807-1587)

SEPTEMBER 4TH:- CAR SHOW AT CHIGWELL - meet at Bald Faced Stag,  
Buckhurst Hill at 9.30 a.m.

Wendy.

### LOST

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Fred Whiting lost the Tool Roll from his E-Type while attending the Enfield Pagent. Did anyone see it?