



Area 57 (Enfield) Newsletter

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A reminder that there is still just time to book for the Christmas Dinner on Dec 8th. You can find all the details in last month's Newsletter. Barbara needs to hear from you now if you still want to book. The time is 7.30 for 8.00. We all had a good time last year, although Alan doesn't seem to remember it too well.



Despite a really wet and miserable evening on the 20th we had a really good turnout and it was nice to see fairly new members Colin and Jean Pringle for the first time.



Neither Roy or myself have been inundated with anything for the Newsletter, so the article from Mac & Francesca was very welcome.



I should mention that any of us who are regulars at the meetings should also be members of the British Legion. I believe guests should be signed in by a member.



Our October Holiday to Holland

Report by Mac & Francesca Bowdidge

Hi All,

We decided to give the new Jag, a 1997 3.2 V8 Executive in Westminster Blue, a good run and thought Arnhem near the German border, and one of our favourite hotels would suffice. But prior to leaving, a trial run out at home might be a good idea, so on Thursday 30th September we set out for the Malvern Hills and the Malvern Hills Hotel near Ledbury. We stopped off for breakfast at the Ace Cafe and had a good Brunch. The rest of the journey was uneventful and the car went well as we tried out the sport mode here and there, as you do. We had a great time touring the Welsh borders and can recommend the hotel to anybody going that way.

We did experience some intermittent overheating when climbing long uphill gradients but it seemed to clear. On the way home on Sunday, we visited family in Gloucester, had lunch there, and set off home along the A40 to Oxford to pick up the M40 and M25; well that was the plan. On the outskirts of Oxford we hit a bit of traffic and the overheating problem reared its head again then went as quick as it came, but only to the next roundabout the temperature went through the roof followed by a loud bang and lots of steam. We managed to limp off the main road and investigated only to find the top hose completely off the engine. A job for the RAC then, they arrived and said after replacing the hose and topping up that there was a lot of pressure in the cooling system and promptly arranged a recovery vehicle, we arrived home at about midnight. The water pump had failed, and John Clarke had recommended a local Jag repair shop, thanks John.

We breathed a sigh of relief, it could have happened abroad, then what? So on to Arnhem then, the car proved very reliable and an excellent ride no further hiccups. The Rijn Hotel just outside Arnhem, where all of the rooms look out onto the little river Rijn and the countryside beyond, is a lovely place to chill out. We stayed for seven nights and visited the sights of Operation Market Garden, as depicted in the film A Bridge

to Far. The area is very heavily wooded and a bit hilly just like parts of England, the people are friendly and like to speak English even though we like to learn Dutch and try to speak it. We had glorious weather throughout our stay and can't wait to be back there again.

For those who want to know about mileage etc., the round trip was 715 miles. Average mpg was 23.3, no oil or water required. All in all fantastic.

