



Area 57 (Enfield) Newsletter

Web Site: www.jdcarea57.co.uk

E-mail: info@jdcarea57.co.uk

Published by Kim'n'Roy

MARCH 2009

Monday 16th March - Minutes of the 24th A.G.M.

Seventeen people attended this year's meeting, two less than last year. We neglected to ask if we could take last year's minutes as read, as has been the case in previous years, but hopefully no-one minded this slip in procedure.

Area Rep's Report

Doug began by thanking people for coming and then, as has become the usual procedure, gave a resume of the past year. It was not possible to mention every event, so if you went somewhere that was not mentioned, hopefully, you will understand.

Farnham Spares Day is always an early date in the season but apparently wasn't as good as usual this year. Several people went to a Rover Day at the Whitewebbs Museum, and at the Alexandra Palace Car Show, France Aliphon's XJS was awarded the prize for best Jaguar in show.

Dick celebrated his 60th birthday with a party at Whitewebbs and will soon be having a driving day at Silverstone with the gift vouchers that we and the museum gave him. I know that there have been at least two other 60ths during the year, and Doug celebrated his 70th, and received a very familiar white polo shirt!

Our first Breakfast Run to the Woodman was enjoyable as usual. Afterwards, Doug and I went to a meeting regarding the tax situation and how it affects Areas and Registers. The fear that all moneys should be held by JDC Head Office caused quite a bit of worry but as far as our Area is concerned, Barbara hasn't had to send in money or fill in any more forms than she has in the past. I assume this is because our financial transactions are very few.

Keith and Audrey were the winners of our second quiz and have set the questions for this year's on 6th April.

The EDVVS had an enjoyable weekend at Hinkley, and the XK Spring Weekend based in Northamptonshire was also good although the hotel did have a few problems!

Dick and Brian visited the Walthamstow Pumping Station which has a gathering on the first Tuesday of the month, and regular meets occur at The Goat at Hertford Heath and the Ace Cafe throughout the year. Both well supported.

Unfortunately the Enfield Pageant was spoilt by yet another wet Bank Holiday weekend, but luckily the weather on the Saturday was good and, as that is the biggest day for the Autojumble, a profit was still made.

Several people enjoyed a show at Hatfield and the EDVVS received an award for their display.

The Luton Show was well attended and enjoyed lovely weather as did the Harpenden meet.

A visit to RAF Halton was marred by poor organisation, which was certainly not the case for the Tibbles Tour that Doug and I did. A very long day but very well arranged.

XK Day/National Day at Highclere Castle suffered the same fate as the Pageant as it poured with rain nearly all day and, as a result, had to finish early.

Everyone enjoyed the show at Kimbolton once they managed to get in, and the usual group of regulars had a lazy day at the Hoddesdon Town Centre Show, with tea at Keith and Audrey's afterwards.

The Little Haven Hospice Show was another of the lucky ones with a sunny weather, as was our weekend away in Norfolk.

We just managed to beat the rain when Doug and I held a Barbecue at our house, and we hope to hold another one this year.

We had a second Breakfast Run to the Woodman in October and then, early this year, we tried out a new venue near Ongar. Of the ten people that attended, six liked it but four didn't, so maybe some people will wish to go back there again.

The Area Christmas Dinner at Pearse House was once again a very successful evening in pleasant surroundings.

Despite a fairly poor summer it was, as you can see, a busy year again, and obviously not all events have been mentioned.

Doug closed by hoping that everyone has a healthy year, as there have been a few problems for some people.

Treasurer's Report

Barbara Collins circulated the Annual Financial Report which shows a healthy balance despite paying for a new tent and making a contribution to the Whitewebbs Museum for the resurfacing of their car park .

Secretary/Newsletter Editor's Report

Wendy Shipman reminded people that last August was the 20th anniversary of the monthly Club Newsletter. We must be doing something right as we have quite a few members who rarely, if ever, come to meetings but still renew their membership every year. Thanks to everyone who has made any contribution over the past year.

MembershipSecretary/Webmaster's Report

Roy Fludgate reported that there has been one lapsed membership and one new one during the year. This represents thirty six memberships, fifty eight people and sixty cars. He reminded us that there are often calendar updates on the web site although he sometimes sends out interim Emails as well.

Election of Officers

Doug and Wendy Shipman, Barbara Collins and Roy Fludgate have all agreed to continue with the support of all present. Brian Kingsley will carry on as club archivist.

Any Other Business

Although nothing had been put forward for discussion, some points were raised, most of which have been mentioned in the past. A suggestion was made that we should consider only having one meeting a month, as many people now attend the meeting at the Goat on the first Sunday of the month, which would frequently precede our first meeting of the month. It was felt, however, that as members are free to attend or not, that the current arrangement should continue. Brian summed it up by saying that if Doug, as Area Rep, is prepared to attend twice a month, it is up to everyone else to decide for themselves.

The possibility of a different meeting place was also mentioned, as some people are not happy about having to join the British Legion as well as our own club in order to use the facilities. The Whitewebbs Museum was suggested as an alternative but, as this would incur a charge of £40 each evening it would involve a hefty increase in our subscription fees in order to cover the cost. In addition, the only people who currently pay for membership of the Legion tend to be those that attend meetings on a regular basis, whereas a subscription increase would be payable by all members.

The subject of engaging a speaker for the evening has been spoken about before. It is probably feasible as I'm sure that we would be able to use a different room at the Legion, however, although this is a subject which has been mentioned before, as yet no-one has actually looked into finding anybody to speak.

It was suggested that the club never varies its activities, and that when something is suggested it doesn't get taken up. Examples given were go-karting and ten pin bowling. In these cases the first was rejected due to cost, and in the second instance, once the David Lloyd Centre closed their Bowling Alley, there was no other venue close enough. Conversely, I should point out that trips on the Waverly (canal/cream tea), to the Stondon and De Havilland Museums, Bletchley Park, Kelvedon Secret Bunker and various Sunday lunches are all examples of activities which were very successful. As far as car shows are concerned, in the past we used to attend several a year en masse, but as Roy pointed out, the club has been running for a long time and people have attended many of these shows on several occasions and simply don't want to do it again.

These are all valid points for discussion but, as has been said in the past, we have always worked without an official committee so the ball is in everybody's court; if you want to do things differently, then please feel free to find places to visit, speakers etc. However willing we are, Doug and I can't think of everything any more than Alan and Barb could.

By now the time was racing away and Doug then closed the AGM for what should have been the last presentation of the John Dyall Trophy. As you know from past newsletters, it was agreed that Doug would be the last recipient following which the trophy would be retired and put on display at the Whitewebbs Museum. Unfortunately, Valerie wasn't at the meeting, so Alan simply passed the trophy on to Doug.



We then moved on to the usual routine club affairs. There is a three week gap before the next meeting on April 6th which is Keith and Audrey's quiz night. The day before is the Breakfast Run to the Woodman. Please contact Barbara as soon as possible if you wish to attend.



Eric is now collecting names for the Enfield Pageant, so please contact him to let him know which days you can attend. Dick and Keith O have said that if anyone has any spare time in the week leading up to the Pageant, their help with setting up would be appreciated.



I have several dates for the calendar:

March 29th Spares Day at Stoneleigh

May 17th Aston Clinton show that Eric has recommended in the past.

June 14th Luton Festival of Transport

July 29th Harpenden

Entry forms for all of these can be downloaded but I have printed off a few if anyone wants them.

Also at Harpenden, on 12th July is a Highland Gathering that Len, Sally, Ron and Pam went to last year and enjoyed. Again entry forms can be downloaded.

The Little Haven Hospice show is on 16th August at Purleigh, at the same venue as last year.

I have booked a group of us into a hotel near Warwick for our September weekend; if any one else wants to know more details about the hotel and availability, give me a ring.

Keith and Bobbie are going to look into the possibility of repeating the trip that we did on the Waverly.



As a result of all the aforementioned discussions, Doug had a long chat with Mick Duffy. He said that our problems are shared by many clubs. Their Bedfordshire area has the same problems, although they do have one advantage over us as far as their meeting place is concerned; they meet at a pub which has a separate room that they can use, and which also has space for barbecues. As far as the things they do and places they go, they are mostly similar to our own activities. Sometimes they have a ladies night when cars are not discussed however, as on most occasions, Barb, Sally and myself are the only girls at our meetings there wouldn't be much point in us doing it. They have had a speaker from the police and an insurance representative. He also talked about meeting up with other car clubs, which we have tried in the past without much success; (the two clubs being rather like two sets of relatives at a wedding reception). He had made contact with someone from the Morgan Club but apparently had a very pompous response. He also mentioned the possibility of amalgamating with other local areas, but would we want to stop being Area 57? To sum up all that went on, the situation is not perfect, but as we have always been a club that has made collective decisions rather than with an official committee, the input needs to come from everybody.

Finally, in a newsletter that has been a real test for my very basic typing skills, it was very nice to see Chris and Mary Engham, who called in after a prior engagement.

