



## Area 57 (Enfield) Newsletter

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Published by Kim'nRoy

### August 2017

It was gratifying to see that a large number of members came along to the meeting on the 7th August to discuss the comments in last month's Newsletter regarding our finances and how much we pay the EDVVT for the Museum Meeting Room. Our Area subscription has remained at £6 p.a. since 1988, and this was originally intended to cover the general costs of producing a monthly Newsletter, food at the Pageant etc. In real terms, at today's prices this would equate to around £18. Since 2012, when the British Legion Club closed down, we have been holding our meetings at the Whitewebbs Museum, members attending the meetings have been paying £2 per head entry however, even on a good night, and with everybody remembering to pay, (which has not always been the case), there is still a shortfall to meet the going rate of £50 per night. As you will have been made aware, the EDVVT is offering us twelve meetings a year for a reduced price of £450 if paid in advance. Obviously our current subs do not bring in enough to cover that so, in line with the way other Areas are run, our subscription rates need to reflect the hire of our meeting place. As the entire Area membership were not in attendance, it was felt that a definite decision on the matter needed to wait until everyone has had the chance to come to the September meeting to express their views or contact Doug before then. At the moment the proposal is that at the end of the year when Roy sends out renewals, the annual subscription will be raised to £20. Until then, we will continue to put a bit more in the pot on attendance at meetings and anything needed to bring it up to £50 will be paid by Barbara from existing club funds. The alternative of finding another venue was fully discussed however, even if we found a pub with a room we could use, this would very likely also incur a charge, and pubs regularly change hands. What might suit one manager may not suit the next! A show of hands at the meeting was almost unanimously in favour of staying at the Museum.



The past few weeks have seen several events although I gather nobody went to either the Walled Garden at Luton or Croxley Green. At Hoddesdon there was a very good turnout of varied cars and with plenty of sunshine it was probably one of the busiest for a few years.



On the following day several of us went to the show at Kimbolton which was excellent as always, with lots to see and hear. A Spitfire flew over the area a few times. Despite the show being as good as usual a couple of things did spoil it a bit. For the first time, Eric and Margot were able to attend, but unfortunately, not long after arriving, they had a phone call to say his sister was ill and they had to leave. Luckily it was not as serious as they originally feared. Our homeward journey, which should have taken just over an hour took two and a half hours due to a fatal accident on the London side of the Hatfield Tunnel. We crawled for three miles in the tailback on the A1, but to Doug's relief the E type did not boil.



Eric went to Harpenden without his car and, as was expected, numbers were well down, partly due to weather and partly the extra costs of entering.



A few of us took our cars to the RSPCA Centre at Ridge near South Mimms, which was a very pleasant lazy day watching dogs of all shapes and sizes going by with surprisingly, no altercations. We watched some of the flyball competitions and agility courses, but it was mainly a leisurely day. A friend of Eric's had arranged it with the RSPCA and about twenty five cars attracted quite a bit of interest.



Our thanks go to Keith and Bobbie for hosting the vegetable judging BBQ. We were growing a very long variety of squash and Dick won. Maybe we should ban allotment growing!!



With Alan and Barbara we travelled up to Wroxhall Abbey for JDC National Day. Storms had been forecast and going through Aylesbury in a thunderstorm, the wipers on the E-type were on full speed to cope with very heavy rain. Good job we were not in the XK!! It is an ideal venue as the showground is a few yards from the hotel where we stay. Some people had gone on the Friday to take part in a Saturday drive around the area including a visit to Kenilworth Castle. As was the case when we went to this event two years ago, the dinner was held in a marquee in the grounds. Everyone had favourable views on the meal. This year we were entertained by a lady singer with a very good voice before taking to the dance floor. The Club President, Lord David Steel and his wife drive down from Scotland to attend. Also present was 97 year old Norman Dewis who, I'm sure, most people know has been a Jaguar stalwart for many years and was one of their test drivers. He thanked us for continuing to look after the cars which are sometimes better than when they left the factory. There was a good attendance on Sunday with plenty of cars arriving. An estimate of about three hundred and fifty cars was guessed at. We left in the middle of the afternoon, taking different routes. Unfortunately, Alan's air conditioning compressor seized and they had to be trailed home. He can explain more if you want the details.



The next event is at Tewin on 20th August which I think people have received passes for.



Buntingford has not sent pass numbers for their day on 2nd September but will no doubt be with us soon. Passes have gone out for the Capel Manor show the next day, but if you are still interested contact the Capel Manor Classic Car Show through their web site.



Area 33 have been advertising their Breakfast Meet at North Weald on 1st October in aid of the Essex Air Ambulance Service This starts around 8.30 a.m.



I have booked our own Breakfast Run to the Brocket Arms on 8th October and will need numbers a week beforehand.



Some of us went to Baird Road, Enfield earlier this year for the opening of their venue for classic car apprenticeships. They are making this a quarterly event, with the next one on 17th September from 11 a.m till 4p.m. Classic cars will be on display and demonstrations of maintenance and repair will be going on. Anyone interested in signing up for a five week, Saturday morning course on basic bodywork maintenance and repair, can sign up. Tea and coffee is available all day and a £6 per head lunch can be booked by contacting [mary.ramsey@barnetsouthgate.ac.uk](mailto:mary.ramsey@barnetsouthgate.ac.uk) .

