



Area 57 (Enfield) Newsletter

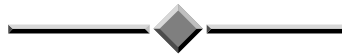
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The first thing this month is obviously the Enfield Pageant this weekend. Please be on site by 9am and bring your own chair and mug. Everyone should know if they usually bring items we use, so hopefully we will be well organized and enjoying sunshine. We can but hope about the weather and also hope for plenty of people through the gate as apparently, it takes £55,000 a year to keep the Whitewebbs Museum going, and the Pageant is their main source of income. On the subject of the Pageant, a few days ago Keith O was on site looking for the access point for water, and not finding it. This had all been mapped out last year, but where did Ossie park his van? You guessed it, right on top of it!



XK Weekend 20/22 April

We have been going on the Spring XK Weekends for many years but this was the first time that the forecast was so bad that Doug decided to use the E-type and Alan and Barb used their XJ rather than their E-type. It seemed to be the right decision as we had some very heavy showers on our way to Shropshire. By the time we reached the Albright Hussey hotel, a couple miles north of Shrewsbury however, the weather was fine. We settled in, meeting up with familiar faces and some new ones. Alan and Barb were extremely pleased with their accommodation, which turned out to be a rather quirky suite. A pleasant evening followed Bob Mackman's briefing for the following day. It was an early start for a very full day beginning with a fairly short drive to Loton Hall. Alan & Barb had Mick Duffy and a friend as passengers so they had quite a full load to go up the Hill Climb in the grounds. It is regularly used for competitions and was fully marshalled. We were only allowed one drive each unfortunately. Just over the road we were welcomed to the Hall by long time owners, Sir Michael Leighton and his sister, who showed us around after tea and coffee. From there we drove to the spectacular Powis Castle. The terraced gardens are well worth seeing including four hundred year old yew bushes. We had a snack in the garden tea rooms at the bottom of the hill on which the castle is built, and then had to climb back up over a hundred steps before heading off on a scenic drive to Lake Vyrnwy. It is very picturesque and we enjoyed a drive all the way round it with a brief stop at the Lake Hotel for a cuppa. Surprisingly good weather all day. The dinner in the evening was excellent and it turned out to be a surprising evening for me. It was only a few days before my 70th birthday and everyone there had signed a card for me. The surprise continued a few days later on my birthday, when a lovely bouquet of flowers arrived from the XK Register. On Sunday we visited Morville Hall, a NT property only open by appointment. It is lived in and maintained by friends of Bob's. We were showed round by Chris and Sarah who are absolutely passionate about collecting antiques. As we left there to go to pub along the Wenlock Edge, it began to rain heavily and continued nearly all the way home. As usual, it had been an extremely enjoyable weekend, an excellent hotel and better weather than we had dared hope for.



Breakfast Run 29th April

We thought our weekend in Shropshire could have had better weather but compared to Breakfast Run day it was great. It just rained the whole time, so there was no chance to stand around and natter either before or after the meal. We have had some very good breakfasts at The Woodman for several years now, Unfortunately this wasn't one of them. A rather disappointing morning, so we will be looking for a change of venue for October. Please keep it in mind during the summer and if you see a nice country pub make enquiries as to whether they would be prepared to do a breakfast for us.



Even further ahead, we will be looking for somewhere for the Christmas meal, so keep that in mind as well.



Some events this year, including Aston Clinton show, have been cancelled due to ground conditions; hopefully a full season can be enjoyed with some sunshine.



The 9th June is proving to be a popular date; we already have two events on that date and we have now found that the village show at Datchworth Green is also on that day.



Another popular date is July 15th, as the show at the Gunpowder Mills joins Kimbolton and the show at Cressing Temple on that day.



Hopefully those people going to the Luton Festival of Transport on June 10th will have better weather than last year when it rained all day.



A further reminder about the Rose Garden at North Mymms on 1st July as Doug needs names as soon as possible so that the organizers can arrange for us to display our cars at the front of the house.



Roy has brought to our attention the change in government policy which means that, from 18th November this year vehicles manufactured prior to 1st January 1960 will no longer need an MOT.



The next meeting falls on the Jubilee Bank Holiday but we will be at the RBL as normal.

