



Area 57 (Enfield) Newsletter

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It was agreed by quite a large number of members that we would try something different for our Christmas dinner on Dec 3rd and we have booked for a Party Night at the Whitewebbs Toby. We have been assured that we don't have to be too near the Disco. They will hold the booking for us until mid October, so Barbara needs names, with £5 per head deposit and menu choices by the October 17th meeting.

Whitewebbs House Christmas Disco Party Night Menu

Melon with fresh fruit
Prawn Cocktail served with brown bread and butter
Mushrooms with stilton sauce Mushrooms in a cheese sauce topped with crumbled stilton served over garlic bread
Carrot & Butternut Squash Soup Topped with croutons
Bacon, Brie & Cheddar potato skins with cranberry dipping sauce

Carvery with choice of turkey, mustard glazed gammon or roast beef with Yorkshire pudding
Salmon with Hollandaise Sauce,
Broccoli & Brie Bake

Christmas Pudding with brandy sauce or custard
Dairy Ice Cream with choice of butterscotch, strawberry, chocolate or lemon sauce
Chocolate & Raspberry Indulgence Chocolate fudge cake served with raspberries in sauce and whipped cream
Cherry Bakewell tart served with whipped cream
Treacle sponge and custard

Coffee and Mince Pies

£20.95 per person

It seems a long time ago now but back in August, Alan and Barb joined us for the XK/XJ weekend. We had agreed to meet Eric And Margot at pub near Banbury for lunch but, because of a horrendous journey, we were nearly an hour later than I had booked lunch for. We were based at a large hotel just outside Stratford upon Avon and we soon met up with familiar faces. On the Saturday, Mick Duffy gave us the route for a very pleasant drive of about thirty miles to Broadway, where we spent an enjoyable couple of hours. XK/XJ day on Sunday was at Gaydon Heritage Museum. The collection of British cars there was quite extensive and well presented however, once we had looked round and had a snack, there was little else to do except sit around in hot sunshine with no shade so we left fairly early. I can hear Sally's reaction to this as I write.

The following weekend August Bank Holiday was a complete contrast. Keith O had arranged a good spot for us at the Cuffley Steam and Country Show but he hadn't provided patio heaters for us, which we could have done with. Eric, either optimistically or foolishly turned up in shorts but, after a while, he and Margot drove the short distance home and came back more suitably attired. As usual Brian K had been to the Knebworth show on the previous day.

The weather this year has certainly been changeable and the following week at Buntingford, we had lovely weather. We always enjoy the easy going atmosphere of this show with its mixture of cars and live music A couple of youngsters were ticking off plenty of cars in their I-Spy Classic Car books. The weather stayed warm for tea and cakes in Keith and Audrey's garden afterwards.

The contrast in weather was also shown the next day as Alan and Barb enjoyed good weather at Bressingham, while Douglas tried out a show near Whipsnade that none of us had been to before but his day was cut very short by heavy rain.



Brian K also went to a show called Autorama near Stevenage that had left leaflets with us at the Pageant. Apparently it was mainly hot rod type cars although there were some classic cars there as well. He also went to the always well supported Croxley Green Show, which has the added attraction of the Carters Steam Fair. We really need to go there on masse as Area 57 hasn't taken over any dodgems for a long while.



We have decided not to have an Autumn Breakfast Run this year, as there was no single date that suited enough people. Hopefully we will have one in the Spring as usual.



OXFORD WEEKEND - 'The Dreaming Spires'

Report by Margot Tetsell

Our weekend got off to a good start with a picturesque journey following the line of the Chilton Hills, with Red Kites flying overhead, at least nine, – how could that be bettered. Although we left on separate days all of us picked The Leathern Bottle pub in Lewknor for lunch, thanks to Keith's Good Pub guide. It hasn't let us down yet!

All the usual suspects went along, Eileen and Richard, Wendy and Doug, Audrey and Keith, Bobby and Keith, Barbara and Allen, special guests Heather and Phil, and myself and Eric. We stayed at the Oxford Thames Four Pillars Hotel which was excellent. Lovely rooms, stylish décor and good food, plus the staff were very friendly and efficient. We're not sure just how Wendy does it but she not only selects great hotels to stay in but she also organizes the weather! We spent a couple of days in Oxford and managed to avoid any showers completely. Heather also seems to have acquired the knack of making to sun appear by clicking her fingers! There were the usual wind-ups going on, mostly about the length of Keith Oswick's hair by the more follicly-challenged men.

A big plus for this weekend was that Phil and Heather managed to come along too, and it was lovely to see their friendly smiling faces once again. Their move to the country seems to have done them the world of good as they looked very fit and well. Not so unfortunately for Audrey who was taken ill in the middle of Saturday night and Keith had to drive her to an emergency 'drop in' centre. Luckily they managed to help her out and she managed to stay on for what remained of the weekend.

I think this is the first Jag weekend away when another Jag club were staying at the same hotel! The East Midlands 'chapter' spent the weekend at The Four Pillars as well so there was the chance of looking at other cars we hadn't seen before.

All of us toured Oxford on the 'hop on – hop off' tour buses, which are appearing in many large cities now all over Europe and a great way of getting a general overview of the main sights to see. We were obviously feeling quite cultural as we spent a fair amount of time in museums. The Ashmolean had an impressive new modern layout, well worth a visit, and the Natural History museum had every kind of animal, fish, bird and insect on display plus huge dinosaur skeletons. At the back of the Natural History Museum down a set of stairs was the quirky, dimly-lit Pitt Rivers museum (you could get a torch from the reception desk!). All kinds of strange and interesting objects were housed here and, as we are all of a gruesome mindset, we headed first of all to the shrunken heads. They had also advertised a 'witch in a bottle' that was a bit of a disappointment as it turned out to be a small silver flask that apparently held the 'witch'. It had been x-rayed, and there was something in there, but no-one had ever had the courage to open it!

Our final day turned out to be a 'garden day'. Some of visited the Waterperry gardens, which used to be a college for women gardeners and according to Audrey 'a mini Wisley' with stunning borders of Michaelmas daisies. While our group decided to look at the Botanical Garden in Oxford. These gardens had fascinating glass houses with tropical plants of every description including a tropical pond with huge water lilies. Some of the time we were followed round by a lesser spotted pan-pipe bird bearing an amazing resemblance to Keith Oswick (sponsored by L'Oreal). We thought about possibly having it stuffed and sent to the Natural History Museum.

Another great weekend away with excellent company, roll on the next one. Thank you again Wendy.

