



Area 57 (Enfield) Newsletter

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As I say every year, it is in the winter months that it is difficult to find anything to write about, so Graham's contribution is very welcome.



This is the last reminder about the Christmas Dinner at Pearse House on December 13th (menu enclosed). Those with Email have already received the details, anyone else wishing to attend please call Barbara as soon as possible.



Dick has received a letter from the organisers of the show in aid of Little Haven Childrens' Hospice. It appears that this year was their best yet with, £7,700 being raised. This is a very enjoyable show, so it's nice to know that, in addition, a lot of money is collected for a very worthy cause.



Next year's National Day is comparatively local at Woburn Abbey, so it might be worth having an Area display.



On behalf of the Area, we sent a letter of congratulation to Lewis Hamilton on becoming the Formula 1 World Champion. Whether there will be any response remains to be seen.



The Story Of The XK Car Club Badge

Report by Graham Smart

Some two and a half years ago a work colleague, Shaun, moved house to Southend. While sorting out the loft he found some Autocar magazines dated 1963, along with a brand new and boxed XK Car Club badge. He knew I had a Jaguar and asked me if I thought it was worth anything.

I took the badge to one of our Monday night meetings at the British Legion and Doug confirmed that it looked to be a genuine badge but he could not be certain. There was a makers name on the back, so I emailed them requesting information, and they said that they had made the badge for a new club that was to be formed in 1963, (I believe it was something to do with Phillip Porter), and only 12 had been commissioned.

I then decided to contact Ian Cooling, the well known Jaguar memorabilia man. He confirmed that there where only a handful made and, while they were hard to find, he had come across a few in recent years, and they were worth about £130.

Ian had an auction coming up soon and suggested I post the badge to him by recorded delivery and enter it with a reserve of £100. I spoke to Shaun and he was very happy to do this. Before sending it to Ian, however, the Enfield Pageant would be taking place, so I took the badge with me and asked a dealer, (who had lots of rusty old badges that had been on cars priced at between £50 & £100), what my brand new and boxed one was worth; he offered me £15!

I sent the badge to Ian and he suggested I look for updates on his website as to when the next auction was to launch. Nearly a year went by and I heard nothing. I contacted Ian and all sorts of things had happened. He had moved and had to change printers, more stuff had been sent to him, and the catalogue was getting larger.

After many more false starts and two and a half years later, in this month's Jaguar Driver magazine, the auction finally launched. Some 2500 items - the largest Jaguar auction ever. I downloaded the catalogue, scrolled down to badges, and it was not there!

During this time, I had moved and changed my email address and phone number. When I contacted Ian he was very pleased to hear from me, and explained why the badge was not listed. He often sources Jaguar memorabilia, and had an XK140 owner who had just done a £40,000 restoration and was willing to pay up to £300 for an XK badge, did Ian know of one? He certainly did but could not get hold of me! Ian had accepted the offer and banked the money, explaining that he thought it would have fetched no more than £150 in the auction, and asking if he had done the right thing. I agreed that he had, and a cheque for £300 less Ian's commission is on the way to Shaun, who is understandably very happy with the outcome.

