



Area 57 (Enfield) Newsletter

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MAY 2008

Hopefully, when I write the Newsletter next month, it will be with a report of wonderful weather, unlike at the last two Enfield Pageants. Our numbers are a bit lower than usual this year but the quality will be high, as usual.



As always at this time of year, various information about shows gets passed to us. Some of these are already in our calendar but I'll go through the next few weeks anyway.

The Hatfield Heritage Vehicle Society are holding their show at the Birchwood Leisure centre, Hatfield on Saturday 7th June at about 9am. This is very close to the Tesco / Homebase / Comet shopping area.

The next day is the Luton Festival of Transport which several of us went to last year and enjoyed. We met at the Gosling Stadium at Welwyn Garden city at 9.30 last time. We'll decide at our June 2nd meeting if this will be the case again.

The following weekend, June 14th/15th, is the show at RAF Halton near Wendover. There will probably be more details of this in the next Jaguar Driver magazine. If any arrangements are made about going to this together, it will also be sorted out on 2nd at the club meeting.

Also on 14th is a village fete at Datchworth which Brian was told about. The contact number for this is 01438-798486

Area16 are holding their Open Day at The Cock Inn, at Sarraf, Herts on June 22nd (10am -- 4pm) Entry is £2 per person or £5 per car whichever is cheaper.

I am going to apply for some passes for the Sporting Bears Show at Kimbolton which is on July 20th. This was a very good show last year.

We have been sent some information via the Legion of an event that is being held at Bletchley Park on July 13th. They are having a Classic Car and Motorbike Picnic from 10:30am to 5pm Entry is £5 per car and £3 per motorbike. There should be a display of WW2 Airpower with a flypast by a Hurricane.



HINCKLEY HIGH TIME - Fri 18th - Sun 20th April

Report by Audrey Williams

Eight of us met up at the Sketchley Grange Hotel on Friday afternoon. We were participating in another wonderful Whitewebbs Weekend. There was a good variety of vehicles in the car park; ten Jaguars at one point.

We set off on Saturday morning in convoy to a bell foundry at Loughborough. This proved to be a tricky route, with Loughborough itself being extremely difficult with a lot of one way streets and dead ends. It was an interesting tour of the foundry but a bit long and cold. After picking our way out of the town we then headed to Donnington Park for the afternoon. This proved another tricky journey for some of us. Eventually we were rewarded with a fascinating array of racing cars, but alas no refreshments to warm up against the cold wind.

The highlight of the evening was Eric winning the prestigious Cat in the Hat Award and Trophy. We had to provide a Nursery Rhyme themed hat and Eric's was superb-----Polly put the kettle on, matched by a bright parrot shirt. There was a 60's disco to follow.

Sunday was a better day in that no one got lost and the sun came out for us. We enjoyed the Canal Museum at Stoke Bruerne and had a nice walk along the towpath followed by a good old fashioned Sunday lunch overlooking the canal. Another great weekend with Whitewebbs who always make us welcome. We did wonder if we should invest in a Sat Nav between us, but apart from that everything went smoothly. They are already taking bookings for next April as places are limited -- a 16th Century coaching inn at Tonbridge in Kent.



SALISBURY SAUNTER - April 26th - 27th

Report by Audrey Williams

This was a Crossword Prize weekend, indirectly through Whitewebbs. The hotel we stayed at last year, kept sending us special offers and competitions. It kept me occupied during my hibernation! : Last weekend had been winter; this was glorious summer. We stayed at Milford Hall Hotel, just ten minutes walk from the town centre. Salisbury is a beautiful city. We spent Saturday sightseeing in the city and on Sunday at old Sarum and Wilton village. It was a perfect weekend and we didn't get lost once. No Sat Nav required this time. Let's hope the weather is going to be just as kind for our next club social event; the Enfield Pageant.



XK WEEKEND

Last year's XK Spring Weekend was a long drive up to Cheshire but this time, together with Alan and Barb, we only had to go as far as Northamptonshire. Our base was the Helidon Lakes Hotel between Banbury and Daventry. The hotel was comfortable but unfortunately they were lacking in staff resulting in very long waits at the bar.

Saturday's visit was to Bletchley Park which several Area 57 members visited a few years ago. We felt that the amount to see has increased and despite being there all day, we didn't manage to see it all. We were taken round by a very knowledgeable guide who had been involved in listening to Morse code signals during the war.

Saturday night's dinner had it's share of problems when the ovens stopped working and there was a delay between first and second courses while staff had to take the food to another kitchen. Luckily we were able to go out onto the terrace to watch a firework display organised for a wedding party that was there. In between all this, we did a quiz that Mick Duffy had organised.

On Sunday there was a short drive to Sulgrave Manor, which was the home of George Washington's ancestors.

The weekend had a great finish when we went to Whittlebury Hall hotel, which is adjacent to Silverstone, for a superb carvery lunch in Aston's restaurant after a drink in the Silverstone bar, where the walls are full of pictures of racing drivers and a large TV was showing the Grand Prix which was on that day.

As always it had been an enjoyable weekend, meeting up with familiar people and cars and to our surprise a member of staff chose our car as his favourite which gets us a free night's D,B&B.



VARIOUS EVENTS

Report by Brian Kingsley

On the first Tuesday in May, I went with Dick to the Classic Car night at the Pump House Museum at Walthamstow at about 6 p.m. He used me as Sat Nav as neither of us knew the way but p32 ref 19 London A--Z got us there; (Chingford Rd A112, left Forest Rd A503, right Blackhorse RD A1006, right Markhouse Rd, continue on to Markhouse Ave , Museum on left.)

There were about a dozen visiting cars; an American yellow cab, a sixties American car, a fifties cab, two English Fords, A Nissan, Dick's Mark 2 and a Daimler Dart that I also saw at the Ace Cafe a week later. There were a lot of old buses, a Green Line bus, some railway coaches, railway truck and some underground rolling stock. There was a BBQ when we went, as well as a tearoom and toilets. Worth a visit.

A week later we went to the Ace Cafe, where there was a good show of cars including a few Astons, a couple of Ferraris, two Volvos and several Jensen Interceptors, plus the Daimler Dart that I had seen at Walthamstow, and I had a chat to the owner. Dick and Eric were there in their XKs and Richard was in his vintage Bentley. A good evening.

On May 11th we went to a new venue that we had heard about It was at the Heath Mount School Du Maurier Society Car day, and was a beautiful setting. Dick and Eric took their 150s, Ron had his Daimler and John Wilkinson took his Mark 2 (furthest mileage this year) It was a nice ride to the venue at Watton at Stone not far from Stevenage. The organiser, Alison Wood, said she hopes to organise another show next year, which will be worth keeping an eye out for.

