



Area 57 (Enfield) Newsletter

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Later in this Newsletter Margot has written an article about our weekend near Fareham. As the rest of us didn't go till Friday morning, I thought that I'd add a few more bits. We met up at the Fleet Services, where a little boy of about five thought our E-type looked like a missile. We set off following Keith to a pub not too far from J9 of the M3. The sun was shining brilliantly as it did all weekend. The meal at the pub was excellent but our hopes of going to a Steam Gala at the Watercress Line railway were thwarted as the carparks were packed. We got separated getting out of Arelsford and by the time Keith and Bobbie and ourselves got onto the M3 it was quite snarled up and our journeys were a bit fraught, however we got to the hotel in the end only to find that the foyer was absolutely jammed with wedding guests and one member of staff had to make a gangway for us to the reception desk. After that it was a very good weekend as Margot says.



The following Sunday was a BBQ at Eric's to include the grand leek judging which Dick won. (There's a surprise!!!). In his absence every one was very rude about Ossie's offerings which were likened to spring onions rather than leeks and Eric sent him a text in Chicago to tell him he'd lost. As I had mentioned in the last Newsletter, Doug and I were celebrating our Golden Wedding at the end of September so, as it was only the 16th, we were very surprised when we were presented with a large bunch of flowers and various gifts. Thank you to everyone concerned for all the good wishes we have received which we really appreciate.



Dick went to the auto jumble at Purleigh where there were plenty of cars but the afternoon was quite wet.

Brian and Douglas went to Furneux Pelham on 29th, and a few people went to Battlesbridge on 30th where they had their first look at Wayne's latest acquisition, a Jaguar 1½ litre saloon. We all look forward to seeing it.

I believe it was on the same morning that Dick and Eric went to the Ace cafe where a lot of cars were taking advantage of a sunny morning.

Several people went to the Cunningham collection which apparently has a lot more than seems obvious.

The collection at Studio 434 was as impressive as last year with a few different cars.



The only other forthcoming event seems to be Spares Day at Stoneleigh on October 14th.



We have arranged to have an extra meeting on December 17th for our annual Mince Pie Night.



We have been invited to take a few cars to the Mangapps Railway Museum at Burnham -on Crouch on 28th October. There is free entry to the Museum, unlimited rides along the half mile track and a look at the workshop, which is not normally open to the public. There won't be an engine in steam as it is being prepared for Thomas the Tank Engine. It is open at 10am and please let Keith O (020-8366 4861) know if you are going.



I have noticed that on BBC4 on Monday 8th at 9pm there is a programme called Magnificent Machines - The Golden Age of the British Sportscar. It's repeated two days later at 10pm.



We have booked our Christmas dinner at The Galley Hall, Hailey on Saturday 8th December. Please get your name and £8 per head deposit to Barb as soon as possible. It obviously saves time later if you give her your menu choices at the same time. Cheques MADE PAYABLE TO BARBARA COLLINS please. They obviously need the deposit as soon as they can to secure the booking.



WEEKEND IN FAREHAM OR "THE REVENGE OF THE SAT NAV"

Report by Margot Tetsell

With fingers firmly crossed for good weather Eric and I set off to Fareham in my little Astra instead of the XK as she was sidelined because of possible head gasket problems. We made good time so stopped for lunch at Bishops Waltham. It's a pretty village with an old ruined Bishop's Palace which is an English Heritage property and very atmospheric. The village itself was full of colourful flowers, unusual little shops and plenty of characterful eating places. After lunch we set off for The Solent hotel which was lovely but not easy to find, especially when our SatNav tried to get us to turn left at a roundabout when we could actually see the hotel straight ahead!

Friday dawned on another beautiful day and as Eric and I had left a day early we had the opportunity to look around the local beaches. We particularly liked Stokes Bay which had a beautiful green behind it, a nice café on the beach and plenty of activity on the water. The Isle of Wight was on the not too distant horizon with yachts skimming back and forth between it and the mainland, and we watched a couple of sea kayaks arrive on the beach near us. On our return journey the SatNav had a mad moment when we went round a new roundabout that it didn't recognise. The little car on the screen jiggled about off the highlighted route looking quite anxious. When we arrived back at the hotel the usual suspects were there, Wendy and Doug, Audrey and Keith, Barbara and Alan and Bobby and Keith, all having tea in the sun. Just behind the terrace the hotel was preserving an ancient water meadow full of wild flowers and grasses which was a bit unusual. There were two weddings at the hotel over the weekend so we had a good time entertaining ourselves people watching, and there were plenty of interesting people to watch.

Saturday morning was once again a fabulous hot sunny day, Wendy suggested we went off to Bosham which we have visited before but quite a while ago. The pub on the front looks over a tidal estuary and this time the tide was out so we could walk along the front of the pub (after coffee on the patio) and see the village green. It really is a quaint little place with low walls built in front of some of the cottages to prevent high tides flooding them. Just to complete the country village picture a wedding was taking place in the old church so all the bells were ringing.

The next stop was Chichester and by amazing coincidence we all arrived at the same car park within minutes of each other, and when you think of all the car parks there are in that city ...

Chichester was really bustling, and the pedestrian shopping areas had a very impressive selection of rather up-market shop and cafes. The cathedral was well worth a visit, just for the stained glass alone looking amazingly colourful in the full sun. It was hard to imagine that building started here as far back as 1076.

The final stop was Bogner Regis – quite a contrast to Chichester, but again busy with people enjoying the hot sun. I could not resist going for a swim, and the water was just lovely, while everyone else had an ice cream and thought I was mad!

On Sunday we decided to visit two National Trust properties which were en route home. The first was Hinton Ampner the home of Ralph Dutton the last Lord of Sherborne, who completely remodelled the house after a devastating fire in 1960. The view over the countryside from the terrace was stupendous, with sheep kept out of the gardens by a ha-ha [*look it up yourself - I did. ed*]. Audrey, Keith, Barbara and Alan had an interesting trip there when their SatNav took them on a picturesque route around a local housing estate then back to the hotel. From there it took them on an 'off road' route which ended up at the back entrance of the property! We then went on to have lunch at the The Vyne, which is a National Trust house built originally by Henry VIII's Lord Chamberlain, and which houses a gold ring thought to have inspired Tolkien. We were still lucky with the weather, so managed to stroll around the gardens in front of a beautiful lake in the sunshine.

So a good time was had by all - including the SatNavs.

