



Area 57 (Enfield) Newsletter

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With the mornings and evenings much darker now, it's nice to look back on the last few events of the season. Buntingford and Capel Manor at the beginning of the month were both very busy and enjoyable. Doug was very pleased to receive the Car of the Show Award at Buntingford from organiser Graham Bonner, who had chosen our XK.

Capel Manor always attracts such a lot of cars of different makes and being in such a lovely setting, it makes for a good day. A flypast by a Hurricane was a highlight.



September Weekend

Our September weekend this year saw us venture into Kent for the first time for a while. Pleased to say that none of us had any problems at the Dartford Crossing or on the M25 in either direction. Eric and Margot had gone a day earlier than the rest of us and had settled into The Little Silver Country hotel near Tenterden which we all found comfortable and friendly with good food. As usual, we had met up with Alan, Barb, Keith, Bobbie and Keith W for lunch on Friday. The Pepper Box Inn at Ulcombe, which Keith W had found could not be bettered. A sunny patio looked over the Weald of Kent where we made our lunch choices from the extensive menu. We were shown to our table inside and before long, we were served with very large portions, sometimes quite unusually presented, but all delicious. None of us had intended to have a dessert, but we all weakened when we saw what was on offer. It was one of the best pub lunches we have had and we felt quite full as we followed Keith to the hotel and joined Eric and Margot in the sunny garden.

The next day we all decided to go to Rye but, obviously, did not all stay together as we meandered round the town. We eventually managed to meet up for a drink in the sunny courtyard of the historic and picturesque Mermaid Inn. Keith and Bobbie stayed longer in Rye while Alan, Barb, Keith and ourselves decided to have a look at Camber Sands. It looks a lovely beach for children, but not somewhere that we would go back to. We did, however, enjoy some very tasty freshly cooked fish and chips before we left. As we drove out we saw Eric and Margot driving in but found out later that they had not managed to park as easily as us and only had a cheese sandwich for lunch.

We went to Sissinghurst Castle Gardens before going back to the hotel. There is a lovely orchard to wander through and Alan and Keith had a bird's eye view of the garden from a tower. The garden rooms were past their best and looked a little neglected. We enjoyed a much needed cuppa at the cafeteria before being joined by Keith and Bobbie who had been at a different one.

When we all got back to the hotel there was plenty of time to enjoy the challenge of Keith's Garden Jenga building game which saw some pretty perilous angles before collapsing. We all enjoyed a good dinner and discussed what to do on Sunday as the good weather was forecast to end.

The next morning, Eric and Margot having had an extra day, headed home after breakfast while the rest of us decided to go Knole, another National Trust property in Sevenoaks. It is an enormous Tudor house set in parkland with deer. The "boys" climbed the tower after we had been round the house.

We all agreed to make our own way home and, although the tunnel was busy, there were no holdups and despite some heavy rain for part of the time, there were no problems.

Obviously helped by the weather, we had had a good weekend.



As several people could not do the Breakfast Run on 20th October, I have changed it to the 27th October. at the Brocket Arms, Ayot St Lawrence, as usual. The price for full breakfast is £11.50 per head, the same as last time. Can you please let me know a week beforehand so I can give numbers to the pub. It is a great help to me if people have the right money.



I mentioned in the last newsletter that we had decided on a lunch in January rather than a Christmas meal for a change. The date will be January 26th, and we have invited members of Area 33 to join us. We need a nice pub that could manage about twenty people and bear in mind that they would be travelling from the Chelmsford area.



Following on from the decision to not have a Christmas dinner, Arnie and Steph have invited us to their house on Sunday December 8th at about 4 p.m. Please let them know at the next meeting if you will be going.



I understand that the EDVVS drive to Layer Marney was successful.



Congratulations to Dick and Eileen on their recent Golden Wedding. We presented Dick with a golden inspired basket of goodies at the meeting. Margot had done a really good job of getting the various things that Barb, Bobbie and myself had helped to suggest.

