



Area 57 (Enfield) Newsletter

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At the next meeting, we need to have a talk about the money that we pay the Museum. Apparently, after some meetings, there has been less money in the pot than there should have been for the number of people. The only way this can be prevented, is for members to sign in as they arrive and put down what has been paid, £2 or £4 as appropriate. Even on a good night, however, with perhaps fifteen people, that is still only £30. Other clubs have to pay £50 for the upstairs meeting room and £40 for the Copeland meeting room across the yard. We need to know from the Museum if there is a set amount they want from us each month. We really need to pay more each month or pay a yearly sum, in which case the £6 subs would need to be increased. Opinions are needed to find the best way of resolving this.

Thanks to everyone who brought their cars along to the meeting when we were visited by JDC Chairman, Nik Drukker. I think he appreciated the turnout and took some photos. On seeing the bus, he said if he still had his Ian Allan books he would have checked to see if he had ticked off that particular RT. We briefly ran through our recent visits and what was coming up shortly before handing the floor over to Nik. As a brief introduction he said that he has been involved with mainly older cars since the seventies and had been a director of the JDC for 22 years. He felt that the club was gradually evolving as inevitably there are more modern Jaguars in the Club which probably makes it more inclusive, as the prices of E types and XKs are rather prohibitive for the majority. He has instigated these Area visits as a way of getting to know the rank and file of JDC. He was partly responsible for the decision that the Chairman would only stand for three years so that things could stay fresh. He invited questions which included getting material published in Jaguar Driver and how to get Classic Car insurance available to younger drivers. Apparently he and the Board are still looking for a new headquarters for the JDC office in the Luton area, which they are reluctant to leave, as Kathy Beech and her excellent helpers live in that area. Ideally they are looking for something that could be more than just an office so that social car gatherings could take place there. It was mentioned that there might be closer co-operation between the JDC and JEC but Nik felt that while some events involve both, things won't change a great deal with the present JEC board. It would appear that we are very unusual in not having an official committee, but it has worked for us for thirty one years. I think we all appreciated the fact that Nik had given up his evening to come to our meeting as he still has a full time job and a young family.

As usual a few of us went to the Luton Festival of Transport which as always was well supported with a very wide range of cars, probably the most unusual was a 1930s Tatra which was immaculate.

Doug and I went to the Flywheel show at Bicester Heritage. It had been a RAF Bomber Command training station and is now being used for an increasing number of restoration businesses. This was the third year that they have had the Flywheel show and we would really recommend it. It was worth getting Early Bird passes at £20 which saved £8 on the gate price. This included the £5 programme and for no extra charge we booked a space in the pre '70 area, which was well worth doing as it was like being part of a very good, varied car show and was very close to all the action. We had a chance to have a very close look at the cars and motorbikes which would later drive round the demonstration course. It was like an old fashioned circuit with the straw bales so everyone was close to the action. There were plenty of static planes on view including a Dakota that you could go inside. The flying displays were by a solo Spitfire and then later another one in a dog fight with a Merlin engined Spanish plane. Nine Tiger Moths did a display as did a selection of replica first world war triplanes. Anyone with weak stomach might not have enjoyed the Pitts Special stunt plane. There were plenty of food outlets and stalls and we would go again. While wandering around the pre '70 area we met up with Dave and Penny Norton.

There were only a few of us at North Mymms park on it's Open Day in aid of the Red Cross. It is a very relaxing afternoon in pleasant surroundings but a shame that the gardens aren't really maintained. Whether the venue will still be available next year is unknown at the moment as present owners, Glaxo Smith Kline, are selling it. We heard someone who has worked there for fourteen years say that it is on the market for £22,000,000 and needs £9,000,000 spent on it.



A busy week coming up, with some people going to the Walled garden at Luton Hoo on Wednesday and Hoddesdon and Kimbolton on Saturday and Sunday.

Details about the RSPCA Open Day at South Mymms on 16th July are shown in the attached flyer.

It seems as though everyone has decided not to take their cars to the Classics on the Common event at Harpenden but a few will just go and park in the general car park.



It is rather short notice for this year's BBQ/veg judging as so many Sundays were booked with other things. The date is Sunday July 30th probably at Keith and Bobbie's but possibly at Dick and Eileen's. Anyone intending to go should give Bobbie a ring about a week earlier to check where it will be, what time, and what food should be brought.



I have had a couple of suggestions for Christmas dinner, the Five Horseshoes at Little Berkhamsted and the Kings Oak at Hlgh Beech. Any other ideas are welcome.