



## Area 57 (Enfield) Newsletter

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Published by Kim'n'Roy

### October 2014

The Christmas Dinner at the Galley Hall has been booked for Saturday 13th December and not 6th as we had hoped. I think most people involved will have seen the menu at the last club meeting. Barbara will need menu choices and £10 per head deposit by the next meeting on 3rd November. Anyone who hasn't seen the menu and wants to come, please ring Barb and she can tell you the choices.



September has been a very busy month with something going on every weekend. On Saturday 6th a few of us were at Buntingford, where the weather was good and there were plenty of people milling around enjoying the cars and music. Unusually, the collection of American cars were missing this year; maybe another event somewhere. One of the most unusual cars that we have seen there was a huge 1923 Delage which had been a record breaker in its time, reaching 138 mph before being beaten a few days later by a car called Mephistopheles. Its 12 cylinders and 10,000 cc engine was quite a sight.



The next day was the Capel Manor show which, I understand, was very busy. The following weekend, 13th/14th, we took the XK to the Autumn Show in Enfield town park as part of the Whitewebbs Museum display that Keith O had organised. There was a lot going on with a fairground, charity stalls and lots of activities that children could try their hands at such as table tennis and boxing. We often get asked strange questions about the car, but we were quite surprised when a couple of young girls; teens or early twenties, asked Doug whether the car could go, and were quite surprised that he had driven it there. Someone else asked me if it was fibreglass. One person we were talking to had been playing the cello at Earls Court for the launch of the XE that is featured in the current Jaguar Driver. Keith feels that the Museum got a lot of favourable publicity from the event.



### Evesham Weekend 19th/21st September

I first contacted this hotel quite a few years ago as its cartoon brochure and amusing and informative information appealed to me. Unfortunately at that time they didn't take groups of more than ten and back then we were more than that. As our numbers have decreased I was able to put the hotel forward again for people's choices and it was easily top choice. Situated a few minutes walk from Evesham town centre and the River Avon, it is a very comfortable hotel with lots of garden area with a large cedar of Lebanon and six old mulberry trees. A putting green enabled us to show our lack of skill although the grass was a bit long. The real attraction though is the eccentric owner who goes around with furry animals around his neck and will quite happily swap insults and quick quips; I think even Eric met his match at times.

All bedrooms have their own teddy bear, rubber duck and board games. The food was very good and the staff very efficient and pleasant. Eric saw that the owner had a Sinclair C5 and readily accepted the offer to have a go on it the next morning when it had been charged up; so Sunday morning saw him plus Doug and Keith all having a turn around the car park. On the Saturday morning we had all wandered into town through an old clock tower and into the local tourist office which is a lovely old timbered building. While following an incorrect sign to the marina we met a couple with their little boy driving a superb electric model Maserati.

As we couldn't find anywhere along the river for lunch, we took up one of the recommendations on the hotel leaflets. About twenty minutes drive took us to the village of Stanton, not far from Broadway. It is

one of the most perfect Cotswold villages you could wish to see but we couldn't find the pub we were looking for and eventually I knocked on someone's door. We had not gone far enough and we drove up a hill to a pub called appropriately enough, the Mount. It was smothered with hanging baskets full of begonias and from the terrace the views extended right across the tops of the village to the Malvern Hills in the distance. The food was good so it was well worth the hotel's favourable comments. From there we headed back to the hotel for a cup of tea in the garden and some putting.

On Sunday morning we decided to head for Bourton on the Water but as we got into the car park, Keith said he was going to call the RAC as he had got bad knocking in his E-type. It was diagnosed as a rusted bearing in one UJ joint that had failed and unfortunately Keith and Bobbie returned home in the trailer lorry. Doug and I had a fairly quick look round the motor museum which has got bigger since we last saw it. Eric, Margot and ourselves had a quick lunch while we waited for the lorry to pick up Keith's car. It was an unfortunate end to what had been a very enjoyable weekend.



On Sunday 28th, several of us got on the coach at the Whitewebbs Museum, heading off to Tower Pier, for the Waverley paddle steamer return trip, due back later that evening. Previously we had returned by coach so we were all looking forward to seeing all the lights along the Thames as we returned. However the best laid plans of mice and men, as they say, went wrong for Doug and I as, part way along the pier, I tripped and fell flat on my face. With tissues to my head and with great support from Keith and Bobbie, who organised a cab back to the Museum, we picked up our car and spent the evening at Barnet A&E where they stitched me up and put my finger straight. We gather from those who did the return trip as planned, it was a much later return home than expected but the lights along the Thames were really good.



Battlesbridge and Furneux Pelham were also shows attended recently which attracted substantial numbers.



## **LAST PANSHANGER REVIVAL?**

***By Margot Tetsell***

Eric and I were debating whether to go to the show at Tewin on Sunday 17th August, or the Panshanger Revival Day (a clash - as is often the case at this time of year). In the end we settled for Panshanger, and were glad we did as it is possibly the last of these events that they are putting on, as a developer is proposing to build 750 houses on the site. As we left people were handing out protest leaflets, and we had to agree it would be a shame to lose this historic airfield.

Anyway, a huge effort had been made by the organisers with two excellent singers on the stage, and a very good BBQ with a separate veggie section which went down well with me! The "In The Box" café were doing a roaring trade with their usually high standard of food and drinks, there were so many orders that the young lads serving were struggling to keep up. We watched a few stunt planes trying to terrify everyone – successfully in our case – sighs of relief all round when they pulled out of a death defying dive.

There has always been a great atmosphere at these events, lots of people make the effort to dress up in 1940s/50s clothes and uniforms, I even spotted a 'land girl' cycling around. There were a couple of vintage stalls, a mini-film show in the cavernous aircraft hanger and a good selection of planes and cars. One superb plane really stood out totally covered in gleaming chrome, and there was a Lagonda, Fraser Nash and a beautiful gunmetal XK150. A tiny motorbike called a Brockhouse Corgi really caught my eye. This company made folding motorbikes and this particular one was developed at a secret military research centre in Welwyn to be dropped by parachute and used by paratroopers in WW2. Altogether another interesting and enjoyable show.

