



Area 57 (Enfield) Newsletter

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Published by Kim'n'Roy

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I'll start with a reminder of some of the events coming up in the next few weeks. First, of course, is the Enfield Pageant. Please be on site by no later than 9:00.

The show at Hatfield is on June 7th and doesn't need pre-booking. I gather last year it was rather like a mini Trent Park show. Dick can give you any more information about it.

June 14th has a clash of events. I believe that most of us will be going to the show at Luton but if anyone wants an alternative, I have got tickets from Area 16 for their day at the Cock Inn at Sarat.

Going a bit further ahead, the Matching Green show is on July 5th, and then the following weekend is another one where several things clash. Hoddesdon is on Saturday 11th and National Jaguar Day at Woburn Abbey is on Sunday 12th. The Essex Classic Motor Show is on both days at Barleylands and the Highland Gathering is at Harpenden on 12th. Also most of you will have seen the Email that Roy forwarded on about the Finchley Festival that is looking for classic cars over that weekend.

I have got passes for the Kimbolton Fayre on July 19th which is a very enjoyable show with lots to see apart from the wide range of cars that get to this event.

Dick has passed on details about JD Classics, a Jaguar dealer at Maldon who are inviting Jaguar drivers to come and enjoy a bacon roll on several dates; 14th June, 19th July, 2nd August and 6th September but as you can see from the calendar some of these dates are already filled.

Now to really jump ahead, the date for our Christmas Dinner is December 12th. Everyone seems to feel that Pearse House is a good venue so we are returning there.



Over the past few weeks members have been out and about. At the end of April Dick and Eric went to a show at Highland House near Ongar which was very well supported, and Brian said the same about the event at Battlesbridge. There was a good turnout at the Ace Cafe on Bank Holiday for the Jaguar Performance Day, including two Champion of Champions, Mick Duffy's XK 150 and the current holder (whose name escapes me), also a white XK 150.

The Aston Clinton show was a victim of a very wet day but Len, Sally, Ron, Pam, Keith and Audrey braved it in between the heavy showers.

XK WEEKEND - May 8th-10th

After a very wet start, we met Alan and Barb at Peterborough Services for the Spring Weekend based at The Quorn Country Hotel near Loughbrough, stopping for a very good lunch at The White Horse, Empingham near Rutland Water. As always, Friday afternoon/evening was a time for meeting up with a mixture of regulars and newcomers.

Saturday morning started with organiser Bob Mackman's welcome and comments about the weekend. There were some choices to be made on Saturday as there were several places to visit. Everyone went to Calke Abbey, a property that the National Trust is conserving rather than restoring and most people took a short tour showing the work that the National Trust is doing. The gardens were also well worth a look round. Some people stayed for a full tour of the house but others including us, headed to Donnington to visit the F1 Museum. This collection must hold at least two hundred and fifty racing cars plus lots of memorabilia.

We didn't feel in need of a lunch break so went straight to the next venue; Quenby Hall, a large 17th Century house owned by the De Lisle family. We were welcomed with a cup of tea and piece of cake by Mrs De Lisle before being split into two groups. We stayed in the Old Dairy, where Mr De Lisle gave us an interesting talk about Stilton cheese as they are one of the major producers of it which, unlike Cheddar, still has to be made in the area. We all tasted curds and whey before sampling the much tastier finished product.

After buying some of the very tasty cheese, the groups swapped and we were shown around the house, mostly by an amazing lady called Vivienne, who single handedly does all the cleaning and polishing as well as making curtains, seat covers, and painting Chinese style wallpaper. She started work with the previous generation of the family and it really is a labour of love. Our visit over ran by about an hour so all the ladies in this group had to get ready for dinner in double quick time. As on the previous evening, the food was excellent.

Sunday was much more relaxed as it was only a drive of about twenty five miles to Belvoir Castle. It was a return visit for some of us, but this time we had an interesting guided tour before our traditional Sunday lunch.

It was the usual parting of the ways then, and I think that some of the newcomers will be joining us again on other Spring Weekends. Apart from the early rain, the weather was sunny but breezy. It was a relaxing weekend for me as Alan went in front most of the time so Barb was following Bob's tulip instructions.



TONBRIDGE TREK - 17-19th April

Report by Audrey Williams

Ten of us met up en route in the rain on Friday lunchtime at 'The Wheatsheaf' at Bough Beech in Kent. A quaint little pub even in the wet!

We headed to the hotel in Tonbridge only to find the car park full and cramped – but we all managed to park eventually, much to the annoyance of the local Estate Agent who claimed it was their piece of land and private.

Tony Clinton made us very welcome in his opening speech at dinner that evening, and especially mentioned Jaguar Club's two virgins (We assumed he meant Alan & Barbara as newcomers!)

By Saturday the weather had improved and we set off on a scenic tour of the area led by Keith O. We arrived at Finchcock's musical museum a little late but just in time to see twin Haringay lambs being born in the grounds. The museum was very interesting, but not being a great lover of classical music I wasn't looking forward to the concert to follow. The director, Richard Burnett introduced himself – he didn't look particularly confident, his balance was poor, his speech slurred and hands were clearly arthritic. The result was mind-blowing!! We spent an hour and a half being entertained by his wit and musical ability. He was supported by two other guest impresarios. They took us through the history and demonstrations of pianoforte, harpsichord, spinet and Chamber organs. It was terrific.

Barbara, Alan, Keith and I spent the afternoon at Hastings where we enjoyed fish and chips on the promenade and some fresh Sussex strawberries dipped in Chocolate as afters.

Saturday evening was lively with the traditional hat competition, a quiz, meal with free wine on the table followed by a disco. Unfortunately, Eric didn't regain his trophy – but our club did make up for it in raffle prizes – three on our table with Keith O kindly passing his second win on to another table.

On Sunday we visited Chartwell, Churchill's family home. It was exactly that; a home, no fuss or pomp. It is set in beautiful grounds and we also spotted the wall he built himself around the vegetable garden. Our Sunday lunch was some of his favourite comfort food – home made steak and mushroom pie and Eve's pudding.

Overall, an enjoyable weekend with good company, good food (some!) and beautiful countryside. The only downside was that someone in the party thought we were a German Jaguar Club – must have been all those towels Keith W put down to reserve our seats at dinner each evening!!

Next year's trip has already been arranged, availability is limited. It's at the Stratton House Hotel in Cirencester on 16-17th April. You'll need to book soon!

