

**NORTH HAMPSHIRE *AUSTIN* ENTHUSIASTS GROUP**  
**Monthly Newsletter and Events Update**

**[www.nhaeg.org.uk](http://www.nhaeg.org.uk)**

**AUGUST 2007**

**Club nights at The New Inn, Heckfield, 8pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in every month**

**Mo's Mutterings**

Goodness me, so many things are happening, or not happening due to the weather, I am not sure if I am on foot or horseback!

One of our very enjoyable days out with other club members was to Loseley House, so well organised by Jean Edwards. Although we have been before it always has much to offer. Our day there started with coffee and biscuits before a lovely walk through the countryside surrounding Loseley Park. Part of the walk was a "little uphill" but I am sure good for us. When we returned we had a very nice lunch served by two extremely smart waiters, and after coffee we went our separate ways either to tour the house or the lovely gardens. After tea and cakes, Don and I followed Jean and Trevor home by a slightly different route which was very pretty and we all arrived home safely after a very relaxing day. Well done, Jean!



**NHAEG LINE-UP AT LOSELEY PARK**

**Aaaaaah!!!!!!!!**

***STOP PRESS: The date of the Picnic in the Paddock will now be Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2007***

## COLIN'S COLUMN

What dreadful weather we have had over the past few weeks, not really the sort of weather in which to enjoy our type of cars . However, it has not stopped many of us using our cars, it has just meant that those with soft tops have had to have the hoods up more than usual.

### Paul Finn Rally (BEN Run)

The BEN Run followed by the Lynwood Fete is always a good day out so despite the rain, Ann and I decided to go. Isn't it noisy with the hood up! We arrived at the start point in Ascot to find quite a few other club members had braved the weather, including Nick (Buchanan) and his daughter who looked very wet, having had the hood of their Chummy down for most of the way.

After the normal drivers' briefing we set off for the journey to Lynwood passing through Windsor Great Park on our way, using roads not normally open to vehicles. Because of the rain, the grass at Lynwood was very wet in places which meant they could not let cars onto some of the areas they normally use but as a lot of cars had not turned up this did not present too much of a problem.

Once we had parked we all had a look round the stalls before sitting under a very large tree to keep the rain off while we ate our lunch. With lunch finished the rain decided to finally stop, which meant it was easier to have a look round and chat to other car owners before setting off home again.

Despite the rain I think we all enjoyed the day, hopefully the weather will be kinder to us next year.

### NHAEG Goes To The Dogs

How about a night at the dogs suggested Don at a committee meeting. Seems like a good idea, said the rest of the committee so Don went ahead and arranged a visit to the Reading Greyhound meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July.



*Serious stuff this!!!*

*Hazel! Concentrate!*

Never having been greyhound racing before I was not sure what to expect but it turned out to be a great evening. Don had booked for 20 in the restaurant though on the night we only had 18, as Brian and Marlene were unfortunately not too well. The food was excellent and whilst eating, we could watch the racing outside on the track. There was no need to go outside to place your bets as someone came to your table to enable you to do this and if you were lucky, to pay out your winnings. I think everyone was only placing small bets so I don't think anyone lost very much over all. In any case it was a lot of fun and something I would not mind doing again sometime.

On behalf of all those who went a big thank you to Don and Maureen for the idea and arranging the evening.

### **July Club Night**

*With showers on and off all day it did not look too promising for our annual Concourse d' Elegance. In the event we had an excellent turnout of 20 cars and 44 members. Apart from a sudden downpour, which sent some people rushing out to the car park to put their hoods up and necessitating others still on their way, to stop and do likewise, it was a fairly dry evening.*

*The last to arrive was Richard Scott in his 1904 Wolseley having wisely waited for the rain to pass over before leaving home. This car has been in Richard's family from new having been purchased originally by his grandmother and it was the first time most members had seen it. The car caused a great deal of interest with a crowd quickly forming around it. With no lights Richard was not able to stay too long and after everyone had had a good look he was off home again making very good progress up the hill from The New Inn. Many thanks for bringing the Wolseley, Richard, it was great to see and hopefully will stay in your family for many more years.*



*The judging of the cars as usual was done by all the members voting for the best car overall, and the best Austin 7. We also asked June the Landlady to choose the car she would most like to own. The overall winners were Don and Maureen (Breakspear) in their 1926 Austin 12/4*

*Windsor who received the 'Peter Adnams Memorial Trophy' and a bottle of wine. The Austin 7 judged the best was the 1932 Tourer of David and Karen (Witton) who received the 'Breakspear Trophy' and a bottle of wine. Well done to them all. Who won the Landlady's choice, I hear you ask? Modesty prevents me from saying. All I will say is the car was a 1934 Austin 10 Cabriolet called 'Arabella' and her owners received a bottle of wine.*

*Despite the rain at the beginning it was a very enjoyable evening, many thanks to everyone for bringing your 'pride and joys' out in such weather.*

### *Picnic in the Paddock*

*Due to torrential rain causing the paddock to flood we unfortunately had to postpone the picnic; I believe this is the first time we have had to do this. Everyone we thought might have come should have been contacted by email or phone, if we missed anyone out then please accept our apologies. It is hoped we can arrange another date later on. There will be details elsewhere in this Newsletter.*

### *August Club Night*

*Our August club night will be a Noggin 'n' Natter. We have not had one of these for a while, hopefully the weather will be kinder to us than last month and we will be able to sit outside in the earlier part of the evening.*

### *Raffle*

*It is a little while since I thanked members who have donated prizes for the raffle, your generosity is very much appreciated. The raffle is the club's main source of income so if you have anything suitable, unwanted gifts etc., then please let Ann have them. Remember they must be new and in good condition.*

*As I finish this, the rain is lashing down outside, hopefully we will eventually get a bit of summer weather so that we can enjoy our cars again.*

*Safe and Happy Motoring.*

*Colin.*

# Secretary's Scribblings

## Surreal, but True!

My contribution to this month's Newsletter will be very brief indeed due to the fact that there are, I'm afraid, matters which are a little more pressing for me to attend to than usual exist.

The deluge which affected many parts of the country, Berkshire in particular, yesterday (20<sup>th</sup> July), unfortunately had our spot of Crowthorne firmly in its sights. As the sky darkened during the morning and the rain really began to fall heavily it was apparent that it was not going to be just any old 'shower'. By the time it began to abate some time during the late afternoon, nine properties, ours included, had had their ground floors flooded to varying depths – in our case almost two inches which, whilst bearing little comparison with the catastrophic flooding in Yorkshire, Worcestershire, etc., is still serious enough to create damage and destruction on a scale sufficient to make life pretty unpleasant. The presence of a huge amount of surface water, effectively a torrent even, surging firstly through the garage to a depth of about 9 inches would have been worrying but, when it was contaminated with 'nasty stuff' emerging out of drains and then finding its way over back and front door steps into the house proper, it is particularly irksome, to say the least.

At the time of writing I have just managed to dispose of soaking study floor covering and reconnected computer etc., temporarily, pending drying out operations and dealing with insurance assessors etc. plus other things one is not generally too conversant with. Great fun!

Therefore, please excuse the brevity of my *Scribblings* this time around. Will try to be back to normal by September's issue.

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## Excursion 2008 - Questionnaire

There was a very disappointing response to the questionnaire put out last month and, of those which were received, the information provided was somewhat ambiguous and unclear in some instances.

I am drawn to the conclusion, therefore, that the questionnaire was ill-constructed, ill-worded or otherwise difficult to interpret – or, alternatively perhaps, that most people would be prepared to go along with just about anything proposed and planned and haven't, therefore, bothered to respond.

Therefore, I have decided to simply pose a couple of questions, verbally, to members attending the September Club Night (Jean and I will not be able to attend August's, since we shall be in Scotland helping celebrate our son's nuptials) and, based, on responses received at that time, go from there. Please be prepared to make some comments, suggestions, observations, etc. then.

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As I said it's short and sweet this time. I've parked 'Clarissa' in a friend's garage temporarily, leaving 'PO' on her own in my garage whilst the clear up continues. She doesn't seem to mind and, in fact, seems quite happy with her recently fitted 24T carburettor, replacing the previous 22FZB variety – at least when driven locally. Must see how she behaves during a longer run though, some time soon hopefully.

See you at the September Club Night, if not sooner at the Littlewick Show on August Bank Holiday Monday. Till then, safe and *dry* motoring!

*TREVOR*

### Don's Doodlings

It has all started to get a bit depressing now as our lives seem to revolve around the fact of whether or not it is raining! We seem to be constantly saying, we will go there or do that if it is not raining. However, most of us in this area are very lucky not to have been caught up in the flooding.

I have just been watching the news with aerial views of Stratford-on-Avon. It seems quite incredible that on the way back from Birmingham in 2005, a number of us were sitting where there is now two to three feet of flood water.

I have just come back from Jean and Trevor Edwards' house which unfortunately has been a casualty of the flood water. Fortunately, the water has subsided now, but the bad news is the mess and damage remaining in their lovely home. It is going to be a long hard slog to get their home and garden back to the way they like it. I know this is something they could well do without at this time.

On a happier note, we would like to thank Jean and Trevor for the Loseley House day out. I know Maureen is going to give a run down of the day. I was glad those of you who came to the Reading Dog Stadium enjoyed the night and did not make the bookies too much richer. Maureen and I were delighted and surprised to be voted the best dressed at the last club night, as the rest of the members who dressed up all looked fantastic. Also thank you for voting for Queenie, our 12/4, I wish I could take the credit for her restoration.

At the Brookland Autojumble which was well attended this year, Brian Grant, Nick Buchanan and I had a good day on our stall. Nick seemed very surprised that he sold all his Austin Seven parts but of course, I am sure had to hand over the cash to Pat for a little retail therapy.

We also saw Colin Greig with Hazel and Dave Holland wandering around during the course of the day.

Must stop now as the editor is giving me a hard time, insisting I hand over my doodlings. See you at the next club night, if it is not raining!

Don

## **LONGSTOCK PARK WATER GARDEN - 19th AUGUST 2007**

### **Visit Update**

Start time, from the New Inn has been revised to 'about' 11.00 as we are expected at 'The Plough Inn' in Longparish, [www.theploughinn.info](http://www.theploughinn.info), at 12.30,(about 27 miles later). As it opens at noon there will be ample time for pre- lunch liquid maintenance without rushing the journey. Coffee and tea will be available before take-off. This does not cover the supply of higher octane fuels.

As already advised, Mrs Bingham at The Plough will change her menu a little before our visit so she will e-mail her revised menu to Ruth and I as soon as it is available. We will then e-mail or telephone it to all participants, collect your food orders and then advise her of our requirements. This will allow her staff to identify and serve the meals against your name so you can let your memory relax and still get what you ordered. If you get something different, your memory relaxed too much! Bills should be settled directly with Mrs Bingham.

**This means that no meal orders shall be taken after our August meeting on the 13th.**

If you miss this date you can still order at The Plough on the day but you may have to wait as they are usually busy at that time. The Cricketers pub is about 100m. back along the road.

At the time of writing seven Club cars and one visitor have signed on namely: Ann and Colin Greig, Maureen and Don Breakspear, Hazel and Dave Holland, Pauline and Peter Barlow, Sandra and Malcolm Ryley, Ruth and George Ewart, Jean and Trevor Edwards and their guests Marilyn and Chris.

As we have made a provisional booking for 10/12 cars at 'The Plough Inn' there is still room for those who wish to come.

If you do, see Ruth and George at our August meeting or contact them on 01344 778286 or e-mail [george.ewartx@btinternet.com](mailto:george.ewartx@btinternet.com).

The gardens, about 32 miles from the New Inn, are described on [www.longstockpark.co.uk](http://www.longstockpark.co.uk).

Admission to the Garden, which is open from 14.00 to 17.00 is £5 per person for the Willow Court / Andover League of Friends charity on the day of our visit. Coffee and cakes, provided by the local church, will be on sale at the nursery.

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## Events Diary Update!

<b>August 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Club Night Noggin' and Natter</b>	
<b>August 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Trip to Water Gardens, Longstock Near Stockbridge</b>	<b>George and Ruth Ewart</b>
<b>August 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Reading &amp; Wokingham Show Loddon Court Farm, Beech Hill, Swallowfield</b>	
<b>August 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Littlewick Show, Holyport, Nr. Maidenhead</b>	
<b>Sept.8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>International Autojumble – Beaulieu</b>	
<b>September 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Club Night Quiz</b>	<b>John &amp; Joan Hancock</b>
<b>October 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Club Night Talk by Julie Els</b>	
<b>October 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>B2B Run (BEN Lynwood to Brooklands) To be confirmed</b>	
<b>November 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Auction Night</b>	<b>Don B.</b>
<b>November 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Nightjar Rally</b>	
<b>December 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Christmas Dinner @ The Falcon</b>	
<b>December 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Fun and Games Evening</b>	