

# **NORTH HAMPSHIRE AUSTIN ENTHUSIASTS GROUP**

**Founded 1974**

## **Monthly Newsletter and Events Update**

Editor

Mo Breakspear  
(maureenbreakspear@yahoo.co.uk)

01189733568

**Please let me have any articles for the newsletter by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of the month, on a WORD DOCUMENT attached to an e-mail.**

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

**AUGUST 2011**

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

### **Mo's Mutterings**

Don and I have enjoyed so many of the events that have taken place over the last month and I hope you enjoy reading about some of them in the following pages. My grateful thanks to all members who have sent me input for the newsletter this month. Please carry on doing so!



This beautiful Austin Ten belongs to Bob and Jill Hobbs. See Colin's write-up later in the newsletter.

One of Eric Mouser's colleagues at the Ipswich Transport Museum (well worth a visit!), has asked if he can help trace his grandfather's Austin 1934, 12/4. It is registered PV2742 (an Ipswich registration) and **IS** currently insured.

Enquiries of the Austin 12 Register have come to nought – any info. on the car's owner and whereabouts would be gratefully forwarded.

Eric can be contacted: [eric.mouser@ntlworld.com](mailto:eric.mouser@ntlworld.com)

### **Welcome to new members**

Gavin and Tina Francis from Binfield have joined us. They are restoring a 1934 Box Seven, reg. RV2661 and hope to have it ready for the Littlewick Show in August.

They can be reached by landline at 01344 488 552, on e-mail on [gavin-francis@btconnect.com](mailto:gavin-francis@btconnect.com) or [tinafrancis@btconnect.com](mailto:tinafrancis@btconnect.com)

### **Chairmans Corner**

The July Club night was devoted to the Concourse d'Elegance and we saw a large number of cars with their proud owners. On these occasions there are three categories Best Overall, Best Austin 7 and the Landlord's choice.

Roy Roberts won the Best Overall in his Austin 12/4 Ascot and received the Peter Adnams Trophy.

Peter Barlow won the Best Austin 7 and I had the pleasure of presenting him with the new Jan Barker Memorial Trophy which I had put up following her passing away last year.

The Landlord's Choice was also won by Roy Roberts who received a bottle of wine.

Congratulations go to them.

Although not a club event, several members attended the Pinewood Open Day Car Show at the beginning of the month and by all accounts it was very good.

A trip was arranged to Woodley Aircraft Museum or alternatively a walk in nearby Dinton Pastures, the museum was small but most interesting and a credit to the volunteers that run it. The walk, undertaken by a few of the hardy ladies, was wet but enjoyable. We then departed to John & Joan Hancock's house where we enjoyed a very nice barbecue. Despite the inclement weather the 23 members present all enjoyed ourselves very much. Huge thanks must go to John & Joan who were ably assisted by Andy & Do Ranson, for all their hard work.

The remaining event for the month is the Picnic in the Paddock where I hope to see as many of you as possible.

**John**

### **Secretary's Scribblings**

#### **Quiz News**

The June Quiz, 'World of Popular Music', produced several entries, four of which were all correct. Three of the four, submitting entries, were present at the July Club Night (*Concours* evening) so a tie-breaking mini-quiz was held to determine a winner. This comprised a further five questions, on the same subject, to be answered in just five minutes. The winner, by a slender margin, was then confirmed as none other than our esteemed Chairman John (Chad) who, being so well-informed on such a topic, evidently spent a lot of money in his youth attending pop concerts, purchasing records and engaging in similar activities generally!

Congratulations go to him and, hopefully, his prize of a bottle of wine went down well.

For those interested a full list of the answers appear elsewhere in this issue.

The quiz, back this month, 'Below the Surface', is to do with 'things' on or beneath the water – salt and fresh. Answers are creatures, plants or objects associated with 'wet stuff'. Entries in please, to me, [together with £1.00 towards prize(s)], by 9<sup>th</sup> September.

\* \* \* \* \*

### 36<sup>th</sup> Nightjar - 19<sup>th</sup> November 2011

Some time back a request was made for volunteers to act as Marshals for this event and a number of members responded - positively.  
Unfortunately, yet another casualty of the catastrophic PC crash I experienced in June, was the loss of the list of those who *did* get back to me. Three couples I can recall from memory – Dave and Anne (Butcher), Nick and Pat (Buchanan) and Julie (Els) and Mike (Corbett). I feel sure there were more but have lost their names.

If you were amongst those who sent me their names earlier this year or, indeed, if you didn't but would like to offer your services marshalling on the evening in question, would you please get back to me. The aim, this year, is to try to fill the requirements for 12 marshals (at 6 locations) from within the club if at all possible. Many thanks!

\* \* \* \* \*

### Heritage Day - Basildon House - 10<sup>th</sup> September

Nine couples have indicated, all being well, that they plan to turn up at Basildon House for the annual Heritage Day event being staged there on the 10<sup>th</sup> September. Entry for all will be free on that day and we will be asked to park in front of the house itself in order to form part of the attractions for the general public.

If there are any more who would like to make the short journey to Basildon House, just off the A329, north of Reading, to be part of the display please let me know as soon as possible since we need to advise Basildon House staff accordingly. Picnicking is welcome although refreshments are available in the restaurant within the house.

### A Reminder about forthcoming Events and Activities

There's a plethora of activities and events taking place over the next couple of months and no apology is offered in providing this quick reference list of many of them to assist in deciding which to attend/support. It *may* be too late to register for some, if advance registration was required – however, just check, if interested.

- |                        |   |                     |
|------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 31 <sup>st</sup> July  | <i>'Picnic in the Paddock'</i> For details contact Colin Greig (0118 978 2087), Don Breakspear (0118 973 3568), or Trevor Edwards (01344 775012)  |                     |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> August | <i>Walking Rally</i> (Club Night)   | Trevor/Jean         |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> Aug   | Dunsfold Park. Film extras required for production about Queen Elizabeth 1 <sup>st</sup> . Contact Lauren Jacobs. Email: <a href="mailto:lauren_jacobs1@hotmail.com">lauren_jacobs1@hotmail.com</a>   |                     |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> Aug   | <i>August Amble</i> - Club Event. Car run and lunch at 'New Inn'  | Colin               |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> Aug   | <i>'Fly To The Past'</i> – Oxford Airport. Free entry to driver and passenger turning up in historic vehicle, if dressed in period attire. Otherwise £17.50 per person. Contact: Eleanor Martin email: <a href="mailto:eleanor@flytothepast.co.uk">eleanor@flytothepast.co.uk</a> |                     |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> Aug   | Informal display of Classic Cars. 'Frog & Wicket', Eversley.  | Just turn up.       |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> Aug   | Littlewick Show, Maidenhead. 'Best' one-day show in the south of England.   |                     |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept   | Longparish Fete (near Andover)  | Trevor, for info.   |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> Sept  | <i>Heritage Day</i> , Basildon House (nr. Reading). Free entry. FBHVC sponsored event at this establishment. Display organised by NHAEG   | Trevor, for details |

\* \* \* \* \*

*Make the most of any forecasted good weather to get out and about enjoying motoring as it should be!*

*Trevor*

### **COLINS COMMENTS**

The **NHAEG** was well represented at the **“Pinewood Festival”** on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July with seven members cars in attendance. It was a warm dry day and there was plenty to do and see including riding on the Pinewood Miniature Railway, which has quite a number of engines and carriages as well as a long track, resulting in a very long ride. Ann and I took along our three grandchildren who all enjoyed the day as I am sure did everyone else. This was the first time the event had been run and the intention is to have it every other year, judging by the number of people there I would think it could become a very popular show. Many thanks to Trevor for advising us about it.

The trip to the **“Woodley Aircraft Museum”** followed by a BBQ on the 17<sup>th</sup> July was a great success and very enjoyable. My personal thanks to John and Joan and Andy and Do for arranging the day.

Coming up on the **14<sup>th</sup> August** is the **“August Amble”** Details of which were in the July newsletter. Final details with a route will be sent very shortly to all those who have indicated they would like to take part. If you have not entered but would like too, please **contact me now or by August 1<sup>st</sup> at the very latest,** particularly if you want lunch as I have to give numbers to The New Inn by then.

Also in August on the Bank Holiday Monday is the **“Littlewick Show”** Entries should be in by **1<sup>st</sup> August** so if you have not sent yours in yet you need to do so now. It is always a good show and well worth attending. If you have not got an entry form and would like to go then contact me and I can email one to you, but hurry there is not much time left. You can of course just turn up on the day but you will have to pay the normal entry charge.

Don't forget our next event the **“Picnic in the Paddock”** in Finchampstead on **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July**. It starts at midday and remember to bring your food, drinks, chairs, tables etc. and if you want to, a gazebo. If you have not been before and want to know where it is, contact me and I will give you directions.

Below are details of an event at **“The Frog and Wicket” Eversley Cross**, which I have taken from their Web site [www.thefrogandwicket.co.uk](http://www.thefrogandwicket.co.uk) We went last year and there were quite a number of cars. The lunch is good as well, although you would probably need to book a table if you want a meal. If I remember correctly Trevor M. won second prize last year.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Classic Vehicle Day at The Frog and Wicket.** **Eversley Cross** **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August**

After the great success of our first Classics Day we are delighted to announce the date (well in advance) for our **2nd** event at The Frog & Wicket **next summer 2011**.

Our 2010 event attracted around 50 fabulous vehicles dating back to pre-war; including our Winners 1st SUBARU, 2nd TALBOT & 3rd MG, who went away with some fabulous trophies & bottles of wine, and we hope to see all of you again next year! So, if yours is pre-1972, and if you would like to bring it down

and show it off you'll be very welcome. There will be a BBQ & Hog Roast, Live Music, Prizes & Raffle. The event is on from 10am with coffee (free to exhibitors), soft drinks & bacon rolls available, and then the bar will open at 12 with Sunday lunch and a variety of other options on offer. A live music event will kick off around 1.30pm with The Mike Miller Jazz Trio, followed later on by The Eversley Brothers from 6.00pm & will go on until about 8.00pm.

\*\*\*\*\*

I recently received an email from Bob Hobbs who is still a member even though he now lives in Wiltshire. He has spent the past few years restoring a **1934 Austin 10 Cabriolet** just like mine, which is now complete. The car was originally purchased by Bobs father in 1937 for £69 and used until 1981 when it was then stored. Bob started the rebuild in July 2006 and completed it in June 2011. The cost of the rebuild was £13,500, as Bob says in his email, yes, really true! £5000 went into the engine which had internal cracks in the block and has been bored, crank ground, new valves and timing chain etc. etc. Bob drove the car up to Hopkins Garage, Eversley, which is the garage he used when he lived in this area to get its MOT, a distance of 65 miles each way, quite a distance for its first trip.

Those of you who went on the visit to the Mini Factory may remember Bob who came in his Triumph Renown, which unfortunately was not behaving itself on the day and was left at Twyford while Bob travelled with me, collecting his car on our return. The Triumph has also been in the family for a long time having been bought by Bob's Father in 1953 to replace the Austin, but in the event the 10 was retained as a second car. Bobs Father obviously did not like parting with his cars.

Bob sent me a picture of the Austin, and I must say it looks beautiful; hopefully Maureen will be able to put it in the newsletter. He did say in his email that maybe when he is feeling brave he would bring the Austin to a club night or event. It would be great to see it Bob, as well as you and Jill. In the meantime enjoy driving your car.

That's it for this month; hope to see many of you at the Picnic.

Safe and Happy Motoring,

### **2011 COMMITTEE CONTACTS:**

|                   |                       |   |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Chairman:</b>  | <b>John Chad</b>      | <b>01252873713</b><br><b>(<a href="mailto:jchad@waitrose.com">jchad@waitrose.com</a>)</b>                           |
| <b>Secretary:</b> | <b>Trevor Edwards</b> | <b>01344775012</b><br><b>(<a href="mailto:trevor_c.edwards@btinternet.com">trevor_c.edwards@btinternet.com</a>)</b> |
| <b>Treasurer:</b> | <b>Jean Edwards</b>   | <b>01344775012</b><br><b>(<a href="mailto:trevor_c.edwards@btinternet.com">trevor_c.edwards@btinternet.com</a>)</b> |
| <b>Committee:</b> | <b>Don Breakspear</b> | <b>01189733568</b><br><b>(<a href="mailto:maureenbreakspear@yahoo.co.uk">maureenbreakspear@yahoo.co.uk</a>)</b>     |
|                   | <b>Dave Witton</b>    | <b>01252333465</b><br><b>(<a href="mailto:david.witton@btinternet.com">david.witton@btinternet.com</a>)</b>         |
|                   | <b>Phil Dunford</b>   | <b>01252716387</b><br><b>(<a href="mailto:phildunford@dunfords.co.uk">phildunford@dunfords.co.uk</a>)</b>           |
|                   | <b>Karen Witton</b>   | <b>01252333465</b><br><b>(<a href="mailto:karen.witton@kpmg.co.uk">karen.witton@kpmg.co.uk</a>)</b>                 |
|                   | <b>Colin Greig</b>    | <b>01189782087</b>  |



## KAREN DOES IT AGAIN!



### *Karen poses with Molly and the Mike Brigg trophy after winning best in her class*

We decided to make a full weekend to include the Beaulieu Austin Seven Rally and set off on Saturday – Karen in Molly and me in Myrtle - to stay in the Passford House Hotel just outside Lymington. This is a little gem of a hotel where it has retained its individuality by being privately owned. It has oak panelled rooms, crisp white table cloths and tea is served in proper silver tea pots. Moreover, the staff actually seem to be happy in their work! The grounds are stunning and are included in the National Garden Scheme. It was an ideal launch point for Beaulieu.

We had a short drive on Sunday on a beautiful morning through the New Forest and arrived soon after things had been set up. This gave me an opportunity to start some early rummaging in the jumble which is exclusively Austin Seven. The day was scorching without a cloud in the sky and required frequent visits to the ice cream van! The Rally is always a relaxed affair where everyone has a common interest – the Austin Seven. It is an opportunity to meet old acquaintances, look at other folk's cars, pick up hints and ideas and to picnic out amongst the cars.

One entrant was clearly unable to bring his car but at least brought the engine! Closer examination revealed the reason!



### *Looks ok from this distance*



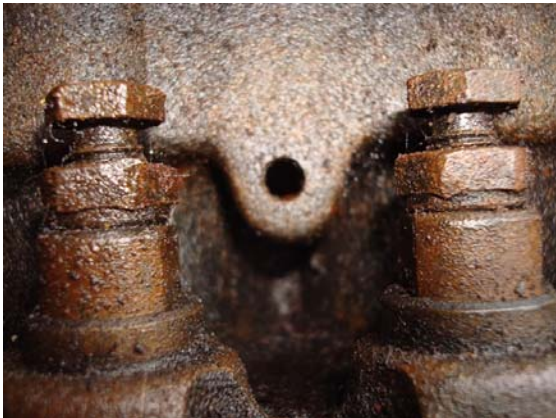
### ***Ouch indeed!***

As the afternoon wore on, one of the officials advised Karen she had been awarded a 'First' so I went over to Myrtle and found that she had been awarded a 'Commended' for her class. In other words, second place, although there is no prize as such. She was beaten to first by an absolutely stunning dark red Speedy owned by John Dupre – a worthy winner. Karen duly joined the arena to collect the Cup from Ralph Montagu. It took some time to find room for all the spares I had purchased and, after being out in the sun all day, we were both glowing by the time we called it a day.

On Monday we left Molly at the hotel whilst we explored the coast at Keyhaven before returning home in the afternoon. Both Molly and Myrtle behaved faultlessly and we were home in under 2 hours. Molly has now earned her overhaul so her engine will be removed for inspection and top overhaul at the very least. Substantial carbon build up can be seen through the spark plug holes! It will also give me an opportunity to remedy the spinning clutch and generally remove 5 years of oil and grime. Fortunately I have another engine to drop in so the car will still be available for use. This is an engine I picked up from a member of the Norfolk club and which had been completely overhauled and rebored to +40. As usual, I dismantled most of it to make sure that I was happy that everything was as it should be, which it was – or so I thought! After running it for a while on the test bed I left it alone for a week or two and returned to find a small amount of coolant seeping from the tappet cover. Odd I thought so I did what most would do and removed the tappet cover. Result two perfect jets of water from each hole where the cover retaining screws enter the block! You guessed it. The holes went right through to the water jacket. Apparently this is not uncommon as some early blocks with offset cover screws should have studs and separate cover screws for that reason. Other blocks have separate 'lugs' cast for the cover screws. Another lesson learned!



***Stud now inserted!***



***Later block with tappet cover screw holes clear of water jacket***

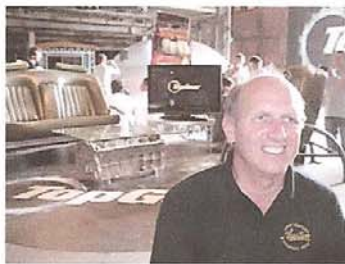


### A top day out...

On a Wednesday in July, Jan and I were very lucky to be invited to attend the studio recording of an episode of Top Gear.

We arrived in Dunsfold Park in good time and had quite a wait whilst rehearsals took place. We were then led, along with 700 or so others, into the former hanger which is now the studio for the programme. In the centre is a circular raised stage with the familiar green car seats and table made from an engine block. Around the sides of the building are a number of cars used in previous stunts – the Triumph Herald from which James May made a boat, the car dressed to look like an Italian police car and the Toyota Hilux which defied destruction several series ago.

There was also a very smart looking Rolls Royce which we didn't pay too much attention to as we were being directed right up to the front of the stage by the Floor Manager. Once everyone was in the Director briefed us all on how the recording would progress. Then it was time for the three presenters, Clarkson, Hammond and May to join us. After a bit of 'warming up' with some good banter and adult humour, they got straight into the 'news' section of the programme. This takes the form of light hearted reviews of new cars and various things motoring. What a treat to be in the front row, with this happening barely eight feet away, and a camera rolling right next to us.



Then it was on to some other pieces, which were introduced from another part of the studio floor – in between there's quite a bit of moving cameras and lighting and people (pretty girls somehow always in shot!) Along the way some re-takes are necessary. The parts of the show where they play previously filmed stunts were shown on screens throughout the studio – in this case it was one where they'd turned two cars into railway engines, filmed some weeks ago in Leicestershire. Then it was back to the stage to welcome the guest. We couldn't have been more pleased to be there on the week when it was someone we'd really like to see (i.e. not a footballer.....) After some years of T.G. trying to persuade him to do the show, Rowan Atkinson had agreed.

It was great to hear him interviewed and then see the film of his record scoring lap around the track. We also learnt that the Rolls was the one being used in the soon to be released *Johnny English – Reborn* and, at his request, it is fitted with one of only three engines produced as originally designed for the car, in V16 rather than the V12 now produced.

After a short tea break in the sunshine, watching a Lotus racing car being filmed for the following week's episode, we were back in for the second part of the railway stunt and then to see the actual Jaguar and it's 'carriage' brought into the studio for the finale.



The whole exercise took about four hours – an excellent day out and interesting to see some of it up close as we hear quite a bit of how it all happens from our son, who works on the outside and overseas elements of the programme.



## **Tony, Pat and Gordon on Tour.**

As part of our celebratory year, we decided to holiday in style. This did mean, of course, taking one of the Austins. The 16/6 Gordon bodied Drophead Coupe is powerful, comfortable and had reasonable luggage space and I felt confident about its abilities to cope with long distances, so that was our chosen steed. We decided to book ourselves onto the Port Wine Tour through Spain and Portugal with ERL (European Routes for Leisure) as I had heard good reports about the tours they organize. After spending time checking everything thoroughly, giving a good service and packing a selection of mainly ignition, fuel and electrical spares, we were ready for our adventure.

We arrived in Portsmouth to get on the ferry to Santander in Northern Spain in plenty of time, seeing our fellow travellers arrive in Bentleys, Lagondas, Alvis', Jaguars and other exotic machinery. I did not feel outclassed though!

Once on the boat and settled into the cabin, we had a reception with plenty of drinks and nibbles. This set the scene for the 12 days. Over-indulgence! Everyone was very open and friendly, with common ground swiftly being found.

The Bay of Biscay was calm and so travelling on the boat for a day was very pleasant and good friendships were established. I was not the only ATDC member as Fred and Louise Varney were also on the trip in their Triumph TR4. They have a 16/6 and were hoping I was still going to bring Gordon when the itinerary was established as they wanted to see it perform and quiz me about theirs!

The tour was split into 3 distinct parts: three days spent driving to Pinhao where we stayed for 4 nights and then three days driving back to the ferry at Bilbao.

The driving to Pinhao in Portugal and back was spectacular. We mainly took the country roads and whilst on these roads, we hardly saw another car. When going through the villages, we rarely saw any people either. They looked completely deserted. Many of the buildings looked derelict and this was the same through Spain and Portugal. Pat felt that she was travelling through a set in a Mexican cowboy film! The road surfaces throughout our trip were splendid, on the whole, with only a few areas of poor surface. Better than the comparable English country roads! There were plenty of challenging climbs. These were not particularly steep, about 1 in 15 or so, but they were relentless! The longest one was about 15 miles as we climbed to the summit of the San Glorio Pass in the Picos Mountains at 5229 feet. Most of the climb was in 3<sup>rd</sup> gear, but it got steeper on the hairpins, though, and we had to use 2<sup>nd</sup> gear here. They had maintenance gangs out keeping the surface and the edges of the road and the banks in good order. They were very enthusiastic about our passing, waving and cheering as we passed! Going downhill was nearly as bad. The most notable of these was a 7 mile descent along the valley sides into Pinhao. There were vertical drops in places, which didn't do my vertigo any good at all! There was a long drive of 60 miles along a major road, but this was punctuated by lots of diversions as the road was being completed with some large viaducts to alleviate some of the hills. Another spectacular section was the journey through the Deva Gorge. The sides were precipitous and 100 feet high. The road was wide enough, but it was a squeeze when coaches came towards us. I am glad that we didn't meet any on the bends where overhangs made them come over to our side of the road! The scenery was absolutely fantastic – hills, mountains, moorland as far as the eye could see. It makes you realize how small and crowded we are, even in the areas we think are open countryside. In general, the driving was very straightforward, as long as Pat kept reminding me to KEEP RIGHT! The driving was made much easier by excellent directions that were clear and unambiguous.

Most of the hotels we stayed in were fantastic. In Spain there are a group of hotels called the Paradors. These are old castles, monasteries, stately homes etc that are run by the State. They provided a superb backdrop for our stay. The cars were secure for the night, although were on display for some of the time. There are not many hotels where you are greeted at the bottom of the stairs by a Knight on horseback, both in full armour! The wine was included with the meals and they just kept on topping up and these meals were included in the price of the tour.

The four night stay in Pinhao, the heart of the Port Wine Country, saw us relaxing, swimming in the pool, visiting port vineyards and production houses, having a coach trip into Porto and a train ride up the valley. We found our own food on these nights and we sat outside by the river being attended to by the very helpful Portuguese owner of a small café/restaurant.

What do we remember? Seeing a lady ploughing with two oxen, a donkey cart as the means of transport in one of the villages, the dereliction of the houses, even in Porto, a lady doing her washing at the pump and

hanging it out on the walls around, the vineyards terraced all the way up the very steep valley sides and the emptiness of the roads, villages and countryside.

And what about the cars? Well, Gordon behaved impeccably. It did over 20 to the gallon, didn't need topping up with oil, didn't overheat (although it did get pretty warm on the long climbs!) and didn't miss a beat all through the tour. Absolutely magnificent, impressing everyone with the way it coped with the hot conditions and the hilly terrain. Fred and Louise Varney now want me to get their 16/6 going as well as Gordon! Some of the cars did overheat on the climbs and had to stop for a cooling break, another had fuel starvation as the autovac couldn't keep up with the demand for fuel, one of the Lagondas broke a halfshaft, but they had another one sent out by courier and repaired it at a helpful garage, an intermittent knocking on a Bentley was traced to a loose prop shaft bolt, an intermittent fuel problem with an MGB was eventually traced to the petrol pump and an Alvis took off over the barrier and ended up with the front end badly bent and had to be recovered home. The passengers were lucky to be unhurt.

We had a really splendid holiday and I recommend the ERL tours to anyone who wants to travel abroad with their car without the heartache of organizing it!



Thank you Tony and Pat for such an interesting account of your wonderful trip and lovely photographs.



### **Don's Doodlings**

Maureen and I had a fantastic evening with some friends and club members at Lynwood House, Sunninghill. It was the Big Band Night and they really can blast it out. They played quite a bit of Glen Miller music which always gets the foot tapping and people dancing. Highly recommended, put it in your diary for next year.

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July, Maureen and I had yet another brilliant day out thanks to John, Joan, Andy and Do. We all started out from Henry Street's Garden Centre where some members were seen to be having a "light breakfast" before starting out. We toured around the country lanes and ended up at Woodley Air Museum. After a very interesting hour or so in the Museum, we made our way back to Joan and Joan's house for a BBQ. On arrival, Tim, John and Joan's son, managed to squeeze all the cars into a very limited space. The weather could have been a little better but our brilliant organisers had erected a large gazebo in the garden. Once inside, it was snug and dry. The BBQ food was absolutely delicious and my thanks to John, Joan, Andy and Do for making it a great day out.

Our 2012 Club Holiday organisation is all on track. I have confirmed numbers with the hotel and I will be sending instructions to all who have paid their £50 deposit, on how to book their rooms at The Holiday Inn, in the next few days.

### **Don**



**Please note, there will be no more "buckets on the heads" during the Picnic in the Paddock driving tests. "Alf Safety" has agreed that blacked out goggles will now be worn!**



# Dandelion Rubber Could Replace Rare Sources

Eric Bland, Discovery News

**Aug. 5, 2008** -- Long the bane of lawn owners everywhere, the sunny-faced dandelion could revolutionize the rubber industry.

Scientists from Ohio State University's Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC) and the Ohio BioProducts Innovation Center (OBIC) recently received a \$3 million grant to design and build a processing plant that would turn sticky white dandelion root sap into quality rubber for less money than current methods, say the scientists.

"No matter how much chemistry we've applied, we still haven't been able to find an artificial substitute for natural rubber," said William Ravlin, a researcher involved in the project. "We're still harvesting [rubber] the same way they did 1,000 years ago; by cutting into the tree and letting the sap drip into containers. It's not a very efficient system."

Efficiency, according to the Ohio scientists, would be Midwestern farmers in air-conditioned tractors harvesting acres of yellow dandelions with the same machines used to pull tulip bulbs.

Nearby lawn owners shouldn't panic. The dandelions the researchers will use aren't the ones disgracing our nation's lawns, which go by the species name *Taraxacum officinale*.

Instead, the Ohio scientists will use the American dandelion's Uzbekistani cousin, *Taraxacum kok-saghyz*, (TKS), commonly called Russian dandelion. Not that the average person would notice; the two plants look nearly identical, except that TKS has slightly narrower leaves with different margins.

Still, it's what's inside that counts.

Anywhere from 10 to 20 percent of TKS' carrot-like root is rubber-ready. "And that's without modifying them with biotechnology or breeding," said Ravlin.

Researchers from Oregon State University, working in collaboration with the Ohio scientists, are developing different varieties of seeds, some of which could increase yields.

The exact details concerning growing and harvesting the plants, such as how many inches apart and when they should be planted, are still being worked out, but the researchers expect that within a few years the processing plant in Ohio could produce about 20 million tons of rubber annually.

By 2015 they hope to triple that amount, to more than 60 million tons, most of which will be used for research purposes.

In initial tests the dandelion rubber is of equal quality as traditional rubber derived from the Brazilian rubber tree, the world's only commercial source of natural rubber. It comes from Southeast Asia, the only region that grows rubber trees. (Disease killed commercial Brazilian rubber trees in South America.)

Synthetic rubber can be created, but it doesn't perform as well as natural rubber because of impurities. Car tires can contain as little as 10 percent natural rubber, but the more demanding the job, the more natural rubber is needed: Airplane tires are 100 percent natural rubber.

Some of the dandelion rubber will eventually go to Bridgestone, a leading tire manufacturer.

"I think this has some real potential," said Jason Poulton, Manager of Polymer Development at Bridgestone.

"It would be useful for tire producers to have a safe and steady supply of natural rubber that would insulate us from the price increases of the last five to seven years," said Jason Poulton.

The price for rubber, which has doubled in recent years, along with technological advances, makes alternative sources of natural rubber more attractive than past efforts, which reach all the way back to World War II, when the Soviets made TKS-based tires.

Poulton advises that policymakers and farmers proceed with caution should dandelion-derived rubber prove profitable, and not just because nearby lawn owners might protest at growing what they see as a weed.

"Dandelions could compete for farmland used for edible food," said Poulton. "Resolving that problem could be one of our biggest challenges."

#### **Related Links:**

[Eric Bland's blog: Interior Design](#)

[Discovery Tech](#)

[How Stuff Works: Tires](#)

[« back](#)

#### our sites

- [Animal Planet](#)
- [Discovery Channel](#)
- [Discovery Kids](#)
- [Discovery Fit & Health](#)
  - [HD Theater](#)
- [Investigation Discovery](#)
  - [Military Channel](#)
- [Oprah Winfrey Network](#)
  - [Net Green](#)
  - [Channel](#)
  - [TLC](#)
  - [Turbo](#)
- [Guide Auto](#)
- [Guide Products](#)
- [Discovery Education](#)
- [Discovery News](#)
- [HowStuffWorks](#)
  - [Petfinder](#)
- [Student Competitions](#)
  - [TreeHugger](#)

#### video

- [Discovery Channel Video](#)

#### mobile

- [Mobile Applications](#)
- [Wallpaper & Ringtones](#)
  - [Mobile Video](#)

## **On-Line Austin Seven Club**



*Invites you to:*

### **Walk of Stars, Birmingham**

### **Midland Motoring, Past and Present**

**Sunday 14 August 2011**

***Racing Driver Nigel Mansell is being inducted into The Walk of Stars, Broad Street, Birmingham.***

***Come in your Midlands made classic/vintage car and join in this unique event.***

***The road will be closed for motoring displays.***

***No formalities, no admission fee, just turn up, arrive at 10.00am – 11.00am.***

***To ensure that there will be adequate parking, please advise:***

***Event Organiser, Tim Griffiths [tim@timgriffiths.com](mailto:tim@timgriffiths.com) tel: 0121 244 6178***

***or***

***Alan Billington [billington.alan@googlemail.com](mailto:billington.alan@googlemail.com) tel: 0121 308 4336***

***For further information on Broad Street, visit:***

***<http://www.broadstreetbirmingham.com/>***



Member of the Austin Seven Clubs Association & Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs





## AUGUST 2011 QUIZ 'BELOW THE SURFACE'

*Answers are creatures, plants or objects found in or below the surface of water - salt and fresh. Entries please to Trevor Edwards, 55 The Brambles, Crowthorne. RG45 6EF, together with £1.00, by Friday 9 September 2011*

|     |   |           |   |
|-----|---|-----------|---|
| 1.  | <i>A heavy board</i>                        | _ _ _ _ _ | 8 |
| 2.  | <i>An ancient weapon</i>                    | _ _ _ _   | 4 |
| 3.  | <i>Not welcome by rowers</i>                | _ _ _ _   | 4 |
| 4.  | <i>A coin after South</i>                   | _ _ _ _ _ | 5 |
| 5.  | <i>60 seconds immediately</i>               | _ _ _ _ _ | 6 |
| 6.  | <i>Make of fuel for boats</i>               | _ _ _ _ _ | 5 |
| 7.  | <i>Will this spoil a rock garden?</i>       | _ _ _ _ _ | 7 |
| 8)  | <i>Brave female with two vowels missing</i> | _ _ _ _ _ | 5 |
| 9)  | <i>Tired from smoking</i>                   | _ _ _ _ _ | 6 |
| 10) | <i>Piano Quintet in A</i>                   | _ _ _ _ _ | 5 |
| 11) | <i>London travel card</i>                   | _ _ _ _ _ | 6 |
| 12) | <i>Prise out</i>                            | _ _ _ _ _ | 6 |
| 13) | <i>Type of fish for a party?</i>            | _ _ _ _ _ | 5 |
| 14) | <i>Have a grumble</i>                       | _ _ _ _ _ | 4 |
| 15) | <i>Payment on arrival</i>                   | _ _ _     | 3 |
| 16) | <i>False when red</i>                       | _ _ _ _ _ | 7 |
| 17) | <i>Works dam hard</i>                       | _ _ _ _ _ | 6 |
| 18) | <i>Eaten to give one strength</i>           | _ _ _ _ _ | 7 |
| 19) | <i>Where fish learn</i>                     | _ _ _ _ _ | 6 |
| 20) | <i>Heavenly body for king of the sea</i>    | _ _ _ _ _ | 7 |

*Submitted by:.....*

**JUNE 2011 QUIZ – 'THE WORLD OF POP MUSIC – ANSWERS**

- |     |                                      |                         |
|-----|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1)  | <i>A FRENCH 'DEAR'?</i>              | <i>CHER</i>             |
| 2)  | <i>THE FIRST MAN'S BELIEF?</i>       | <i>ADAM FAITH</i>       |
| 3)  | <i>DROPS FROM A PEN?</i>             | <i>INK SPOTS</i>        |
| 4)  | <i>A WELSH CAT?</i>                  | <i>TOM JONES</i>        |
| 5)  | <i>SEVERAL TWISTS IN STRING, ETC</i> | <i>KINKS</i>            |
| 6)  | <i>THE FINAL SCOTSMAN?</i>           | <i>JAMES LAST</i>       |
| 7)  | <i>HM</i>                            | <i>QUEEN</i>            |
| 8)  | <i>EROTIC FIREARM</i>                | <i>SEX PISTOLS</i>      |
| 9)  | <i>SAID WHEN THROWING A PUNCH?</i>   | <i>TAKE THAT</i>        |
| 10) | <i>AN OFFICIAL FORM</i>              | <i>UB40</i>             |
| 11) | <i>NOT AN OLD SCOT!</i>              | <i>JIMMY YOUNG</i>      |
| 12) | <i>FISHING BOATS?</i>                | <i>DRIFTERS</i>         |
| 13) | <i>HIS NAME CONTRADICTS ITSELF!</i>  | <i>FATBOY SLIM</i>      |
| 14) | <i>SOUNDS LIKE TWO TOILETS!</i>      | <i>LULU</i>             |
| 15) | <i>AN ECCLESIASTICAL SUMMER BIRD</i> | <i>DEAN MARTIN</i>      |
| 16) | <i>HALF A DANISH PAIR</i>            | <i>NINA</i>             |
| 17) | <i>A BEDTIME DRINK</i>               | <i>HOT CHOCOLATE</i>    |
| 18) | <i>PLATES</i>                        | <i>PLATTERS</i>         |
| 19) | <i>USED BY BUILDERS</i>              | <i>SCAFFOLD</i>         |
| 20) | <i>N.YORKS SINGING TRIO</i>          | <i>BEVERLEY SISTERS</i> |

## NHAEG Club Nights and Events Diary

### Club Nights

### Arranged By

|                            |   |                  |
|----------------------------|---|------------------|
| August 8 <sup>th</sup>     | Walking Rally   | Trevor/Jean      |
| September 12 <sup>th</sup> | Wessex Stitchery in the Conference Room<br>or Noggin & Natter | Anne Butcher     |
| October 10th               | Talk on Guns by Peter Gillet                                  | John Hancock     |
| November 14th              | Auction   | Don/Trevor/Colin |
| December 12th              | Festive Fun   | TBA              |

### 2012

|               |     |           |
|---------------|-----|-----------|
| January 9th   | AGM | Committee |
| February 13th | TBA | TBA       |
| March 12th    | TBA | TBA       |

### Events

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| July 31 <sup>st</sup>   | Picnic in the Paddock  | Don/Trevor/Colin  |
| August 14 <sup>th</sup>                                       | August Amble ( <b>entries by 1<sup>st</sup> Aug</b> )  | Colin/Ann   |
| August 21st   | Classic Vehicle Day at The Frog and Wicket.<br>Eversley Cross. <b><i>Details in Aug. newsletter</i></b>                          | Don/Colin for details   |
| August 21st   | 'Fly To The Past' Oxford Airport   | Peter B/Trevor E. for details   |
| August 29 <sup>th</sup>                                       | Littlewick Show (non-club event)   | Colin for details   |
| September 3 <sup>rd</sup>                                     | Longparish Fete (non club event)   | Details in March newsletter   |
| September 10th  | Heritage Day at Basildon Park  | Trevor for details  |
| September 18th  | Classic Vehicle Show / Rural Life Centre   | Don for details   |
| Sept 24 <sup>th</sup> & 25th                                  | Steam and Vintage Weekend<br>Rural Life Centre   | Don for details   |
| Sept 24th   | Visit to Brakespear Brewery and nights stay in<br>Witney. <b><i>All places now taken.</i></b>                                    | Don/Maureen   |
| October 15th  | Free night at 'The New Inn'<br>Details of activities during the day TBA  | John C. for details and booking a<br>room. <b><i>Very few rooms left.</i></b> |
| November 19th   | 36 <sup>th</sup> Nightjar Rally / Entry forms from Trevor  | Nightjar Committee  |
| December 5th  | Christmas Dinner   | Trevor/ Jean  |
| December 8th  | Old Tyme Players Christmas Special   | Jean  |
| <b><u>2012</u></b><br>19 <sup>th</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup> July | Trip to Leamington Spa.<br>Austin 7 90 <sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations on the Sunday.<br><b><i>All places now taken.</i></b> | Don/Maureen   |

**If you know of any events not listed please email details to me. *Colin***