NORTH HAMPSHIRE AUSTIN ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

Founded 1974

Monthly Newsletter and Events Update

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www.nhaeg.org.uk <u>AUGUST 2014</u>

Club nights at The New Inn, Heckfield, 8pm, 2nd Monday in every month

Mo's Mutterings

I have to say Don and I "bailed out" of the BEN Run this year! "Bailed" being the operative word after being swamped by a tsunami style wave by a car coming on the other side of the road. Don was soaked and I was pretty damp and we had only been on the Run twenty minutes!



I don't care if it rains, I've got my

Austin Seven to keep me dry! (Young Matthew Barker can eat anywhere, bless him!).

More photos from the BEN Run, thank you Andrew (Barker). Quite a few brollies needed!



Fortunately, the weather on the Friday evening before the BEN Run had been fine and sunny and Don had a lovely time with the girlies, as you can see below! (He's the one with the hat!).



COLINS COMMENTS

June Club Night

With the weather not looking particularly good I was not too sure how many would turn up for the Half Gallon Run. In the end we had 15 entrants which was pretty good.

Having won last year's event, still not sure how we managed it, it fell to me and Ann to organise this year's event. We decided to make a small change from the past few years and have two locations to search for clues, Sherfield-on-Loddon and Mortimer. Some of the clues were fairly easy but others more difficult. Thankfully all the answers were found by at least one competitor.

The weather deteriorated during the evening with some rain at times. However, it did not put anyone off and everyone arrived safely back at the New Inn by 9.45pm. With the marking done it was discovered that we had a tie between Trevor E and John H. We therefore had a tie breaker which Trevor just won so he and his team of Jean and their friends Pete and Paula received the prize of two bottles of wine and the Half Gallon Trophy. Very well done to them and also John H and his son Tim. I hope everyone enjoyed the event and no one got too wet.

To finish off the evening we thought it would be nice to have a cake to start the celebrations for the club's 40th anniversary. This was organised by Don B who had the cake made by a friend, which looked great with a Chummy on the top, and it tasted very good as well. Many thanks to Don for organising this.

July Club Night.

The July club night was just a noggin n' natter as so many members were either on the Taunton Experience organised by Don and Maureen or like Trevor, Jean, Ann, and myself on holiday. We were staying with Andy and Do in Weymouth as Trevor and I were going to take part in the Humber Inter-Register event in Dorset as were Andy and Do. Unfortunately the rally was postponed to a later date but we still went to Weymouth and had a very good time with Andy and Do.

Thanks to John H and Andrew B for looking after things in our absence.

40th Anniversary Run and Lunch

We were blessed with lovely weather for our 40th Anniversary celebrations. We met at The New Inn for coffee before starting the run, which I had devised to pass all the places the club has met in its 40 years before arriving at the home in Wokingham of Bob Wyatt. We were delighted to have Bob as our guest of honour. The cars caused quite a lot of interest to the congregation coming out of the church opposite Bob's house.

Roy and Ronnie had the honour of taking Bob in their 1935 Austin 12 Ascot in the convoy that then left for the golf club, where we were to have lunch. This proved to be a good choice of car to convey Bob in as he had owned an identical car some years ago. On arrival we parked in an area reserved for us before enjoying an excellent lunch during which Bob gave a short speech, which was very welcomed.

After lunch we were treated to a 'dramatised lecture' called The AA Man which was put on by Vera

Hughes and David Weller of Chester House Productions. It was based on the book 'This Motoring' by Stenson Cook the first Secretary of the Automobile Association and told in a very amusing way of the conception and birth of the AA. It was very well received and enjoyed by members and was very appropriate with Bob being there as he had worked at the AA for 30 years.

A most enjoyable day from start to finish with 46 members sitting down to lunch. Our thanks must go to Trevor and Jean for organising everything and to Ann for collecting and delivering the balloons. Thanks also to Roy and Ronnie for taking Bob and returning him home again.

The BEN Run

The weather for the BEN Run this year could not have been much worse, it rained practically all day. The NHAEG had been asked to put on a display of ten Austins. Unfortunately we were unable to muster ten so we asked a couple of other entrants to park with us including my old Austin 7 Nippy. Because of the awful weather some events were cancelled and the prize giving was brought forward. To my surprise I won First in Class and also Best Overall in the pre-war section which helped lift the gloom somewhat. By the time we got home the car was soaking wet, all the carpets had to come out and hung up to dry while we were on holiday.

The Taunton Experience

As mentioned above I did not go on the Taunton Experience but I understand it was a great success and much enjoyed by those who did, hopefully someone who went will write something about it. Very many thanks to Don and Maureen for all their efforts in organising the holiday.

August Club Night

We will be holding our annual Coveted Car Evening at the August club night, all cars made before 1974 are eligible. As usual we will be asking all members to vote for the cars they like best in different categories with plenty of prizes and trophies to win. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us and we will fill the car park with historic cars.

September Club Night

At the September club night Andy Seager will give a talk on car electrics which should be of interest to most members and as an alternative Jean will be in the conference room showing how to make greetings cards. Something for everyone.

Forthcoming Events

At the time of writing the next event is the **Picnic in The Paddock** which may have taken place by the time you read this, details were emailed to everyone. On Sunday 10^{th} August is the **BBQ** at John and Joan's, John has emailed details to everyone, so if you want to go and have not already done so you need to get your cheque to him ASAP, as numbers are limited and at the time of writing there are only a few places left. On the August bank holiday Monday there is the **Swallowfield Show** which is a good show and I know a number of members have already entered, for more details visit www.swallowfieldshow.co.uk .

On the weekend of 13/14th September there is the **Heritage Weekend**. Trevor is looking into this and

as soon as any details are to hand members will be advised.

October 18th is our free **Night at The New Inn.** I sent out an email on the 22nd July with details to which I have had quite a number of replies requesting a room. At the time of writing there are a few rooms left so if you wish to go and have not already done so, you need to email me now.

Finally just a reminder that most of the current committee will be standing down at the AGM in January. We have three members who will be standing for next year's committee but they cannot do everything on their own particularly as they are all in full time employment. We therefore need five more members to make up a full committee. We have had interest expressed by a couple of members but we need more. If you think you could contribute to the future running of the club and would like to know more or even come as an observer to our next committee meeting, please contact me or any member of the committee. We would be delighted to hear from you. **Remember the future of the NHAEG is very much in the hands of you the members.**

Safe and Happy Motoring,

Colin

Hayling Island trip with The Hot Club

Lakeside Coastal Village.

12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th September 2014. Price £169.00 p.p. per break. £60.00 deposit per couple.

If anyone is interested please ring or e-mail Trevor Mulford.

Tel: 01252 620435

mulfordtrevor@gmail.com

Secretary's Scribblings

Quíz News

You still have until the 8th August to get your entries in for the most recent quiz - 'Famous People - Take 2' - so finish puzzling and send them in!

This time the quiz title is 'This Can Drive You Potty' and the central theme is containers of some kind or another. All the answers include words or things which can contain; e.g. can, tin, pot, etc.

Deadline is Friday 8th September to get entries, for this one, in to: 55 The Brambles, Crowthorne, RG45 6EF; don't forget to include £1.00 towards prize(s)

A Miscellany of Events

Many of us have attended several events taking place over the last three months or so and there are still a number more to come.

Amongst others, these included the Fawley Hill weekend at the 70th Birthday celebrations for Lady McAlpine, most memorable for the fact that Lady M, herself, parachuted down, to land perfectly in the centre of the arena, prior to climbing onto an authentic military tank (sadly, not British) to be conveyed around the arena, to the applause of all. As ever the event provided a showground for an eclectic mix of transport – steam, vintage vehicles of all kinds and, of course, the opportunity to take a ride on Lord McAlpine's own standard gauge railway running round the grounds of his estate.

The following day was the Merrist Wood Agricultural College Summer Show – always an enjoyable one with much to see and do. This, like the previous day, was blessed with excellent weather and the day was topped off with those of us in the NHAEG continuing on to the home of Pat and Nick (Buchanan), in nearby Guildford, for the quintessential afternoon tea in perfect conditions.

Unfortunately, those for this year's BEN Run on 28th June were not nearly so agreeable. As had been forecast, rain set in even before we had departed from the assembly point, near Ascot racecourse. Some of us didn't make it to the start. Nick's Chummy, 'Noddy', decided to call a halt just yards from the assembly point in Ascot High Street and Don (Breakspear), with Maureen, in their Chummy, stopped, as all good *Austineers* tend to do, to offer assistance. Eventually, their combined efforts were successful, despite Don managing to stab himself in the hand with a screwdriver and all set off again for the assembly point. However, in due course, after departing the assembly ground, Don's usual air of *bonhomie*

rapidly evaporated when Chummy was caught in a deluge of water thrown up by a passing modern driven with a lack of consideration by someone and both he and Maureen got drenched. This, plus his throbbing hand was sufficient to encourage them to turn around and head for home – wise decision!

The run, as ever, was good, especially the section through normally closed roads of the Crown Estate but the weather detracted considerably from overall enjoyment, though, for those of us in closed vehicles, possibly not so much as for those in elderly Edwardian ones which offer no protection to driver or passengers. One, in particular, was observed at, on a number of occasions, with occupants pondering which way to turn, their maps having disintegrated totally. They wisely chose to stop briefly and follow those of us not so severely hampered.

Conditions on the fete ground itself were predictably dire and it was generally agreed that our time might have been better (and drier) spent elsewhere. However, it was not a total washout since two of our number, namely Colin (Greig) and Brian (Adam) both picked up awards for their respective vehicles. Colin, in fact, collected two for his 1934 Austin Ten Cabriolet; one for Best in the Post-Vintage Class and also one for overall Best Pre-War car. Brian's 1926 Austin Seven Top Hat attracted Second Prize in the Pre-1930 class. Congratulations to them both!



All Smiles, despite the weather!

More events/activities yet to come (plus others) and to enjoy -

'Picnic in the Paddock' (27th July)
BBQ at John and Joan's (10th August)
Swallowfield Show (24th/25th August)
Heritage Day Run (see below)

Details for these can generally be found in the Club Nights and Events Diary section of the Newsletter, or simply ask a Committee member.

Vehicle Electrics 'Tutorial'.

Until our most recent Committee Meeting there were a couple of blank spaces for September and October Club Nights. However, having been approached, some time ago, by Andy (Seager), who suggested that perhaps members, (some at least), might welcome an evening brushing up their knowledge on vehicle electrics (considered, by some, to be a 'dark art'), it was felt that this may prove of interest.

Therefore Andy has since kindly agreed to come along to give a very informal, not-too-technical 'tutorial', for want of a better description, on one of these evenings. At the moment, as will be noted from the Events Diary, this is scheduled for the September Club Night (8th) but, due to the nature of Andy's work pattern (someone has to keep George Osborne happy!) and since he cannot be absolutely certain that he will be free that evening, (i.e. not elsewhere on this planet), we have to keep things a bit flexible and therefore reserve the right to change it to the October Club Night (13th). However, all will be kept informed of any necessary switch, if it has to be made.

Meanwhile, Andy has suggested that, although his presentation will be kept pretty simple and straightforward and will cover many general aspects of auto-electrics, if there's any particular topic which someone may wish to be covered it would be helpful if this could be advised, either directly back to Andy himself (email: andyseager@mac.com), or, if preferred, via myself, at trevor_
c.edwards@btinternet.com

Please try to give as much advance notice as possible, of any topic of special interest.

Anyone not particularly interested in attending Andy's session on that evening is invited to join Jean, in the Conference Room, to make a Greetings Card. Details on this to follow later.

'Guess Whose Car'

The other side of the coin, (i.e. provisionally the October Club Night, or, if necessary, the September one – see above), will be given over to an evening when those attending will be presented with the challenge of deciding who the owners might have been of four vehicles, images of which will be shown on an A4 sheet of paper.

Simon and Denise (Jocelyn) have kindly agreed to handle this activity and therefore request all NHAEG members to try to dig out from shoe-boxes, old albums, drawers, etc. pictures of the **first FOUR** vehicles they ever owned and to send them in, to be scanned and reproduced accordingly. It's a tall order to expect that everyone, or even *anyone*, will be able to unearth actual photographs of their 'first loves' but the internet is a wonderful thing and it should be possible

to Google library images of similar models. Two, three or four wheeled vehicle are fine.

Obviously any original photographs will be returned to their owners as soon as they have been processed.

In order to make this unique evening a success please get looking and send in your offerings as soon as you possibly can, either as electronic images, to: deniseadams24@gmail.com or sjocelyn@redjelly.com, or hard copies, via snail-mail, to them at: 6 Esher Close, Basingstoke RG22 6JP

Heritage Day(s) 2014

Heritage Day(s) are those set aside each year when buildings, stately homes etc., which, though normally not open to the general public, *are* opened, as are others, such as National Trust properties, which open *their* doors <u>free of charge to everyone</u>.

In the past we have visited Avington Park, near Winchester and last year, a number of us went to the magnificent Royal Holloway College at Egham. Both visits were found to be greatly enjoyable and very informative.

We are still checking out which places are possibilities for this year's excursion and will communicate further, on the topic, to all members shortly.

In the meantime please keep the two dates, 13th and 14th September in mind if you would be interested in joining a run to somewhere on either of those dates.

Club Trip 2015!

Although those who went on the 'Taunton Experience' have only just returned from their time down in the West Country where, by all reported accounts, a great time was had by all, it's necessary to start thinking about next year! Based on past experience and the premise that 'early birds tend to get the best worms' some initial effort needs to be made to determine such details as where and when, etc.

Although we've visited both places in the past considerable interest has already been expressed, by a number of members and for a variety of reasons, in making a return to either Cricket St.Thomas, or Holme Lacy – both of them Warner Leisure Hotels - and both of which were met with great satisfaction.

The rough plan would be for a four night/five day trip, to either one, some time in the period from late May to mid-July.

At this time, in order simply to gauge interest, it's requested that all members give a little thought to this issue and to let me know, as soon as possible but, at the latest, by the <u>August Club Night</u> $(11^{th}$ – Coveted Car Evening), whether either of these proposals appeals and if so, when might be your preferred time to go.

Obviously, based on responses and therefore the consensus view, 'more meat will be put on the bone' and further details forthcoming in due course but, at this time, please feed back your thoughts, or, indeed, offer further suggestion(s) for consideration.

Have just relined the front brakes on Clarissa, my (now) trusty Ten cabriolet so, together with a new off-side rear brake rod, kindly fashioned for me by our man in the Tropic of Dorset, Andy (Ranson), down in Weymouth, I now look forward to an enhanced level of braking efficiency. Well, a man can dream!

Anyway, continue to enjoy the extremely warm weather, (which suits some though not all of us) and hopefully, problem-free motoring!

Trevor

STOP PRESS!

Heritage Day 2014 - Saturday 13th September

At the eleventh hour and (with any luck!) just in time before the August Newsletter goes to press and gets distributed a solution to the question of how the club can mark this year's Heritage Day has been identified.

Cobham Heritage Day – described as a 'Fun Day' for all - has been held annually for the past nine years. Brief details can be found on the website *www.cobhamheritage.org.uk* and initial enquiries advise that it is held in Church Street, in and around St.Andrews Church and on the Leg O' Mutton Field in the village. It is a day with various activities going on including, amongst many others, Stalls, Falconry display, Circus Skills, Punch and Judy, Stilt Walkers, Morris Dancing, Classic and Vintage Cars and Motorcycles, Open Gardens (for a small charge) and much more. The Cobham Garden and Horticultural Associatino Show will be held between 1.00 and 4.30 p.m. and Cobham Mill will be open from noon onwards.

We are assured of a very warm welcome by the organisers, not least of whom, it appears, is Ian Nelson, a very regular entrant in our own Nightjar Rally each year.

At this time, it is proposed that, as last year, we make Long Acres Garden Centre, on the A30, just past Bagshot, our assembly point on the day in question and from there take a route, over the remaining 15 miles or so, which will be devised in the meantime.

Without any obligation by doing so, but simply to get some idea of numbers, it would be helpful if those wishing to join the Heritage Day Run this year let me know either by dropping me an email or by a quick call to me on 01344 775012

All the signs are that the Cobham Heritage Day event should prove a good choice of venue so let's make sure we turn up in force to enjoy what's on offer.

Trevor E

PICNIC IN THE PADDOCK

We had a lovely day and although we were unable to have any driving tests this year, there were many learner drivers on the circuit!



QUERIES OF THE MONTH

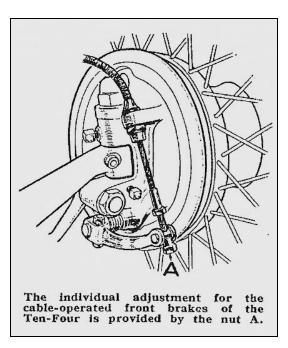
Some more "Queries of the Month", these originally appeared in "The Austin Magazine & Advocate" during the 1930s and 1940s. This month's selection consists of No 632 Front Brakes – Austin Ten-Four and No 649 Luggage Platform – Austin Eighteen.

No 632 appeared in January 1935 and No 649 in March 1935.

No632 - Front Brakes - Austin Ten-Four

Q. The front brakes on my Ten-Four apparently differ in some respects in their requirements from the brake adjustment instructions given in my handbook. Perhaps you can enlighten me as to the purpose of the nut on each brake lever which is apparently for adjustment purposes, although no mention of this nut is made in the handbook supplied with my car.

A. The front brakes of your car have an improved form of cable operation and the nuts to which you refer are for the individual brake adjustments and take the place of the brake rod adjustment formerly employed for this purpose. These nuts should not, however, be touched in the normal course of brake adjusting, it only being necessary to take up the slackness in the brake mechanism at a single point behind the pedal which simultaneously adjusts the operation of all four brakes. If, however, you find at any time that the front brakes engage before those on the rear, or one of the front brakes is more fierce than the others so the car tends to pull to one side when the brakes are applied, the individual nut adjustment can be used to balance their operation.



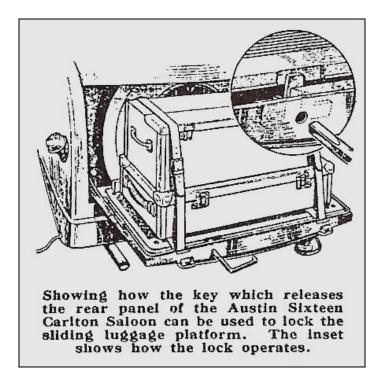
You should note that the conduit through which the brake cable passes is provided with a grease nipple through which grease should be injected weekly.

No 649 – Luggage Platform – Austin Eighteen

Q. Is there any means of locking the sliding luggage platform on my Austin Eighteen? On examining this platform, it appears to me that it would be possible for luggage strapped thereon to swing back

while the car is running, just as it is permitted to do so for access to the spare wheel. Is it necessary to strap the luggage to the spare wheel to prevent such movement?

A. You will find in the top edge of the platform, about a foot from the near-side, a socket in which the key used for releasing the platform from its closed position can be used for locking the swinging top of the platform.



This obviates any need for securing the luggage by strapping it to the spare wheel, and provides for the platform being swung back for removal of the wheel without dismounting or interfering with the luggage in any way.

The "Queries of the Month" are reproduced with the kind permission of the Austin Ten Drivers Club (ATDC)

An advertisement for Fina oil from 1959, it sounds like it will do miracles for your engine!



An advertisement for James Grouse Ltd from 1934, so pop along to the Euston Road and get a bargain!



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WANTED

After many years of editing our newsletter Maureen has decided that she would now like to hand over to someone else. We are therefore looking for a member to take over from her as editor, by the end of the year. The editor is required to collate items that are emailed to them and put them together as a newsletter. The newsletter is then emailed to members. There is no need to contribute any items yourself unless of course you wish to do so. I would also point out that there is no requirement whatsoever for the newsletter editor to be on the committee, although there is nothing stopping them being a committee member if they wish.

If you feel you might be able to help out and would like to talk about it, without any commitment, then please give me a ring on 01252 879173 or see me at a club night or event. I know Maureen would be only too happy to show a new editor what she does, if they so wish.

In the meantime I would like to thank Maureen for all her efforts in producing an excellent newsletter over the past years.

Colin.

'This Can Drive You Potty'

All answers <u>contain</u> words that can hold items, e.g. can, tin, pot, etc Please forward entries to Trevor Edwards, at: 55 The Brambles, Crowthorne. RG45 6EF, by Friday 5th September 2014 enclosing £1.00 towards the cost of prize(s).

1. Headmaster's weapon	 4
2. Give him a ring and he'll be fighting mad	 5
3. A workers march started here	 6
4. Golf ball target on the tarmac	 7
5 . Africa is one _	 9
6. Something Alice passed through	 7, 5
7. Government committee?	 7
8. Life expectancy of a travel case?	 7
9. Nine or ten needed for this game	 7
10. Early form of trombone _	 7
11. An amusing hymn	 8
12. A 'down in the dumps' fly	 10
13. Two containers of poor quality _	 6
14. This pain in 'back'	 7
15. Substitute for a necktie	 6
16. Identity of a tea or coffee container	 5
17. It follows a barge	 5
18. Where fouls can be penalised	 6
19. Performs revolutions in a circus	 7
20. This flower sounds a bit effeminate	 5
21. A dance for two able people	 6
22. Dark area on earth's heater	 6
23. Circle, Victoria, Central for example 24. Sounds like a coating on a planet's cake 25. Its Nice near here	 4, 5 8 6
Name(s)	

NHAEG CLUB NIGHTS AND EVENTS DIARY

<u>Club Nights</u> <u>Arranged by or details from</u>

August 11th Coveted Car Evening Colin/Trevor

September 8th Car Electrics Andy Seager

Make a Greeting Card (Conference Room)

Jean Edwards

October 13th Guess Whose Car Simon/Denise

November 10th Auction Don/Trevor/Colin

December 8th Festive Fun Night TBA

2014

January 12th AGM Committee

Lunch Meetings 4th Monday of every month (Colin for details)

July 28th The New Inn

August 26th The New Inn (Please note this is a Tuesday, Monday is a Bank Holiday)

September 22nd The New Inn

October 27th The New Inn

November 24th The New Inn

December 22nd The New Inn

Events Events in **Bold** are NHAEG events

July 27th Club Picnic Don/Trevor/Colin

August 10th BBQ at John and Joan's John/Joan

August 24th Classic Car Meeting/White Lion Antiques www.whitelionantiques.co.uk

Aug24th/25th Swallowfield Show www.swallowfieldshow.co.uk

August25th Littlewick Show www.littlewickshow.co.uk

September 13/14th Heritage Weekend Awaiting details

21st SeptemberSurrey Vintage Vehicle Gathering	Phil Dunford for details or
	www.rurallife.plus.com/rlc

October 18 th	Free Night at The New Inn (at time of writing a few rooms left)	Colin
October 25th	VSCC Sprint Meeting at Goodwood www	w.vscc.co.uk
November15th	Nightjar	Trevor/Colin/Don
December 13 th	Der 13 th Carols at Royal Albert Hall and Lights' Tour (All tickets now sold)	

Please let me have details of any events our members might be interested in

Inter-Register Events

Date	Organising Club	Event	Location
August 30 th	Riley	Rally	Thames Valley
Sept.21st	Crossley	Treasure Hunt	North Yorks.
TBA	Riley	Scatter Rally	Scotland
Sept 27 th	Alvis	Scatter Rally	Dartmoor
Oct 5 th	Humber	Navigation Rally	Dorset
Oct 12 th	MGCC	Autumn 'Naviscat'	Surrey/Sussex
Nov 15 th	ATDC/NHAEG	Nightjar Scatter/Orienteering	Surrey/Hants/Berks

If you would like to enter or know more about Inter-Register events please contact me or Trevor, alternatively visit www.inter-register.org.uk These events are good fun; the next event Trevor and I will be doing is the Riley Rally on the 30^{th} August, why not join us

TAUNTON EXPERIENCE 10th - 15th July 2014

On Thursday 10th July at 7.45 a.m. we arrived at The New Inn, Heckfield for the start of the trip to Taunton. We had three stops planned, coffee, lunch and afternoon tea. On the way to Taunton we had two small mechanical hiccoughs but all arrived safely at our hotel.

Friday was a free day to do as you liked. Some members went to Hestercombe Gardens, some to The Mump (hill with church on top) and some to the willow weaving centre. Other members went to see old friends living in the Taunton area.

On Saturday after an early breakfast, we had a 9.30 a.m. start. We had a short drive to Bishops Lydiard railway station to catch the Dunster Castle Express. This was a really good day visiting the castle and walking around Dunster village. Some of us had lunch and others, cream teas. After the return to the hotel at the end of the afternoon, we had time to rest, wash and change and we were all picked up by taxi and taken to The World's End Inn for dinner. This was a fantastic place, both food and staff were excellent. The taxis returned at the end of the evening to take us all back to the hotel.

On Sunday we had a leisurely breakfast and left the hotel at 11.30 a.m. We drove to the Brendon Hills in the Exmoor National Park. There were several very steep hills but all the cars sailed up them with no problems. We had a very relaxing lunch with two hours at The White Horse and a visit to the cider farm afterwards. In the evening we were again all taken by taxi to The Oake Manor Golf Club for our evening meal.

Monday was a free morning, some members went to the antique market in Taunton, around 130 stalls. Others decided to relax in the lovely gardens of the hotel.

At 1.30 pm we went to the Bishops Lydiard working water mill where we were given a talk by Yvonne, the owner of the mill and also had a lovely cream tea with scones freshly baked by Yvonne herself.

Our "last supper" was in the hotel at 8 pm after meeting in the bar for pre-dinner drinks. The food, service and comfort at The Meryan House Hotel had been first-class throughout the trip.

Judging by the e-mails sent to Maureen and I after the trip, I think everyone thoroughly enjoyed the Taunton Experience.

Don