

Monthly Newsletter and Events Update

www.nhaeg.org.uk

December 2009

Please print off this Newsletter and leave around for all to read!

Mo's Mutterings

I know it's a little early to say this but, *Happy Christmas* to you all. Trevor very kindly (I wouldn't exactly say he offered) has taken over the newsletter for December as Don and I are in Dubai for three weeks with Karen and family. I hope by the time you read this I will have done most of my Christmas shopping!

Well done to all who either took part in the Nightjar or helped on the night, not forgetting those who spent hours and hours planning, preparing and bringing everything and everyone together. I was not involved this year but obviously heard all about the event over the course of several months. On the night itself Jan Barker and I were snuggled up in the warm with my two grandchildren, Ellie and Jamie, and a takeaway, watching a video and enjoying a glass of wine. The funniest part of the evening was when Don came home to shower and change after falling in the lake!!! He then returned to the event, what a martyr!

See you on Fun Night!

Maureen

* * * * *

Once again the task of producing our monthly mouthpiece is down to yours truly, Maureen, our Editor, (in the company of Don, of course), being temporarily away in sunnier climes, visiting relatives, until mid-December.

This month's edition will, of necessity, be a fairly up-front, no-nonsense affair since I'm still dealing with the administrative aftermath of the 'Nightjar' Scatter Rally, held on 21st November, which, despite the absolutely appalling weather, turned out to be quite successful and enjoyed by virtually all the 34 competitors taking part. A little more on this later though.

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Colin's Column

Winter seems to be upon us again with wind and rain, not the sort of weather to really enjoy driving our sort of cars. Hopefully next summer will be better than this year, especially when we visit Bridgenorth.

London to Brighton Veteran Car Run

As we do every year Trevor, John and myself marshalled at Hyde Park for the start of the London to Brighton Veteran Car Run on the 1st November. There were 557 cars entered with 484 starting and although it was dry when the cars set off, the first one leaving at 6.54 am, the rain started just as the last ones were leaving and came down in torrents during the run although I believe by the time they reached Brighton it had dried up. There were 375 finishers with 109 not making it, not bad considering the weather. They are a tough lot these veteran car drivers considering most of them don't even have a windscreen let alone a hood of any sort.

We were not too bothered by the weather as we tucked into breakfast at the RAC Club in Pall Mall. Another enjoyable morning despite having to get up at 3.00am.

November Club Night

November is when we have our annual auction and as usual it was very well attended with members bringing all kinds of things to sell. As always it was a lot of fun and most of the items seemed to find new homes. Thanks to our Auctioneer Don and also to Trevor who kept a record of everything sold and collected the money of all the buyers. Hopefully no one got carried away and finished up buying something they did really need.

As normal 10% of the proceeds will go to club funds and I am sure Trevor will let you know in his Scribblings how much was raised.

ATDC Scroll Run

All members with email should have received details from me of the NHAEG's involvement in the Austin Ten Drivers Club (ATDC) Scroll Run, which took place on the 10th November. The idea is that all centres for the ATDC receive a scroll from another centre, arrange for a local dignity or celebrity to sign it and then pass it on to the next group to do

the same. We were very fortunate to have Bob Wyatt (Wokingham Councillor and Austin Historian and Author) agree to sign it for us, which he did so at a very enjoyable ceremony at St Anne's Manor in Wokingham.

Despite dreadful weather we had 10 Austins present which were lined up in front of the old Manor House for photographs to be taken. We then moved indoors for coffee and the signing of the scroll, which Bob then passed on to Tony Westall to take to the Surry/Hants centre of the ATDC.

Some of us then enjoyed a sandwich and drink with Bob who kept us enthralled with his knowledge of all things Austin. I should not think there is much if anything he does not know about our favourite make of car. When I dropped him off at home he said he had enjoyed himself and mentioned it was nice to be driven in a proper car.

Many thanks to Bob for finding the time to attend and also to all those members who braved the awful weather in their Austins, I trust your cars have now dried off.

34th NHAEG Nightjar

As far as I know the NHAEG Nightjar is a unique event in this country and as those of you have competed in the Nightjar will tell you it is not your usual leisurely drive around the countryside, hopefully enjoying the sunshine. For a start it takes place at night and you do not have a route to follow. Instead you are given 12 map references of which you need to try and reach 9 of them. At 6 of them you need to leave the car and with the aid of torches go on foot to try and find a board with a bird's name on using clues given to you by a marshal. These locations are very often in wooded areas.

Taking place in November, which it obviously does to ensure it is dark at the start, does mean you cannot be too sure what the weather is going to be like. Usually it is kind to us and is dry although sometimes a little chilly. This year however nature decided it had been too kind to us in previous years and gave us torrential rain and very strong winds which made driving incredibly difficult especially in cars that are over 70 years old some more than 80. Certainly the worst weather that I can remember in the 22 years that I have been involved in the event both as a competitor and in latter years on the organising side. In view of this full credit and applause must be given to all 35 competitors who turned up for the start, some having travelled many miles, from places such as Dorset, Gloucester, Portsmouth and Croydon to name just a few. All but one managed to finish, which I think was amazing given the conditions, even though most were very wet when they returned, quite a number though had managed to get to 9 locations.

Despite the weather, the general feeling was that most people, both those who had been competing for many years and those for whom it was their first time, enjoyed themselves and would not be put off taking part next year next. As always on returning everyone was pleased to get a mulled wine or tea and coffee followed by a hot meal, before getting the results.

An event such as this could not take place without a lot of time and effort by many people and I make no apologies for listing and saying a big thank to all of them.

The marshals were club members Nick and Pat Buchanan, Roy Roberts, Peter Adams, Mike Corbet, Julie Els, and non members John Burrows, Gill Fisher, Linda Fisher, Julian Burrows and Rob and Caroline, whose surname I unfortunately do not know. Running the Soup Kitchen at Shortheath Common were Jo and Vicky Seager with friend Kate. Our Clerk of the Course was Don Breakspear who did get a little wet while carrying out his duties, but that is another story.

Back at the Hall we had Ronnie Hunt, Jean Edwards, Joan Hancock with help from Roy Roberts Daughter Carol and Kate from the hall who helps us every year, all working in the kitchen. Raising money for 'Children in Need' with 'Name the Bear' we had Ruth Ewart and Pauline Barlow with Ann Greig running the Raffle. Our timekeepers were George Ewart and John Hancock, scoring and producing results were Trevor Edwards and John Chad and our sign maker and car park attendant was Peter Barlow.

This makes a total of 29 people involved in the running of the Nightjar. A very big thank you to you all, without your help the event could not take place and I know from comments made to me and the enthusiastic applause you all received on the night your efforts were very much appreciated by all competitors.

An event like this takes a lot of time and effort to plan and organise so I would also like to say a big thank you to the members of the Nightjar committee who have spent a lot of time and effort over the past months putting the event together and ensuring its smooth running. They are Trevor Edwards, Don Breakspear, Roy Roberts, John Chad, Peter Barlow and John Hancock. The biggest thanks however must go to Trevor, who I know everyone involved will agree, put in more time and effort than anyone for which I as Chairman of the Nightjar Committee am truly grateful.

Finally many thanks for all those members who took part and congratulations to those who won prizes especially Tony and Pat Westhall who won the trophy for the best performance by a NHAEG member.

Hopefully the weather this year did not put anyone off competing and you will all be entering again next year when it will be on Saturday 20th November and will hopefully be as dry as it usually is.

December Club Night

This year's festive fun night will include 'Mastermind', chaired by our own John Humphries, Trevor. I understand that as usual our members have not let us down and Trevor has had volunteers to take part without any arm-twisting. It will be interesting to see what their specialised subjects will be. We will also be celebrating 35 years of the NHAEG with a birthday cake, so come along join in the fun and if you want to dress up or wear a Christmas hat then please do so. Remember Christmas only comes once a year so make the most of it.

Our next event is the Christmas Dinner on Tuesday 8th December. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Until then, Safe and Happy (hopefully not too wet) Motoring and a very Happy Christmas to all!

Colin

Secretary's Scribblings.

Nightjar 2009

As Colin has covered in some detail we recently held the premier event of the year in the NHAEG calendar, the Nightjar Navigational Scatter Rally, the 34th such event. The weather, as he describes, was absolutely dire but this did not appear to dampen the enthusiasm of virtually all of the 34 (how apt!) crews taking part. Since the event several messages have been received expressing how satisfying and enjoyable it was, which, despite all the considerable time and effort expended by those involved in staging the event, makes it all worthwhile.

Colin has given a comprehensive report of the goings-on on November 21st but suffice it to mention that the 'Name the Bear' initiative, in aid, this year, of the topical Save the Children Fund, raised almost £140.00 which was further boosted, from Club funds, to make a donation of £150.00 towards that worthy cause.

In addition, an executive decision has been made by the Committee to donate 25% of any excess income derived from the 'Nightjar' to the 'Help for Heroes' charity which, few will disagree, is a most deserving one, especially at this particular time. Actual income over expenses is currently being assessed but details of the donation amount will be published in the next Newsletter.

Incidentally, next year, please note it's intended to revert to the former practice of having members nominate a charity of their choice from which one will be selected, via a draw, to benefit from a percentage of any 'excess' funds at the end of 2010.

This year, it was particularly pleasing to note that a record (for recent times, certainly) 7 entries came from NHAEG members - great news and thanks to all concerned! Special congratulations must go to Tony and Pat (Westhall) who came 3rd in Class 1 (Pre-War) and also turned in the Best Performance from NHAEG Members. (Ahem! Perhaps shouldn't dwell too long on why this year's performance was so much better than last!!! Might it have something to do with the crew?)

Finally I'd like to echo Colin's sentiments by thanking all those involved in helping to *run* the event, especially to the Marshals, and not forgetting Jo (Seager) and her merry Soup Kitchen team, stuck out in the back of beyond in such awful weather but who all carried out their appointed responsibilities so effectively. The Soup Kitchen was particular praised by many of the competitors; just wish I'd had the opportunity to sample the fare!

So, grateful thanks to all concerned and hope to see you again, 'on station', in 2010!

NHAEG Committee ~ 2010

The time is near when a Committee to take hold of the reins for 2010 needs to be determined and, although, with one exception, current Committee members are willing to continue to stand again, it will be necessary, nevertheless, as per traditional protocol, to vote in the Committee at the AGM on January 11th next year.

However, Maureen (Breakspear), our Newsletter Editor, has expressed the wish to resign from the Committee. She has, though, also intimated that she is willing and happy to continue to produce the Newsletter, in a non-executive capacity. Since a precedent was set when George (Ewart) adopted a similar stance when resigning as a

Committee Member, but continuing to act as Membership Secretary, the current Committee considers Maureen's proposal a reasonable request and is pleased to agree.

This will, however, necessitate a slight change to the Constitution (Rules and Regulations) of the Club which, in Section 5(a), expressly states that "The Officers of the *Club* shall be a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Newsletter Editor", and, under Section 5(b) that

"The *Club* shall be governed by an elected Committee comprising of the four Officers and four Committee Members".

In acknowledging and accepting Maureen's proposal it will be necessary to effect a change with regard to this specific detail. It is proposed and therefore will be put to members at the AGM that the Constitution be changed to reflect Maureen's resignation from the Committee by altering 5(a) to read thus:

"The officers of the *Club* shall be a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer" and 5(b), thus:

" The *Club* shall be governed by an elected Committee comprising of the three Officers and five Committee members"

Club Rules will then be amended to take the above into account.

Assuming such changes to be ratified by the membership at the AGM and regardless of the usual, annual invitation to all members to submit nominations for the 2010 Committee (either themselves or, with their permission, someone else), Maureen's resignation opens up a vacancy for a member to serve on the Committee.

Please, therefore, give this some thought and, if you're able and prepared to give up two or three hours every two months to attend Committee meetings and feel you have a contribution to offer in keeping the Club fresh and active please do submit your nomination on the form included in this Newsletter. It's your Club - long may it survive and thrive with your support!

N.B. Please confine any nominations to those that are new; it's not at all necessary to nominate currently serving members.

New Trophy

In October's Newsletter and repeated in last month's, a request was made for suggestions for a suitable use of the Framed Citation, presented to the NHAEG, earlier this year, by Billy Ness which, it was felt, could make some form of appropriate, perpetual trophy within the Club.

A number of ideas were received from members, all of them having merit and which were given due consideration at the most recent Committee meeting held on November 16th.

These included (a); presenting it to the Club member attending the most Club Nights and Events, during the year, in a 'proper car' and (b); presenting it to the person deemed to have made the most effort in any fund-raising activities with which the Club may become engaged.

The Committee felt, however, that, on balance, both these suggestions, whilst original and worthy, would invariably take a considerable amount of monitoring, proving arduous to 'police' in order to ensure accuracy and fairness.

However, a proposal put forward by Jean (Edwards) did meet with unanimous favour. This is to make it into a formal trophy/award for the '*Landlord's Choice*' at the annual *Concours d'Elegance* evening in July. We have never actually had a trophy for this but have simply handed a bottle of wine to the owner of the vehicle picked out by the Landlord (Tim Winter) or his representative.

It is felt that this would be most apt since the 'New Inn' was closely involved with and very instrumental in helping us raise significant funds during our 'Sponsor a Veteran' campaign earlier this year and such a suggestion would therefore reflect affinity with our Meeting Place.

Safeguards, currently in place, will be carefully exercised to ensure that the Trophy does not automatically go to the 'usual suspects' every year. Those chosen in any one year will be deemed ineligible for consideration for a further two years i.e. will become eligible once again in the third year following the award.

It's hoped that members agree this is a fitting role for the plaque since it keeps the award within the membership, whilst establishing and maintaining a connection with our meeting place, the 'New Inn' and its proprietor.

Finchampstead Fete 2010

This event, staged bi-annually, is being held again on July 10th 2010 in the village of Finchampstead, 'twixt Crowthorne and Eversley. As has been the case for several years, we, the NHAEG, have once again received a formal request to organise the static Classic Motor Pageant/Display element of this typical English village, Summer event.

The Club originally took on this task in memory of Peter Adnams who, himself, had been closely involved with this aspect of the event for many years and, following the

death of Betty, his wife and former Treasurer of the NHAEG, a short time after Peter's passing, it was felt that, apart from any other consideration, this was an ideal way of recognising the contribution both had made to the Club. Additionally, it's also a way in which we are able to express some appreciation to Ray and Ian Adnams, who, running the garage, Post Office and general store in the village of Finchampstead, are closely associated with the village and its inhabitants, for allowing us to use their excellent paddock each year for our annual Picnic there. Therefore, an earnest request is extended to all members for a volunteer, or volunteers even, to come forward to 'mastermind' the event next year. It isn't a particularly onerous task and basically involves contacting those who may have entered their vehicles for display on previous occasions as well as soliciting new interest from local clubs and/or other individuals. A list of those attending in earlier years is available for reference and guidance and advice can be sought from some of those who have done the honours previously, amongst whom are Roy (Roberts), Alex (Woollard) and yours truly. Please let me know if you would be interested in handling this in 2010. Many thanks!

Quiz News

There have been (so far) six entries for the November Quiz ('N is for November') which, in fact, was incorrectly headed '*September Quiz*'. [Memo to self: '*Must be more diligent in changing details when using previously-generated material as templates!*']

Answers won't be disclosed just now since you still have until the deadline, 12th December, to get in your entries! So, keep on thinking!

Another quiz, for December, if you have any spare moments during a very busy month, appears on page 17 of this issue.

That just about wraps up all that I have to rattle on about apart from wanting to wish all members the happiest of Christmases and all the very best for 2010. Looking forward to sitting down with 41 others for the Christmas Dinner on December 8th and, of course, the visit of 'John Humphreys', with his 'black chair', for 'Mastermind' on our Festive Fun Evening on December 14th.

Meanwhile, stay dry and keep safe!

Trevor

NOTICES

Subscriptions renewal.

These become due with effect from January 1st 2010 and Subscription Renewal Form is included with this Newsletter.

Please complete this at your earliest convenience but by January 11th 2010 at the very latest and forward form, together with cheque to cover subscription, to:

*George Ewart, (Membership Secretary)
'Aldina',
12A Butler Road,
Crowthorne. Berkshire. RG45 6QY*

You will be pleased to note that we've been able to maintain the subscription at £8.00 per annum, which covers all members of any one household and extends voting rights to the Principal Member, plus the Joint Member, if applicable.

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'CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT'

ROYAL ALBERT HALL – 20th DECEMBER 2009

If you are planning to have the Chinese buffet lunch, before we board the coach for London, payment for this is due by 14th December (Festive Fun Evening).

The cost will be £24.00 per couple, (cheque payable, as usual, to 'NHAEG'), which includes a small gratuity for the restaurant staff. Drinks may be purchased individually.

The location of and directions to the Chinese Restaurant in Yateley and the adjacent departure point will be given out at the Festive Fun Evening also to those attending or will be forwarded to those who may not.

Hope you are looking forward to this trip as much as I am!

Jean (Edwards) - 01344 775012

Don's Doodlings

Hopefully, by the time you read this, Maureen and I will be with our daughter Karen and family in Dubai. With a bit of luck British Airways will still be operational and Colin and Ann will be able to find Terminal 5 to drop us outside Departures. We are both very sorry we will miss the Christmas Dinner but we are sure you will have a fantastic evening.

I would like to thank Colin for his excellent job as porter and Trevor for doing a magnificent job on the sales at the November Auction Night. My thanks must also go to all the members who went to the trouble of sorting out their garages and homes to bring along the amazing collection of items for the auction. Without you all doing this the night would be a complete non-starter. Once again, thank you all very much.

On the 10th November Maureen and I went to the Hilton St. Annes Manor in Wokingham with other club members, to meet Bob Wyatt who had agreed to sign the Scroll which is being passed from club to club around the UK. In all, ten Austins turned up and Bob arrived as a passenger in Colin and Ann's Ten. The weather could have been a little better but it was not long before we were inside the hotel with a cup of coffee, watching Bob sign the Scroll. Some of you may know that Bob is the author of the Austin book, the Motor for the Millions. He also lives in Wokingham. I know Bob has agreed to come to the club and give a talk sometime in the new year and I strongly recommend you do not miss the evening. If you do have a copy of his book, bring it along to the club night and he will be only too pleased to sign it for you.

Sunday morning, the day after the Nightjar. I must say as far as I can recall, it was the wettest Nightjar we have had. It did not just rain, it was torrential rain at times.

I must congratulate all the competitors for their dogged determination to complete the Nightjar and arrive back at the Elizabeth Hall very wet but in surprisingly good spirits. I have nothing but praise for the organising committee. As you can imagine, the Nightjar is for very special people with the right attitude and determination to succeed, regardless of the obstacles put before them. It is definitely not a rally for wimps who I am sure, would have checked out halfway round. Once again, congratulations to you all and I hope to see you next year.

Maureen and I look forward to seeing many of you at the December Club Night

Don

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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 Tappet Adjustment – Austin Ten-Four and Battery Trickle Charger – Austin Twelve-Six.

No 651 appeared in March 1935, and No 1229 appeared in September 1945.

No 65 – Tappet Adjustment – Austin Ten-Four

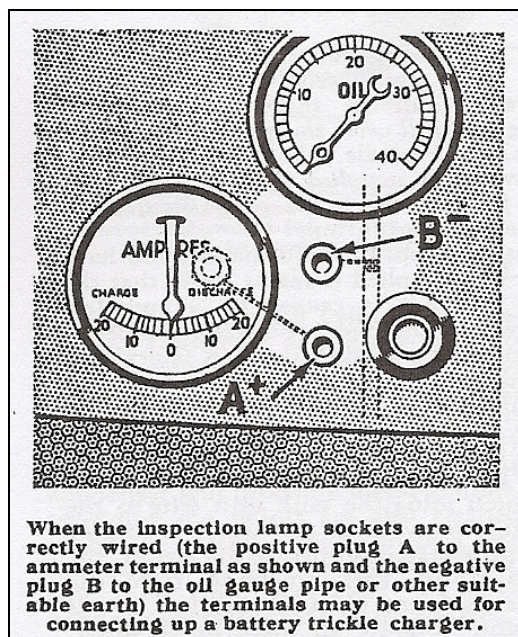
Q. *I am considering decarbonising my Ten-Four, but from a preliminary examination of the tappets it does not appear at all easy to adjust these while the engine is hot to the gap as determined by the gauge supplied in the tool kit. The operation has obviously to be effected with the exhaust and inlet manifold and carburetter in position, for when the engine has been run until hot, the time taken in removing these parts would allow it to cool off, but the manifold somewhat restricts the space in which to work on the adjustment in question. I am therefore wondering whether, using a suitable feeler gauge, I can set the tappet clearances while the engine is cold, with the carburetter and manifold removed, to a gap that will ensure the correct clearance when the engine is at its normal working temperature. Incidentally, what is this last measurement?*

A. The tappet clearance for the Ten-Four engine when hot is .004 in., this being the thickness of the tappet gauge supplied in the tool kit. If you wish to make the adjustment when the engine is cold, you will find that by setting the clearance for the inlet valves to .008 in., and to .01 in. for the exhaust valves, you will ensure the correct working clearance when the engine is at normal running temperature. The inlet valves are Numbers 2, 3, 6 and 7 counting from the front of the engine. You should be particularly careful to ensure that each valve has its correct clearance, as otherwise if the gap is too large the engine will be unduly noisy when running, or if the gap when cold is too small and the valves cannot seat properly when hot, the exhaust valve faces and seats may be burnt. It is, of course, important to ensure by turning the engine, that each valve is free of its tappet and the tappet is fully down and not being lifted by its cam, before setting the clearance.

No 1229 – Battery Trickle Charger – Austin Twelve-Six

Q. *I would be very grateful if you could inform me of a quick method whereby I can connect a battery trickle charger to the electrical circuit of my 1936 Austin Twelve-Six. At present I have to lift up the carpet, remove two sections of the floor boarding and then grope in the dark before I can connect the trickle charge cables to the battery terminals. Considerable time is also wasted when I have to repeat the whole procedure in reverse after disconnecting the cables.*

A. The best way to overcome this difficulty is to fit an inspection lamp plug socket (with positive and negative) to the instrument panel or some other convenient point on your car since this, when correctly wired, will provide a quick and easy method of connecting the battery trickle charger cables to the car electrical circuit. Your car is fitted with a negative earth electrical circuit and you must therefore connect the terminal on the negative inspection lamp socket plug to earth: the oil gauge pipe is usually the most convenient and most effective earth.




The positive socket plug should be connected direct either to the battery cable terminal on the starter or to one of the ammeter terminals. If, when viewing the back of this instrument, the left-hand terminal is used, the ammeter will record the amount of charge entering the battery from the trickle charger and it is therefore advisable to use this terminal.

Some more old advertisements from 1957, however, I think the Health and Safety mob would have heart attacks if you tried to sell these products today.

FIREPROOF GARAGES



Get
THE BEST,
get...



**EASY TERMS
CAN BE
ARRANGED.**

ABC Steel or Steel-Framed and Asbestos Garages are the finest value obtainable. Get free coloured catalogues of ABC Garages and Greenhouses. They are specially designed for easy erection. Free delivery in England, Wales and South Scotland.

ASTLEY BROOK & CO. LTD., 248, St. George's Works, Huddersfield

Although advertised as fireproof, not much of selling point if the contents were burnt to a cinder! Perhaps in the 50s garage fires were a common hazard.

The development of baby seats has moved on a bit since 1957, today's baby seats will more than likely meet the safety requirements for use in a Space Shuttle. This Desmo product, although it did the job, does not look very comfortable for the occupant and lacks all what we now know about modern car safety. Still at the time it must have seemed an answer to a parent's prayer.



The Desmo car baby seat.

The Desmo Car Baby Seat
THE new Desmo car baby seat is made in two parts, with a rayon canvas seat which can be detached for washing, and it is quickly assembled or dismantled and can be packed away in a compact way when not in use. It has no sharp edges or tight restraining straps, and allows sufficient freedom of movement for the child to relax or stand without being able to climb out. The child cannot slide off the seat when the car is cornering. Priced at 29s. 10d., it is manufactured by Desmo Ltd., Pensnett Trading Estate, Brierley Hill, Staffordshire, and is distributed under the trade name of "Rest-a-Bairn."

Andy Ranson

Coincidence or what?

Having known Ted and Sally de La Riviere for many years, through a number of MG's, we were shocked when they said "We're selling Bumble." With no intention or plan, or room, we suddenly found ourselves to be the new owners of their RP box saloon 'Bumble' in 2008 (to stop her leaving the area).

Having sorted the garage and made the room, the drug of Austins was reborn (had one at school) and the casual desire for a soft top version began to grow. With no real intention to find one, eBay (yes, another drug) was regularly scoured for anything of interest A7.

Then one day up pops a little picture of an AF tourer sitting beside the seaside. That would be lovely we both exclaimed. With no real intention of purchasing I bid up, just to see what the reserve was, knowing that on the last day of the auction the bidding would leap up well past my bid.

As the week went on, and we remained the highest bidder, the attraction grew and we decided to take a nice day out and go and see her, in Whitstable. Bad move! As we fell in love even more and decided to try and win her. We offered cash there and then but the owner said the interest was massive and he wanted to see the auction through to the end. On the last day of bidding we set our ceiling, still thinking it would go for more, and waited until the end. With twenty minutes left another bidder arrived and took the lead. Finally, with Karen completely losing control worrying that I'd miss it, I pressed the button with nine seconds left. Our bid went green, we won the car and Karen went berserk!



Arrival in Old Basing

Having picked 'Bluebelle' up and reorganised the garage, again, we started to enjoy the two A7s at events, and not so long later took Bluebelle to the Thorneycroft revival in Basingstoke. There we met Rob and Jan, some long standing friends and petrol heads of ours, who live locally, and Jan, looking a bit shocked, immediately said,

"I learnt to drive in that car."

"What one of those?"

"No! That one!" "My husband owned her between 1958 and 1961, when we lived in Teddington."

My turn to lose it!

Lo and behold, next time we saw each other Jan produced some pictures of Bluebelle in former times, saying, "I've often mentioned to Rob, as we amble round classic car events. I wonder what happened to that little car,"

"And of all places to find her – Here, and with you!"



Teddington, approx 1956



On holiday, Pagham, near Bogner 1958

Sadly that is the only history we have of little Bluebelle, other than: - Born in Kent, and lived in Kent for the last 12 years, but a delight to know something of her life and reacquaint her with a past owner.



Bluebelle and Bumble out playing 2009, and No! She didn't need a tow from Alfie.
Just very useful hooks these starting handles **Russ & Karen Taylor**

Events Diary

December

8th Christmas Dinner, 7:30om for 8:00 at the Downshire Golf Complex, Easthampstead Park, Wokingham/Bracknell.
If directions are required please contact Trevor on 01344 775012, or via email at:
trevor_c.edwards@btinternet.com

14th Club Night - Festive Fun Evening
'Mastermind'.
Festive garb encouraged but optional!

20th 'Carols by Candlelight' - Royal Albert Hall

January 2010

11th AGM

February

8th 'Feely Bags' or possibly talk by
Bob Wyatt MBE - TBD

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STOP PRESS!

Subsequent to the recent signing, (as reported in Colin's Column), by Bob Wyatt MBE and the formal handing-on of the ATDC Great Scroll, which ceremony took place at St.Anne's Manor, on November 10th, we are delighted to announce that Bob has since accepted the Club's offer of Honorary Membership. As many will be aware Bob is a very well-known personage within the historic car movement and is an author of many books on the subject, particularly those associated with Lord (Herbert) Austin and his products. It is sincerely hoped that he may, in due course and from time to time, be able to attend one or two Club Nights and perhaps even regale us with a talk on one of the many subjects about which he is so passionate and well-informed. Welcome to the NHAEG, Bob! We are honoured to have you amongst us.

December '09 Quiz

PROVERBS

The 20 'clues' are all abbreviations for proverbs or sayings in common usage; e.g. WNWN = 'Waste not, want not'. In the event of any tie correct spelling will be taken into consideration.

- 1) AAADKTDA
- 2) AFINIAFI
- 3) AGMIHTF
- 4) ARLTR
- 5) BIITEOTB
- 6) ECHASL
- 7) HIWTHI.....
- 8) OOSOOM.....
- 9) TWDMAR.....
- 10) WTAWTAW.....
- 11) RWBIAD
- 12) PMP
- 13) LTPLM
- 14) LBYL
- 15) TMCSTB
- 16) LSSM
- 17) TNPLH
- 18) AWWIND
- 19) BLTN
- 20) MHWTSS

*As per usual, please forward completed entries, together with £1.00 (towards prizes), to:
Trevor Edwards, 55 The Brambles, Crowthorne. RG45 6EF, by 9th January 2010*

Here's a thought!

Why not do the Quiz (overleaf) and submit a nomination, all on the same form?

NHAEG 2010 Committee Nominations

Following the declared intention of Maureen Breakspear to resign from the Committee at the end of 2009 a vacancy now exists to fill her position as an Ordinary Member.

If you wish to nominate yourself, or someone else, with their permission, please do so below, have the form seconded by an NHAEG member and submit it to the address given below, to be received by January 8th 2010 at the very latest.

Any nomination for the above, or any other Official/Member position, received by that date will be included on a Ballot Form, in readiness for Voting to be conducted during the Annual General Meeting on January 11th to select those to serve on the Committee for 2010.

Nomination..... Seconded.....

Nomination..... Seconded.....

Nomination..... Seconded.....

Forward to: Trevor Edwards, 55 The Brambles, Crowthorne. Berks. RG45 6EF, or
scan and email to: trevor_edwards@btinternet.com (January 8th 2010 deadline!)

North Hampshire *Austin* Enthusiasts' Goup

Dear Member/Prospective Member, subscriptions for 2010 fall due on January 1st. 2010

Group Membership includes all those resident at the address noted below but only the Principal and Joint members named can vote at any Group Meeting.

The Group requests the information below to maintain its records and to help it to provide events and activities which reflect the interests of the membership where possible.

Information provided will not be used for any other purpose nor disclosed to any other individual, group or agency outside this Group. Mark 'X' if you do not wish to add this data.

Please use BLOCK CAPITALS and delete as appropriate.

PRINCIPAL MEMBER

Title Surname Forenames

Address

Postcode

E-mail address

Telephone number

Mobile number

For security reasons your home address will be made available to the Committee members only.

JOINT MEMBER

Title Surname Forenames

E-mail address

Telephone number

Mobile number

May we include your tel./e-mail/vehicle details in the circulated membership list? **YES/NO**

SIGNATURE
(PRINCIPAL MEMBER)

DATE

YOUR HISTORIC VEHICLE(S) PLEASE DETAIL OVERLEAF

We would like to know the make, model, year, registration and any other interesting facts.

Do you wish to help run or organize any Group events?

YES/NO

What activities/events would you be interested in? Please note overleaf.

Please return your completed form, with your **cheque only** for £8.00, made payable to 'NHAEG', to the Membership Sec. at a Group meeting, or post to:

George Ewart, 12A Butler Road, Crowthorne, RG45 6QY.

Telephone 01344 778286

george.ewartx@btinternet.com

Subscriptions requested by **January 11th. 2010** at the very latest please.