

# **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 next newsletter by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of this month in WORD document form.**

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

**DECEMBER 2012**

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

### **Mo's Mutterings**

*Merry Christmas to you all and a Very Happy New Year. Don and I look forward to seeing many of you at the club Christmas celebrations over the next few weeks, weather permitting!*

Note from George Ewart, would you please renew your memberships before December 31<sup>st</sup> 2012.

### **COLINS COMMENTS**

#### **November Club Night**

We had our annual Auction at the November club night and as always we had a wide variety of items to bid for including various car parts, books, pictures, a telescope, models and various household items to name just a few. As always it was a great deal of fun and I hope you all have a use for the things you bought and did not get carried away with your bidding. As always many thanks to our excellent Auctioneer Don and also to Trevor who kept track of who entered what in the auction and who made the successful bids. I am sure he will let you know how much was raised in his Secretary's Scribblings elsewhere in this newsletter.

#### **Classic Car Meeting, White Lion Antiques**

Don and I went along in our cars to the October Classic Car Meeting at the White Lion Antiques Centre at Hartley Whitney. Although it was mainly post-war classics they were very pleased to see us in our Austins. There was a very interesting display of cars and with an excellent breakfast, well worth going. I shall certainly go again especially during the winter when there is not much on for our cars.

There are meetings right through the year and I have added them to the Club Nights and Events Diary, also further details can be obtained by visiting their web site [www.whitelionantiques.co.uk](http://www.whitelionantiques.co.uk). Unfortunately the next meeting is the same day as Jean's Christmas Lunch Tour but weather permitting, I hope to go to the meeting on January 13<sup>th</sup>.

## **Nightjar**

The 37<sup>th</sup> year of The Nightjar, the club's premier event, held on the 17<sup>th</sup> November, was a huge success with 31 cars taking part. From the comments received at the end of the evening and the many emails received since, everyone seemed to have really enjoyed themselves.

What always amazes me is the distance some entrants travel to take part in this event, coming from such places as Somerset, Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Dorset. Including the mileage on the event some travel over 200 miles, not bad in cars some of which are over 80 years old. Most of them return year after year.

An event like this does not just happen, it takes a lot of planning in the months before and a lot of effort on the night. Thankfully we have a lot of members only too happy to assist as well as a few friends. I worked out there were 30 people involved this year, far too many to mention individually, although I have emailed them all. To them all I say again, very many thanks for all your efforts it really is appreciated by all the contestants and also by me and the rest of the committee. Without all your help the event just could not take place.

I am sure Trevor, who does so much for the event and for which I am very grateful, will have more details in his Scribblings so I will leave you to read them.

## **Upcoming Events**

I am sure like everyone else I am looking forward to the Christmas Dinner on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December and the Christmas Lunch Tour (River Cruise) on the 9<sup>th</sup> both events organised by Trevor and Jean. Also the New Years Day Gathering at Brooklands, which I understand many of you are intending to attend. You can go in convoy if you wish, this is being organised by Andy Seager and details were in last month's newsletter, please let him know if you are joining him. You can of course make your own way there if Andy's meeting place is out of your way.

## **December Club Night**

Our December club night will as usual be a Festive Fun Night and is being kindly organised by Trevor and Jean. They are certainly going to be very busy over the next few weeks and that is on top of the Nightjar, we are very lucky to have them in the club, many thanks to them both. As always if you wish to dress in a festive manor please feel free to do so.

## **Lunch Meetings at The New Inn**

I put an idea to the committee at our last meeting, which was to have a lunchtime meeting once a month at The New Inn where they do lunches for £5 during the week. The committee agreed it was worth trying and decided the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday in the month; half way between club nights, might be a suitable time.

It would be purely a social event with nothing arranged, just turn up if you wish, it maybe in the summer that members might wish to have a short drive after, but nothing formal. I am aware that probably only retired members would be able to come, but the £5 meals are only available on weekdays and the majority of our members are retired. Should any of our working members wish to do a similar thing at the weekend, I am sure it can be arranged, just let me know.

It is planned to have the first meeting on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 12.30pm for a 1.00pm lunch, there will be more details in the January newsletter. In the meantime it would be helpful to know which members might be interested in attending a lunch meeting every month or just occasionally. Please email me, without any commitment, at [cgreig104@btinternet](mailto:cgreig104@btinternet) if this is of interest to you.

### **Membership Renewal**

You should all have received an email from Trevor regarding subscription renewal for 2013 with a form attached. If you have not already done so please fill it in and send to George now, a copy of the form should be included in this newsletter.

George should receive renewals no later than 31<sup>st</sup> December but it makes life so much easier if he gets them in early. If you do not renew by 31<sup>st</sup> December I am afraid you will have to pay a £4 joining fee on top of the £5 membership, also you will not be eligible to vote at the AGM or receive any more newsletters until your form and payment are received. Therefore I would suggest you send the form to George **now** to avoid having to pay the extra £4 but more importantly to make life easier for George. You know it makes sense.

That's it for now; all that remains is to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Lets hope for better weather to enjoy driving our cars in 2013.

***Colin***

### *Secretary's Scribblings*

#### *Quiz News*

A record number of ten entries were received for Julie's quiz, set in October, (*'We're Having Another Laugh!*'), nine of these submitting all-correct answers. In her absence from the November Club Night - (she and Mick were, by then, lazing about in Barbados!) - a 'shoot-out' was necessary to determine the winner(s) by means of a draw. Even under these circumstances an eyebrow was raised, amongst those present, that the victors turned out to be Malcolm and Sandra (Ryley) who, sadly, at that time, were languishing at home both suffering badly from flu-like symptoms. Hopefully, receipt of their edible and drinkable prizes, delivered to them shortly afterwards, helped just slightly, to relieve their discomfort!

You still have until Friday December 7<sup>th</sup> to get your entries for the November Quiz, *'Things You May Find Or Do In The Garden'* to Sandra (Ryley), who kindly set this particular quiz. Please send them to her please, together with your £1.00 entry 'fee', to this address:

'Gorse Bank', Hazeley Heath, Hook. RG27 8NA

December's quiz is a bumper one - 50 questions! - which should provide some gentle mental exercise after all the physical exertions generally associated with

Christmas and New Year. Please send in your entries to me, Trevor E, by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2013, together with, as usual, £1.00 towards prize(s).

### Christmas Dinner 2012

41 members have signed up for this year's festive feast at the Downshire Golf Complex, which lies 'twixt Bracknell and Crowthorne. For those of you who may not be familiar with the exact location and are satnav-equipped, the postal address is Downshire Golf Complex, Easthampstead Park, Wokingham RG40 3DH. For those who may prefer a more conventional means of pinning down the venue it's at grid reference 847 / 666.5 (OS Landranger map No 175) and can be found along Nine Mile Ride (B3430) approximately 0.75 miles beyond the Pinewood roundabout, travelling east. Look for the sign to Easthampstead Crematorium, (don't bother to stop off there!) and continue on past this to the Complex building.

Timing is 7:30 p.m. for 8:00. Looking forward to another great evening with delicious food, coupled with excellent service and, as ever, congenial company plus, the traditional grand FREE raffle!

### Nightjar 2012- 17<sup>th</sup> November

We had 31 entries for this year's Nightjar – 22 historic and 9 moderns. Though probably not a record, given that the event has been run for the past 37 years, it was certainly an excellent showing and probably, as we have now pretty well determined as many as we can comfortably handle, so we have already started to spread the word that numbers may, in the future, have to be limited and it could be a matter of '*first come, first served*'. A nice position to be in and one which, it's evident, quite a few clubs would very much wish to be in!

The weather, though predicted by the Met Office to be wet and miserable turned out, on the evening in question, to be dry and quite mild, which pleased both competitors and those officiating as marshals, 'out in the sticks', very well indeed. Judging from broad smiles on the faces of those returning some four or so hours after they'd left Elizabeth Hall and from comments during the evening, plus numerous emails received later, everyone seemed to enjoy the event as much as ever and probably deemed it one of the best they could recall. It was especially gratifying that this year we had four teams qualifying for Inter Register Club entry (meaning that at least three of any one marque was represented in the Class One line-up). Of course, the usual Humbers and Rileys were clearly in evidence, (though, surprisingly, only a single Alvis was this year!), but also, in this instance, three MGs and five Austins as well! This is particularly encouraging since it hopefully means that, in the future, even more of the latter will enter and the chances of climbing back up the IRC championship ladder may steadily improve, after three decades of 'languishing in the doldrums'.

A '*Name the Bear*' competition - (many thanks to Pauline Barlow for generously donating the furry creature!) , which was promoted by Ruth (Ewart), raised over

£123.00 in aid of *'Children in Need'* , which has since made up to £150.00 from Club funds and a donation sent off to that charity. Also, a raffle, ably arranged by Ann (Greig) and assisted by Ginny (King), managed to swell the clubs coffers by a helpful amount.

In terms of 'local' successes Richard Scott and his navigator John Baxter came second in Class One (pre-war vehicles) with a score of 412 points. He also picked up the award for the Best Performing NHAEG entry and, to top it all off, won a special prize awarded to the person completing the task considered to be the most challenging – euphemistically known as *'Don's Dawdle'*, this year Manned Control 3, marshalled by Gavin and Tina (Francis), in an impressive 24 minutes although this time was equalled by another NHAEG member, Trevor King, competing in Class Two (Moderns), who also bagged a similar prize.

This year, it was decided to award another 'special' prize to the crew having the greatest combined age of driver and vehicle. It was little surprise to many that this went to Dick Arman, who, at the age of 83 now, travels up, year after year, from his home in Broadstone, Dorset, in his 1927 Humber 14/40 saloon to compete. 167 years combined ages – not bad going for both metal and flesh! Truly remarkable and worthy of a loud round of applause!



*Are you sure that's right?*

It was especially satisfying also, this year, to have Peter Winney, Chairman of the ATDC, taking part. Since the NHAEG stages the *Nightjar* on behalf of the ATDC this may help somehow to promote the event within the ATDC and encourage other members to give it a go; it would be good to see more of them doing so.

Congratulations must, however, go to *all* who entered and especially to those mentioned for such splendid performances. The total lack of any negative criticism, received via email or other means, since the event, seems to confirm that we must have got things just about spot on this year. Many thanks to all who assisted in achieving this success. Without such help it simply would not be possible to lay on such a well-oiled and well-loved event ! My personal thanks go to Pat (Buchanan) who, at very short notice, valiantly stepped in to assist me with the marking and scoring exercise. After a rapidly arranged tutorial, a couple of days prior to the event, on the weird and wonderful 'art' of frantically producing an accurate set of statistics in the shortest time possible, we managed to study, cross-check and deal with something like 45 separate entries on each of the 31 Route Cards in sufficient time for Colin to be able to announce the results and award prizes, etc. Thank you, Pat. You've passed your test with flying colours and are fully qualified to officiate again next year!!!!

### 2013 Committee Nominations

It's that time of the year, once again, when nominations are sought for those to serve on the 2013 Committee.

Using the simple form appearing elsewhere in this newsletter please nominate anyone who, with their approval, you would like to nominate - even yourself! Please ensure that your nomination is received at the under-mentioned address, **by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January**, to be certain that names will appear on the Voting Form to be used at the AGM on the 14<sup>th</sup> January.

As a departure, this year, from previous practice, nominations are not being requested for any particular position on the Committee - purely those to serve on it. Specific roles will be determined and assigned, at the first Committee Meeting, shortly afterwards in the New Year, by those then appointed to it. It is felt that this is a more sensible and practical approach by which to construct a working team to oversee the running of the Club in the foreseeable future. As will be noted, in the revised/updated version of Club rules, shortly to be distributed amongst members, an elected Committee will, in future be comprised of 'three Officers and up to a maximum of five Committee Members. This measure has been put in place taking into account the fact that it has proven difficult, in recent times, to attract the eight members which, hitherto, had been specified and required under Section 5 (d) of Club Rules.

Nevertheless, it's fervently hoped that sufficient number of nominations will be received to fill all eight places available so please do not hesitate to get your nomination(s) in by the date above. Send these to:

Trevor Edwards (Sec. NHAEG),

55 The Brambles, Crowthorne. Berks, RG45 6EF

Don't delay – do this soon! Many thanks!

*2013 Subscriptions – Renewal Reminder!*

Also, in this edition, is another Subscriptions Renewal/Joining Form. If you haven't already done so please complete this and forward your cheque for £5.00 (note the reduced fee this year!) to George Ewart, the Membership Secretary, by 31<sup>st</sup> December at the very latest! Any late renewals will attract a re-joining fee of £4.00, so don't put off the deed! George's address is: 12a Butler Road, Crowthorne, RG45 6QY.

Equally, and for the express benefit of those *new* members, joining since 1<sup>st</sup> October 2012, please note that your current membership does not expire until 31st December 2013, since you get a maximum of 15 months for the price of 12. Therefore, please ignore this reminder!

*And, Finally.....*

If any member has been displaying a collecting box, throughout the year, for 'Help for Heroes' and would like any sum gathered to be included in the one shortly being forwarded by the Club, resulting from various events during the past twelve months, would you please let Jean (Edwards) have this as soon as possible? Cash or cheque are equally welcome, but please make cheques payable to 'NHAEG'. Many thanks!

*Don't forget the Festive Fun Night on the 10<sup>th</sup>, the final Club get-together for the year, though, maybe, will see some of you at the Brooklands Meeting on New Year's Day - Andy (Seager) has already put out an announcement regarding this. For further details please contact him on 07990 546677 or via email at andyseager@mac.com.*

*All that now remains is to wish all members and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year (George Osborne permitting!).*

*Trevor*

**'C' If You Can Answer These!**

**Answers all begin with the letter 'C' – for Christmas! Please forward entries to Trevor Edwards, at:**

**55 The Brambles, Crowthorne. RG45 6EF by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2013 enclosing £1.00 towards the cost of prize(s).**

1. Do Indians go here when on a diet? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 8
2. Does this breakfast food follow on day after day? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 6
3. Composer who might be on a spending spree \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 6
4. Lazy edible tuber grown on the living room!  
\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 5, 6
- 5 .A musical or a matey board game \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 5
6. Digital components sold with fish \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 5
7. One must pull it to get the joke! \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 7
8. Go rapidly into a lifetime's job? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 6
9. Drink that sounds like a false ache. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 9
10. Favourite mode of transport one can walk on \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 6
11. Animal that makes one's lower jaw cold? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 10
12. Damage young female with short sword \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 7
13. Blooming undergarment worn by milk producer \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 7
14. Sailing boat used by hairdressers? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 7
15. Used when navigating in circles. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 7
16. An animal show or a bad word said by a knight! \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 6
17. One hundredth of a measuring instrument? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 10
18. Mega, pedal or sunspot. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 5
19. Does it always rain here in SA? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 4, 4



20. A low value law officer before decimalisation! \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 6
21. A poor one is not good for papers or blood pressure.  
\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 11
22. A heavy earthmover in the garden \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 11
23. East Anglian policeman who's fond of painting. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 9
24. What a black bird might use to listen with in church! \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 7
25. A silly timepiece \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 6, 5
26. Prisoners could use this to ring home! \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 9
27. Say this to produce a smile \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 6
28. A very fragile simple radio \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 7, 3
29. Pop group who made a loud noise \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 5
30. What a man from Prague might pay with \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 6
31. This young bird sounds like a ring on a finger \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 6
32. How can Santa get in without these? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 8
33. Nut used to defeat someone \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 6
34. Cut a steam engine in half for a Cornish bird. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 6
35. Upper case symbols used for London's post?  
\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 7, 7
36. 12 on the brow, 6 on the chin and 3 and 9 on the cheeks. What am I looking at?  
\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 6, 6
37. Marriage of Stilton and Gorgonzola! \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 6, 6
38. One may be sent here when unpopular. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 8
39. A boastful bird \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 4
40. Popular at a tea dance? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 3, 3

41. Car part that holds securely.	_ _ _ _ _	5
42. Liverpool, Worcester, Gloucester, for example	_ _ _ _ _	6
43. This would keep a taxi driver's hair tidy!	_ _ _ _ _	7
44. If you drop this country it might break.	_ _ _ _ _	5
45. Would this complaint make one's eye water?	_ _ _ _ _	8
46. Sort of puzzle to make one annoyed?	_ _ _ _ _	9
47. A form to complete every ten years.	_ _ _ _ _	6
48. This Charlie sounds like a church official	_ _ _ _ _	7
49. A mad admirer of a famous clown	_ _ _ _ _	7
50. The coldest South America country?	_ _ _ _ _	5

## NHAEG Club Nights and Events Diary

### Club Nights

### Arranged by or details from

Dec 10 <sup>th</sup> <b>2013</b>	Christmas Fun Night (A-Z of Famous People)	Trevor/Jean
Jan 14 <sup>th</sup>	AGM	Committee
Feb 11 <sup>th</sup>	Quiz	Julie Els
March 11 <sup>th</sup>	TBA	TBA
April 8 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Airing	TBA
May 13 <sup>th</sup>	TBA	TBA
June 10 <sup>th</sup>	Half Gallon Run	TBA

### Events

<b>Dec 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Christmas Dinner</b>	<b>Trevor/Jean</b>
<b>Dec 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Christmas Lunch Tour (River Cruise)</b>	<b>Jean E</b>
Dec 9 <sup>th</sup>	Classic Car Meeting at White Lion Antiques Hartley Wintney	<a href="http://www.whitelionantiques.co.uk">www.whitelionantiques.co.uk</a> or Colin for details
<b>2013</b> <b>Jan 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>New Years Day Gathering at Brooklands</b>	<b>Andy Seager</b> <a href="http://www.brooklandsmuseum.com">www.brooklandsmuseum.com</a>
Jan 13 <sup>th</sup>	Classic Car Meeting at White Lion Antiques Hartley Wintney	<a href="http://www.whitelionantiques.co.uk">www.whitelionantiques.co.uk</a> or Colin for details
Feb 3 <sup>rd</sup>	VSCC Driving Tests at Brooklands	<a href="http://www.brooklandsmuseum.com">www.brooklandsmuseum.com</a> or Colin for details
Feb 10 <sup>th</sup>	Classic Car Meeting at White Lion Antiques Hartley Wintney	<a href="http://www.whitelionantiques.co.uk">www.whitelionantiques.co.uk</a> or Colin for details
March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Morris/Austin Day at Brooklands Test Hill open for Morris and Austin cars	<a href="http://www.brooklandsmuseum.com">www.brooklandsmuseum.com</a> or Colin for details
March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Classic Car Meeting at White Lion Antiques Hartley Wintney	<a href="http://www.whitelionantiques.co.uk">www.whitelionantiques.co.uk</a> or Colin for details
<b>April 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Drive it Day</b>	<b>TBA</b>
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Merrist Wood Summer Show	<a href="http://www.guildford.ac.uk">www.guildford.ac.uk</a> for entry form from Feb 2013
May 25 <sup>th</sup>	History On Wheels Motor Museum (Eton Wick)	Colin/Ann
June 17 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup>	Holiday/Isle Of Wight	Trevor/Jean

### Events in **BOLD** are NHAEG events

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

Colin

# North Hampshire **Austin** Enthusiasts' Group 2013 Joining/Renewal Subscription Form.

New members are required to pay a **Joining** fee of **£4.00**, in addition to a yearly subscription of **£5.00**

Current Members renewal subscriptions should be submitted by **December 31<sup>st</sup>. 2012** otherwise a **Rejoining** fee of **£4.00** will be payable in addition to their renewed subscription of **£5.00**.

#  
**Please use BLOCK CAPITALS and highlight details changed since last year**

Principal Membership includes all those resident at the address noted below.  
However, only the Principal and Joint members are allowed to vote at any Group Meeting or AGM.

---

## PRINCIPAL MEMBER

Title                      Surname    Forenames  
  
Address\*\*    Postcode  
  
E-mail address  
  
Telephone number    Mobile number

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

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

## JOINT MEMBER

Title                      Surname    Forenames  
  
E-mail address  
  
Telephone number    Mobile number

SIGNATURE .....    DATE  
.....

(PRINCIPAL MEMBER)

---

**Please note overleaf** the make, model, year & registration number and any other interesting facts.

Do you wish to help run or organize any Group events?    **YES / NO**

**Please note overleaf** what activities/events you would be interested in?

The NHAEG requests this information to maintain its records and so to help provide events and activities which reflect the interests of the membership where possible. This information will not be used for any other purpose nor disclosed to any other individual, group or agency outside the **NHAEG**.

**The NHAEG monthly Newsletter is circulated free by E-mail to all Principal Members**

Printed copies will be posted on request at the cost price of £15.00

Please return your form and payment of £5.00/£9.00 (delete as required) by **cheque only** made payable to 'NHAEG', at a Group meeting or by post before December 31<sup>st</sup>.  
to:-

**The Membership Secretary, George Ewart, 12A Butler Road, Crowthorne, RG45 6QY.**  
Telephone 01344 778286  
george.ewartx@btinternet.com

## QUERIES OF THE MONTH

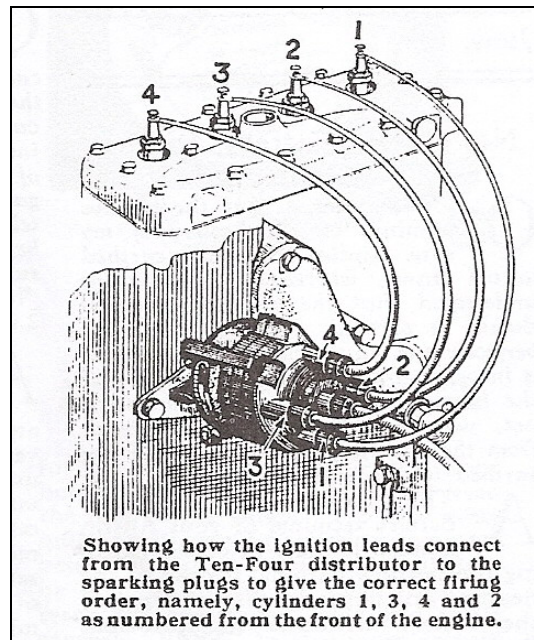
Some more “Queries of the Month”, these originally appeared in “The Austin Magazine & Advocate” during the 1930s and 1940s. This month’s selection consists of No 742 Ignition Leads – Austin Ten-Four, No 749 Focusing Headlight – Austin Seven and No 869 Greasing Torque Tube – Austin Seven.

No 742 appeared in June 1936, No 749 in July 1936 and No 869 in May 1938.

### **No 742 – Ignition Leads – Austin Ten-Four**

**Q.** *Is there any period of use at which I should change the ignition leads on my Ten-Four? My car, although decarbonised recently, does not seem to pull so well as formerly, and I am wondering whether the ignition system may be at fault. The ignition leads appear somewhat the worse for wear, hence my question.*

**A.** The renewal of the ignition leads is, of course, eventually desirable on any car, and if the leads on your Ten-Four appear to be much worn or soaked with oil you will certainly do well to fit a new set. It is, of course, a good plan to change the sparking plugs and the leads at a specific mileage, and some owners do this after 10,000 miles of use. While this may not be strictly necessary, undoubtedly consistent and efficient running is assisted by this renewal, as otherwise the high tension current may leak to earth. When fitting new leads make sure that you connect them up correctly in accordance with the proper firing order of the engine. Thus, taking the leads as they fit in the distributor cover, and beginning with that connecting at No 1 cylinder, you will find when removing your present leads that, working in a clockwise direction round the cover, they run to cylinders 1, 3, 4 and 2, as numbered from the front of the engine. It is, of course, as well to stamp the terminals on the new leads with the correct numbers for assembling on to the sparking plugs, so that if the leads are removed at any later time they can be readily identified and correctly re-assembled.

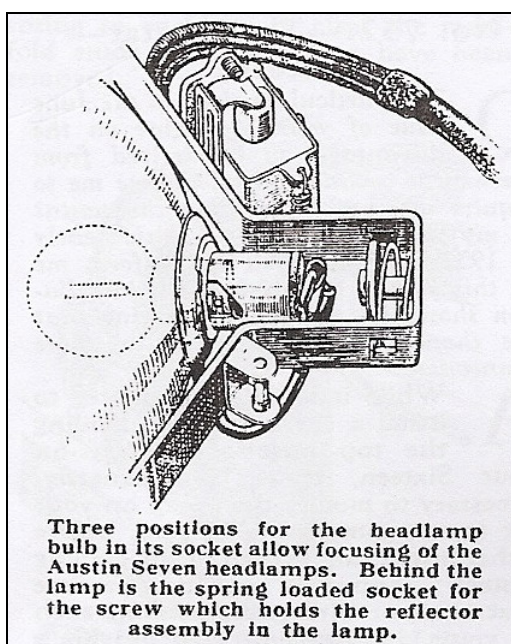


Incidentally, you may like to check the condition of the ignition leads by running the engine of your car in the dark and watching the leads closely. Bad leads in these circumstances sometimes reveal leakage by sparking.

## No 749 – Focusing Headlamps – Austin Seven

**Q.** *The spread of light from the headlamps on my car appears to be somewhat uneven. I am wondering whether I can effect any improvement by re-focusing the bulbs. If so, how is this adjustment made? I notice in the centre of the back of one lamp there is a screw, but apparently this is not for the purpose of focusing, as the other lamp is not provided. Can you give me information on this point?*

**A.** The provision for the focus adjustment of the Austin Seven headlamps is by means of the bulb mounting. The bayonet socket into which the bulb fits has three steps into which the lamp pins can drop so the bulb can be fitted in any of three positions relative to the reflector, merely by pushing it into the socket and turning it slightly clockwise.



The screw to which you refer in the back of one lamp is for the purpose of securing the framework which carries the dipping reflector and its mechanism and has no connection with focusing.

## No 869 – Greasing Torque Tube – Austin Seven

**Q.** *I find it is a very awkward procedure to lubricate the torque tube ball joint of my Seven. When one has to use a spanner through the small hole in the floor tunnel of the car it is difficult to remove the plug in the filling orifice. Would not a grease gun nipple solve the problem?*

**A.** The difficulty you have experienced in removing the plug will be entirely eliminated if, instead of an ordinary spanner, you use the wheel brace, the hexagon of which fits the plug. In this way the job can be done very expeditiously. (The same applies to the Big Seven torque tube greasing point, as explained in our last issue – *Editor.*)

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

---

I came across this article in a 1958 motoring magazine; it seems that someone at Dunlop had a brainwave of replacing the spare wheel with a “get-you-home spare wheel device”. There appeared to be no advantages stated by Dunlop for having such a wheel, not even as a space saver! In fact this device seemed to create more disadvantages for the car owner than it solved. It never caught on; the car

buying public were not that daft. I suppose it could have been worse, someone at Dunlop might have tried to invent a run-flat tyre, now that would have been really daft!

### Eliminating the Spare Wheel

I MENTIONED last month that some manufacturers are proposing to eliminate the spare wheel, and I quoted from a lecture given by the manager of Dunlop's Tyre Design Division as saying that none of the devices produced for dispensing with the spare wheel is satisfactory although some progress has been made with a simplified tyre and wheel construction. I have since obtained some information on this method. Although tubeless tyres have lessened the hazards of punctures, the size and shape of the puncturing object is unpredictable and the ordinary tubeless tyre cannot be claimed to be completely puncture-proof. Experiments have been going on for some time at



The Dunlop get-you-home spare wheel device.

Fort Dunlop with a get-you-home spare wheel device.

This consists of a small section high-pressure pneumatic tyre, mounted on a simple wheel, which can be fitted in place of a punctured or damaged tyre and wheel. The attached photograph illustrates the comparative size of the "Stand-in" and the tyre which it replaces. This device allows the vehicle to proceed at a limited speed (say up to 40 m.p.h.) without any difficulty as far as car handling or braking is concerned.

This is a practicable and workable idea for emergency use, but it leaves the problem of stowage of the large punctured tyre and wheel which has been removed.

Andy Ranson