

NORTH HAMPSHIRE AUSTIN ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

Founded 1973

Monthly Newsletter and Events Update

Editor

Mo Breakspear
(maureenbreakspear@yahoo.co.uk)

01189733568

Please let me have any articles for the newsletter by the 22nd of the month, as a WORD DOCUMENT

www.nhaeg.org.uk

FEBRUARY 2010

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

Mo's Mutterings

How lovely it is to be able to drive and walk normally again! Thank goodness the snow has gone and good riddance to it. Very pretty it looked for a couple of days and Don and grandson, Jamie, built a good igloo on the front lawn but please, please don't let it come back!

I love Joan's "new" car below and look forward to seeing her out and about in Thumbelina throughout 2010.



Hi, let me introduce you to the newest member of NHAEG, Thumbelina. She is a palm green Austin A35. I purchased her on ebay and drove her from Northwich, Cheshire, home to Shinfield. She is a little frayed around the edges but a lovely, solid car to drive. Her first of many outings was on New Year's Day, to The Phoenix at Hartley Witney, a trouble free, if chilly, drive but then we all know about "chilly"! Thumbelina's engine is petrol and 948cc.

Joan Hancock

Colin's Column

As I write this, 21st January, the sun is shining through the window and it is hard to believe that just last week there was a thick layer of snow outside which had been there for more than a week already. Over the past few weeks as I have watched people struggling to get to work I have been glad I am retired. Teaching people to drive in this weather would not have been easy. Hopefully those of you who are still working managed to cope.

February Club Night

One effect of the snow was the cancellation of the January club night with the result that the AGM will now be held at the February meeting. Hopefully the weather will be kinder to us and we will have a good attendance. Please come along and have your say on any matters regarding the club and elect the committee for 2010.

Membership Renewal

Membership of the NHAEG runs from the 1st January to the 31st December and renewal forms are always included in the December newsletter, which comes out at the end of November. In January's newsletter I asked those who had not already done so to please renew ASAP, to save George having to chase people up and enable him to produce the membership list for 2010.

I understand that there are still a few who have not returned their forms yet so if you are one of them and you wish to renew your membership can I please ask you to do so now. I understand that George has sent an email to those members who have not renewed yet, asking them to do so by the 31st January and if they were not renewing for any reason it would be interesting to know why. As he pointed out in the email, according to the club rules anyone who has not returned the form with their cheque for £8 by that date will unfortunately, not be eligible to vote at the AGM and will not receive anymore newsletters.

Sorry for the moan but it does cause George a lot of unnecessary work when renewals come in late.

Arabella

With the weather being so awful I have not had Arabella out since the run to the Phoenix on New Year's Day, which Don mentioned in his Doodlings last month. This was the first run after having taken off all the shock absorbers to clean and paint as well as fit new friction discs. I have to say the difference in the ride and handling was amazing I had not realised how bad it had got. Well worth doing.

I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM.

Safe and Happy Motoring

Colin

Secretary's Scribblings

Not a huge amount to 'scribble' about this month since the weather put paid to the scheduled AGM in January and not much else has taken place during the resultant enforced period of hibernation. Snow is undoubtedly beautiful – for the first couple of hours after it's fallen, However, the novelty soon wears a bit thin, even with the children who, in The Brambles at least, and after their impressive efforts to produce the largest snowball I've ever seen (roughly 6 feet in diameter!), fairly quickly became tired of the 'white stuff'.

Anyhow, maybe we can consider the worst of the winter weather behind us now although it's understood that in 1963 snow fell up to late March. At that time, however, I was serving Her Majesty in Aden, where

low temperatures certainly never were a problem, so Jean and I didn't experience that season first hand – mercifully!

And so, on with the motley.....

Quiz Update

The December Quiz (Proverb Acronyms) proved very popular and produced a number of all-correct entries. Obviously it was much too easy!!

Results will be announced at the February Club Night but, between now and then, some idea of how to determine a *winning* entry will have to be devised.

For a variety of reasons no quiz appeared in January's Newsletter (much to the dismay, it would seem, of some regular 'quizlers'). However, the one in this edition should redress this disappointment and maybe will be sufficiently challenging to produce a single, all-correct entry.

Bletchley Park Trip ~ 11th April 2010

At this time we have a total of 29 individuals, in 14 vehicles, 'signed up' for this trip. As has been announced already the cost for refreshments on arrival and departure, lunch and the services of a personal guide for our group is £18.50 per head.

It would be appreciated, therefore, if a cheque for the requisite amount(s) be forwarded to me at your convenience but, in any event, by March 1st, at the latest. Cheques, as per usual, should be made payable to 'NHAEG'.

Further information, plus rendezvous and route details, will be circulated when all details have been finalised.

2010 NHAEG AGM

This is now re-scheduled for **Monday 8th February 2010** commencing 8:00pm.

Issues to be dealt with during the course of the evening include the following:

* Club Rules and Regulations (Constitution). Proposal to amend these to reflect the change in Committee format resulting from the Newsletter Editor's# resignation from the Committee. In essence this will entail changing the make-up of the Committee from four Officers and four Members, to three Officers and five Members. A vote (show of hands) will be taken on this proposal before proceeding to.....

* Ballot to determine the Committee to serve in 2010. Voting slips will include names of those Club members who recently have been nominated, in addition to those Committee Members currently serving.

* Ballot to determine the person, chosen by the consensus of those Club members attending the AGM, deemed to have made the most significant contribution to the running of the Club during 2009.

This is an award (shield) presented annually, to the individual who, in the views of the majority, satisfies that criterion.

* December 2009 Quiz Results

#: Maureen (Breakspear), though resigning from the Committee, per se, with effect from the date of the AGM, has kindly agreed to continue in her role as Newsletter Editor.

N.B. There is still time, up to 6th February, to submit any nominations for the Committee so, if you've had any last minute thoughts on the issue, please do get your nomination in pronto using the form below!

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 2010.

Nomination.....for (position).....

Proposed by.....

Seconded by.....

Nomination.....for (position).....

Proposed by.....

Seconded by.....

2009 COMMITTEE CONTACTS:

Chairman:	Colin Greig	01189782087 (colin@greigc.freeserve.co.uk)
Secretary:	Trevor Edwards	01344775012 (trevor_c.edwards@btinternet.com)
Treasurer:	Jean Edwards	01344775012 (trevor_c.edwards@btinternet.com)
Committee:	Don Breakspear	01189733568 (maureenbreakspear@yahoo.co.uk)
	Dave Witton	01252333465 (david.witton@btinternet.com)
	Karen Witton	01252333465 (karen.witton@kpmg.co.uk)
	John Hancock	01189885387 (route66_2003@hotmail.com)

Club Night Raffles

As Members are probably aware Ann (Greig), after having handled monthly Club Raffles for a number of years, has decided to give herself a well-earned rest and hand over the reins to someone else. That someone is Jan (Barker) who has kindly stepped forward and agreed to pick up the baton to run this much-appreciated element of Club activities which is so important in helping to keep our finances healthy.

Our sincere thanks go to Ann, for all she has done over the past few years and, of course, also to Jan for now volunteering her services. One volunteer is always worth ten pressed men - (or women!), as the saying goes. This particular task is not at all trivial. Jean (Edwards) did it for quite some time, prior to Ann becoming involved and the effort involved in finding, selecting, purchasing, or, in the case of very much appreciated, donated items from members, gathering together everything and then bringing along and displaying said items, as well as then actually selling the raffle tickets, cannot be overestimated.

We are all extremely grateful to these ladies for their past and doubtless future efforts.

Finally, something to raise a smile during a gloomy winter's day!

A Spanish teacher was explaining to his class that, in Spanish, unlike English, nouns are designated as either masculine or feminine.

'House' for instance, is feminine: 'la casa'; 'pencil' however, is masculine: 'el lapiz'

A student asked, 'What gender is 'computer'?

Instead of giving the answer the teacher split the class into two groups, male and female and asked them to decide for themselves whether 'computer' should be a masculine or feminine noun and also asked for four reasons for its recommendation.

The men's group decided that 'computer' should definitely be of a feminine gender ('la computadora'), because:

- 1) No one but their creator understands their internal logic.
- 2) The native language they use to communicate with other computers is incomprehensible to everyone else.
- 3) Even the smallest mistakes are stored in long-term memory for possible later retrieval, and
- 4) As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half of your income on accessories for it.
- 5)

(THIS GETS BETTER!)

The women's group, however, concluded that computers should be masculine ('el computador') because:

- 1) In order to do anything with them, you have to turn them on
- 2) They have a lot of data but still can't think for themselves
- 3) They are supposed to help you solve problems but, half the time, they ARE the problem and
- 4) As soon as you commit to one, you realise that if you had waited a little longer you could have got a better model.
- 5)

(THE WOMEN WON!)

Well those are my humble offerings for this month. Fingers crossed that the weather doesn't manage to disrupt plans for February. Hope to see you then!

Trevor

Don's Doodlings

Maureen has just informed me she needs my doodlings and there lies a problem! Nothing much has happened car or club wise, I don't have a clue what to write about. All I can say is, I am glad the white stuff has disappeared. Hopefully, we will get a good rainfall to wash the salt from the roads.

This will make it possible to get out the Austins from hibernation. That's it, I said it was going to be short.

I look forward to seeing you at club night.

Don

February 2010 Quiz

'Four Legged Friends'

Answers are all creatures having four legs - some domesticated, others wild. Some are fairly easy; others perhaps less so!

- | | | | |
|-----|--|-----------|-------|
| 1) | Usually coloured pink in films | - - - - - | (7) |
| 2) | A 'dam' nuisance | - - - - - | (6) |
| 3) | Sounds like a Buddhist priest | - - - - - | (5) |
| 4) | Undressed at the far North | - - - - - | (5,4) |
| 5) | Sounds like an American soldier in our Air Force | - - - - - | (7) |
| 6) | A Cornish river | - - - - - | (5) |
| 7) | Talk a lot | - - - - - | (6) |
| 8) | Get rid of noise Down Under | - - - - - | (5) |
| 9) | Helicopter? | - - - - - | (4) |
| 10) | Tells tales whilst using needle and thread | - - - - - | (5,3) |
| 11) | The first animal | - - - - - | (8) |
| 12) | First part of a London borough | - - - - - | (8) |
| 13) | What a professor opens a door with | - - - - - | (6) |
| 14) | Maker of electric hand tools | - - - - - | (4) |
| 15) | Confuse | - - - | (3) |
| 16) | A Russian hoarder | - - - - - | (3,8) |
| 17) | Sounds like a dessert | - - - - - | (5) |
| 18) | Sort things? | - - - - - | (5) |
| 19) | Would one of these raise and lower flags? | - - - - - | (7) |
| 20) | Make feel inferior | - - - | (3) |

Please submit Entry, enclosing £1.00 towards prize(s), by 5th March 2010, to:
Trevor Edwards, 55 The Brambles, Crowthorne. RG45 6EF.

QUERIES OF THE MONTH

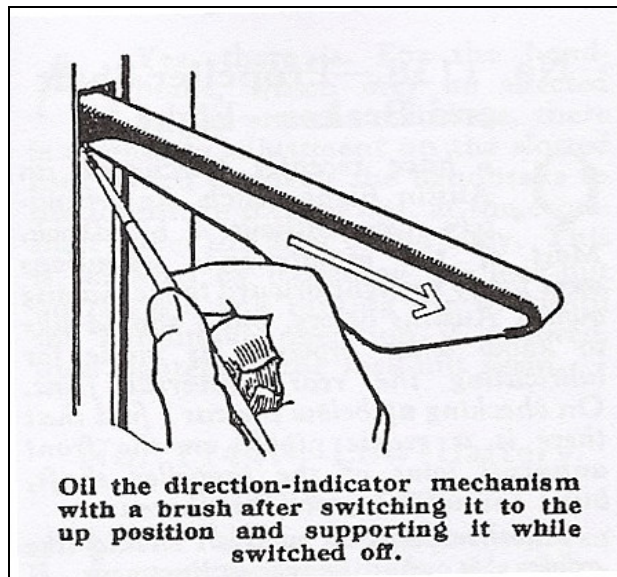
Some more “Queries of the Month”, these originally appeared in “The Austin Magazine & Advocate” during the 1930s and 1940s. This month’s selection consists of Direction Indicators – Austin Fourteen and Stoplight – Austin Ten.

No 1136 appeared in July 1943, and No 1221 appeared in June 1945.

No 1136 – Direction Indicators – Austin Fourteen

Q. *The direction indicators on my Fourteen are working somewhat sluggishly – in fact, on one or two occasions, the left one has been too lazy to lift fully. Can you suggest a cause and remedy?*

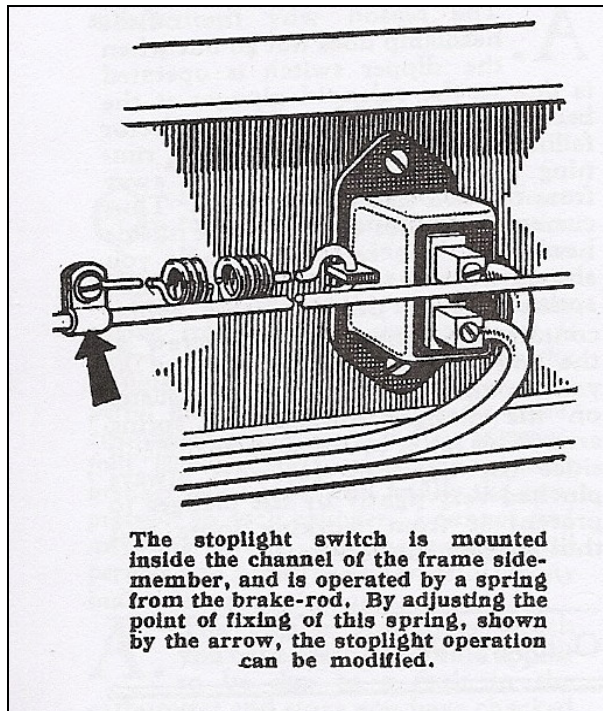
A. The sluggish operation of your direction indicators may result from several causes. Are you sure that your battery is fully charged? “Lazy” direction indicators are one of the first signs of a low state of charge. Then it may be a matter of adjustment, the arm tending to foul the slot in the body, possibly through having been displaced slightly. Although not a likely cause, there is also the possibility of the indicator assembly not earthing efficiently, due to rust or corrosion of its mounting bolts.



These are accessible on removing the trimming covering the inside of the door pillar, and if they are corroded, they can with advantage be cleaned up, also the metal of the pillar with which they make contact. The most likely cause, however, of the trouble you are experiencing is stiffness in, calling for lubrication of, the operating linkage. This can be best achieved by switching the indicator on, supporting it whilst it is switched off and then applying to the linkage a very thin oil very sparingly, by means of a brush or feather.

No 1221 – Stoplight - Austin Ten

Q. *I have been told that the stoplight of my 1939 Ten is constantly flickering on and off during quite normal periods of driving. Could you tell me how to rectify this?*



A. The stoplight is controlled by a small switchbox mounted in the frame, which is actuated by a spring attached to the rear brake rod at a point approximately in line with the steering wheel. We suggest that on your car this spring is over tensioned so that the vibration of the brake rod during normal road travel is sufficient to bring the switch into operation. To rectify matters you should move the clip attaching the spring to the brake rod a little nearer to the switchbox. An eighth-of-an-inch should be quite sufficient to ensure that the stoplight operates only when there is a positive forward movement of the brake rod.

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

Some more old advertisements from the 1950s



THE SENSATIONAL PLASTIC TIE

Ideal for Mechanics, etc.
REPELS OIL & GREASE
WIPES CLEAN IN A JIFFY

3 PLAIN PLASTIC 7/6
FOR

ART. SILK FACED, 3 for 10/6
State design & colour preferred.

ALSO
PLASTIC COLLARS 1/3
DE LUXE COLLARS 2/6

Goods despatched by return.
AGENTS WANTED. Send for details.
H. J. BOULTING, LTD. (Dept. P.M. 25),
21, Wellington Street, Leicester.

I don't think you will see many mechanics these days wearing a tie, especially a plastic one! I wonder how many were sold. The company, H. J. Boulting Ltd, still exists today in Leicester, now trading as H. J. Boulting and Sons Ltd. They have moved away from plastic ties and now specialise in industrial recycling. They also produce spill control and general wipe products.

**GREASE NIPPLE
PROTECTOR
CAPS**



Easily pressed on, keep dirt out of nipples.

- No clogging or blockages.
- No abrasive bearing wear.
- Easier and efficient greasing.

3s. 3d. doz.

If you do your own greasing you'll know that you need these.

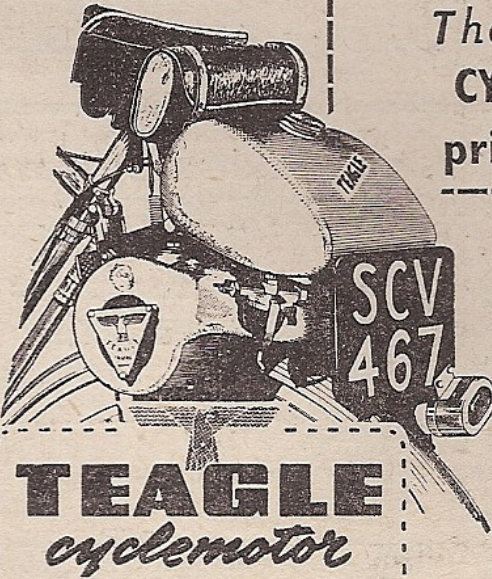
Recommended by the Motoring Press

We can now also supply a useful Car First Aid Kit for 6s. 6d. post paid including a free polythene POCKET anti-septic tube.

From branches of **HALFORDS** or direct from

G. N. P. C.
Kelsale, Saxmundham, Suffolk

I have seen caps on brake bleed nipples but not on grease nipples, not a bad idea, should be worth investigating the availability of them today.



The World's Finest
CYCLEMOTOR at a
price you can afford

It's a TEAGLE for certain. All the power you can use . . . plus economy . . . plus reliability. There's NOTHING better . . . nothing compares in Price or Performance. TRY IT!

£17 plus £3.4s.7d. P.T. or with a dynamo lighting coil £17.10s. plus £3.6s.6d. P.T.

W. T. TEAGLE (Machinery) Ltd.,
Blackwater, Truro, Cornwall
Tele. : Threewaters 242

**LEADS THE WORLD IN
LIGHTWEIGHT POWER**

TEAGLE
cyclemotor

I can remember our insurance man in the 1950s having one of these on his bicycle, I don't know how fast it went but I wonder how well the standard bicycle rubber brake blocks worked! One of these might come in useful these days on the back wheel of an Austin Seven!

W.T. Teagle (Machinery) Ltd was a family firm producing hedge trimmers and lawn mowers using the same 50cc cyclemotor engine in the 1950s. The company exists today as Teagle Machinery Ltd and is still in Blackwater, Cornwall. The company has grown into a major engineering concern producing a variety of agricultural machinery and equipment.

Andy Ranson

Fancy meeting Billy Ness?

Following the wonderful response you all gave to the raffle for Billy, as you know we had a lovely letter of thanks from Billy earlier this month. For those who have met Billy and the crowd, we all know what a wonderful gentleman he is and such a lovely twinkle in his eye! Julian and the crowd are also overwhelmed by the fact that we have kept in contact and thought of helping Billy at various times.

I caught up with Julian over the Christmas period on the phone. We discussed that Billy does not feel that he can make the journey to France for D-Day this year. There are a number of reasons. Probably the first is that he found it extremely tiring last year and I know from Julian that he took a long time to recover from the trip – and this despite the fact that they had a gite and ensured that there was plenty of rest time. More importantly though there is going to be a special ceremony this year for the parachute regiment. It is a special year and hence they have something planned. Billy, being of the parachute regiment, would like to go to that and he just has to accept that he cannot do it all!!

I do not have a lot of detail at moment but Julian tells me that they are thinking of marking this occasion with a special plaque and event at the National Arboretum in Staffordshire. He wondered whether any of us would like to come? I have indicated in principle that we would and that I would expect others too – I know that Pete and Pauline are interested. I shall find out more details, but my guess is it would be a weekend with the ceremony at some point but also some time to do whatever else we would like. I would suggest a Friday to Monday – I shall look into it and timings – clearly we need to avoid the Bridgnorth experience timing wise and so will ascertain more details and let you all know. At the moment if you are interested in principle – subject of course to details – of which there are none at present - then do let me know. I shall provide more details in due course

I should also point out that Dave and I are not venturing to Normandy for 6th June this year. I can imagine the surprise as it has become something of an annual pilgrimage for us. The reason is that Dave wants to do something else!!! He wants to go to the Autokarna at Nottingham and it is the 6th June weekend. It is run by the Pre war Austin Seven Club. I understand that it is like Bealieu but in Nottingham – again we are thinking of travelling up on the Friday and back home Monday. I am comfortable to do this following the Scotland trip last year – now Nottingham will be a doddle!! Again if anyone wants to come along you are most welcome – Dave will get more details and provide.

Think that is all the news from the Witton household and plans which Dave is making for us!!!

Karen Witton

CLUB NIGHT & EVENTS DIARY/UPDATE

**February
Club Night**

AGM
Feely Bags

**March
Club Night**

Possible talk on Submarines

