NORTH HAMPSHIRE AUSTIN ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

Founded 1974

Monthly Newsletter and Events Update

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<u>Please let me have any articles for the next newsletter by the 22nd of this</u> month in WORD document form.

<u>www.nhaeg.org.uk</u> <u>FEBRUARY 2013</u>

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

Mo's Mutterings

Thank you everyone who has sent me input for this newsletter. Things seem to be back to some sort of normality after the holiday and of course, snow is normal for this time of the year. Why do some people seem to think it unusual!

Thank you Trevor M. for the following information.

On February 13th to 14th at Farnborough, including engineering and all sorts of manufacturing stands and all free to enter.

Book online www.industrysouth.co.uk ,or ring me, Trevor Mulford, 01252 620435.

2012 COMMITTEE CONTACTS:

Secretary: Trevor Edwards 01344775012

trevor_c.edwards@btinternet.com

Treasurer: Jean Edwards 01344775012

trevor_c.edwards@btinternet.com

Chairman: Colin Greig 01252879173

cgreig104@btinternet.com

Committee: Don Breakspear 01189733568

maureenbreakspear@yahoo.co.uk

John Hancock 01189885387

route66_2003@hotmail.com

COLINS COMMENTS

New Years Day

Considering the awful weather we had last year it was nice to start 2013 with a lovely day for the various New Year gatherings. Like many of our members I went to Brooklands, with grandson Ben, where we enjoyed an excellent day with over 1100 cars to look at. It was so busy that by the time I got there they were having trouble finding places to park everyone.

I believe a number of members met up with Andy S. and travelled together on a route devised by him. Many thanks to Andy for arranging that, although I am not sure if he will want to go again as I understand for the second year running he had a serious problem with his car on the return journey, must be something about Brooklands that his car does not like. Hopefully next year will be third time lucky.

January Club Night

As normal we held our AGM at the January club night, which went very smoothly and was attended by over 40 members, which for a club of our size, about 86 members was pretty good, particularly considering the awful weather. I have been to AGMs of some of the national clubs who have had fewer members present. Thanks to you all for turning out. I will not go into details about the evening, as I am sure Trevor will cover it in his Secretary's Scribblings.

I will however mention one thing and that is with three of last year's committee members standing down and no new nominations for this year we only have a committee of five members instead of the usual eight. This will mean that we will probably not be able to organise as many events as in previous years unless members would like to come forward to help organise some.

First Lunch Meeting

As I mentioned in last months newsletter we are going to try and run a lunch meeting at The New Inn on the last Monday of every month with the first one being the 28th January. Indications are that quite a number of members intend coming so if you have nothing on that day why not join us. Please see the January newsletter for full details.

Forthcoming Events

There is not a lot on at this time of year but if you want to give your car a bit of exercise then drive over to Brooklands to watch the **VSCC Driving Tests at Brooklands** on the 3rd February where you can see some very interesting cars being put through their paces, always a good day out. Visit **www.brooklandsmuseum.com** for more details.

The following Sunday, 10th February there is the monthly <u>Classic Car Meeting at White Lion</u> <u>Antiques</u> on the A30 just east of Hartley Wintney. I was not able to go to the January meeting, as I was a bit under the weather but hopefully I will get to the February one. Details at <u>www.whitelionantiques.co.uk</u>

Looking ahead to March there is the <u>Morris/Austin Day at Brooklands</u> on the 10th, which is always an enjoyable day, and I know quite a number of you attend. If you have not been before full details can be found at <u>www.brooklandsmuseum.com</u>

February Club Night

At our February club night we will be having a quiz organised by Julie Els, I do not know what the theme will be but I am sure it will be entertaining, so come along and give Julie your support.

History On Wheels Motor Museum

I have had a good response for the visit to the <u>History On Wheels Museum</u> on 25th May, advertised in last month's newsletter, although there are still a few places left, so if you would like to go please send me your cheque for £5 per person. As mentioned last month this is a private museum and we are limited to 30 persons only and places are being allocated on receipt of cheque on a first come first served basis.

As I sit writing this, the snow is still on the ground, let's hope it soon goes and we can get back to using our cars again.

Safe and happy motoring,

Colin.



Guess who this is and where???

Secretary's Scribblings

Ouiz News

December's Quiz – "C if you can answer these", a bumper one containing 50 clues, perhaps helped to keep a few amused over the festive season; it attracted eight entries, none of them securing less than 47.5 points, so very well done to all concerned. The winning entry however, to little surprise, came from Malcolm and Sandra (Ryley), who received congratulations and their prizes at the AGM on 14th January. Thanks to all who took part.

The closing date for the January quiz, "Food for Thought", is Friday 8th February so get thinking!

The one for this month, is a shortened version along similar lines, "More Food for Thought'; the latest date for receipt of entries being Friday 8^{th} March. As per usual, don't forget to enclose £1.00!

2013 AGM - a potted account.

As Colin has mentioned, in his 'Comments' column, the AGM, held on January 14th, went off uneventfully although, as had been accurately predicted, there were no nominations for new members to join the, (then depleted), remaining Committee of five. (This is a subject now raising some heightened level of concern and has prompted a notice, reflecting this, appearing elsewhere in the Newsletter. Please take heed!).

Colin opened by reporting in some detail on all the Club Night and other events and activities taking place in 2012. The list seemed endless and clearly implied that, despite pretty indifferent weather conditions experienced generally over the twelve months period, we must all have been quite busy, out and about, undeterred by this, in the enjoyment of our transport from yesteryear.

Jean then presented an explanation, clarifying certain entries appearing in the Club's Statement of Account, copies of which had been distributed previously. Having done so, no questions on the presented figures were subsequently forthcoming from the floor.

My own report, (almost certainly to the relief of everyone present), was mercifully brief. I had little to mention apart from the fact that, in addition to attending to the usual rash of correspondence, electronic and postal, received throughout the year, an overdue rewrite of the Club Rules document recently has been carried out, draft copies of which had been emailed to all members before Christmas, for possible discussion at the AGM. I've also been working on more arrangements for the Club trip to the Isle of Wight, later this Year. (In fact, Jean and I are actually making a four-day visit to the island, at the end of January, - what a time of the year to go(!) - to pursue this further).

Since no Committee nominations had been received prior to the AGM there was no requirement for a formal voting process to be observed. Hence the previous Committee, now reduced to five, following the resignations of Phil (Dunford) and John (Chad) at the time of the AGM and that of Andy (Seager), some few months previously, was, by default, 'elected' to serve for another year. Namely, these are: Colin Greig, (Chairman), Jean Edwards (Treasurer), Don Breakspear and John Hancock (Members) and myself (Secretary).

As has been traditional for several years now, a ballot was then held whereby members present were invited to nominate a small, local charity to be entered into a draw to receive a donation of £100.00 from Club funds. Several members took advantage of this opportunity to spread a little unsolicited good cheer and a number of nominations were received. These are to be vetted to ensure they meet the qualifying criteria, (i.e. small, local one likely to feel a real benefit from a relatively modest windfall). Once this has been carried out, at the next Committee meeting, then either Tim or June (Winter), our genial hosts at the 'New Inn', will be invited to make the draw for the eventual winning charity.

The final formality of the evening was a ballot to determine who should receive the 'Annual Group Trophy', an award presented annually to the person who, each year and by a majority vote, is deemed to have performed conspicuously in the interests of the Club. Although loath to announce the name of the winner I'm able to report that the person who won it last year, Jean (Edwards), forgot to bring it with her to return it, but this didn't matter too much since her spouse ended up with the award on this occasion! The polishing continues!

Under Any Other Business Colin reminded and urged all members to be mindful of the need to act promptly when requested, by those organising events and various activities, for payment (i.e. forwarding of cheques). The frequent need to repeatedly 'badger' individuals to respond creates an unnecessary burden on those doing the organising and can be avoided if the appropriate action is taken without any undue delay.

The 'business' side of things formally concluded at 9:15 p.m. leaving the rest of the evening available for a drink and a chat amongst the 41 or so members who, surprisingly on such a bad night, turned up to listen and learn.

Another gruelling challenge!

Last year we all marvelled at the outstanding achievement of Pete (Barlow) and Jane (Hanslip) in the JOGLE, the John o'Groats to Land's End Run, of some 2 \times 900 miles or so, which took place in April and gave them both a hero's welcome on their return after a trip up and down the length of England and Scotland – effectively twice.

However, this coming May/June we again have the chance to do the very same, but, undoubtedly, on an even grander scale, when one of our members, Richard (Scott), takes on the Peking to Paris Rally, over a distance of some 7,610 miles! He and his friend Richard White are making the attempt in a 1964 Volvo 122S. (Would probably be a bit unfair to be doing it in his 1904 Wolseley!)

Full details of the run and challenges likely to be faced by the intrepid pair, plus, of course, the crews of 94 other vehicles, ranging from a 1913 Ford Model T, up through a 1917 La France ourer Speedster, boasting a massive 14.5 litre engine, to a relatively modest and modern 1974 Citroen DS23, can be found on the Endurance Rally website, www.endurorally.com. Lasting 33 days their endeavour is no doubt one that many of us will be following with great interest and fascination.

We wish them both well and a safe (and uneventful?) drive across two continents, arriving back in Paris on 29th June.

Let's all hope this current spell of Arctic weather moves off elsewhere before too long so we can get our cars out on salt-free roads again!

Trevor

Dons Doodlings

It has been somewhat difficult putting pen to paper over the past few weeks as not much has been going on with our Austins apart from day out on New Year's Day to Brooklands. We took Queenie our 12/4, for two reasons. One it was a bit cold, well Maureen thought it was, no stamina that girl and two, our friends whose house we stayed at over New Year's Eve, said they would like to come with us as they have never been to Brooklands.

We called round for Colin and Ben and set off for Brooklands at around 10 o'clock. We had a lovely drive over and when we arrived there was quite a queue. We had never seen a queue as long as this before. I said they must be having a problem along the line. It wasn't until we drove down the slope into Brooklands that we could see the problem. Literally, hundreds of cars had descended on Brooklands and the organisers were having real problems finding space. Fair play to the marshalls, they squeezed us all in with great skill. I know there were a good number of NHAEG members there but we only bumped into three or four. Perhaps the reason for this was that the rest of them saw me first and went into hiding. Our friends thoroughly enjoyed Brooklands and threatened to go again with their grandchildren.

With regard to the MoT which only now applies to cars manufactured on or before the 1st January 1960. Any vehicle manufactured before that date is now exempt from the MoT. I know there are a number of members who would still like to have their cars checked as if for an MoT. Ray Adnams at Park View Motors, Finchampstead, has said he will give a mock MoT for £36 per car. That can't be bad for peace of mind for a year.

As you can see from the club night list, March Is the shoebox night and most of you will remember this from a couple of years ago. For new members, let me explain briefly.

We divide the club members into six teams with approximately six members in each team. This will be done on February club night. On March club night six teams will be given the same amount of items to build the car, ie: two axles, four wheels, a chassis and stiff cardboard. The team will have approximately one and a half hours to complete the car which can be totally your own design. When all six cars have been completed they have three runs on the test hill to determine which car travels the furthest. All three runs are calculated as one total. Finally, all six cars are judged by Tim and June for a further prize.

On February club night I would like to confirm all six teams so please try to be there to ensure you are in a team for March club night. If this is unclear, I will explain more at the February club night.

Don

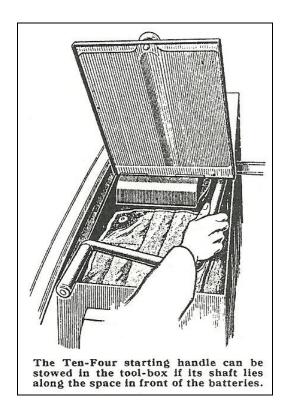
QUERIES OF THE MONTH

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 665 Stowing the Starting Handle – Austin Ten-Four and No 1128 Tyres – Austin 10.

No 665 appeared in May 1935 and No 1128 in May 1943.

No 665 – Stowing the Starting Handle – Austin Ten-Four

Q. I have taken delivery of a Ten-Four Lichfield Saloon, and find in stowing the tools that I cannot fit the starting handle into the tool-box on account of its length. I shall appreciate your advice as to where this can be stowed.



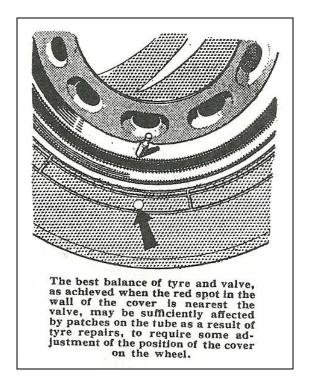
A. You should be able to stow the starting handle in the tool-box without difficulty by pushing it alongside the batteries in the space to be found forward of these units. Many drivers, however, prefer to leave the handle free under the driving seat so that it is readily available should they want to crank the engine over before starting on cold mornings, or for any other occasion when it is desired to turn the engine over by hand.

No 1128 – Tyres – Austin Ten

Q. I have recently had some remoulded tyres for my Ten. Prior to this, I had a number of punctures which were effectively repaired. Will there be any harm in continuing with the old tubes, patched as they are?

A. No, there should be no harm in continuing to run with old patched tubes in remoulded covers, providing the patches are securely fitted to the tube, and the tube in the cover, so there is no risk of a blow-out. The only possible effect likely in any way to be harmful is through the wheel being put out of

balance by the weight of the patches, to cause a periodic vibration, possibly amounting to wheel wobble, particularly if the steering connections have worn. This is an extremely unlikely occurrence, but if you want to make sure that the wheel balance is not upset, you can adjust the position of the cover to compensate for any uneven distribution of weight in the tube. The cover has on its wall a small spot, originally marked red, which should normally be fitted near the valve, so that the latter balances the heaviest side of the cover diametrically opposite. By moving the cover one way or the other so that the heaviest side is set off against both the valve and any unbalance in the tube, the maximum degree of balance can be obtained. We have had to go to some lengths in describing these conditions and the operation involved.



Do not for that reason consider this a very vital matter. It is extremely unlikely to be so, but if do experience wheel wobble, which, besides being dangerous in reducing steering control, is very harmful to the tyres, you will now know of one point to which to look for these cause.

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

Here are some advertisements from a couple of 1930s motoring magazines.

The self adjusting tappet seems ahead of its time, has anyone ever come across such a product? I wonder how good it really was, I have not seen any advertisements in later magazines of the 1940s and 1950s. Still an Austin would not be same without sounding like a bag of old nails.

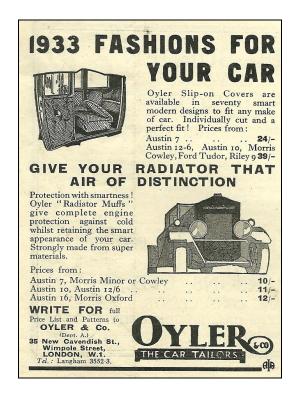
Some good part exchange prices from Steele Griffiths Ltd, a one year old Austin 7 from £65 seems like a bargain today, wonder how good it was in 1932.

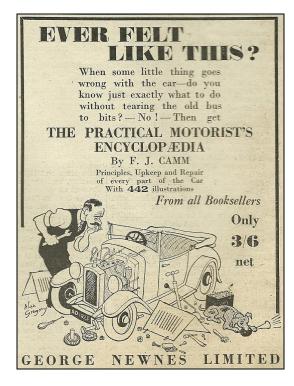
Seat covers and radiator muffs from Oyler & Co to smarten up your Austin or invest in 3/6d for The Practical Motorists Encyclopaedia.

I have tried to trace these companies but none appear to exist in any form today, George Newnes Ltd became part of IPC Media in 1963 but at some time since then has been swallowed up Time Warner .It seems that in the 1930s London W1 seemed to be the place to market cars and accessories from.









Andy Ranson

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Please welcome Peter Hornby to wander around the shires with us on our future trips. When I read Peter's details I thought he also had an interest in insects. Not being an Austin buff how was I to know that Grasshoppers were from the Austin Seven family? He has two such insects namely a 1935 model reg. BOA 60 and a 1937 model reg. UI 3345.

Peter lives at Ewshot near Farnham and can be contacted on 01252 850438 or by e-mail on peterchornby@yahoo.co.uk Please note there is a 'c' between peter and hornby.

I must thank everyone who renewed their membership before December 31st. As a result I was able to complete the 2013 Membership cards and the bulk of the membership listings before Christmas. Ruth and I were then able to give our three grandchildren our full attention when they visited us. Again, thank you all very much. However, I put a bit of a damper on things by breaking my leg etc. just before Christmas — an extreme action to avoid working over Christmas but I did enjoy my turkey dinner!

George Ewart, Membership Secretary

VEHICLE INFORMATION CARDS

When the NHAEG attend local rallies or go on our longer trips we generate much interest with our cars and this always brings forth many questions about their age, history and any other interesting features. Weatherproof information cards placed inside the windscreen or door window for onlookers to read would satisfy this thirst for knowledge so the following idea has been put forward for members' comments.

An A4 size plastic laminated card, generally as illustrated below, is suggested. This would incorporate our NHAEG logo at the top to provide a 'family' feeling. The example shown features Ruth and George's MG Roadster but it is not meant to suggest any divergence from or dilution of the Club's Austin Articles of Faith.

The text size must be large enough to be easily read from a reasonable distance to reduce finger prints etc. on the glass and paintwork as readers lean forward to read it. The card shown uses the 18 pt Times New Roman font. This will limit the amount of information that can be displayed in the anticipated text area of 210mm high by 180mm wide.

Owners with bigger stories to tell could obtain a 'page 2' card which will not include the logo and so provide an additional larger text area.

The Club has purchased a suitable laminator and it is anticipated that a nominal charge of about £1.00 per card will have to be made to cover material costs etc. Of course those members with extensive 'equipes' can purchase a Card for each of their vehicles. George Ewart will print and laminate the cards as requested on receipt of an agreed text from each owner. We plan to have finished laminated card at the February meeting.

NORTH HAMPSHIRE AUSTIN ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

Established 1974 www.nhaeg.org.uk

1970 MG 'B' ROADSTER FMD 414 J

THIS IS A RELATIVELY RARE AUTOMATIC MODEL AS ONLY 540 RIGHT HAND DRIVE CARS WERE BUILT

LEAVING THE FACTORY ON JUNE 10th 1970 IT WAS TAXED BY Mr. PETER FISHLEY ON AUGUST 1st. 1970 FOR £40

AFTER SIX OWNERS AND SEVERAL COLOUR CHANGES IT WAS BOUGHT BY RUTH AND GEORGE EWART OF CROWTHORNE IN NOVEMBER 1999

DURING 2000 IT WAS COMPLETELY REBUILT AND GIVEN A NEW BODY, A BALANCED UNLEADED ENGINE AND ITS PRESENT 'ROVER DAMASK' FINISH

FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDE AN UPGRADED SUSPENSION, ELECTRO-HYDRAULIC POWER STEERING AND AN ELECTRIC COOLING FAN

'More Food for Thought'

Answers, again, are edible, either raw, cooked or simply ingredients. Please forward entries to Trevor Edwards, at:

55 The Brambles, Crowthorne. RG45 6EF, by Friday 8th March 2013 enclosing £1.00 towards the cost of prize(s).

1. Breakfast in gaol?		8
2. To cadge from others		6
3. A regular sleeper		6
4. A place for a snack in Kent?		8
5 . All will be told if these are spilt		5
6. Eaten in casinos?		5
7. Rotate a short, dull pain?		7
8. A goat is known to be one		6
9. Resting place for All Fool's Day?		7
10. A nickname for a cricket ball		6
11. The burnt remains of a spirit?		7
12. After the first letter		5
13. A good moan		4
14. Doorstep settlement		3
15. A little bite by Dad		7
16. Ruins bodies of passenger road vehicl	es	6
17. Do you become strong if you eat thes	e?	7
18. Not welcome on roads		3
19. Human kindness liquid		4
20. Sets up a piano		4

Name(s).....

NHAEG Club Nights and Events Diary

Club Nights

May 19th

Arranged by or details from

Feb 11th Quiz Julie Els

March 11th Shoe Box Car Don

April 8th Spring Airing Colin/Trevor

May 13th Film, Motoring Through The Ages 1890s-1930s Colin

June 10th Half Gallon Run Tony/Pat

July 8th Coveted Car Evening Colin.

August12th TBA TBA

September 9th TBA TBA

October 14th Talk by Malcolm Nelson (back by popular demand) Jean

November 11th Auction Don/Trevor/Colin

December 9th Festive Fun Night TBA

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

Merrist Wood Summer Show

Feb 3rd VSCC Driving Tests at Brooklands www.brooklandsmuseum.com or Colin for details Feb 10th Classic Car Meeting at White Lion Antiques www.whitelionantiques.co.uk Hartley Wintney or Colin for details 25th Feb Colin Lunch Meeting at The New Inn March 10th Morris/Austin Day at Brooklands www.brooklandsmuseum.com Test Hill open for Morris and Austin cars or Colin for details March 10th www.whitelionantiques.co.uk Classic Car Meeting at White Lion Antiques Hartley Wintney or Colin for details March 16th **Camberley Connections** John Cooper 01276 501101 March 25th Lunch Meeting at The New Inn Colin March 30th Alvis Scatter Rally James Campbell 01730 817049 April 7th Daffodil Run to Christchurch (Bean Car Club) Lillian Lovelock 0118 9882042 April 21st **Drive it Day** Trevor/Jean (Hollycombe Steam Fair & Museum) www.hollycombe.co.uk April 22nd Lunch Meeting at The New Inn 12.30/1.00pm Colin May 12th Visit to Chenies Manor Simon/Denise

www.guildford.ac.uk for entry

form from Feb 2013

May 25 th	History On Wheels Motor Museum (Eton Wick)	Colin/Ann
May 28 th	Lunch Meeting at The New Inn Please note this is a Tuesday not Monday	Colin
1/2 nd June	Days Gone By at Rural Life Centre	Details 01252 959280
June 8 th	Woodley Classic Car Show	Trevor for details
June 15/16 th	Brooklands Double Twelve	www.brooklandsmuseum.com or Colin for details.
June 17 th -21 st	Holiday/Isle Of Wight	Trevor/Jean
June 23 rd	Holybrook Festival	Paul Edwards or Colin for Details.
June 24 th	Lunch Meeting at The New Inn	Colin
June 29 th	Paul Finn Vintage Vehicle Rally (BEN Run) (By invitation only)	Eamonn Galligan 01344 620191 Colin/Trevor for details
July 7 th	Pinewood Festival	Trevor for details
July 22 nd	Lunch Meeting at The New Inn	Colin
28 th July	Picnic in The Paddock	Don/Trevor/Colin
August 11 th	Run and BBQ at John and Joan's	John/Joan
Aug 25 th /26 th	Swallowfield Show	www.swallowfieldshow.co.uk
August 26 th	Littlewick Show (Maidenhead)	www.austinseven.org/littlewick
August 31 st	Camberley Car Show	Ken Bonner 01276 27628
Sept 1 st	Berkshire Festival of Transport Easthamstead Park, Wokingham	www.classicshows.org
November 16 th	Nightjar	Trevor/Don/Colin

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

Colin

An Urgent Wake-up Call!

It's sad, but very true, that, much as we may try to avoid acknowledging the fact, none of us is getting any younger. Nothing conveys this better than taking a quick glance at the composition of the current Club Committee, (now reduced to five in number), with an average age of almost 73! Despite earnest appeals, each and every time the AGM comes around, for fresh blood to be nominated for the Committee, the outcome has remained virtually unchanged over the years now, with no, or, at best, very few nominations being submitted. The most recent instance was, rather predictably, no different.

Put very bluntly this is extremely worrying for the future of the Club. Whilst it has undoubtedly enjoyed increasing popularity over the past dozen years or so and, from the outside looking in, may appear to be in good shape, the time may come, in the not-so-distant future where it will not be so. With an ever-diminishing calendar of events being staged and, more especially, the people to run them, the number of historic vehicle enthusiasts it has attracted in the past will inevitably decline and it will simply fade away into obscurity – **until and unless something happens!**

It must be recognised, by the membership at large, that the period of tenure, for those presently on the Committee, has to be considered limited, either by virtue of their relative 'seniority', or the fact that, most having served a dozen years or more, there is an understandable aspiration to pass on the baton to others, thereby enabling them, finally, to enjoy fully the benefits the Club has to offer, unencumbered by having direct involvement with its administration.

<u>Please do not dismiss this appeal lightly</u>. The future of the Club is seriously at risk if members are content to metaphorically sit back and allow others to do the work of running the Club. PLEASE give the issue your earnest consideration and, if you are sufficiently concerned and moved to do so, 'step up to the plate' and offer your services in the overall interests of all. It's fully understood that not all members are retired and therefore may feel that they have insufficient free time available to be able to commit, but it should be recalled that, not so very long ago, several of the current Committee were gainfully employed, yet somehow managed to cope well enough with the demands, such as they are, of Committee membership.

On the eve of a milestone celebration, (next year will mark the 40^{th} anniversary of its founding), the plain fact remains that the future of the Club is firmly in <u>your</u> hands – young, or not so young.

To paraphrase the famous words uttered by Lord Kitchener

"YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU!"