

# NORTH HAMPSHIRE *AUSTIN* ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

## Monthly Newsletter and Events Update

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

January 2007

### Mo's Mutterings

We have had such fun this month! The Club Christmas Dinner at the Falcon was excellent and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

December Club Night was brilliantly organised by Jean and Trevor Edwards and will be described later in the newsletter.

I wish you all a Happy New Year with lots of motoring enjoyment in your Austins. Don and I will be meeting other Austin enthusiasts in New Zealand and hope to attend some of their club meetings.

*Maureen*



A thorn between two roses?  
and  
Dave Holland  
receiving his  
winnings.

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

### Events Diary Update!

Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>  
Feb 12<sup>th</sup>  
April 22<sup>nd</sup>  
May 18-21<sup>st</sup>

Meeting at The Phoenix  
Poss. Talk on Advanced Driving  
Drive your Austin day.  
Cricket St. Thomas

Colin Greig  
Trevor Edwards

## COLIN'S COLUMN

### Wokingham Winter Carnival

In the past few years a number of us have decorated our cars and joined in the 'Wokingham Winter Carnival' procession. This year however because of torrential rain in the morning we all decided to keep our cars clean and dry in the garage. All that is except David and Hazel who braved the elements and joined in with a large blow up Santa on the back of their car and an equally large Snowman on the top. With flashing lights as well they really looked good, well done to you both, you put the rest of us to shame. Thankfully the rain had stopped before the procession set off and a lot of people had come into town to watch. Hopefully they will have better weather next year.

### NHAEG Christmas Dinner

As everyone enjoyed last year's Christmas Dinner at 'The Falcon' in Rotherwick we decided to go there again this year. It was the right decision because once again we had a very good meal and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. During the course of the evening we had a guess the name of the bear draw, which was won by Jennie (Gillespie-Brown) and we also had a free raffle.

Half way through the evening it was 'Sackcloth and Ashes' time for Trevor and me. As most of you probably know Trevor and I are responsible for scoring and sorting out the results of the Nightjar. It is always a bit hectic trying to get them ready, whilst everyone is enjoying their meal, in time for Don to announce the results and present the prizes. This year when checking the results after the prize-giving we discovered that we had made a mistake, which had resulted in the prize for the best novice going to the wrong person. The person who received the prize, who was not a NHAEG member, was obviously allowed to keep the prize but the results were corrected to show the proper winner who was our own David Holland, with his navigator Tim Hancock, who as mentioned last month also won the trophy for the best NHAEG member.

To make amends I read out a grovelling apology, written by Trevor, to Dave who was then invited up to belatedly receive his prize from Don. At this point Trevor and I went on our knees and begged his forgiveness. Seriously though Dave we were sorry for the mistake but unfortunately these things can happen and I hope it will not put you off competing again next year.

As mentioned above it was a very enjoyable Christmas Dinner and our thanks are due to Trevor and Jean for organising everything.

### December Club Night

As one would expect the December club night was very festive with many members turning up in suitable apparel, we even had two Father Christmases as well as a Christmas tree that moved amongst us selling the raffle tickets.

Two years ago Ann Robinson came along with the 'Weakest Link', last year John Humphries came to do 'Mastermind' and this year Chris Tarrent arrived to do 'Who Wants To Be A Millionaire' although all three had an uncanny likeness to our esteemed Secretary, Trevor.

As our club funds could not run to a million pounds we changed the name to 'Who wants to Be Richer'. We had six couples who volunteered to take part, Peter and Denise, George and Ruth, Tony and Pat, David and Karen, Nick and Pat, as well as Mark and Ed who are Peter and Denise's sons. Not everyone was lucky enough to win any money but the brains of the club turned out to be George and Ruth who won £18 and Nick and Pat who won the top prize of £32, I hope they spend it wisely and don't go and blow it all at once. Mark and Ed also put in a very creditable performance by doing better than their parents and winning £5, well done to you all.

Thanks to everyone who took part for being such good sports and giving everyone else a laugh. Special thanks however should go to Trevor and Jean for organising another very enjoyable evening.

## January Club Night

At our January Club Night we will have our AGM. I am sure Trevor will mention it in his 'Secretary's Scribblings' so it just leaves me to ask everyone to come along and have your say on anything you want to about the club.

That's all for now.

Safe and Happy Motoring in 2007.

Colin

## *Secretary's Scribblings*

### And So Begins Another Year - and other Matters!

Firstly, may I open by trusting that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and by re-wishing all members a Happy, Prosperous and, of course, trouble-free motoring New Year!

Those attending both the Christmas Dinner and the December Club Night seemed to enjoy themselves and hopefully the merriment evidenced at both events continued on throughout the festive season. I would particularly like to thank all those brave couples who 'volunteered' to participate in the 'Who Wants To Be Richer' fun since, even though surrounded and supported by friendly, familiar faces, it is still something of an ordeal to be confined in two chairs, faced with answering questions thrown at them.

Especially noteworthy were the performances of Ed and Mark, (Peter and Denise's offspring) who put up an impromptu and most creditable display of knowledge, beating (dare it be said!), that of their parents! Whoever said today's youth are demotivated and uninformed? Ed and Mark certainly disproved such a notion and managed to accrue a modest amount of pocket money in the process. Congratulations to them and, indeed, to all who took part. Without such support it is impossible to stage quirky events like this and it is really appreciated.

Now, inevitably, it's back to reality and more mundane issues for all of us.

Though the AGM is yet to be held (***don't forget – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January!***), no doubt whoever's elected to the committee will do their utmost to make 2007 memorable so far as getting optimal enjoyment out of running/fixing(!) our assorted ancient pieces of machinery is concerned. Once again, may the oft-stressed point be mentioned that ideas to fill our Club Nights and other events are always welcome and, indeed, anyone wishing and willing to organise some kind of motoring-related activity over the next twelve months is warmly invited to do so. Remember you don't have to be a committee member to do this!

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### Logo'd Garments Order

As was announced by Colin during the December Fun Evening an order for the logo'd garments chosen by members *has* now been placed with the suppliers who gave an indication that delivery *may* be forthcoming in time for Christmas. If, indeed this happened, you will already have been made aware; if not, then I hope to have more information available at the AGM Club Night.

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### Subscriptions

If you have not already done so please be reminded that these **fall due on 1<sup>st</sup> January**. The subscription for 2007 is £8.00 and you should complete the form appearing in November's Newsletter and return same, together with payment, to the **Membership Secretary** (and, please, not to me!). Cheques, as ever, should be made out to 'NHAEG':

For those who may not yet be aware, the **Membership Secretary's** details are:  
**George Ewart,**  
12A Butler Road,  
Crowthorne. Berkshire  
RG45 6QY  
tel: 01344 778286

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## Committee ~ 2007.

Similarly, *Nomination Forms* were also published last month inviting names to be put forward to serve on the committee for 2007.

Please submit all nominations prior to the AGM and, at the very latest, by 5<sup>th</sup> January 2007. Nomination Forms should be forwarded to me at the following address: 55 The Brambles, Bramley Grove, Crowthorne. Berks. RG45 6EF

As ever, 'new blood' is always welcome and very important to keep the club fresh and dynamic so, if you feel you can commit to a couple of hours every two months to attend committee meetings and believe you are able to contribute to the club by doing so, please do consider nominating yourself. If nominating someone else then, of course, please obtain their approval first.

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## "Guide for Users of Historic Vehicles"

The attention of members is drawn to the fact that the *Federation of British Historic Vehicles Clubs* (FBHVC), (of which we are a member club), as the UK representative body of FIVA (*Federation Internationale des Vehicules Anciens*), has recently published the above document as its contribution towards efforts being made throughout Europe to reduce the number of road accidents generally. Though it is recognised that accidents involving historic vehicles are rare, FIVA, nevertheless, is seeking to do all it can to maintain the high levels of road safety achieved by owners of old vehicles.

As a result, the FBHVC document, in turn, seeks to achieve that purpose both by encouraging the continuation of safe and sensible driving habits amongst existing drivers and by highlighting the techniques that those new to the use of historic vehicles should consider and ideally adopt.

Copies of the document are being made available in hard copy form but prohibitively and quite inappropriately, in terms of both quantities and cost, (i.e. 1000 copies per £60.00!), for a club such as ours.

However, the 12-page, A5 document, is also being made available in pdf file format so that it can be downloaded and distributed more effectively and economically by smaller

club. This has now been requested and, when received, will be forwarded to members for their interest and (perhaps!) education. Watch this space!

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Weather permitting, may see you at 'The Phoenix', Hartley Wintney, New Year's Day! Take care and safe motoring!

*TREVOR*

### DON'S DOODLINGS

Sadly, all things with our cars are very quiet at this time of the year. That is why Maureen and I feel it is great to belong to a fantastic club with members who are always good company, especially at club nights and often on long weekends away and days out, using our Austins.

I know we as a club have been criticised in the past, by a few, for running the NHAEG as a social club and not a car club where the whole evening is spent talking about cars and the relevant parts fitted to them. Don't get me wrong, if you have a problem with your car it will be discussed and with the wealth of knowledge that our members have between them, will be sorted out.

There are very good reasons why the club runs as it is. One, we have a very high attendance of lady members at club nights. Almost every male club member arrives with his wife or partner. The other good thing is that we have attracted several younger couples which can only be good news for the continuation of our club. The "oldies" cannot run the whole shooting match for ever.

Note for your calendar, one event coming up which we enjoy on New Year's Day, is the meeting at The Phoenix pub, Phoenix Green, just west of Hartley Wintney on the A30. If you decide to get the old girl out (the car that is) you really need to get there around 10 o'clock to be sure of a place in the car-park. This is a very popular event and by 11 o'clock parking can be a problem.

Now Maureen is pushing me hard for my doodlings so that it it for now.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Don

## **Parts and Services Directory Update**

Some more companies to add to your Parts and Services Directory.

January 2007

### **Powder Coating and Stove Enamelling.**

**Le Carousel**      **Address:** Pingemead Farm, Smallmead Road, Pingemead,  
Reading, RG30 3UR.

**Phone:** 0118 987 3716 (Sean Mitchell)

**Powder Coating and Stove Enamelling**

### **Grinders**

**V.I. Precision**      **Address:** Pingemead Farm, Smallmead Road,  
Pingemead,

**Grinders Ltd.**      Reading, RG30 3UR

**Phone:** 0118 986 6546 (Roger Gray)

**Universal and Surface Grinders**

Thanks to Brian Grant for supplying these.

### **Interior, Upholstery/Trim Etc.**

**Family Repair**      **Address:** 2 Beales Close, Andover, Hants, SP10

1HT

**Service**      **Phone:** 01264 323144

**Web:** [www.familyrepairservice.co.uk](http://www.familyrepairservice.co.uk)

**All types of interior work undertaken. Tailor made hoods, tonneaux, headlinings, seats, door panels carpets etc. and much more.**

Thanks to John Lockyer for this recommendation.

## Electrical Services and Suppliers

**Paul Goff**  
**Address:** 62 Clare Road, Prestwood, Buckinghamshire,  
HP16 0NU  
**Phone:** 01494 868218  
**Web:** [www.norbsa02.freeuk.com](http://www.norbsa02.freeuk.com)

**Specialist in lighting upgrades for classic cars and motorcycles. Quartz Halogen headlight bulbs to fit directly into original headlamps to give much better vision. LED conversions for rear lights that are brighter and use very little current. Sounds ideal for an Austin 7. Mail order. See website for full range. They also do parts for classic and modern motorcycles.**

A member has not recommended this company, which is the normal requirement for going in the Directory; the information comes from an e-mail received from Paul Goff himself. I have included it because it could be useful for anyone wanting to improve their lighting. If any member should have any dealings with the company then please let me know how you got on.

***Most members have now got a copy of the Parts and Services Directory. If you do not have one then you can collect one at a club night or if you send me a strong A4 size envelope with a 55p stamp on it I will post you a copy. My address is 16 Clifton Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG41 1NB***

***Colin Greig***

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