

NORTH HAMPSHIRE AUSTIN ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

Founded 1974

Monthly Newsletter and Events Update

Editor

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Please let me have any articles for the April newsletter by the 22nd of March

www.nhaeg.org.uk

MAY 2012

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

What more is there to say!



Peter and Jane at the NHAEG April club night.



Peter and Jane's arrival at Lands End

Photographs taken by Brian Grant

Peter and Jane will be sending a write-up of their adventures on the JOGLE for the June newsletter.

Secretary's Scribblings

Quiz News

Four entries were received for the March Quiz ('*First Names*') with the one submitted by Malcolm and Sabdra (Ryley) having all correct answers. A 'liquid' prize was presented to them at the April Club Night. Well done to them both (again!). Well, "*You do have to be in it, to win it!*"

April's Quiz ('*To Keep you Company*') has attracted just one entry so far but you have until Friday May 11th to get your entry in, so get cracking!

This month's Quiz is more of the same. Exactly the same format as April – name of manufacturers, retailers and products. Closing date for entries, Friday 8th June.

Austins London to Brighton Run – 1st April and 'Golden Piston' Relay report.

Several members entered this event and, on a bright but pretty chilly morning, duly presented themselves at the Woodcote Green Garden Centre in Wallington, Surrey to join a large miscellany of Austins, some from as far distant as Munich. At the appointed hour the Run was started by the Deputy Mayor of Sutton and we were suddenly off. A half-way stop at Tulley's Farm, Turner's Hill, near Crawley was very welcome where the opportunity existed for those in open cars, or hoods down (your truly included!) to warm up a little with hot beverages.

Then onwards, via a very pleasant route, avoiding the unfriendly A23, (for which most of us were duly grateful), but with the arguably attractive option of ascending the challenging Ditchling Beacon, before dropping down again into Madeira Drive, Brighton where, this time, the Mayor of Brighton and Hove, Anne Meadows, was waiting to greet those who'd made the trip successfully. The line-up of *Austins* either side of Madeira Drive got progressively longer and, by the time all had arrived, had formed into an impressive display of Longbridge products.

The long-awaited 'Golden Piston' trophy having been passed on to Dave (Witton), by Nigel (Hancock), PWA7C Minutes Sec., at the Wallington start, had then been transported down to Brighton in his Type 65. Since the plan was for the trophy to be the focus of a small, informal ceremony, the next day, in Wokingham, it was handed over to me in Brighton and made the return trip in 'Clarissa', our A10.

As planned, the following day a number of us met up at the Cantley House Hotel, Wokingham where R.J. (Bob) Wyatt had agreed to join us to record the passage of the GP trophy and associated Log Book through our region. After the obligatory photo shoot, courtesy of the 'Wokingham Times' (for subsequent article in that newspaper), we all repaired to the lounge for coffee and a pleasant chat.



The next day, Tuesday, the trophy was passed back to Dave since the intention was for it to accompany him and Karen on the then imminent JOGLE. Unfortunately and for various reasons, this did not actually happen but Dave did manage to arrange for it to find its way up to the Midlands in time for it to be carried on the 'Sevens to the Seas' Run on the 15th April. So, although due to circumstances, we had the trophy in our hands for such a very short time we fortuitously were able to involve possibly the most well-known and internationally celebrated authority on the *Austin* marque, Bob Wyatt, which must rate as some kind of kudos for our little club!

The BIG News!

Surely the most newsworthy item this month must be the triumphant success of Peter (Barlow) and Jane (Hanslip) on the John O'Groats to Land's End Run, staged between 7th and 11th April. By now all members will have heard of their fantastic achievement and hopefully would have kept up with their progress through daily 'bulletins' at the time.

What makes their achievement even more remarkable is the fact that, prior to embarking on the JOGLE itself, Peter went south, first, to Waltham Chase, near Southampton to pick up Jane. They then drove northwards, through some pretty dire weather conditions, to reach JOG in time for the Saturday morning start on the 7th. Then began the Run in earnest, with them stopping overnight at what they both reported to be a number of 'friendly, welcoming hostelries', covering quite significant distances in between. Peter, inevitably, insisted on stopping in the Edinburgh area to assist someone in trouble. Turned out to one of the Cornish A7 team although, when Peter saw the state of what was under the bonnet, he found it hardly credible that

anyone would attempt the run in a vehicle so obviously ill-prepared. Anyway, he did what he could to help before continuing.

The only problems they seemingly encountered *en route* was a single puncture and, later on, a fly-away windscreen wiper which decided to part company somewhere in the Bristol area. This, surely, must be a testament to the care, attention and skill with which Peter had prepared '*The Phoenix*' - (remember PL 2465 has been in and survived two fires!).

Arrival at Land's End, some time around lunchtime on the 10th, recorded digitally for posterity by Brian (Grant), (who, conveniently, lives down in deepest Cornwall), was, according to Peter, a little bit of an anti-climax and after a brief stop there, they turned swiftly around and began the return to home territory.

After dropping Jane off again at home and eventually reaching *his* home in Calcot, Reading, '*The Phoenix*' had covered almost 1900 miles, virtually without a hitch. It's true, "*You can depend on an Austin*".

Once again, well done Peter and Jane. We're all very proud of you!

A less welcome development taking place just prior to the JOGLE and which put a bit of a dampener on the issue was the fact that Dave and Karen (Witton) were forced to abandon *their* plans to do the Run. As many may be aware, not long previously their Suffolk property suffered severely in a fire though, thankfully, two of their historics, garaged there, were unaffected. The aftermath caused by such an event is, as is known from personal bitter experience, considerable and wide-ranging, not least the need to ensure that matters such as insurance and measures to effect restoration of the property are not left hanging.

To add to this misfortune, their Type 65 suffered a fairly major mechanical failure at the Brighton end of the L2B Run and, although this wouldn't, of necessity, have been a reason to abandon the JOGLE, (one other sample from the Witton *Austin* stable surely would have been pressed into service!), combined with other factors they decided, quite understandably and reluctantly, one can be sure, to give it a miss.

I'm certain, therefore, that we all send our very best wishes to Dave and Karen and trust that the unwelcome events of the past few weeks will soon be fully addressed and become just a distant, though doubtless, painful memory.

April Club Night ('Spring Airing')

14 cars turned up for this, the 'unofficial' start of the 'real car' motoring season. Included amongst them was Tony (Westhall's) fairly recent new acquisition, a 1914 Austin 10 h.p. Open Tourer, (which, a little surprisingly, is termed an Edwardian – even though that particular monarch had fallen off the throne some few years previously).

This really is a beautiful specimen and attracted much interest from members anxious to inspect a vehicle of such early vintage having some curious features such as exposed valves, a petrol gauge marked in p.s.i. rather than gallons, since the driver was required to periodically pump up the pressure in the tank to encourage fuel to flow to where it was needed. Mercifully though, some previous owner had had the

good foresight to fit an electric fuel pump to avoid this necessity. The rear seating area is huge and quite large enough to install a modest bowling alley! However, the lack of any kind of charging system for the battery must mean that Tony needs to choose his trips, at the moment at least, with care and presumably avoid night-time driving, if at all possible, although it's understood he has plans to address this obvious limitation in some way. A truly magnificent machine, in a class of its own.

Winner of the £25.00 cash prize, in the free draw for anyone turning up in the 'real' car, was Colin (Greig), although it didn't go unnoticed by many that Ann very quickly stepped in and snatched his winnings away before he managed to get his hands on the loot!

Hook Village Fete - 7th May - Bank Holiday Monday

Some publicity was given, last month in the newsletter and also at the most recent Club Night, to this event at which we, as a Club, have been requested to provide a display of vehicles.

Kate Blackman, the person who's been of such great assistance, over the years, with regard to Elizabeth Hall and the staging of the Nightjar Rally, is one of the organisers of the event and has asked if we could provide a display of some sorts at this year's Fete.

If you haven't any specific plans for that particular day perhaps you would like to come along for an hour or two to add to the attractions already planned. Arrival by about 12:30 p.m. would be appreciated; Fete opening is at 1:00 pm. and officially ends at 4:00 p.m. so it won't make for a particularly long day, should you care to turn up. The venue is Elizabeth Hall grounds, off Raven Road, Hook, close to the railway station.

Please *do* try and make it if at all possible. It is surely to be appreciated. Many thanks.

A little Inter-Register News

For the past three years I've entered the Alvis Spring Rally, starting from 'The Greyhound Inn', Cocking Causeway in West Sussex. Although never expecting to do particularly well or certainly win prizes the event is always good fun and takes in some spectacular scenery, around the South Downs especially. This year my 'normal' navigator, Roy (Roberts), was unavailable to join me, so Colin (Greig) did the honours instead. The weather, not as good as in previous years, was overcast but largely dry until nearly at the end of the rally. As mentioned, expectations of success are never great but, on this occasion at least, we managed to scrape in third amongst the so-called novices in the field, feeling quite pleased with ourselves since our score turned out to be only 15 points less than that achieved by a very well-known and respected expert 'Nightjarer', whose identity must, of course, remain a secret!

One thing entering this year proved was that, on a whim, regrounding the valves on 'Clarissa's' engine, just a week before, was a very worthwhile, productive exercise! She performed faultlessly and with much less effort than on previous occasions. Just shows how degradation in performance is gradual and creeps up virtually unnoticed until some kind of unscheduled activity highlights the fact.

And finally....

It's certain that *Drive It Day*, this year, 22nd April, will have been given coverage elsewhere in this newsletter but I'd like just to thank Don and Maureen for devising such a pleasant route down to Facombe (a location much less discomfiting to write, than to utter!) and for managing to find such an excellent venue for lunch – a real gem hidden away in the woods almost. Pity they weren't able to arrange slightly better weather for the return home but one can't have everything!

Safe and happy motoring!

Trevor

COLINS COMMENTS

I have sent a list of members who told me they would like to attend the **Bearwood Classic Car Show** on the 19th May, to the organisers and as soon as I receive your passes I will let you have them. Let's hope the weather is as good as last year.

Congratulations to Pete and Jane for completing the **John O'Groats to Lands End Run** over the Easter weekend. Apart from a puncture and a windscreen wiper falling off I understand there were no problems with the car, a testament to the excellent job Pete did with the restoration.

While Pete and Jane were travelling to Lands End I joined Trevor, on Easter Saturday, as his navigator on an **Inter Register Rally** in Sussex organised by the Alvis Register and Owners club. Not having competed in an Inter Register event before I was not sure what to expect but I have to say I really enjoyed the day and we did not do too badly either. Maybe Trevor will write about in his Scribblings.

I went with grandson Ben to Silverstone for the April VSCC race meeting, an excellent day's racing as usual and as always I was amazed at the speed some of the Austin 7s are capable of, although when you look at the modifications made to the engines it is perhaps not so surprising. I can really recommend a visit to a VSCC race meeting, even if you are not into motor racing, there is always a huge range of cars to look at in the paddock area as well as spectators' cars.

The next day was **Drive it Day**, which this year was organised by Don and Maureen. The run started at Henry Street Garden Centre in Arborfield where we enjoyed coffee with time for some of the ladies to look around the shop. We then set off for Facombe, a run of about 35 miles, where we enjoyed an excellent lunch at The Jack Russell Inn. (See empty plates below!).(Guess who found the bar first!). The weather was not too bad in the morning but the run home was very wet, however it did not spoil the enjoyment of the day. Many thanks to Don and Maureen for arranging it all.



May looks a busy month with four events listed in the Club Nights and Events Diary. If you are interested in some or all of them contact the person listed for details, although all of them have been mentioned in previous newsletters.

The May club night is an inter club noggin n'natter organised by Andy S, hopefully we will have a great show of cars in the car park, fingers crossed for good weather.

Safe and Happy Motoring.

Colin.

Don's Doodlings

At the NHAEG April club night, 15 real cars turned up. How lucky we are to have such an active club. Some clubs would like to have 15 members turn up to a club meeting!

Tony and Pat arrived in the latest addition to their Austin stable, a very early open tourer. I have to admit I do not know the year or the model but I do know, I would like to be the owner of the vehicle. Very nice!

It was good to see Jane and Peter back safely from their epic trip, driving from Reading via Southampton, to John O'Groats then John O'Groats to Lands End and from Lands End to Reading. Congratulations to you both and to the little Austin Seven.

Sunday 22nd April was Drive It Day and 19 club members drove out to The Jack Russell Inn at Facombe where we had Sunday lunch. The weather driving there was fine except for a very small, sharp shower but on the way home it was a little different. It only hammered down once, all the way! Believe it or not, it stopped raining the moment we pulled onto our drive. For all that, I think everyone enjoyed the day.

Maureen and I are off to Royal Leamington Spa at the end of this week, to sort out the club annual holiday.

Don

Monday June 4th Queens Diamond Jubilee Celebrations
As mentioned in the March newsletter

What's on offer?

Reading Scottish Pipe Band, 6 different Bands throughout the day, Dog Show, Vintage cars, Punch & Judy, Dance Sensation, Tug of war, several local clubs, Food & Drink tents, Beer Tent,

Juggling, Stilt walkers, Face Painting, Barrel Organ, Lighting of the Beacon and much more.

Places are limited so, if you intend joining us, please let me, John Hancock, know as you will not be able to just turn up on the day.

Location: Spencers Wood, Reading.

Start Time 12 noon.

Tel 01189885387 or route66_2003@hotmail.com

Organised by Shinfield Parish Council

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2011 COMMITTEE CONTACTS:

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--|
| 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 |
| | Phil Dunford | 01252716387 phildunford@dunfords.co.uk |
| | Colin Greig | 01252879173 cgreig104@btinternet.com |
| | John Chad | 01252873713 jchad@waitrose.com |
| | John Hancock | 01189885387 route66_2003@hotmail.com |
| | Andy Seager | 01256702886 Andyseager@mac.com |

HOLYBROOK FESTIVAL

Sun 24 JUNE 2012

12pm – 4.30pm

Linear Park, Charrington Road, Calcot

FREE ENTRANCE • FREE PARKING

Family Fun Fair with Competitions,
Crafts and many other attractions

*For further information ring the Parish Office
on 0118 945 4339*

or email: holybrookcouncil@btconnect.com

You can also visit www.holybrookparishcouncil.co.uk

A Holybrook Parish Plan Project



QUERIES OF THE MONTH

Some more “Queries of the Month”, these originally appeared in “The Austin Magazine & Advocate” during the 1930s and 1940s.

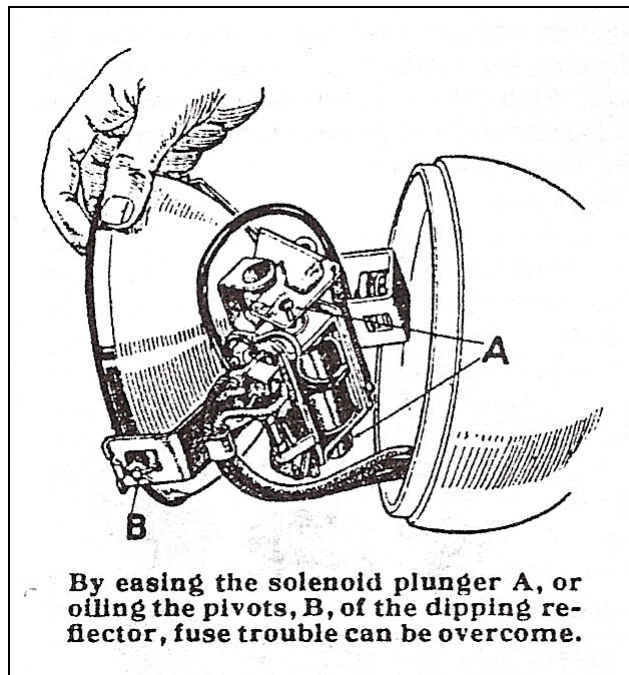
This month’s selection consists of No 711 Dipping Reflector Fuse, Austin Seven and No 767 Sliding Roof, Austin Eighteen

No 711 appeared in January 1936 and No 767 appeared in October 1936.

No 711 – Dipping Reflector – Austin Seven

Q. *The fuse in the dipping headlamp of my 1935 Austin Seven Ruby Saloon is always blowing. Can you help me overcome this problem?*

A. The cause of your headlamp dipping fuse constantly blowing is very probably a stiffly working dipping mechanism. By studying the action of the dipper, you will see that the actuating rod is part of the central solenoid plunger. The solenoid has two windings, one series and the other shunt wound, and the 10 amp fuse is connected through both.

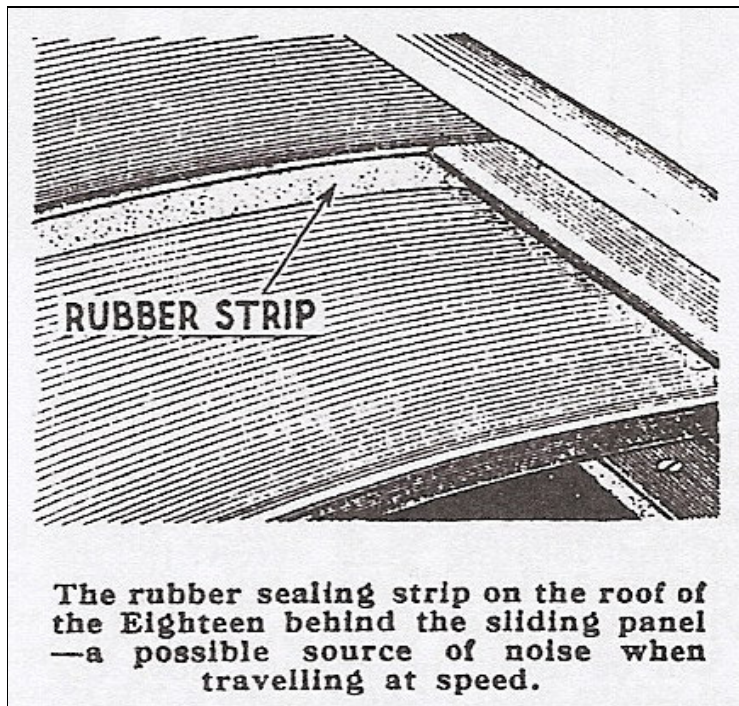


When the dipper switch is operated to dip the reflector, a heavy current passes through the series winding, causing the plunger to dip the reflector rapidly. As the plunger moves the actuating arm against the rubber stop, it automatically switches off the heavy series current and leaves on the shunt current, to hold the plunger and reflector in the dipped position against the spring. Normally all this happens so quickly that the fuse does not have time to get hot. But if there is any stiffness in the operating mechanism, the series current may be passing through the fuse for a sufficient time to blow it. The remedy is to ease the plunger if it is at all stiff and to put a spot of oil on each of the reflector pivots. Then replace the reflector and operate it with and without the front glass in position and note if it is fouling anywhere. By investigating the trouble on these lines you will soon find the cause and be able to effect a remedy.

No 767 – Sliding Roof – Austin Eighteen

Q. *I have recently completed the first 1,000 miles on my new Austin Eighteen Hartford saloon, and have thus been able to drive at top speeds. I find, however, that a pronounced air roar emanates from the roof or thereabouts, although the sliding roof is shut, and this noise increases as the road speed rises. I shall be glad of any advice you can give me as to the cause, and cure if possible, of this roar, which is rather distracting at a time when it is desirable to concentrate on one's driving.*

A. You will find on examining the rear edge of the sliding roof opening on your car, a strip of rubber that bears on the top of the sliding panel. This rubber serves as a water excluder and it is possible that the noise you have experienced when driving at speed is due to this strip lifting and vibrating under the influence of the wind pressure. In this event we think you will find that a cure will be effected by slightly reducing the width of this rubber strip.



If it is trimmed down by 1/8 in. an improvement should result. It is not advisable to remove much more of the strip than this as its primary object of preventing the intrusion of rain might be defeated.

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

So More Old Advertisements

Two old advertisements this month from 1957, one for a plug in battery kettle and the other for a door mounted table to put your cup of tea on. Unless the engine was kept running above tick over when using this kettle, I wonder how many people needed to get the starting handle out after boiling their 4 cups of tea!

**NEW plug-in battery
CAR KETTLE /
for picnics**

for
**6 and 12
VOLT SYSTEMS**

MORWAY KETTLE
means fresh tea anytime
anywhere without fuss or queues. New
"Quick Boil" Element. 4 Cups of tea in 15
minutes. Battery current quickly re-
placed. Use when moving or stationary.
Complete with fittings and instructions.
12 MONTHS' GUARANTEE. 39/11 (plus
pack. & post 1/4). State battery voltage,
Cash with Order. Full
refund if not satisfied.

**DAVILL MANUFAC-
TURING CO.**
78, Marroway Street,
Birmingham, 16.

**CAR WINDOWS
DEMISTER** **FLEXIBLE**
for curved windows

| | | |
|----------|------|--|
| 12in.... | 15/- | Low current consumption. Incon- |
| 18in.... | 17/6 | spicuous—no obstruction to visibility. |
| 24in.... | 20/- | Complete with suction pads and 4 |
| 30in.... | 22/6 | yards flex for dashboard switching. |
| 36in.... | 25/- | Satisfaction guaranteed. |

State 6 or 12 volt system. Post free. Cash with Order.
DAVILL MANUFACTURING CO.
78, Marroway Street, Birmingham, 16

"Easy-life"

**ALL
STEEL** **CAR
TABLE**

Finished in Blue, Beige,
Green, Grey and Red
NYLON, with white
plastic piping surround.
Fully adjustable legs.

12/10 EACH

From your usual Garage
or Stores or Direct from
Manufacturers. (Carriage
Paid.)



FITS INSIDE OR OUTSIDE YOUR CAR DOOR.

SATISFACTION OR MONEY BACK!

**"Easy-life," 71, RESERVOIR ROAD,
OLTON, SOLIHULL, WARCS.**

TRADE ENQUIRIES INVITED

Andy Ranson

NHAEG Club Nights and Events Diary

| | <u>Club Nights</u> | <u>Arranged by or details from</u> |
|--|--|---|
| May 14 th | Inter Club Noggin n' Natter | Andy S |
| June 11 th | Half Gallon Run | Julie/Mick/Roy |
| July 9 th | Coveted Car Evening | Colin |
| Aug. 13 th | TBA | TBA |
| Sept. 10 th | TBA | TBA |
| Oct. 8 th | TBA | TBA |
| <u>Events</u> | | |
| May 7 th | Hook Village Fete 1.00pm – 4.00pm | Trevor for details |
| May 19 th | Bearwood Classic Car Show | Colin for details |
| May 20 th | Merrist Wood Summer Show | Nick B for details |
| May 26 th /27 th | 'Days Gone By' Rural Life Museum, Tilford near Farnham | Don/Maureen for details or www.rural-life.org.uk |
| June 4 th | Shinfield Diamond Jubilee Celebrations | John H for details |
| June 16/17 th | Brooklands Double Twelve | Colin for details or www.brooklandsmuseum.com |
| June 24 th | Holybrook Festival at Calcot | Paul Edwards for details 01189 432615 or Trevor |
| June 30 th | BEN Run | Colin for details |
| July 8 th | Berkshire Classic Car Show (Wokingham) | Colin for details |
| July 8 th | Woking Hospice Classic Car Show | www.wsbhospices.co.uk |
| July 13/15 th | ATDC National Rally, Basingstoke. All NHAEG members welcome. Driving Tests on Sunday organised by NHAEG. | Tony/ Colin for details also watch newsletter |
| July 19/24 th | Trip to Leamington Spa. | Don and Maureen |
| July 20/22 nd | A7CA Austin 7 90 th Birthday Celebrations | A7CA |
| July 29 th | Picnic in the Paddock | Don/Trevor/Colin |
| Aug 11 th | Visit to Nuffield Place | Colin/Ann |
| Aug 12 th | White Dove Collectors Transport Show | www.whitedoveevents.org.uk |
| Aug 19 th | Run followed by BBQ at John & Joan's | Trevor/Jean John/Joan |
| Aug 27 th | Littlewick Show | Colin for details |
| Sept. 8/9 th | Heritage Open Days (Locations to be advised later) | TBA |
| Nov 17 th | 37 th Nightjar | Nightjar Committee |

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

Colin

Classic Car Breakfast Meetings

at

White Lion Antiques Centre

Hartford Bridge, Hartley Wintney. RG27 8AE

(On the A30 between Hartley Wintney and Blackbushe.)

www.whitelionantiques.co.uk Telephone: 01252 844000

**The White Lion will be hosting fortnightly
Classic Car Meetings from 8th April 2012
8.00am - Noon.**

Marshalled Classic's only Car Park.

A chance to meet like minded individuals
for a coffee and a chat.

Browse the Antiques Centre or have
breakfast in the tearoom.



Dates: Sunday

8th April, 22nd April, 13th May,
10th June, 24th June, 8th July, 22nd July,
12th August, 26th August, 9th September,
23rd September.

'TO KEEP YOU COMPANY' – Take 2

Again, all answers are the names of manufacturers, retailers, suppliers of services or well-known products. Some could now be extinct!

**Please send your entry [and £1 towards prize(s)] to:
Trevor Edwards at 55 The Brambles, Crowthorne. Berkshire RG45 6EF
Closing date for submissions is Friday 8th June 2012.**

- | | | |
|---|-----------|-------|
| 1. Put a rotter in a grave | _ _ _ _ _ | (7) |
| 2. Did this opera make ones hair curl? | _ _ _ _ _ | (6) |
| 3. A place nearby in France | _ _ _ | (3) |
| 4. Second in line? | _ _ _ _ | (4) |
| 5. Worn for serious walking? | _ _ _ _ _ | (6) |
| 6. Pungent eating place? | _ _ _ _ _ | (6) |
| 7. A kernal covering | _ _ _ _ _ | (5) |
| 8. Do their watches help these clubs keep time? | _ _ _ _ _ | (6) |
| 9. Adamn good cleaner? | _ _ _ _ _ | (6) |
| 10. Found allover the country | _ _ _ _ _ | (10) |
| 11. A prince? | _ _ _ _ _ | (5,4) |
| 12. One Vauxhall car | _ _ _ _ _ | (5) |
| 13. It's associated with a dairy | _ _ _ _ | (4) |
| 14. Fuel for a fast car? | _ _ _ | (3) |
| 15. Is this the newest firm? | _ _ _ _ _ | (6) |
| 16. Is this the oldest firm? | _ _ _ | (3) |
| 17. A place for a good kip? | _ _ _ _ _ | (11) |
| 18. Provided by a maternity ward? | _ _ _ _ _ | (10) |
| 19. A very tidy old animal transporter | _ _ _ _ _ | (7) |
| 20. Attractive to customers | _ _ _ _ _ | (6) |

SUBMITTED BY: