

NORTH HAMPSHIRE *AUSTIN* ENTHUSIASTS GROUP
Monthly Newsletter and Events Update

www.nhaeq.org.uk

November 2007

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

Mo's Mutterings

Hi folks, Don and I are back from the heat of Dubai and enjoying the lovely autumn weather on our return. I don't function too well when it is so hot but we have enjoyed time with the family. No vintage cars I am afraid, as the grandsons (and their parents) are very much involved into riding motorbikes on sand dunes in the desert. Fun to watch but don't think I will take it up as a new hobby.

We had a great time on the B2B Run with Marlene and Brian Grant who joined us in Queenie, who had driven up from Cornwall to stay with us for another week.

I was sorry to miss Julie's talk on Zimbabwe. Several members have told me how interesting it was, what a pity it couldn't have been recorded!

I am looking forward to all the Christmas celebrations over the next few weeks and hope to see many of you at the club events.

Sorry it is not so big a newsletter this month but life is pretty hectic as Ma Breakspear is moving on 29th October and you can imagine what there is to do. We are also in the middle of decorating and Don of course, is out and about looking for difficult, no I mean interesting, places for the Nightjar marshals to sit on 17th November!

Brian Grant has a new email address, now moved to Cornwall but is still a club member:

B.GRANT808@BTINTERNET.COM

Maureen

Colin's Column

October Club Night

We had a very interesting evening with an informative talk by Julie Els on her years in Zimbabwe, or Rhodesia as it was when she first arrived there. Julie told us how she went there in her early teens with her family due to her father's employment, all about her life and experiences in Zimbabwe and what has happened out there since she came back to England. She had brought along quite a few photographs and objects for us to look at and it was quite obvious that she enjoyed most of her time there but is very upset by what has been going on, under Robert Mugabe.

Julie had obviously put a lot of time in preparing her talk, which was very much enjoyed and appreciated by the 40 plus members who were there. On behalf of them all I would like to thank Julie very much for her time and effort, it was very much appreciated.

Are there any other members who would like to give a talk on something, if so then please let me know?

B2B Vintage and Classic Vehicle Rally

The second running of the B2B (BEN to Brooklands) run took place on Sunday 21st October and was well supported by NHAEG members with a total of eight cars from the club. The event is run to raise money for 'BEN' the Motor and Allied Trades Benevolent Fund.

The run started at BEN Lynwood where we were all given a bacon sandwich and tea or coffee before starting. The cars left in age order with the first ones leaving at 10.15am and the other 61 leaving at intervals over the next hour. The route which was fifty miles long was really well thought out and took us through some lovely countryside and villages and, in places, was quite challenging with some very steep hills, a couple of them being 1 in 5. As far as I know, everyone made it to Brooklands. Certainly those from the NHAEG did, although I did hear that one of our members was overtaken by a cyclist en route! Another had a puncture, with the car falling off the jack while changing the wheel. Thankfully, his wife was there to save the day. Just as we were about to leave Brooklands to come home, someone lost their car keys. Some AA patrols that were there suggested he should jump up and down which I believe did the trick as the keys were found in one of the many pockets of his jacket. My lips are sealed on the identities of all these members.

Congratulations to Don whose Austin 12 came second in the Concourse winning a large bucket which was full of cleaning materials and polishes etc. If you want to have your car cleaned then take it round and Maureen will give it a lovely shine.

A really great day out, made all the better by the beautiful weather. Congratulations must go to Eamonn Galligan and his team for all their efforts as well as Camberley Auto Factors, the sponsors of the event. I believe that over £2000 was raised for the charity. This is a bi-annual event so if you were unable to go this year I am afraid you will have to wait for 2009 for the next one.

Wokingham Winter Carnival

Most of you will already know about the Wokingham Carnival and that the organizers have asked me if I can arrange for some of our members to take part in the parade in their cars. The date is the 2nd December.

The Carnival is on all day with the main streets in the town being closed with many stalls, amusements, fairground rides etc taking place. In the afternoon there is a large parade through the town and that is why they would like as many of our members as possible to take part. The theme of the parade is 'Wokingham Showtime' you may, if

you should want to, dress up yourself or dress up your car accordingly. However if you do not wish to do so, then you are still very welcome to come along. All I have done in the past is to hang a few Christmas decorations on the car, which is probably what I will do this year.

If you would like to take part please let me know by 12th November at the very latest, as the organizers need to know numbers for the parade. You can contact me by email colin@greigc.freeserve.co.uk or by phone 0118 978 2087. I also need details of the car you will be using for the benefit of the commentator.

Nightjar

The Nightjar is fast approaching and if you are intending to take part then you need to get your entry form, which was included with last months newsletter, sent to Richard **now**.

A few members who have not taken part before have indicated that they will probably give it a try so hopefully we will have a fair number of members taking part this year. As I said last month it is a lot of fun and when you have done it once you will want to do it again and again

November Club Night

We will have our annual auction at the November club night with our very own auctioneer, Don Breakspear. Please bring along anything you want to dispose of, it does not necessarily have to be car- related, and get some money for it. As usual 10% will go to club funds. If you do not have anything you want auctioned then you might find someone has brought in just the thing you are looking for. It's always good fun so come along and join in.

Sammy Miller Motorcycle Museum

Finally, here is something for those of you who are interested in motorbikes. John Lockyer has recently been to the above museum and said he would recommend a visit to anyone who is keen on motorcycles. The address is Sammy Miller Museum, Bashley Cross Roads, New Milton, Hampshire, BH25 5SZ. Tel 01425 620777 and the web site is www.sammymiller.co.uk where you will find all the details of the museum.

I have never really been all that interested in motorbikes myself although I did have one to get to work and back many years ago. I do know however that quite a few of our members are interested in motorcycles some of whom own them, so if anyone would like to organise a visit then John has a route from Wokingham which he would be happy to provide if required. If anyone would like to organise a visit then let me know. Details can then go in the Newsletter.

Photographs Of Picnic In The Paddock

Andy Ranson was very busy with his camera at the ‘Picnic in the Paddock’ and he has very kindly put all the pictures on a disc, which I have passed to Paul Edwards so that he can put them on our web site. You can see them on www.nhaeg.org.uk and it is well worth having a look, as there are some good photographs there. Many thanks to Andy and Paul.

Safe and Happy Motoring

Colin

P.S. I have had no recommendations for the ‘Parts and Services Directory’ this month. Please remember to send me details of any companies or persons you have dealings with whom you could recommend to others.

Secretary’s Scribblings

A Big Thank You!

Christmas Dinner and IoW Excursion 2007

Following my plea, in last month’s Newsletter, for inputs relating to these events to be in to me by October 16th I am very pleased to report that all those (hopefully!), who evidently wish to be included in either of them, did, indeed, respond by the stated deadline date. This was most helpful since it is much less of an arduous task to take care of all the necessary administrative arrangements if members make their wishes known to those organizing *any* event promptly rather than drip-feeding them in over an extended period of time as, sometimes, seems to be the case.

Therefore a very big thank you to all those who not only got in touch but also forwarded necessary deposits and, in many instances, full payments. It may be of interest to learn that we have a very respectable number of 29 ‘signed up’ to make the trip to Norton Grange on September 5th next year and a record 42 will be sitting down for Christmas Dinner at the Longbridge Mill Restaurant, in Sherfield on Loddon, on December 3rd.
All good news!

Sadly, if there is still anyone out there, who now feels they would like to participate in either event, they have, I am afraid, ‘missed the bus’!
Isn’t there also something about ‘the early bird catching.....’?

Jean and I are still ‘encamped’ in temporary accommodation pending the start of restoration work on our normal abode. The good news is that the signs are things are now moving in the right direction and work proper can (and will, we hope!)

start soon. Whilst we are quite comfortable in our present surroundings we are both firmly of the opinion that neither of us is *quite* ready for a flat just yet and we will be happy to get back to normality at the earliest opportunity!

Since there is a great deal to do in the meantime before this can happen I am unable to allocate very much time to research and prepare my contribution to November's Newsletter and apologize for this.

Nevertheless, just adding my thanks and appreciation, to those which Colin has given elsewhere, to Julie (Els) for her excellent and most interesting talk on Zimbabwe, at October's Club Night, I will endeavour to provide a more comprehensive and informative offering for the final Newsletter of the year next month.

Meanwhile,

Safe travels, in whatever you're driving and wherever you're heading!

TREVOR

P.S. See you at the Auction Night. Dig out your unwanted items and turn them into cash!

Don's Doodlings

Not very much has happened to us on the motoring scene since the last club night as Maureen and I have been in Dubai with our daughter and family.

We were very disappointed to miss the talk on Zimbabwe by Julie as we have been told it was a wonderful evening. Unfortunately, we can only be in one place at a time.

On our return journey from Heathrow to home we were given all the latest news from Ann and Colin, who very kindly picked us up from the airport. Although it is great to get away for a couple of weeks, it is also good to get back to your own home and friends.

On Friday we had Marlene and Brian Grant arrive for a few days and they joined us on Sunday in Queenie for the B2B Run from Sunninghill to Brooklands. This was a fantastic run and I am sure Colin will give a full report in his column. If he reports that whilst I was driving along a country lane a cyclist overtook me, this is a malicious rumour being spread by the North Hampshire members who were also on the B2B Run.

Don

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Events Diary Update!

November 12th	Auction Night	Don B.
November 17th	Nightjar Rally	
December 3rd	Christmas Dinner @ The Longbridge Mill	
December 10th	Fun and Games Evening	
January 14th 2008	Club Night / AGM	