



Dear Members *Times's marching on!*

November's now with us; almost another 12 months have slipped by when many of us could be fully excused for feeling having been short-changed, certainly so far as Club events and activities are concerned. Despite how some folk might be thinking and acting, the wretched virus is still very much alive and well and living amongst us, bringing with it the need to continue to remain vigilant and exercise common sense when out and about and socialising generally.

That said, some semblance of normality just has to return, if only to allow us to retain our sanity and slowly but (hopefully) surely Club Nights may, in some small way, assist us in this process.

The October Club Night, (which, unfortunately, Jean and I were unable to attend), reportedly went very well and was enjoyed by nineteen members who attended that evening. A quiz had been devised by Andrew (Barker) who had fully intended to deliver it on the night but, at the last minute, was forced, by circumstances, to hand over the reins to Colin (Greig), who stepped up to the plate and did a sterling job, it is reported.

The reason for my/our absence was we were north of the border spending a few days, with son and his family, in a magnificent house right on the shore of Loch Ness. The weather was unexpectedly kind and I did manage to get quite a few good shots of 'Nessie' but somehow also managed to delete these in error, so sadly won't be able to enter them into the photographic competition!!

As a reminder, incidentally, entries for this need to be submitted to me by **31 January 2022**.

Please start trawling through **all** those images you've no doubt been gathering over the past 18 months or so and pick out a few to submit. Prints no larger than 7" x 5", (though 6"x 4" -postcard size, is preferred), are requested. ***IF***, however, you really are unable to get your images printed please contact me and I will do this for you, at cost.

The four categories are: People - Animals – Auto (i.e. car or vehicle-related) and Landscape (Scenery). They will then be judged, by all Club members present, at the February Club Night.

More immediately, please do look out your unwanted items and bring them along to the November Club Night (8th) to be auctioned off. 90% of their sale price is returned to the seller, with 10% being retained for Club funds. Try to limit the number of items brought along to no more than six in order to ensure that our worthy Auctioneer, Don (Breakspear) assisted by his trusty Porter, Colin (Greig) are not over-taxed and of course, that those attending don't experience 'auction fatigue'. Please be aware this is not Sotheby's or Christie's and many bids are likely to be made in pennies, not pounds! Remember items do not necessarily have to be car-related and do provide a list of all the items, together with a reserve for any item on which you wish to have one placed; this will assist greatly the bidding process.

December 6th our Christmas Dinner function will take place at Sand Martins Gold Club. 37 members have indicated an intention of attending. However, if, even at this relatively late hour,

there is anyone else who would like to do so please let me know soonest and I will add names to the list now being compiled and being submitted shortly to the venue in question.

The exact nature of our December Club Night, traditionally our *Festive Fun Night*, has yet to be determined, but should be covered at an imminent Committee Meeting, being held courtesy of Zoom.

Finally, after the inevitable two-year hiccup, the AGM will be held on the first Club Night in the New Year (10th Jan). This will be a prime opportunity to put forward your views and comments, together with any suggestions, going into 2022.

At this meeting I intend to inform the club that I will be standing down as Chairman/Secretary and therefore this will be an opportunity for others to volunteer for the role of Chairman and the separate position of Secretary. Please consider this request carefully because without your involvement we cannot maintain the club activities.

Meanwhile, do take care and safe motoring,

Trevor

October Club Night

The October club night was advertised as a quiz organised by Andrew B. Unfortunately, at the last moment he was unable to attend due to circumstances beyond his control. So as not to disappoint members, he asked me to run the quiz for him if he emailed the questions to me, this I was happy to do.

It was an interesting quiz which was well received by members. There were 5 teams and the winning team consisted of Tim and Ann, Brian and Jana along with Malcolm and Chris, well done to them.

Some of the questions were quit hard but others were reasonably easy. The one question that nobody got right was quite amusing, it was question number 1-- how many baked beans are in a standard 415gm can, +/-10 beans is acceptable—the answer being 465. Members were curious to know how Andrew knew this fact, had he opened a tin and counted them. I asked him the next day and the answer was yes, he did open a can but he got Matthew, his son, to do the counting. He said what is the point of having children if they cant help you out.

Many thanks Andrew for taking the trouble to devise the quiz, it was good to have something organised for a club night again, hopefully we can now be able to get back to something like normal again. Next month, as usual in November, is the auction, hopefully we will have a good attendance with plenty of items to auction.

Colin G

Austin Powers !

This article was found in the Daily Mail.

Retired lecturer converts noisy 1934 open-top Austin Seven tourer into an eco-friendly electric runabout that uses batteries.

It's a classic from a bygone era of motoring but while David Wallis's 1934 Austin Seven might look its age from the outside, under the hood it's a thoroughly modern electric car that meets the most stringent emissions rules.

The 84-year-old retired lecturer has spent the past six months in his home workshop converting the vintage open-top tourer to run on electricity.

He bought an immaculate example of auto designer Herbert Austin's 'affordable car' – originally built to put motoring within the reach of ordinary people between the wars – for £12,000 last year.

'I was driving around like Toad of Toad Hall,' said Mr Wallis, from Cheadle Hulme, near Manchester. 'But it didn't excite me.' So the great-grandfather, whose background is in electrical engineering, decided to turn it into a conversion project.





He found a suitable 10KW electrical motor for £1,600 in China and substituted it for the original 747cc petrol engine.

The hardest part of the project was designing and building the components needed to send the electrical power to the drivetrain turning the wheels.

It was made more challenging by the fact that Mr Wallis did the conversion without harming the original bodywork – so even drilling new holes was ruled out. The car now runs on 28 rechargeable lithium-ion batteries, as used in the Mitsubishi Outlander plug-in hybrid electric vehicle.

The electrified Seven has a top speed of 40mph and a full charge gives it around two hours of driving time. Unfortunately the car sounds ‘like a sewing machine’, said Mr Wallis, who took on the project as a much-needed diversion from the strains of caring for his wife Maureen, 82, who has late-stage dementia.

So he uses a speaker linked to his mobile that lets him to make the Seven sound like a full-throated Ferrari or a Bugatti.

Tricky test for an Examiner

This is by Pete Lyons and is from the Austin Seven Owners Club newsletter

Recent accounts of readers’ experiences of taking the driving test reminded me of the test I took on an Aveling and Porter E Type 12 ton roller in the early 1970s, for a Group G licence. The examiner rang and asked me where “was the best place to do the test”. I suggested the village green, near to the yard where the roller was kept. The date and time were set for 3pm in the afternoon.

I arrived, lit the fire, and started to oil up and get ready, when the examiner arrived. After a short chat, the engine was ready. He said: “I’ll meet you down the road and watch you go by.”

Leaving the yard and pulling out on to the road, I went down the hill in low gear. I stopped and got off, placed a chock under the rear wheel, climbed aboard and changed into top gear. Then I climbed down again, removed the chock, and continued on towards him. He wandered over and asked if I had had a problem back there. No, I said, just changing gear. He replied that he had wanted to see that done on the move. "Not by me you won't!" I replied. "Take this out of gear on the move and you have no control at all, because the engine becomes the brake by reversing the engine rotation." He then looked even more confused.

I asked him if he got many of these tests to do. No, was the reply. "In fact, I've never seen one of these before."

"Would you like to come up and I'll show you how it all works?" I asked. "Yes please," he answered. After his lesson, there were a number of right hand turns, and then left hand turns all around the village green. I was then told to complete a three point turn in a side junction, which I duly completed.

He then said: "This just leaves the emergency stop. I will step on to the road and you will brake as quickly as you can."

"OK," I said. "Just one point, can you step into the road from the other side please?" He asked why. Well, I said, as this has no brakes, other than a parking brake, it takes a while to stop it and I don't want a manslaughter charge AND to fail the test. Looking a bit pale, he wandered across the green to wait for me to approach. When he stepped into the road (on the other side) I did all that was possible and eventually came to a halt. Even whiter, he said, "I see what you mean!".

At this point, an old lady who lived in one of the cottages at the side of the green came out shouting and waving her walking stick. "Will you clear off, you are shaking all my ornaments off my mantel piece."

Retreating along the road a bit, he started to ask questions on the Highway Code. This is the time for a bit of fun, I thought.

Examiner On a motorway, what is the maximum speed?

Reply At 5mph I don't think I'll ever reach it, and anyway, I'm not allowed on them with this.

Examiner Ah!

Examiner What do you think a yellow box painted in the road is for? *Reply* Water

Examiner What do you mean, water?

Reply Fire hydrant. It contains an endless supply of water for the boiler.

Examiner Two arrows on a road sign in opposite directions, one larger than the other. What does that mean?

Reply I think one has priority over the other; not sure which one, but when you drive one of these, most people give in.

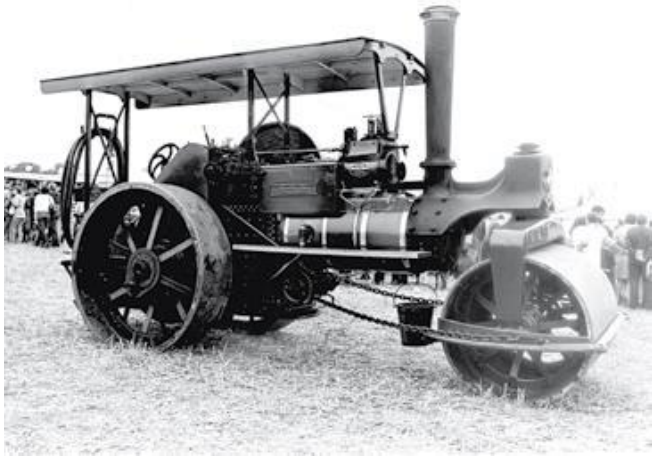
Examiner If you flashed your lights, what would that mean?

Reply Oil in lamps getting low, or wicks need trimming.

Examiner You lot seem to have a different Highway Code to everyone else.

At this point the safety valves lifted, and with steam everywhere, he jumped back about a yard. He quickly signed the form, said: "Congratulations, you've passed," - and he was gone!

I took the roller back to the yard, cleaned down and sheeted it up, and went back to work at about 7pm. The apprentice was still there, and I asked him why - he should have finished about two hours ago. "I couldn't go home on my motorbike 'cos you took my 'L' plates." Oops!



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In the Workshop



Nightjar - 2021

Please do not forget that the closing date for entries is Monday 15th November.

Entrants will carry out six navigational exercises, which, when accurately executed, should lead them to a small village somewhere deep in the picturesque Dorset countryside where, **with the aid of Google Maps, in Streetview mode**, observational powers are required to determine answers to a number of questions.

Instructions and questions will be emailed out to all at **5.00 p.m.** There will then be **2.5** hours for EN (Expert & Novices) entries to complete the event, and **2.75** hours for B (Beginners) entries. All result sheets should be returned to the organiser within the time indicated above.

Map required: OS Landranger series, No 194, **2017** edition, (Dorchester and Weymouth). *OS Maps may be obtained from Dash4It.co.uk, post free.*

Entry details are on the NHAEG website or for any additional information please email trevorcedwards@icloud.com or call either 01344 775012 or 07518 043663

Events

Club Night – 8th Nov 2021

Auction night

NightJar- Saturday 20th Nov

Nightjar virtual

Club Christmas Dinner – Monday 6th Dec

Sand Martins Golf Club,

Club Night – Monday 13th December

Christmas trivia / game

Club Night – 10th January 2022

AGM

Club Night – 14th February

Photographic competition - entries by 31st January

Club Night – 14th March

Guest speaker

Club Night – 11th April

Spring airing

Austin 7 Centenary – 19th-24th July

The Fire Service College, Moreton in Marsh, Gloucestershire.

Entry by pre-booked ticket only : www.a7centenary.com

Stay safe

NHAEG Committee