### 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 22<sup>nd</sup> of this month in WORD document form.</u>

<u>www.nhaeg.org.uk</u> <u>OCTOBER 2012</u>

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

#### Mo's Mutterings



Well done Gavin (Francis) for winning BLUE rosette at Littlewick Show! (Not sure why the lady on the left had to suffer!)

We almost didn't go to Littlewick Show as the weather was very poor in the morning but thanks to our granddaughter Ellie, who said "come on, just let's go" after our bacon butties, we made the short journey and had a good day with the sun shining on us during the afternoon. Our daughter Jane, drove Chummy and won a red rosette and Don and I went in Queenie with Ellie and Jamie.

There didn't seem to be so much to see at Littlewick Show this year. I think some of our club members went to Swallowfield, perhaps they will let us know if this was enjoyable.

Don and I had a few days in Edinburgh last week and saw these cars in the museum. Don and his friend went around Scotland in a bubble car when they were seventeen and my mum bought a new, blue mini in 1967!!





### **SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLINGS**

### Quiz News

August's quiz, topically based on *The Olympics*, brought in an even greater number of entries than the previous month, nine in fact - with five of these having all correct answers! A draw was necessary to determine the winners who, courtesy of George (Ewart) pulling their names 'out of the hat', were Julie (Els) and Mick (Corbett). Congratulations to them both, commiserations to all those others who also submitted all correct entries and many thanks to everyone else who entered.

This month the quiz is again devised by Julie and Mick and is with TV comedy programmes from the past as its theme – 'We're Having (Another) Laugh!' A couple of months ago this same subject proved quite popular so hopefully will attract a good number of entries this time also.

Please ensure you send your entry in to Julie – <u>not to me</u>, (since Jean and I might want to have a go at it) – by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November.

Answers to September's non-competitive quiz are given here for anyone who might be intrigued although all, of course, were readily obtainable from any of the 'usual sources', if you got stuck.

- 1. The Hundred Years' War lasted 116 years
- 2. Ecuador makes Panama Hats
- 3. Cat Gut is obtained from **Sheep and Horses**
- 4. Russians celebrate the October Revolution in November
- 5. A Camel Hair Brush is made from Squirrel Fur
- 6. The Canary Islands are named after Dogs
- 7. King George VI's first name was Albert
- 8. The Purple Finch is Crimson in colour
- 9. Chinese Gooseberries are mainly sourced from New Zealand
- 10. The Black Box on a commercial airplane is Orange

### Committee and Club Matters

When we started off the year, after the AGM, minus a Chairman, this unfortunate development was met with a few raised eyebrows and, one imagines, not a little incredulity by some members. Nevertheless, the Committee, faced with the inescapable prospect of being 'rudderless' for a while, battled on gamely in hopeful anticipation that, sooner or later, 'normal service would be resumed'.

It was therefore with a collective sigh of relief that, at the most recent, September Committee Meeting, Colin (Greig), our former Chairman, who resigned at the beginning of 2011, announced that, subject to certain, outlined conditions, (associated primarily with reasonable expectations regarding the role of all Committee Members - expanded upon below), and providing the Committee was in favour, he would be willing to again offer his services as Chairman at the next

election of the Committee, i.e. in January 2013. This initiative was pondered for a nanosecond or two before being warmly welcomed by the Committee. However, at my suggestion, it was proposed that, if willing to do so, Colin should be invited to be re-instated as Chairman, with *immediate* effect. Colin readily agreed and it was unanimously approved by the Committee

Therefore, as of September 11<sup>th</sup>, we now have a 'steadying hand on the tiller' once more, a situation which most, probably all, will surely consider a most agreeable outcome and restoration of the *status quo*.

The conditions which Colin stipulated centred on an expectation that each and every Committee member should in future and except in very extenuating circumstances, be prepared to host at least one Club night and organise entirely one additional Club activity/event during the year. The aim being to spread the load more evenly amongst Committee Members and allow each to participate in these largely unencumbered by having to officiate, repeatedly, to a degree which adversely affects their own ability to enjoy the occasion, whatever it may be.

Furthermore, Colin added that any Club member who may be considering making themselves available for service on the Committee should be clearly apprised of this expectation in order to ensure they are aware of it, prior to nominations being proposed, accepted and submitted.

Subsequent to this development the following important points were raised, debated and agreed:

- [a]. In future, the election, taking place at the AGM, should be for a Committee, of up to eight members, including Officers, as a body, not for specific positions with the Committee. It will then be for the Committee to determine which individual should fill each role within it.
- [b]. Since it often proves difficult/impossible to fill all eight vacant positions within the Committee, as laid down in Club Rules, Section 5[b]; (i.e. three Officers and five Members), it is proposed to change the wording to read: "The Club shall be governed by an elected Committee comprising of three Officers and up to a maximum of five Committee members"
- [c]. The period of tenure, for any Committee member, will be for an anticipated maximum of three years. At the end of such period the holder of the Committee position, Officer or Member, should be prepared to place him- or herself up for reelection, but may do so within the three-year period should circumstances, of any nature, require this.

### Credit Crunch Busting News!

Also discussed at the September meeting was the subject of Subscriptions. An argument was presented and accepted by all that, in view of the fact that the cost of producing and distributing the Newsletter has dramatically reduced for all members now receiving these <u>via email</u>, maintaining the subscription at its present level is difficult to justify.

Therefore, with effect from January 2013, the annual subscription, covering a principal member and one other member of the same household, will be reduced to £5.00, from the present £9.00. The intention, however, is to retain the issue under careful review in the future to determine the impact of the reduction now being introduced.

In addition it is confirmed that the joining fee for new members will remain, as previously, at £4.00.

However, the Subscription for those who wish to continue receiving the monthly Newsletter by normal postal mail will be increased, by £15.00, to **£20.00** per annum. The cost of preparing (in terms of paper/ink/fuel, etc.,) and posting a 15+ paged Newsletter has risen so significantly that this course of action has now become unavoidable.

Of course, it will still be possible for those (very few), who, hitherto, have been unable or unwilling to receive their Newsletters via email, to remain as Club members, paying the now reduced fee of £5.00 but will need to forego the Newsletter from 2013 onwards if they choose to do so.

Finally, it is necessary to report that Andy (Seager), for his own good reasons, made the decision to resign from the Committee shortly prior to the most recent meeting. The Committee would like to thank Andy for his time, though relatively brief, served on it and for his efforts and the contribution he has made to the running of the Club over the past nine months.

### Christmas Dinner 2012

An announcement was made, at the September Club Night, about this year's Christmas Dinner and a considerable number 'signed up' and paid their deposits then. A further email has since been sent out publicising the event but if there is anyone else who still would like to join our annual 'tuck-in' a copy of the menu is included in this Newsletter for your interest. The venue is the same as last year – the Downshire Golf Complex, situated in Easthampstead Park, between Bracknell and Wokingham – and the price remains the same also, £21.75 per head.

This is always a popular and well-attended event and all those who have done so in recent years, have always enthused about the experience. Excellent food, good service, congenial company, great atmosphere –plus a free raffle! What more could you possibly want to start off the festive season?

Let me have your names <u>soonest</u>, together with a deposit of £5.00 per person. Balance will be due mid November.

## Meritage Open Day - Sunday 9th September

The trip down to Avington Park, near Itchen Abbas, on September 9<sup>th</sup>, took place under near perfect conditions, weatherwise. Stopping at the 'Northbrook Arms' in East Clandon for lunch we were accommodated in the old stables which proved to be ideal since (a) we had the exclusive use of the room and (b) with both doors open the resultant gentle draught through the building made it comfortable for all instead of being shoe-horned into the rather stuffy, enclosed dining room on what was a very warm and sunny day.

The only down side was the rather slow service, due, it transpired, to the kitchen being overwhelmed by the sheer volume of business on the day in question. This meant that several desserts didn't make it to the table before it was time to continue on to Avington Park. Irritating though this probably was for those concerned, it was doubtless later deemed to have been a blessing in disguise for those who may have been watching diets!

Avington House itself proved to be a very interesting property to visit, being still privately owned and occupied. Our guide gave us a fascinating insight into the history and background of the place before we eventually set off back home, by which time clouds had begun to develop, the wind had freshened up and temperatures had dropped a degree or two. Nevertheless, it remained dry and, so far as is known, all vehicles returned home, uneventfully, under their own steam.

### September Club Night (10th) ~ Photo Competition

Phil (Dunford) and Andy (Seager) made a truly excellent job of displaying all the photos/images of our historic vehicles, which members had sent in to be judged by all those attending on the evening. Everyone present was invited to select the six shots which *they* preferred before Tim, our Landlord, was asked then to choose the final few which are to be framed and hung on the walls of our meeting room at the 'New Inn', in due course.

Very many thanks go to Phil and Andy for all their time and effort in preparing the images for display in such an effective, professional manner. Some four or five separate laptops/screens were available so there was no problem at all finding a spot to be able to make a careful, considered judgement. Well done, Gentlemen!

If you want to get a good insight into Smuggling come along to the October Club Night. All will be revealed then! For now,

Safe motoring!

Trevor

### CLUB NIGHT - 8th OCTOBER 2012

### "Forty Years of Catching Smugglers"

This talk is being given by Malcolm Nelson, who will be speaking of his experiences as an Officer of Customs and Excise.

Malcolm is a very good speaker who I think will amuse and entertain us all. Please come along and enjoy the evening.

Jean (Edwards)

### <u> Wanted!</u>

If anyone has a set of four (or even a couple) of Austin 7, 1.25" aluminium brake shoes, which are surplus to their own requirements, I am looking for such items to replace rather sad looking ones on 'PO'. Condition of linings immaterial so long as the shoes themselves are serviceable, especially the brake cam end, heel slots.

If you're able to help at all please contact Trevor E on 01344 775012 or email: trevor\_c.edwards@btinternet.com Thanks!

# £21.75 pp Christmas 2012

# At Downshire Golf Complex

Celeriac & Pear Soup topped with Crisp Bacon Lardons and a soft White Cottage roll.

Duck & Port Pate, Homemade Red Onion Marmalade served with a Granary Knot. Goat's Cheese and Caramelised Onion Tartlet on a bed of Baby Leaves with a Raspberry Dressing.

Smoked Salmon with Homemade Remoulade Sauce with a Granary Knot Parma Ham with Leek and Grain Mustard Vinaigrette & Peppered Mozzarella served with Rosemary & Sea Salt Foccacia

Carvery main course

Herb Buttered Turkey Breast, Honey Roast Gammon & Mustard and Horseradish topped Roast Beef

Roast Potatoes, Honey Roast Parsnips, Carrot and Swede Mash, Cauliflower and Leek Cheese Gratin, Peas & Brussel Sprouts Yorkshire Pudding, Pigs in Blankets & Sage Onion & Apricot Stuffing.

### The Fish and Vegetarian option

Salmon Fillet with a White Wine & Dill Cream Sauce Fennel & Chestnut Roast with Cranberry Relish

### Desserts

Traditional Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce Lemon Panacota Tart with a warm Winter Berry Compote and Cream Sticky Toffee Pudding with a Rich Toffee Sauce and Ice Cream Chocolate Bread & Butter Pudding with Rich Chocolate Sauce and Ice Cream Black Cherry Cheesecake with a Kirsch Laced Black Cherry Coulis Cheese and Biscuits with Spiced Fruit Chutney (£2.00 extra)

Followed by Coffee, Mints & Mince Pies

#### **COLINS COMMENTS**

Our trip to **Avington Park** for **Heritage Open Day** organised by Trevor and Jean was a great success, even the weather obliged. Starting at The New Inn, where Tim and June laid on coffee for us, we enjoyed an excellent route to our lunch stop at The Northbrook Arms in East Stratton where they had laid out tables for the 22 of us in the Skittle Alley. After lunch it was then only a short run to Avington Park where we parked up together on the lawn in front of the house. It was a magnificent house in beautiful grounds with guided tours of the house available, which I think everyone enjoyed. There was also the Church to see and I think everyone took advantage of the tea room in The Orangery. With a good run home, a very enjoyable day, many thanks to Trevor and Jean for organising the day.

Our September club night was a bit different, everyone had been asked to send photographs to Phil and Andy of our cars at various events so that we could all vote for the ones we liked best. This was so that a short list could be shown to Tim and June for them to select the ones they would like to be framed and hung in the room we use to make it more like a clubroom. This was quite an entertaining evening watching the pictures on a number of screens with members trying to work out where they had been taken. The selected pictures will now be framed and given to Tim and June. Many thanks to Andy and Phil for organising everything.

An event coming up being organised by Simon and Denise on the 13<sup>th</sup> October is a short run from **The New Inn to Old Basing** where they have organised a **Walking Rally**, we will also partake of lunch whilst there. This event is being organised for those taking advantage of the free night at The New Inn but other members can take part if they wish. Simon and Denise will be issuing details of the day in due course.

The following day, 14<sup>th</sup> October, Mike and Julie have arranged for us to visit **Tylney Hall** where they are holding an open garden day. I believe Julie has arranged for us to start from The New Inn, which will be very handy for those of us who have spent the night there. Mick and Julie will be issuing details. It should be a good weekend especially for those staying the night, let's hope for good weather. If you want more information on either of these events please contact the organisers.

With regard to **the Free Night At The New Inn**, all the rooms have now been taken and I will email details of times etc., nearer the date to those who are taking advantage of Tim and June's offer.

An event coming up on the 27<sup>th</sup> October is the **VSCC Autumn Sprint Meeting at Goodwood.** Believe it or not but admission is free to spectators and as well as watching the cars being put through their paces there is always a large number of cars to look at in the paddock area. Don and I have been to this on a number of occasions and it has always been an enjoyable day. Further details can be obtained from **www.vscc.co.uk** 

Whatever you do over the next month have fun and as always,

Safe and Happy Motoring.

Colin.

Thank you to everyone who submitted photos for our competition evening in September. The members' voting showed the wide range of appeal in the different shots – what pleases the eye for one person does not necessarily do so for another.

The votes narrowed down a shortlist of a dozen, from which our Landlord, Tim, chose the final eight. These were submissions by: - Nick Buchanan, Jean Edwards, Malcolm Ryley, Dave Witton and Maureen Breakspear with a photo taken by Nick and Pat's daughter, Helen.

Well done to everyone. The winning shots will, in due course, be printed and framed for display in the room we use at The New Inn.

#### Phil Dunford



I didn't really want to (but it kept looking at me....) I've bought a 1930 Morris Major Salonette to go with my Minor. Like the Minor, it was supplied in Suffolk when new and is just three months newer than the Minor.

The Salonettes were fabric bodied and only made for one model year. The Morris Register shows only twelve other Majors, none of them Salonettes.....

Now the rose-tinted specs are off, there are a number of tidying up jobs to do over the winter, although it has just passed a new MOT.

I hope to bring it to Reading some time next year....

Best wishes to all NHAEG members from Eric Mouser

Lovely to hear from you Eric and we look forward to seeing you and your new Morris next year.

Maureen

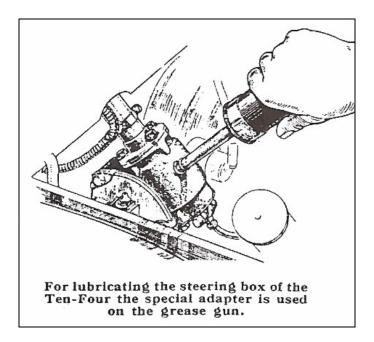
#### **QUERIES OF THE MONTH**

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 668, Lubricating Steering Box – Austin Ten-Four, No 676, Jacking Rear Wheel – Austin Seven and No 730, Battery Charge – Austin Eighteen.

No 668 appeared in June 1935, No 676 in July 1935 and No 730 in April 1936.

#### No 668 - Lubricating Steering Box - Austin Ten-Four

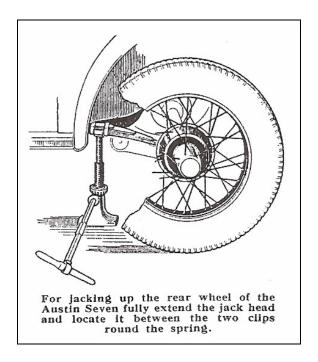
**Q.** I have a 1935 Austin Ten, and on taking out the plug on the steering box to inject the special oil as recommended in the handbook, I find that graphite grease has been used previously. Should I inject the gear oil recommended or obtain graphite grease for this point? I should be grateful if you could refer to this in an early issue of the magazine.



**A.** The graphite grease you have discovered in the steering box of your Ten-Four is the lubricant with which the box is filled when first assembled. It will be quite in order to use the recommended rear oil specified in the handbook, as the graphite lubricant is employed to assist lubrication of the worm and worm wheel and the steering gear bearings when the mechanism is new.

#### No 676 – Jacking Rear Wheel – Austin Seven

**Q.** I have not yet had cause to change the wheel on my new Austin Seven Ruby saloon, but I have been examining the jack and considering where it should be placed for lifting the rear of the car. It seems difficult to get the jack under the back axle due to the petrol tank and the downward sweep of the body at the rear. Is there an alternative method of jacking this model?



**A.** The best way to jack up the rear of the Austin Seven Ruby saloon is to insert the jack under the spring from the side of the car between the mudwing and the forward side of the rear wheel. You will see on the spring two clips between which the jack head can be engaged securely. Used in this position, the jack can be located when the tyre is flat, and it will have sufficient lift to enable the inflated spare to be fitted, if the head is fully unscrewed from the main lifting shaft before the jack is placed under the car.

#### No 730 - Battery Charge - Austin Eighteen

**Q.** I have sometimes noticed that the ammeter on my Eighteen gives a discharge reading upon switching on the headlights instead of the zero reading more usual given under similar circumstances. The car has been travelling at its cruising speed on each occasion. Is this an irregularity of the compensated voltage control and if so can I rectify it myself?

**A.** The discharge reading you have noticed is not abnormal. You observed it, possibly, after travelling for sometime in daylight, when the battery is fully charged and the regulator was only permitting a slight trickle charge to be given by the dynamo.

When you switched on the headlights the battery voltage was no doubt very high and as this controls the regulator, the latter was prevented from increasing the charge to compensate for the current being used by the headlamps, until the battery voltage began to fall. The regulator then responded to allow the dynamo output to balance the load.

Another peculiarity of the action of the compensated voltage control (or what may seem so to the uninitiated) is the increase of charge which occurs when starting from cold, and reaches a maximum at about 30 m.p.h. on top gear. This lasts for perhaps several minutes before falling to the steady charge most suitable to the prevailing conditions of the battery.

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

#### **Some More Old Advertisements**

Three advertisements regarding silencer boxes, two from 1958 and the other from 1958.







Andy Ranson

### WE'RE HAVING (ANOTHER) LAUGH!

Some old, favourite TV programmes - all comedies of yesteryear (although some are repeated regularly now). Entries, with  $\pm 1.00$  please, to Julie Els, 5, Edgbarrow Rise, Sandhurst. GU47 8QH

1. Not a bad way to live	(3,4,4)
2. Are these structures defec	tive? (6,6)
3. Staple diet (5)	
4. Flutters in your belly	(11)
5. Relations of the Monarch	(3,5,6)
5. Imprisoned cereal (8)	
7. Greeting to a Swiss lass	(2,2,2)
8. Young boys, probably	(3,6,4)
9. Place of work (3,6)	
10. Could be "Spotted on Sea	(7,3,3)
11. Papa's clan (4,4)	
12. Give birth at his Lordships place (2,3,5,4)	
13. Positive politician	(3,7)
14. Edward is a dad	(6,3)
15. Thirty minutes with our John and Joan (8,4,4)	
16. Colourless serpent	(10)
17. Home of the Redbreasts	(6,4)
18. Maintaining a good show	(7,2,11)
19. "For what we are about to	receive" at this humble abode (5,4,5)
20. Not lukewarm Ma	(2,4,4,3,3)
21. A neutral, slim cord	(3,4,4,4)
22. Going twenty four seven	(4,3,5)
23. The double act on siren	(3,7)

(1,4,7)

24. A delicate love affair

No prizes for this one, but Julie Els thought it may get those brain cells ticking over for those that enjoy brain teasers!

This is an unusual paragraph. I'm curious as to just how quickly you can find out what is so unusual about it. It looks so ordinary and plain that you would think nothing was wrong with it. In fact, nothing is wrong with it! It is highly unusual though. Study it and think about it, but you still may not find anything odd. But if you work at it a bit, you might find out.

Thank you Julie!

#### **2012 COMMITTEE CONTACTS:**

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John Hancock 01189885387

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### **NHAEG Club Nights and Events Diary**

#### **Club Nights**

### Arranged by or details from

Oct 8<sup>th</sup> Talk—Forty Years Of Catching Smugglers Jean E

By Malcolm Nelson

Nov 12<sup>th</sup> Auction Don/Trevor/Colin

Dec 10<sup>th</sup> Christmas Fun Night TBA

**2013** 

Jan 14<sup>th</sup> AGM Committee

Feb 11<sup>th</sup> TBA TBA

March 11<sup>th</sup> TBA TBA

#### Events in BOLD are NHAEG events

Oct 13<sup>th</sup> Drive and Walking Rally in Old Basing Simon/Denise

Oct 13<sup>th</sup> Free Night At The New Inn Colin

(All rooms now taken)

Oct 14<sup>th</sup> Tylney Hall Open Gardens Day Julie/Mick

Oct 14<sup>th</sup> Brooklands Autumn Motor Sports Day <u>www.brooklandsmuseum.com</u>

Oct 27<sup>th</sup> VSCC Autumn Sprint Meeting At Goodwood Colin for details or

Free Admission www.vscc.co.uk

Nov 17<sup>th</sup> 37<sup>th</sup> Nightjar Nightjar Committee

Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> Christmas Dinner Trevor/Jean

Dec 9<sup>th</sup> Christmas Lunch Tour (River Cruise) Jean E

2013

Jan 1<sup>st</sup> New Years Day Gathering at Brooklands <u>www.brooklandsmuseum.com</u>

Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> VSCC Driving Tests at Brooklands <u>www.brooklandsmuseum.com</u>

March 10<sup>th</sup> Morris/Austin Day at Brooklands <u>www.brooklandsmuseum.com</u>

April 21<sup>st</sup> Drive it Day TBA

Test Hill open for Morris and Austin cars

June 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> Holiday/Isle Of Wight Trevor/Jean

Please let me have details of any events that our members might be interested in. <u>Colin</u>