JAGUAR ENTHUSIASTS' CLUB

ISSUE NO 1 1 AUGUST 2015 Sharing the passion





CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Hi All,

Well as you will see above, this is the 100th edition of the newsletter that I have personally produced over the years. See page 3 of the newsletter for further details.

As I write this message, I have just returned from the Porsche Club & Essex Thameside Region Boat trip. What a day! The weather was absolutely atrocious for mid July. What a shame. Had the sun been out, it would have been a glorious day "messing about on the river" but alas, it wasn't to be. More details of the trip on page 5.

I am now looking forward to our annual jaunt to Helmingham on the first weekend of August and really hope this weather improves. More on this next month. Also, we have the bar-b-que at the end of August, so lets hope the sun shines on us then!

Finally, although very early, I would ask all members that might wish to join us on our annual European weekend away, read my article inside on page 4.

If you are able to get along to the August club night, please do. We start at 8pm. Hope to see a number of you there.

Doug Warren, Chairman & Editor.

2015/2016 COMMITTEE

Doug Warren

Chairman & Editor 01245 261810

Vaughn High

Club Secretary vaughn.high@sky.com

Richard Gibby

Treasurer & Webmaster rwgibby@gmail.com

Raymond Berris

Membership Secretary rayberris.jaguar@gmail.com

Committee Members: Neil Shanley, Steve Perryman & Mary Monk.







Club meetings are the 1st Tuesday of the month at 8pm: The Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club, Lower Dunton Road, Bulphan, Essex, RM14 3TY Tele: 01268 548444

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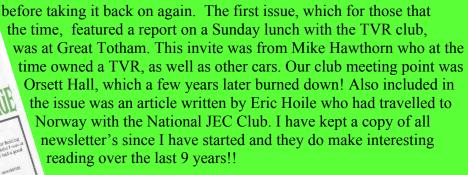


CELEBRATION ISSUE OF CLUB MAGAZINE.

Since volunteering to undertake production of the club newsletter, I have produced, this month's 100th issues! The first issue was published in October 2006 when Colin Field was Chairman. I had a break

for a while during 2010, were around at

which



We have seen some changes within the club over the years and also I am pleased to say, an increase in membership. My thanks go to all the regular members that assist with the running of the club, as without such help, the club would have had to fold.

Doug Waven

CLUB CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE

Tickets for the annual club dinner dance will be on sale from September club night. We are teaming up with Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club again and the date fixed is Saturday 5 December 2015. 50 places have been booked and will be sold on a first come, first served basis.

We hope as many members and their friends will be able to attend this year and make it one of the best years we have had. It will be nice to finish the very eventful year off in this manner. Don't forget that if you do decide to attend, rooms are available to book at the golf club at very reasonable rates. Go on their website at: http://golflangdon.co.uk/pdf/RoomTariffs-August2015.pdf







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EUROPEAN LONG WEEKEND TRIP 2016

It may seem early to be considering next year's annual club long weekend trip having only just got back from France in June, but in order to get places, we need to book well in advance. When this year's trip was being discussed, the original destination was already booked almost a year in advance. I have three suggestions which I would ask members to consider. We will look at alternatives, but I am making a start in order to see the interest in each of these locations. I am considering using Scenic Continental Car Tours for 2016 to organise this event.

The options are;

- (1) The 2016 Bruges Classic Car Festival from 26 to 29 August 2016. Cost £299 per person + around £40 extra if we wish to use the Eurotunnel.
- (2) Reims & the Champagne Region of France 5 May or 1 Sept 2016. Cost £299 per person + around £40 extra if we wish to use the Eurotunnel. (Note: Should we wish to arrange a June date, Scenic Continental Car Tours will plan a trip specifically for us.)
- (3) Although not strictly European, a member has suggested the Isle of Man. A 5 day trip is available in May, June or September for £359 per person.

Details of each of these trip are available on-line at www.sceniccartours.com or leaflets will be available at the club night on Tuesday 4 August. It has also been suggested we consider a 4 day tour, rather than three. Perhaps those that attend the August meeting can make their opinions known or, if unable to attend the club meet, then e-mail me your comments. **Doug Warren**

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On Sunday 26 July, members of Essex Thameside & the Essex Region of the Porsche Club joined together to take the 'Thistle' Thames Barge down the river Orwell at Ipswich.





Essex Thameside Region

The day started fine, but come the mid-morning, the heavens opened up. Not what to expect on a July summer day! We all went aboard and settled in the hull of the boat, which used to be where they stored the coal at one time and other merchandise. A survivor from a different age, the Thistle links the ship building traditions of the Clyde where she was launched in 1895, with the Port of London, amongst whose hustle and bustle she spent her working life. Her first owner was a coal merchant from Battersea, and a regular passage was collecting coal from the Humber and bringing to the Thames. She continued in trade as a motor barge until the mid 1970's and after a spell as a houseboat, was converted back to sail in 1987. Today, as part of our nation's maritime heritage, she continues to earn her living providing a memorable venue for entertaining and private functions. She is normally docked at Maldon, but ventures out to other local ports in order to undertake private hires. Unfortunately, for all who attended, both from the Porsche Club and Essex Thameside, the rain was torrential for most of the voyage and with a harsh wind too, we all came away like drowned rats!!!









MALDON CAR & MOTORCYCLE SHOW

The day started with a deluge of rain. However, we managed to get the club gazebo up just before it started at around 9am. The gazebo was very friendly with most club members taking cover!! Although rain had been forecast, out of 24 members indicating their attendance at the show, only three failed to show. As time went on, we began to wonder whether the rain was in for the day. The forecast had indicated that it was due to brighten up around 2pm, but in fact the sun came out between 12 and 1pm. It dried up very quickly and we were able to get around the show ground and see the displays. The rest



of the day was fine and some members came prepared with their chamois leathers and began drying off their 'pride and joys'. The centre piece of the stand was the 'new' Jaguar XE supplied by **Grange Motors**. Having the opportunity of driving this 2L diesel automatic 180bhp R Sports model for the weekend, I was suitably impressed. The ride was smooth, noise levels were very good and most of the time you were unaware that the car was a diesel vehicle. The interior was well decked out, although I note, no sign of the traditional wood within the cabin area. Lots of leather and in this particular model, definitive stitching on the leather in a contrasting colour so that it stood out. Boot space was somewhat restrictive but folding rear seats could have made it better, but on this model it was not available. Fuel consumption was excellent as one would expect from a diesel engine. Acceleration was very good with a reported 0 - 60 time of 7.5 secs as claimed by Jaguar.

The show was well attended with various other clubs and individual classic car owners displaying. There seemed to be more trade stands, although not of particularly good quality. A number of enquiries where made of the club and we await to see if they sign up in the future.

My particular thanks goes to Lester Magness for collecting and returning the stand including the gazebo for the show with his 4 wheeled trailer as well as the Cressing Temple Show the following week. Also for all those club members that got stuck in and assisted with the erection of the gazebo and the stand







ESSEX COUNTY CAR AND MOTORCYCLE SHOW

Sunday 12 July was the annual Essex County Car & Motorcycle Show at Cressing Temple. Seventeen members displayed their cars at the event. Grange Motors supplied a XE again for us to display and Paul Selleck from **Grange** brought it along. My thanks goes to **Grange Motors** for the loan of this vehicle, which again attracted quite a bit of attention. Each year we share the area with Jaguar Drivers Club - Area 33, but this year we decided to do it differently, in as much as one side of the access road was for our members, the other was for Jaguar Drivers Club members. This, in my opinion, worked well for both clubs.

There were a number of club & individual displays, including a very large fire tender from America. God knows how they got that! Also, there were a

number of American Police vehicles with their drivers dressed in American police uniforms. A number of the vehicles were the standard Ford Crowns which a number of forces in America use, but one that did stand out was a Pontiac Firebird suitably sign written and with the obligatory blue and red lights. They made a impressive display and on a couple of occasions drove around the site in convoy with sirens blaring. The display of American police vehicles at the Essex County Car & Motorcycle Show



MEMBERS CARS AT THE ESSEX COUNTY CAR & MOTORCYCLE SHOW







REGIONAL EVENTS /				
OTHER EVENTS				
MONTH	DAY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
				2015
AUG	TUES	4th	8pm	Club Night: Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club
AUG	SUN	16th	10am	SAFFRON WALDEN CAR SHOW Free show on the common. Contact Doug Warren for details.
AUG	SUN	23rd	12pm	SUMMER BAR-B-QUE Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club. Bar-b-Que and live music band. £20 ph. (Children £12). Come and join us for a social gathering at our club house and enjoy the company and event.
SEPT	TUES	1st	8pm	Club Night: Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club
SEPT	SAT	5th		The Hare Pub Breakfast Meet Bishop's Stortford Road, Roxwell, Chelmsford. Just turn up and see the display of various super cars, inc., Lambo's, Aston Martins, Ferrari's, etc.
SEPT	SUN	6th	8.30am	AMOC (Aston Martin Owners Club) 80 th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS AT BRANDS HATCH, featuring Jaguar Racing. Weekend racing, club is to attend on Sunday. Cost is £10 if booked in advanced or £14 on the day. Go to: www.brandshatch.co.uk/calendar/2015/september/bh-amoc-80th-anniversary.aspx
SEPT	SUN	27th	8.30am	BATTLESBRIDGE 29th GRAND MOTOBILIA DAY Subject to appeal being won.
ост	SAT	3rd	9.00am	St. Annes Castle Breakfast Meet (New Venue) Main Rd, Great Leighs, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 1NE Just turn up and see the display of various super cars.
OCT	TUES	6th	8pm	Club Night: Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club. Visiting Speaker from EDT.
DEC	SAT	5th	7.00pm	CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club. Tickets are £35 each. More details to follow. Limited amount of tickets available.
NATIONAL EVENTS				
				2015
AUG	SUN	23rd	10am	JEC AT BROOKLANDS Organised by our Surrey/Hants Borders Region with assistance from our Surrey Region we are delighted to return to this historic venue. Please note that entry into the site can only be guaranteed to pre-booked cars. So don't just turn up book in advance to ensure your spot. Pre-booking forms will be with the June and July national magazines
SEPT	SUN	27th	10am	JEC WESTERN DAY The Jaguar Enthusiasts' Club is at Bodelwyddan Castle and Warners for our first ever Western Day. Booking forms available from the national JEC: http://www.jec.org.uk



BRIGHT SPARK

During our recent visit to Gaydon, the conversation came round to spark plugs. Get a life, I hear you say, but the brief history of a certain well known brand, imparted by our Tour Guide is well worth telling.

The story goes that Albert Champion, Paris-Roubaix race started the success in France, he went to the that it was to evade conscription the French army. There he regularly racing car. In 1903 he crashed it and emerging with one leg 20mm shorter to make spark plugs. He returned to and winning them.



a racing cyclist notable for winning the 1899 company which bore his name. Following States to profit from track contracts. Some say which would have meant up to seven years in raced motorcycles and eventually bought a spent several months in hospital eventually than the other! By then, he had opened a factory France to raise more money by entering races

This reopened his old wound eventually leading him to call time on the racing.

In 1905, he finally established the Champion Spark Plug Company with an investment from two brothers in Boston. Following a disagreement with them, he moved to Michigan in 1908 where he founded the Champion Ignition Company with offices on top of the Buick factory. His new backer was William Durant, founder of General Motors. In the early '20's, his original company successfully sued for trade mark infringement resulting in a name change to AC Spark Plug Company – after Albert's initials. Eventually, his company was incorporated into Delco, GMM's parts division, resulting in the name AC Delco, which survives to this day.

And that is more than can be said for poor Albert.....

After divorcing his first wife, in 1922 he married a much younger woman involved in show business. Whilst escorting her to a banquet in the Hotel Meurice in Paris where he was being honoured for supplying plugs for Charles Lindberg's plane, he died of a heart attack whilst escorting his wife to the dance floor. He was just 49 years old.

The more juicy version of events has Albert suspecting his wife's infidelity following her to a Parisian nightclub where a fight ensued with her lover, during which Albert was badly beaten. He died later of a heart attack in his hotel room on 25 October, 1927 of natural causes, according to the coroner.

He was a wealthy man, leaving \$15 million. GM bought his shares in the company. He is buried in Pere Lachaise Cemetery in Paris alongside such illustrious interns as; Oscar Wilde, Chopin, Rossini...and Jim Morrison

And I thought it was a good old British company!

Neil Shanley









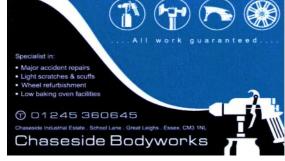
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