

JAGUAR ENTHUSIASTS' CLUB

sharing the passion

ISSUE No 111 JULY 2016

ESSEX THAMESIDE REGION



CIRCUIT OF REIMS-GUEUX



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Hi All,

The season is well on its way and we have had a number of shows and events to participate in. The European Reims trip was another success of which you can read about it in this month's newsletter. What will happen next year is

anyone;s guess following the BREXIT vote.....Will we need a visa to cross the channel????

The Maldon show on Sunday 3rd July is gathering memento and we are having difficulties trying to accommodate all members wishing to attend. Should you not now be able to make it and have obtained a pass, please let Vaughn High know immediately or at least on the day by e-mail at vaughn.high@sky.com or by phone on 07968157670.

Some members have signed up for the trip to Walmer Castle with the Porsche Club on Sunday 17th July. If anyone else is interested, you can pay on the day at the castle, but will not be able to have a guided tour as this is now fully booked.

We have a number of events coming up in August, and I would recommend that any member wishing to participate, please book your place either at the July club night or as soon as possible. We have our regular trip to Helmingham Hall in Suffolk (I wonder if we will get lost again????) on Sunday 7th August, the Saffron Walden Car Show on 14th August and Hyde Hall on 21st August. Both Saffron Walden and Hyde Hall are free, but with Hyde Hall bookings for a place in advance is necessary as there is a limit on the number of cars that can display. I would like to put on an XK8 display again, as we did at Battlesbridge this year, so would ask members with these vehicles, to sign up quickly.

For those not on e-mail, one last piece of sad news is the sudden deaths of members, Alan Frost, (64), and Tina Wilkins, (51), from Grays, Essex, as well as their dog. They were found on their river cruiser moored near Wroxham Island, in Norfolk on 9 June. An inquest has been informed that they died from carbon monoxide poisoning. A full inquest will take place on 30th November 2016. Alan and Tina attended club nights and displayed their XJS Coupe V12 at a number of shows throughout the year. The committee have sent their condolences.

Finally, I would encourage all members to join in the get together at our next club meet at Langdon Hills Golf Club on Tuesday 5th July at 8pm if you are able. Hope to see some new members then.

Doug Warren, Chairman & Editor

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*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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THE HARE BREAKFAST MEET JUNE 2016

Once again, The Hare at Roxwell, held it's monthly Breakfast meeting on Saturday 3rd June. Although the weather was dry, it was rather chilly and overcast, which may have been one of the reasons, the attendance was somewhat depleted. Again, the regular attendees were parked up early, such as the Porsches, Caterham 7s, Aston Martins, Lamborghinis and a few Ferraris. A few more American Muscle cars attended too, along with a car featured on Top Gear on Sunday 5th June - the McLaren 675LT! Cost £260k, Jenson Button doesn't have one nor did Chris Evans, although both own a McLaren P1. Jenson indicated 'off camera' that the 675LT was probably better than the P1. All 675LT's have



been sold so no good anyone thinking of purchasing one - as if you could!!! - but apparently Chris Evans heard of a cancelled order for one of these cars, and stepped in and brought it. Probably with the wages from just that one show!

Only one Jaguar was in attendance and that was this Jaguar XKR in black. Very nice. The next 'Breakfast Meeting' will be Saturday 2nd July for any members wishing to attend. Just make sure if you want to display your pride and joy, you need to get there early - around 8am, but you will be able to get a free coffee and danish! Full English breakfast extra.

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ST PETER'S CHURCH CAR SHOW

Nine members of the club, turned out for the St Peter's Church Car Show on Saturday 18th June. The day was somewhat overcast and coats were needed, but rain failed to materialise. The event was well supported with local franchised dealers showing off their new models, including Ford, Audi and Jaguar. Grange Motors had a place on our stand, displaying the Jaguar F-Pace, F-Type and XE, which really did attract a lot of attention. One of the attractions at the show, was a Rowan Atkinson look-a-like doing a Mr Bean impersonation on a armchair situated on a mini's roof, holding Mr Bean's bear and mop! He was signing autographs too.....not sure why? Also present was the Lions Club who set up a mini railway track and was giving kids (and fathers!!) a ride on a mini train. The odd thing was that at the end of the line was a fork! No buffers then? The event was held to support the London Air Ambulance and the club made a donation of £100 towards the fund.



The clubs new Event Shelter was erected



Jaguar Drivers' Club - Area 33



AREA DAY 2016

August 21st, 10 am to 5 pm

At RHS Hyde Hall

**Creep hedge Lane, Chelmsford
CM3 8ET**

Area 33 this year have invited local Classic Car Clubs to join us at this prestigious RHS site for our Area 33 Day.

Entry for exhibitors is by appointment only through their respective clubs. Entry to RHS Hyde Hall is free for a maximum of two occupants per exhibitor car.

Check sign posts on day for exhibitor entry via Buckhatch Lane only. No free entry through RHS Hyde Hall public entrance.

In conjunction with



Classic Car Clubs joining us are, JDC Suffolk; Jaguar Thameside; Austin Seven; Morgan and Porsche.



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CLUB MEMBERS VISIT REIMS



On Thursday 9th June, a number of members started their trip to Reims a day earlier, by staying at the Holiday Inn in Folkestone in order to be closer to the Eurotunnel on Friday morning. I worked in the morning but finished at midday. My wife, Jackie, had also worked half day at home and was ready for the off when I returned. We had packed the previous evening. We loaded up the car and as it was a nice afternoon, Jackie suggested we drop the hood. I'm glad she did as on doing so, we encountered a problem with the passenger side window. It went down half way and stopped. It didn't go up or down after this, no matter what I did. Obviously this needed to be resolved before going off to France, so en-route I called into Grange Motors at Brentwood. Mick Burgess on the service desk, pulled out the stops and got his technician, Dean on the job almost immediately. It was discovered that the wiring loom behind the door panel had got caught up in the window mechanism and cut some of the wires, including the window winding power. Thanks to Grange Motors we were soon back on the road to Folkestone.

On reaching the perimeter road to the Holiday Inn at Folkestone, there is a Tesco's filling station, and it was deemed appropriate to fill up with fuel as we had heard that there had been petrol shortage in France due to labour disputes. On topping up and paying at the kiosk, the attendant asked, "You off to Reims too?" I was surprised she knew this, however, it became evident that fellow members staying at the hotel had done the same and as they were all classics, they could not help but be noticed.

That evening, we all walked off to the Britannia Inn in Cheriton, for an evening meal. The landlord, Nigel Cooper, had prepared our food request and laid on a super dinner for us all. Some stayed on for some evening drinking and Nigel volunteered to transport some back to the hotel in his car, only he ended up undertaking four trips. This was a really good start to our long weekend break.



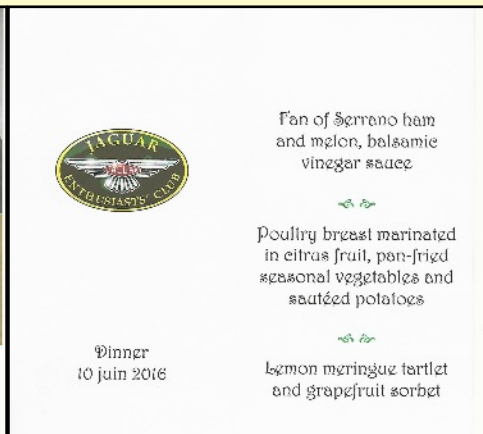
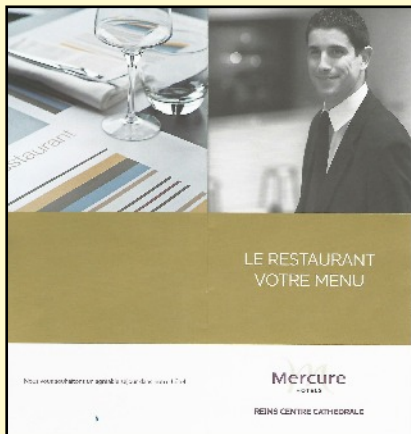
On arrival at the Eurotunnel terminal on Friday morning, we encountered problems, in as much as we had been issued with 7 digits codes for the automated entry system but 8 were needed to enter the site. However, we all eventually met up inside the site. John & Lyn Squibb were the last to arrive, but encountered problems with their car. It appeared they had trouble with their fuel pump and unfortunately were unable to join us. The breakdown service had to be called out to transport them back home.

Arrangements were made to have a vehicle escort to the train and we were lined up altogether in one of the lanes. A very impressive Jaguar lineage which other travellers experienced and commented on.

Having reached France, the drive down to Reims was warm and sunny and we had the hood down all the way. We had arranged to stop off at a fuel station and picnic area just off the motorway, about an hour into our journey. By this time it was lunch time anyway.

On arrival at the hotel, we were met by Véronique Garcia from the Mercure Sales department. We were let into the underground garage complex, where bays had been marked up with the club logo for us to park our vehicles.

The rooms at the hotel were clean and well specified. Dinner had been arranged for all members on Friday evening and these specially prepared menus were on each table! (see picture)



Saturday was a free day for members to do their own thing. Word had got around that there use to be a racing circuit at Reims - Circuit of Reims-Gueux.

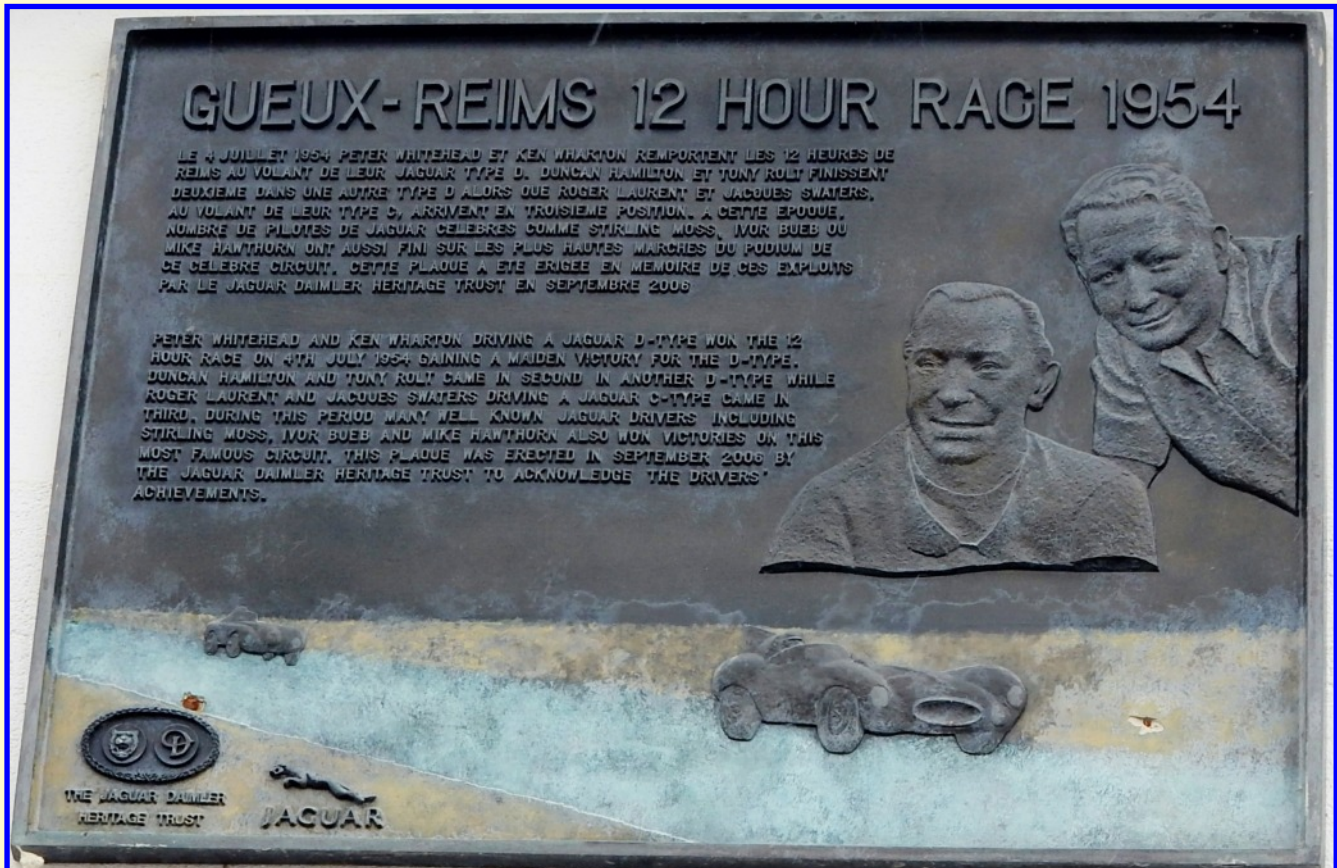
The 7,826 metre long circuit, which drove through Gueux, was first used in July 1926 for the second Marne Grand Prix organised by the Champagne Argonne RAC. Six years later, the French RAC used it for the ACF Grand Prix and the first official World Championship

Formula race took place in 1950. The circuit was in use up until 1972. Many famous racing drivers raced at this circuit including Juan Manuel Fangio, Mike Hawthorn, Jack Brabham, Jim Clark and Graham Hill, to name just a few.

A number of members took their cars to the remains of the circuit which is now a public road. The pits still have names above them, but only one manufacturers name remains - Jaguar!!!



One other aspect of the Circuit of Reims - Gueux, is that a plaque has been erected there by the Jaguar Daimler Heritage Trust in 2006 and the text is shown below.



The text reads: "Peter Whitehead and Ken Wharton driving a Jaguar D Type won the 12 hour race on 4th July 1954 gaining a maiden victory for the D-Type. Duncan Hamilton and Tony Rolt came in second in another D-Type while Roger Laurent and Jacques Swaters driving a Jaguar C-Type came in third. During this period a number of well know drivers including Stirling Moss, Ivor Bueb and Mike Hawthorn also won victories on this most famous circuit. This plaque was erected in September 2006 by the Jaguar Daimler Heritage Trust to acknowledge the drivers achievements."

On Sunday, the group met up and had a guided coach tour of Reims, followed by a trip to Taittinger Champagne House, including a tasting. From there, we went on to have lunch at a restaurant in the town before visiting the Reims Car Museum where over 200 vehicles, cars and motorcycles were on display. The museum which was once a factory, is the home to a survivor of the S.C.A.R. Automobile plant based at Witry-les-Reims, as well as many other prestigious names. We finally ended up at the Reims Cathedral for our final guided tour. On Monday, half the group stayed on for a further day, while the other half, hit the road and headed back to Calais, stopping off at Eurocity for topping up our drinks cabinet at home. An enjoyable weekend was had by all. **Doug Warren**



FAVERSHAM TRANSPORT WEEKEND - MAY 22nd

Faversham (in Kent) has attracted its fair share of visitors over the centuries. Crucially, it was situated at the head of a navigable creek, offering quick and easy access to Europe, pure spring water and a dry temperate climate well suited for growing crops and grazing cattle. All this led to the town becoming a leading port for the export of British wool and established it as a major player in the production of beer.

And there is more.....Faversham boasts several records, like – it has the oldest company and the oldest village museum in the UK, not to mention the oldest gunpowder mill in the world. The existence of electric current was first demonstrated here and it holds the record for the hottest place in the UK (100 degrees was recorded in 2003). Shepherd Neame, based in town, is Britain's oldest brewer. Once a leading brick manufacturer, its hand-made bricks form the four mile London Bridge to Greenwich stations viaduct. And it's not short of historic buildings itself with over 500 listed in the area.

During its long history, Belgic farmers, Romans (them again!), Jutes, Angels and Saxons, Danes and Normans have all invaded Faversham's shores at some point in history. But on the 22nd of April, 2016, it was the turn of yet another, less intimidating hoard, to enter the town. Yes, it was time for the Petrol Heads to gather for the annual Classic Car Show. Not least of these were the members of the JEC Essex Thameside tribe, arriving in around 20 Jaguar chariots.

Henry Ford once said "History is bunk", so, enough of the past and into the present to enjoy some of the sights to be seen on a stroll through town.....

There's no better place to start than the Club Stand – yes, the MOT garage again, a great place to be when the showers arrive, just don't park under the leaks from the roof. It was well attended by the club with cars including Mark 2's, Daimler V8 250's (Carol and Steve having eradicated the gremlins), Bob and Sue's recently completed E Type, my 420, several XK8's and XJS's and at least one more E Type. A visitor from Tunbridge Wells parked his Daimler 250 with us and next to a late arrival at the Ball – a white on yellow Ford Corsair Convertible – sure I've seen that one before. The stand attracted a fair number of visitors too, especially when it rained.

Just round the corner, we were complimented by a smaller, but no less impressive display of our favourite cars. This comprised a C Type replica, two E Types a 240/340 and a Mark 2 with a seriously good interior. Over in the Town Square a clutch of upmarket classics were on show. I saw Bentleys, including a Vanden Plas Tourer, Daimlers, a Lagonda, an Alvis and a Lanchester. More recent was a 1954 Bentley R Type Sports Saloon. Painted Tudor over Shell Grey, this twin carb'd Rolls engined delight cost a hefty £3,170 when new PLUS £1841 purchase tax! And we moan about VAT today!

There were some less exotic but no less interesting pre and post war machines nestling around the perimeter of the Square, however. A lovely black Vauxhall sporting the trade mark fluted bonnet with a hint of trans-Atlantic styling kept company with Austins, a brightly coloured Morgan, Rileys, Morris's, a Model T Tourer and a delightful yellow Citroen which attracted much attention, especially from children. The street behind the Hall contained many British stalwarts of the 50's and 60's most notably an Austin A40 in turquoise (was this the original hatchback?) and the best series 1 Standard Vanguard that I have ever seen. The Swedes were represented by the evergreen Volvo Amazon famous for being the world's first car to be supplied with front seat belts as standard equipment. For the more sporty enthusiast, there was a red Ferrari, an orange Lamborghini, a brace of AC Cobras – one of which I think may have been the real thing, a TWR XJ-S, oh and err an Austin Maestro. Did anyone see the stretched Lincoln with the giant greyhound on the roof? Far out!!!

To vary things a little, Sue and I took a walk down to the old port to see what was left of it after all this time. Well, not too much, really. It is hard to imagine that this somewhat overlooked area was once a leading port. Back in the town's central car park other clubs had set up their displays – the Stag Owners and the Ford RS Clubs had well attended displays as did several others. Some interesting rare examples were at the party too. Did anyone catch the Rover V8 Estate, the Auto Union or the blue Capri with the Starship Enterprise painted on the bonnet? A very good rendition of the old NCC 1701A, I thought. There were more Morris Minors, 1000's, Vans and Convertibles dotted around town than you could shake a stick at. It was good to see some of Henry's old stagers, particularly the Mk 1 Escorts now becoming rare and collectible – and expensive, but make sure you buy a two-door. (I should have kept my 1300GT). British sports cars from the 50's, 60's and 70's were well represented by MG's Midgets and B's, Austin Healey's and Triumph TR's. Family cars abounded with Austin Cambridges, Rileys, Heralds, Anglias, Prefects, and Vivas. There was the odd Italian – an Alfa Giulia and a Fiat 500 Giardiniera... OK, a 500 Estate which, I believe, had the longest production run of all the 500 range. **CONT. OVERLEAF**



FAVERSHAM CONT.....

Did anyone visit the photographic exhibition next to the Bus Station? There were excellent photographs with a motoring theme on show. The visit made all the more worthwhile since the photographer was on hand to talk about them. Further into the exhibition, the walls were lined with even more images, some quite amusing such as the grinning red E Type with pearly white teeth in its oval grille. Another photograph I am sure was taken inside the old Imperial Palace Car Museum in Las Vegas. It's of one of two Saoutchik bodied '48 Cadillacs. (see article in 2013 Newsletter).

Back on the street, we saw a line-up of PT Cruisers, all of which sported a mirror on the underside of their bonnets and garishly decorated engines whilst in the Bus Shed, you could play with radio-controlled Lorries complete with sound effects of air brakes. They also had a new unregistered Land Rover – good investment. Opposite were parked the Americana that always wows me. This year's line-up took in a '57 Bel Air. A '58 Caddy (in Brown?!), a '62 Buick Electra 225 and a '76 Pontiac Grand Prix (good, but not as desirable as the 60's Catalinas, 2+2's and Convertibles.) I will make mention of the Model Y Hot Rod, nearby – beautifully done! And finally, next to a '54 Chevrolet 3100 Pick-Up, and the last car in the line, sat a Renault Avantime. In silver over blue. Sort of a coupe Espace and definitely a love it or hate it design, by, I think, Patrick Le Quement, Renault's head of design at the time. It is one of only about 400 on UK roads. I don't think it did well in its home country either. So buy one now whilst they are cheap – you never know! Our thanks go to Mary Monk for organising our successful visit. **Neil Shanley**

2017 CLUB TRIP

Next year, it has been suggested that we have a UK trip rather than a European trip. A suggested venue is Warner's at Hayling Island down in Hampshire, staying for 3 nights at the Lakeside Coastal Village with half board in a **Harbour Suite** accommodation with reserved parking from **Friday 16th June 2017**. The costs has been indicated at £202 pp. As stated this is half board as well as evening entertainment. The suites are brand new and details can be found at:

www.warnerleisurehotels.co.uk/hotels/lakeside-holiday-village/village-chalets/index.aspx

If you are interested in this trip or have another suggestion, please let the committee or me know as soon as possible, as if we are to sign up for Warner's a reserve booking of the accommodation can only be held for two weeks. As a possible attraction while in this area, Beaulieu held a Simply Classics & Sports Car on the Saturday and Hot Rod & Custom Drive-In Day on the Sunday over the same weekend this year.

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REGIONAL EVENTS / OTHER EVENTS				2016
MONTH	DAY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
JUL	SUN	3 rd	8am	Maldon Car Show. "Classics on the Promenade" Entry fee £3. All display vehicles to be in place by 8am. Please contact Vaughn High for passes at Vaughn.high @sky.com
JUL	TUES	5 th	8pm	Club Night Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club.
JUL	SUN	17 th	8am	Walmer Castle, Nr Deal, Kent with the Porsche Club. Discount rate £9:50pp, normally £11pp. Internal castle tour with guide - one hour - available for an additional £5. Separated parking area arranged. See article pg 5.
JUL	SAT/ SUN	30/31 st	9am	Silverstone Classic 2016 Join fellow members at this fantastic event Book direct at http://www.silverstoneclassic.com/ticket-info
AUG	TUES	2 nd	8.00am	Club Night Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club. QUIZ NIGHT
AUG	SUN	7 th	7.30am	Helmingham Classic and Sports Car Show Join fellow members at this fantastic event More details to follow.
AUG	SUN	14 th	8.00am	Saffron Walden Classic Car Show Join fellow members at this fantastic free event on the common. More details to follow.
AUG	SUN	21 st	9am	Hyde Hall - In company with the JDC, a special event has been planned which includes free admission to the gardens at Hyde Hall. Please book a space with Doug Warren at dwarren169@btinternet.com. by Friday 22nd July 2016.
SEPT	SUN	4 th	9am	Classic & Vintage Vehicle Show at Capel Manor Gardens, Enfield. More details to follow nearer the time.
SEPT	TUES	6 th	8pm	Club Night Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club.
SEPT	SUN	25 th	8am	30th Grand Motorbilia Day - Details to follow
NATIONAL EVENTS				
				2016
JUL	SUN	17 th	8:30am	18th JAGUAR WORLD/JEC LONDON TO BRIGHTON RUN. Greenwich to Brighton Race Course. Go to: http://www.jaguarrun.co.uk/About
SEPT	SAT	10 th	8:30am	New XK Sportscar Seminar The cost is just £60 for the whole day for members of the Club (non-members £80, with £20 refundable if they join the Club on the day and £20 for those not attending the seminar but coming along as a guest, covering food only). For this you are there for a whole day, get handouts and Cds on various matters relating to that seminar, morning coffee, a full luncheon and even an afternoon tea before you leave. The venue is now:- The North Staffordshire Medical Institute, Hartshill Road, Hartshill, Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire. ST4 7NY. Go to: http://www.jec.org.uk/events/62023/seminars/new-xk-sportscar-seminar.html for booking form

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