# CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Hello Everyone,

I hope you all had a good Christmas, and are looking forward to the New Year.

Well our January 2019 edition of our club newsletter is here for you to read, which will make a change from watching Christmas TV.

It was great to see such a good turn out at our December club night. The larger raffle prizes, quiz and buffet proved to be popular.

We will be holding a competition next year for the best photographs taken by club members of our Jaguar/Daimler cars, events and amusing photos of our members. We will have several category's which we will announce later. We will be asking you to send your photographs of cars and members to the committee. The best photos will be posted on our club website, and some of the photos used for the 2020 club calendar.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank our various sponsors for their support in the last year.

Whilst it seems ages off, I am looking forward to the car season kicking off in 2019. The first event will likely be 'Drive It day' on Sunday 28 April. We are looking at options for the day and will let you know as soon as we have the day planned. I have no doubt we will have a full calendar of shows and events for you to attend next year. Whilst we have the Holland trip which is fully subscribed, we will be looking at a possible additional trip to Europe next summer. At this time we are all waiting to see if we will end up with a hard Brexit, which could made traveling to Europe more problematic with ferry delays etc.

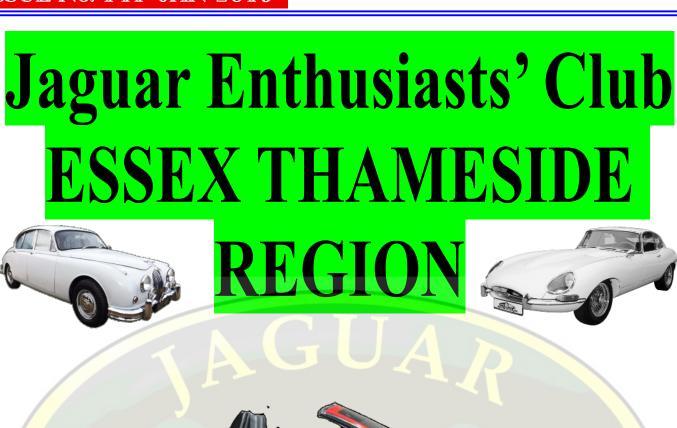
Please remember our January club night will be on Tuesday the 8th of January. Richard Gibby will be giving a talk during the evening about the British Library's Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms exhibition, which promises to be an interesting talk.

Happy New Year to you all. See you next year.

Best Regards

# Graham Cook

Chairman Essex Thames Region cook\_gm@hotmail.co.uk / 07767 888040







# ESSEX THAMESIDE REGION

## **2018/2019 COMMITTEE**

**Graham Cook** 

Chairman cook\_gm@hotmail.co.uk

Mary Monk

Vice Chairman mary\_monk53@hotmail.com

Vaughn High

Club Secretary vaughn.high@sky.com

**Richard Gibby** 

Treasurer & Webmaster rwgibby@gmail.com

Gill Cain

Membership Secretary jeccain451@outlook.com

**Committee Members:** 

Neil Shanley, Robert Cain & Helen Clark







### **PAGE INDEX:**

Page 1: Front Cover Page 7: Dinner Dance 2018

Page 2: Club Committee 2018-19/Index Page 8 Electric Revolution

Page 3: December Club Night Report Page 9: Autoart Detailing (Advertisement)

Page 4: Battlesbridge Show update Page 10: Advertisements - Club Calendars

Page 5: New National Car Museum? Page 11: Event Schedule

Page 6: Dinner Dance 2018 Page 12: Grange & Beadles Sponsors

# December Club Night

Yet again, the December Club night was a success and quite a few member and partner turned up to enjoy the proceedings. There was the usual festive buffet and customary quiz. There were 50 questions, covering a variety of subjects. At the end of the quiz, two teams scored the same points - 48! So there was a tie breaker. The "Has Beens" won the quiz and were awarded a bottle of wine each. The monthly raffle was again a big event for December and prizes were abundant. They included a Jaguar eau de toilette, various bottles of wine & sherry, a socket set, a Marks & Spencer's food hamper, car cleaning kit in metal case, realistic rusty nuts and bolts, spanner, screwdriver, drill bit etc, all made of chocolate, a Google Home Mini (a smart speaker with the Google Assistant built in), Dash camera and roadside test kit, to name just a few of the prizes.

During the evening, a presentation was given to Doug and Jackie in recognition of 8 years as Club Chairman. Doug was given a specially commissioned picture by Phil Lightman of his Jaguar XK8 and Jackie was given two bottles of wine. Doug & Jackie wish to thank the committee for the wonderful surprise and brilliant picture.

Both Jackie and Doug would like to wish all members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



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# STOP PRESS



Dear Friends.

I have been approached by the neighbouring wholesale nursery who wish to purchase a proportion of our showground. I have spent much time deliberating this and considering the options. Factors that had to be taken in to account included the following:



Jim Gallie, Battlesbridge Show Organiser

The strain that the current event calendar places on our resources throughout the year in terms of administration, legislation, Health and Safety, licensing and insurance requirements. In particular the traffic management issues caused by our larger shows and the consequential nuisance to our neighbours.

The ability to invest in new opportunities within the smaller showground area, with improved infrastructure and scope to host small scale events more efficiently.

The long term prosperity of our core business, that of the Battlesbridge Antiques Centre. Namely the financial climate in the retail sector and the continual investment required in the number of old buildings and grounds that we own and maintain.

My age! Although I have no intention of retiring just yet, I will be in my 70th year next year and suffering minor heart flutters and knee replacements, and wishing to spend more quality "me time" with friends and family.

With all of this in mind, I have taken the difficult decision to reduce my holdings of land within the coming months. We shall be introducing a 'new' events calendar for 2019, which will include past events that we have adequate space for, along with a number of new events which shall form new the direction of our showground. We will continue supporting the Battlesbridge Motorcycle Museum and the Annual Bike Shows, etc.

The 2019 Calendar will shortly appear on our website www.battlesbridge.com and in our regular newsletters.

Unfortunately our May Classic Car Show, August Classic Ford Show & our September Grand Motorbilia Shows will no longer appear in their current form, as well as the annual Essex V DUBBERS Camping Weekend and Custom Culture Show. Our camping, Caravanning and Storage Facilities will not be affected.

# New plans submitted for spectacular UK classic car museum.

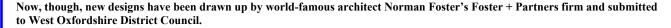
Ambitious new plans for a UK version of the Mullin Automotive Museum have been submitted after the initial designs were withdrawn following multiple objections.

Peter Mullin, owner of the famed Mullin Automotive Museum in Oxnard, California, first applied for planning permission for a hotel-and-museum complex in November 2017.

The facility was to be called The Mullin at Great Tew and was due to consist of a £150 million development on a brownfield site near Chipping Norton in West Oxfordshire, complete with museum, demonstration track, pavilion and 28 holiday lodges.

Many enthusiasts were hugely excited by the proposal, which would have seen up to 200 classic cars housed at the museum.

However more than 250 objections were made, many of them by locals living near to the proposed site, and the first application was withdrawn in September.



The Mullin Automotive Park, as it now called, will be 15% smaller than the previous complex, although it will still feature a main museum building plus 28 residential lodges. Sixteen of those lodges will be adjacent to the museum, thus enabling visitors to display their cars alongside the rest of the collection.

The proposals also include a £1.7million local investment in housing, a new car park for a primary school and 'environmental improvements' at the nearby Enstone and Middle Barton.

The original designs for the lodges were among the more controversial aspects of the first set of plans, and the new plans state that they will exist below the treeline, and will 'immerse the occupant into the natural setting, rather than protrude above it'.

Overall, the architects say that the development is designed to be 'analogous to the traditional country estate', with 'its entrance lodge and journey through a carefully considered landscape towards the main house, forming part of the overall experience to all visitors'.

There is now no specific mention of a demonstration track, although the plans do describe a 'tree-lined exercise road' that 'provides the opportunity for the classic cars to be gently exercised as part of their maintenance regime, and simultaneously for enthusiasts to watch on from various points around the site'.

In a personal letter accompanying the plans, Mullin reaffirmed his desire to bring the 'world class automotive museum' to the UK, and assured planners – and by extension, the development's opponents – that he has addressed the previous concerns.

'My team and I have taken very seriously the genuine concerns of both your department and the local communities,' he writes, before explaining that he asked 'Britain's greatest living architect' Lord Norman Foster + Partners 'to design a new scheme that blends the commercial, cultural and residential spaces in a unique way'.

He goes on to state that, 'My aim is always to illuminate, innovate and educate. My particular passion for the automobile, is not only about top speed or horse power, but about the extraordinary impact that the car has had on mankind; the mobility, the ingenious design, the engineering and the beauty of art in motion.'

The Mullin Automative Museum in California holds an incredible collection of Art Deco cars, among them many classic Bugattis, Delahayes, Delages and Voisins. Indeed, the Bugatti Type 57SC Atlantic that was named the best car in the world earlier this year is part of the collection.



# DINNER DANCE 2018

Doesn't time fly? One minute we were catching an abundance of rays under the surprisingly hot summer's heatwave at venues ranging from aircraft museums to RHS gardens whilst watching the sun dancing from our chromed gleaming treasures, and the next, we are heading to our annual bash on a much cooler November's weekend to join



for the third time our neighbours, the Essex and Suffolk Borders Region.

This Black Tie event was again held at the Marks Tey Hotel, a Best Western just off the A12 near Colchester and, judging from the comments from our fellow diners, it did not disappoint..... well, except for the Bucks Fizz and Champagne at the reception. The Bucks

had no fizz and the Champagne was something called "Frizzecco". Questions have been tabled in the House and we do not expect it to happen again.



Following the meal, we were entertained by a French singing duo accompanied by an accordion under a backdrop of the Eiffel Tower. All very European. Luckily, we were able to retain the services of our regular crooner. Steve Dunnet who rallied people to the dance floor making singing ballads whilst mingling with the

revellers look totally effortless. Regulars 'Chocs Away' provided the Disco, but did not dance this time.

Some of our regulars were not able to attend this year, however, with the help of members new to the Club and members new to the event, we were able to fill our quota. I am told that there was even a table from the local JDC Region. From current feedback, everyone is looking forward to next year's do, but let's enjoy the summer first.

Our thanks go to our sister Region for again inviting us to a very special evening which we hope to reprise next year. That's it for now, I will let the pictures tell the story.













# The Electric Revolution?

As many members will know, there is a push to promote the electric car over fossil fuelled cars. Sales of electric cars in the UK have risen 11% on last year, putting the country in the premier league of those ditching petrol and diesel engines. Since 2013 when 3,500 fully electric cars were registered, this has now risen to 119,000 in 2017!!! But the question raised is, is the infrastructure in place and will it really replace the fossil fuelled cars? One recent story featured in The Mail was about Mr & Mrs Cope from Cheshire who own a Nissan Leaf (all electric). They wanted to drive from Cheshire to Bristol which was a total of 143 miles. The battery in their car was fully charged and indicated 170 miles range. More than enough they thought, but it wasn't. On reaching the Gloucester Services they were very low and needed to recharge the battery. But they were not able to activate the power point and subsequently made two calls to the helpline for the unit but were cut off twice after hanging on for 8 minutes, so were unable to top up their battery. They noted that there were only four charging points at the services, so when more electric cars are on the road, how are people to charge their batteries? A long delay is envisaged. Even a 'fast charge' takes ½ hour! Fortunately for the Cope's, a driver of a Tesla assisted them by allowing them to use his charge card to recharge their battery. They eventually arrived in Bristol. The following day they went to the nearest Nissan dealership to sort out the charge card facilities in order for them to use other charging points around the country but neither the manager or staff were trained in how to help them. They were however, able to recharge their battery for free at the dealership! Obviously worried about their return journey and running out of 'juice', they drove at 50 mph, turned of all axillaries including the car heater and just made it home.

Jaguar is making inroads into the electric car market with its new I-Pace. The indication is that the new XJ will be electric and the current XF & XE saloons are expected to be replaced by a new all-electric SUV when they reach the end of their life cycles in 2023! F & E Pace models are also likely to be

replaced with an electric vehicle in 2025. I have no doubt that all other major manufacturers are heading in the same direction. So the demand for charging stations throughout the country will increase. Will the infrastructure be in place? Somehow, I don't think so, especially in the rural areas of the

country. What's the alternative? Hybrid

cars seem to be the more sensible option, where the smaller engine recharges the battery while driving. Vauxhall undertook this with their Ampera, which had a small 1.4 litre engine producing 148 bhp. Vauxhall launched the car in 2012 but buyers were suspicious of its technical complexity - and were reticent about the idea of paying top BMW 3 Series money for a car with a Griffin badge on the bonnet.

So, where will this all end up? It certainly looks as if we are being forced into driving electric cars in the future. But will the infrastructure be in place and how will the government recoup its lost revenue from fossil fuel taxes? Now there's a question! Home electricity tax increases? Watch this space!!!





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Steve Fish

#### **21 November 2017**

What can I say. I was resigned to getting my car re sprayed as the paintwork was well, tired to say the least. But Mario convinced me he could rejuvenate it. I'll admit I had reservations but boy, did these guys do a fantastic job! If you flick through the posts you'll see my red Capri. What a transformation. I cannot recommend these guys highly enough! The time they have taken into getting me to love my car again is phenomenal! Thank you so much!

Richard Noble

## 4 January 2018

Excellent job on my XK. An 11 year old car now looks like better than when it was new!

Lee Browring

#### 6 January 2018

Highly recommended, amazing work, you need to see it to believe it. Blown away with the final result.



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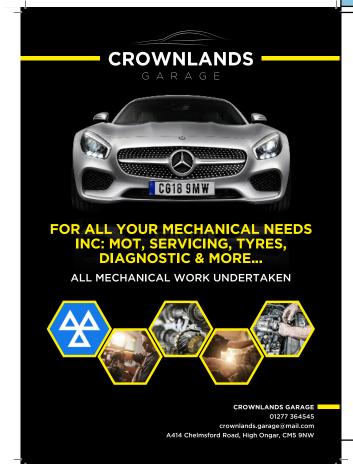
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REGIONAL EVENTS / OTHER EVENTS				2019
MONTH	DAY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
JAN	TUES	8th	8pm	Club Night Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club Talk by Richard Gibby on British Library's Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms exhibition
FEB	TUES	5 <sup>th</sup>	8pm	Club Night Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club
MAR	TUES	5 <sup>th</sup>	8pm	Club Night Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club
APR	TUES	2 <sup>nd</sup>	8pm	A.G.M. Club Night Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club
APR	SUN	28 <sup>th</sup>	TBA	Drive It Day. Details to follow
MAY	TUES	7 <sup>th</sup>	8pm	Club Night Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club
MAY	SUN	12 <sup>th</sup>	8am	Battlesbridge Classic Car Show. Details to follow.
JUN	TUES	4 <sup>th</sup>	8pm	Club Night Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club
NATIONAL EVENTS 2019				
FEB	THU/ SUN	14th/ 17th	16.30/ 21.30 THURS ALL OTHER DAYS 10am/ 18.00	The London Classic Car Show  This show is the must-attend event for any discerning classic car owner, collector, expert or enthusiast. Being held at the Excel Centre in the East End docklands. Tickets prices start at £25. Go to https://www.thelondonclassiccarshow.co.uk/ for more detains.
MAY	FRI/ SUN	10 <sup>th</sup> / 12 <sup>th</sup>	ТВС	Jaguar Festival 2019 at Blenheim Palace Jaguar Land Rover Classic are our Headline sponsor and SNG Barratt are our Title Sponsor, they will both be in attendance throughout the weekend at both our entertainment venue, the wonderful Heythrop Park Resort, before we make our way to Blenheim Palace on the Sunday for the Jaguar extravaganza. As our only flagship event in 2019 this will be the one to attend with a BBQ, Gala Dinner, and auction amongst the events at Heythrop Park as well as evening entertainment, VIP's, and some very exciting cars! More details to follow nearer the time.
JUN	SUN	16 <sup>th</sup>	ТВС	Jag Fest 2019 Organised by the Kent South Region of the Jaguar Enthusiasts' Club and in association with, the National JEC, we welcome all National & International JEC members and owners of any other Jaguar or Daimler car, to join with us for, what promises to be, a very exciting weekend extravaganza, More details nearer the time.

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