

Essex Thameside News

Nº 199, November 2023



Contents

- 2. Chairman's message
- 3. Shows and events in 2023-24
- 5. Laying up a car for the winter
- 8. Goodwood Revival
- 11. Marine Life
- 13. Answers to last month's quiz
- 14. Nitrogen in tyres



Chairman's message

Steve Rider

s rider@live.co.uk

Hello and welcome to our November newsletter. It's certainly proving to be a busy end to 2023.

The choice of our new meeting venue at the Police Headquarters in Chelmsford was declared a success by all of the members who attended our October meeting. Advantage was taken of our new facilities with its extensive car parking and a number of members took the opportunity to air their Jaguars, old and new.

Your committee is now putting together a programme of proposed events for club nights.

Although we will have missed the traditional bonfire celebrations by a few days, we plan to hold a spud night at our next club night meeting on **Thursday 9th** November. A mountain, or at least a small hill, of baked jacket potatoes will be provided and members are invited to supply their own toppings, limited only by your imagination and taste buds!

Following on a few weeks later, our Christmas club night on December 7th will have live music, an extended bar, team quiz, Christmas raffle, party nibbles and more.

Further club events for the forthcoming months are being planned, including the booking of guest speakers, and will be advertised in due course. But particularly noteworthy is our plan to celebrate the Jaguar Enthusiasts Club's 40th and our region's 35th anniversaries next year, once again utilising and

taking advantage of the new facilities.

The committee is also busy researching shows and trips for the 2024 season. A draft list of the shows we propose supporting, as well as those we will advertise for information, will be published in forthcoming newsletters.

In the interim you may wish to put one tentative date in your diary. The Jaguar Enthusiasts Club is planning to celebrate a major anniversary next year, its fortieth, with new partnerships including Jaguar Parts specialist SNG Barratt. Consequently the JEC is planning a memorable weekend-long summer Jaguar Festival based at Chesford Grange in Kenilworth and the British Motor Museum near Gaydon, in the homeland of Jaguar from 26th–28th July 2024.

Lastly, we still have a small number of the club's 2024 calendars available for purchase as ideal Christmas pressies. Don't forget that after club night there will only be potentially 44 shopping days to Christmas!

I look forward to dining with you on the 9th.

Steve

Committee Members



Graham Cook
Vice-Chairman
cook_gm@hotmail.co.uk



Ian Croxson
Secretary
ian@thecroxsons.com



Richard Gibby
Treasurer, Webmaster
and Editor
rwgibby@gmail.com



Lester Magness
Social secretary and
Events coordinator
lestermagness1@gmail.com



Neil Shanley
Committee member and
co-editor
neilshanley@btinternet.com



Beverly Warren
Membership Secretary
beverlyrwarren@gmail.com

Shows and events in 2023-24

Monthly Club Nights:

Meetings take place at the Essex Police Sports & Social Club, St Margarets Road, Chelmsford CM2 6DA. They start at 7pm and are usually on a Tuesday evening with the exception of those below in bold type.

Thursday 9 November 2023 (Spud Night); **Thursday** 7 December 2023 (Christmas Evening)

Tuesday 23 January 2024; Tuesday 27 February 2024; **Wednesday** 27 March 2024; Tuesday 23 April 2024; Tuesday 21 May 2024; Tuesday 25 June 2024; Tuesday 23 July 2024; Tuesday 27 August 2024; Tuesday 17 September 2024; Tuesday 22 October 2024; Tuesday 19 November 2024; Tuesday 17 December 2024.

JEC Essex Thameside show attendances and events:

Sat 25 November *Puttin' On The Ritz* Christmas Dinner Dance, Orwell Hotel, Hamilton Road, Felixstowe IP11 7DX, organised jointly with JEC Suffolk & Essex Borders

For information—other non-JEC shows and events:

10-12 November Lancaster Classic Car Show, NEC, Birmingham B40 1NT

The full calendar of shows, events and trips planned for 2024 will be published in our January newsletter.

Tel: 01708 228150 or E-mail: info@essexjaguarspares.co.uk
www.essexjaguarspares.co.uk



ESSEX JAGUAR SPARES



INDEPENDENT JAGUAR SPECIALIST

FOR HIGH QUALITY SERVICING, REPAIRS AND THE SALE OF USED AND RE-CONDITIONED PARTS

JAGUARS WANTED:
ACCIDENT DAMAGED,
MOT FAILURES,
ABANDONED PROJECTS

ELECTRONIC FAULT DIAGNOSTICS
INCLUDING FAULT CODE READING,
WARNING LIGHTS EXTINGUISHED

K & H TRADING ESTATE,
ST MARYS LANE,
UPMINSTER,
ESSEX. RM14 3PA



SPUD NIGHT

**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO DINE
WITH US AT OUR CLUB NIGHT**

**THURSDAY 9th NOVEMBER
2023**

- **JACKET POTATOES WITH BUTTER AND ALL
CUTLERY, PLATES & CONDIMENTS PROVIDED.**
- **DONATION OF £2 PER PERSON APPRECIATED.**

*****BRING YOUR OWN TOPPINGS*****

**THE COMMITTEE LOOK FORWARD TO DINING
WITH YOU**



combustion. These byproducts are in fact chemical contaminants which are burnt off with regular use. However, if the engine is used sparingly or for short journeys these will attack the precious white metal bearings around your crankshaft. A simple oil change will ensure your engine internals are protected in golden armour.

Tip 3 - Park Up or Jack Up?

You'll either be parking the car up or lifting the wheels off the ground for the winter, either



Laying up a car for the winter

Tip 1 - A Thorough Clean

Any dirt or debris collected by your car, both inside and outside can become problematic during a winter lay up. Exterior contaminants such as bird droppings and salt can cause paint damage, scratches and of course contribute towards the dreaded rust. Interior contaminants such as food can fester, attract rodents and under damp conditions promote mould or bacteria. A thorough clean inside and outside is the ticket and also a satisfying end to another season of classic motoring.



way there are considerations.

If you're parking the car up with the weight of the car bearing down on the tyres for winter you may end up with a flat spot on those expensive tyres. You can avoid this by using tyre savers. These are contoured inserts that sit between the tyre and the floor surface and prevent a flat spot from forming. Simply maintain the tyre pressures and you have no problems! If you're raising the vehicle off the ground you'll need the appropriate mechanical aids.

Tip 4 - In The Garage or Braving The Elements?



Tip 2 - Oil Transfusion



You've probably enjoyed your car sporadically throughout the season and have perhaps started the

engine from time to time just to hear that characteristic exhaust note, happy days! The oil in your engine however will have absorbed many byproducts which build up as a result of normal

If you're lucky enough to have a garage for your pride and joy it's the best protection you could ask for but there are still pitfalls to be aware of and you might never have considered these before. Spider droppings (yes, this actually happens!), UV damage only on the areas exposed to the window light and general dust can all take their toll over winter and unnecessarily so. An indoor car cover is ideal to keep the car cocooned whilst in the garage. If you're keeping the car outside you'll need an exterior grade, tailored car cover to keep the elements at bay.



Tip 5 - Battery

There are two schools of thought here and both have their merits. Either disconnect the battery for the entire period of laying up or maintain the battery throughout. So, what are the options? You could keep the battery in situ and install a battery conditioner. This remains connected to the vehicle throughout the lay up period and maintains peak battery condition so that when you need it, the battery is ready to go. Useful if you intend to use the vehicle on that one, sunny and dry winter afternoon. Alternatively you could install a Dis-car-nect battery isolator so that the vehicle is immobilised. The battery however would sit idle and would no doubt require a full charge prior to use.



Tip 6 - Mechanical Checks

Leaving any car for a prolonged period of time inevitably leads to some mechanical issues later on when you come to use it again. Some simple, preventative maintenance can help alleviate these issues....a stitch in time! Leaving the handbrake off and the wheels chocked is probably the easiest step to take and avoids hours of work unseizing brake shoes! It's also worth greasing the regular lubrication points too, one less job to do in the spring! A service of engine mechanicals wouldn't go amiss here either but so long as the engine oil has been changed, the full service can probably wait.

Tip 7 - Antifreeze

The cold weather has been the bane of many a classic car in the past with cracked blocks, popped core plugs and burst radiators; all an unfortunate and potentially expensive result of poor maintenance. Check your antifreeze. If you want the ultimate peace of mind why not convert to waterless coolant? Don't forget to check the washer fluid tank too.



Tip 8 - Bodywork

Stone chips? Sadly they're a fact of life these days and a small stone chip in the summer can become an unsightly rust patch over the winter. A minute spent with a touch up paint brush in your hand can fix this before it becomes an issue. Once you've got the car painted up why not add an extra layer of protection and finish off with a hard coat of wax.



Tip 9 - Old Fuel

We've all been there in the spring time, trying to start a car on old fuel and it often feels abusive for the starter motor. The best solution is to run the car until the fuel tank is empty or indeed drain it. You may need to change the fuel filter come the spring time as you will have drawn all of the dirt from the bottom of the tank but at least you'll be able to add new fuel from a jerry can and strike up the engine first time come the spring. You will also reduce the chances of any ethanol erosion on the fuel hoses.

Tip 10 - Inspection

It's well worth taking the time to air the car periodically on dry days. If the car is in a garage, open the doors and allow the breeze to get in, around and underneath it. If your car is outside but under a cover it's even more important to do so. It's also a great time to consider what jobs you need to do so that the car is ready for the next season.





J.E.C. Essex Thameside region

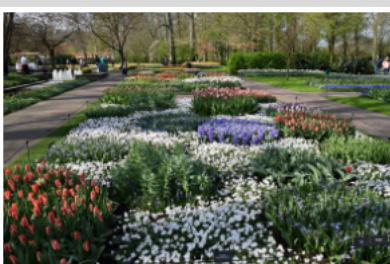
Spring in the Netherlands

6 days, 5 nights – Monday 15th to Saturday 20th April 2024
from approximately £495 per person
 (based upon 2 persons per car and sharing a twin/double room)



Spring is by far the best time to visit the Netherlands, when the tulips and other bulbs are in full bloom. At 79 acres, Keukenhof is one of the world's largest gardens with over 7 million bulbs, open for just two months each year. Also visit the Louwman Museum in The Hague, an amazing collection of over 200 unique cars including 'Genevieve' from the 1953 film, and the first ever petrol/electric hybrid dating from 1917. Other visits can include Kinderdijk, a UNESCO world heritage site with 19 large windmills, the Zaanse Schans living museum, the Beemster Polder, Amsterdam, Delft and other cities, plus a special scenic driving tour following the old rivers and canals of Holland.

We shall be taking the Harwich–Hook of Holland ferry and staying at the Van der Valk Hotel in Breukelen near Utrecht. For further details, please contact Steve Rider (srider@live.co.uk) or Neil Shanley (neilshanley@btinternet.com)





Among the standout classics was a jaw-dropping line-up of Ferraris. The Revival featured a spectacular display of prancing horses, including the iconic Ferrari 250 GTO, a car that many consider the Holy Grail of vintage automobiles. And rightly so. The GTOs weren't alone either; they were joined by some highly esteemed brethren including the Ferrari 250 SWB, 275 GTB, and 250 LM.

One of the many charming aspects of the Goodwood Revival is its pre-1966 car park, a place where classic car owners can park their treasures and join in the nostalgic celebration of motoring history. Walking through this area really does feel like strolling back in time

Goodwood Revival

The Goodwood Revival is renowned for its magnificent showcase of classic cars and 2023 was no exception. The event's ethos is to recreate the golden era of motorsport and the attention to detail is evident from the moment you step onto the hallowed grounds of the Goodwood Motor Circuit. The paddock area was a mesmerising sight, with an eclectic mix of classic automobiles, some of which are among the most valuable in the world. As always at Goodwood, the "access all areas" approach where you can chat to drivers and mechanics, gleaning gems of insider information, simply never gets old. Where else can you find out just how much brake wear to expect tracking a Bugatti Type 44?



and evokes peak nostalgia for a bygone age. The diversity of vehicles on display here is always astounding, ranging from '20s British roadsters to '60s American station wagons (that's estate cars for us Brits). There was even the odd (real, we were told) D-type sprinkled in too, and it's always a pleasure to meet a number of classic car owners at the event



But the event isn't just about cars; it's a celebration of all things vintage that, this year, included the incredible Carters steam fair whisking attendees back to a time when steam ruled the world. What made this steam fair truly special were the three functioning Fairmans engines that powered the rides, including the traditional chair-o-planes and steam boat swings. These magnificent machines added an amazing touch to the sounds and smells of the early evening atmosphere as we did our best not to embarrass ourselves on the dodgems.

One of the most eagerly anticipated events at the

Goodwood Revival is the St Mary's Trophy race, and the 2023 edition did not disappoint. What sets this race apart is the eclectic mix of drivers and cars it brings together. Imagine Formula One legends, Nascar champions, and Touring Car aces battling it out in a motley crew of vintage saloon cars (albeit with questionable originality in the engine bays) and you'll get a sense of the spectacle that is the St Mary's Trophy. The grid was a veritable who's who of motorsport, with names like Jenson Button, Tom Kristensen and Jimmie Johnson behind the wheel of classics such as the Austin A40, Jaguar Mk1, and Alfa Giulietta Ti. The racing was fierce and the cars showed remarkable agility and competitiveness despite their age, but we suspect there could be a serious challenge getting Historic Technical Passports for the cars. The race is a bit of a show but there is something quite spectacular about seeing these 60 year old pedestrian family saloons being driven so close to the edge.



While the St Mary's Trophy race showcased the talents of seasoned professionals, the Settrington Cup gave younger racers their moment in the spotlight. This unique event featured a grid of over 70 Austin J40 pedal cars, complete with period racing livery and a terrific attention to detail. Seeing the young drivers, some as young as six years old, navigate their tiny machines along the start finish straight was a fantastic and heartwarming sight. Hopefully it shows a real passion for motor sport more than very indulgent parents living vicariously through their offspring and that the future of classic racing is in capable hands. Time alone will tell.

The Goodwood Revival is more than just a motor racing event; it's a phenomenon that transports attendees to a bygone era where the spirit of motoring is celebrated with unmatched fervour. It's a place where the past comes alive, and where the love for cars, both big and small, transcends generations. If you're a motoring enthusiast or simply someone

who appreciates the beauty of automotive history, the Goodwood Revival is an event that should be on your bucket list. It's an experience that will leave you with memories to cherish and a deeper appreciation for the timeless allure of classic cars and motorsport. Whether its a hairdo from a traditional stylist or obtaining period attire to enhance your wardrobe, your needs can be met at the Revival.

Plans are already in full swing for next year's Goodwood Revival, which will be held from Friday 6th to Sunday 8th September 2024, and tickets will be available from late October 2023. Revival disciples at the club – Vaughn, Richard and Steve – are always available for further information if you are thinking of becoming a convert and attending.

With grateful thanks to Car & Classic for some of the attached photos and information.

Steve Rider





— CLASSIC & VINTAGE CAR CRAFTSMEN —

Family run restoration business with over 30 years' experience



Specialising in Jaguar, Bentley, Rolls Royce & Aston Martin

We offer a full, one stop shop for all aspects of maintenance & repair for your classic

Mechanical rebuilds, bespoke car upgrades & conversion, full engine & transmission rebuilds, body work/coachwork restoration, standard servicing, vehicle alignment, rust removal & repair, full body off restorations, performance & comfort upgrades, paint matching & application



TOLLESHUNT MAJOR, ESSEX

+44 (0)1621 869345 | info@ptclassics.co.uk | www.ptclassics.co.uk

Marine Life

A morning out for the Casual Drive Out Group

A message from member, Chris Skinner, alerted me to a breakfast meeting to be held at Bradwell Marina. I'd never been to Bradwell and the weather was fine so on Sunday morning, 8th October, the 420 and I drove over to the gathering.

Situated in the Blackwater Estuary, the marina has good access to France, Holland and Belgium amongst other countries further afield. Close to Maldon, Southminster and Chelmsford, it was home to RAF Bradwell Bay and the now-decommissioned nuclear power station – the buildings of which still stand, forming a significant landmark.

This morning meet was a relaxed affair and was well attended, including from our club: Lester Magness, Chris Skinner and his wife, Ray and Wanda Collins and the writer. Hot BMWs from the 80s and 90s abounded, as did a large contingent of expensive-looking motorcycles. Other “modern” machinery ranged from an Aston Martin to a McLaren 720S. Our group fielded: an MGB brought by Lester, Chris's red Mk II, my 420 and Ray's XJ6. Lester told us that the chap he bought the MG from had advertised it as an E-Type – should have gone to Specsavers!

Most vehicles were well presented, as can be seen from the '65 Mustang 289 which has been owned by the same person for some 30 years and was restored over 20 years ago. A beautifully-detailed VW Beetle Cabriolet was a stunner, as was an early Beetle-based Beach Buggy. The prize for the most outrageous car present must go to the 1950 Buick Eight finished in a sort of dark orange metallic paint. The car was mildly customised and fitted with a Low Rider kit. I loved the 1959 Cadillac rear light lenses.

There was the usual breakfast bar serving hot and cold food and drinks which was very welcome. A splendid way to spend a Sunday morning and maybe we'll do it again next year.

Neil Shanley





AJ SERVISING REPAIRS & LOGISTICS

Cars & Light Commercial Vehicles

The Moorings Garage, A127 Arterial Road,
Hornchurch, Essex RM11 3UB
Tel. 01708 692612
Email. repairs@ajservicing.co.uk • www.ajservicing.co.uk

CROWNLANDS GARAGE

FOR ALL YOUR MECHANICAL NEEDS INC: MOT, SERVICING, TYRES, DIAGNOSTIC & MORE...

ALL MECHANICAL WORK UNDERTAKEN

CROWNLANDS GARAGE
01277 364545
crownlands.garage@mail.com
A414 Chelmsford Road, High Ongar, CM5 9NW

Answers to last month's quiz

- 1) Pulp Fiction – John Travolta, Samuel L Jackson
- 2) Bewitched – Elizabeth Montgomery, Paul Lynde
- 3) Cagney & Lacey – Tyne Daly, Sharon Gless
- 4) Grease – Olivia Newton-John, John Travolta
- 5) Driving Lessons – Julie Walters, Rupert Grint
- 6) Hot Fuzz – Simon Pegg, Nick Frost
- 7) Mr Bean – Rowan Atkinson
- 8) Out of the Past – Robert Mitchum, Jane Greer
- 9) Identity Thief – Melissa McCarthy, Jason Bateman
- 10) National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation – Chevy Chase, Beverly d'Angelo
- 11) Psycho – Janet Leigh
- 12) La La Land – Ryan Gosling
- 13) Confessions of a Driving Instructor – Robin Asquith, Lynda Bellingham
- 14) Drive – Ryan Gosling, Oscar Isaac
- 15) Scent of a Woman – Al Pacino, Chris O'Donnell
- 16) Vera – Brenda Blethyn, Kenny Doughty

Nitrogen in tyres

Earlier in the summer several club members enjoyed an informative evening with Jet Wheels and Tyres at their Manor Road garage and fitting centre in Benfleet. Several demonstrations were witnessed of staff using much of the equipment on site to check wheel tracking, balancing and adjustment on a variety of vehicles.

Also discussed was the option for tyres, new and old, to be inflated with nitrogen rather than air. I was particularly interested in that option, as our F-type was about to make the regular pilgrimage down to Le Mans for the bi-annual classic. At a cost of £3 per wheel it wasn't an expensive option.

So what is the science behind the use of nitrogen-filled tyres? Is it just a 'fad' as, after all, air is about 80% nitrogen anyway? Or is there a real benefit?

It has certainly become more popular because of its use in professional racing, where it's reckoned that even the smallest changes in pressure can impact ultra-high vehicle performance at extreme speeds.

The main benefit of nitrogen-filled tyres is that the loss of tyre pressure is reported to be slower, because the nitrogen gas in the tyres escapes more slowly than air does. With more stable tyre pressure, the thinking goes, you will get better mileage from your fuel and better tyre life since you're always rolling on fully-inflated tyres.

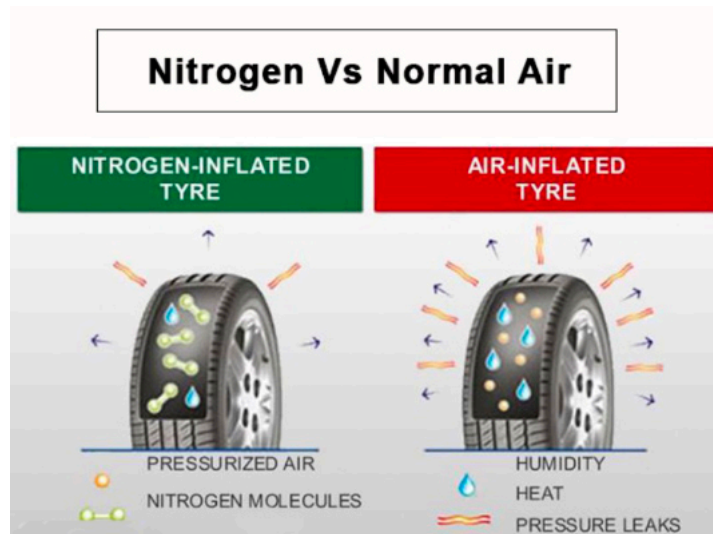
Small amounts of air naturally leak out of tyres over time, especially when tyres are subject to large temperature swings. When a tyre gets hot, the air inside it expands. The walls of a tyre are slightly porous and the added pressure pushes minute quantities of air out through the pores, so you occasionally have to top up the tyre even if it doesn't have a hole or puncture.

Nitrogen molecules are bigger than oxygen molecules, therefore it is harder for them to leak out. This means that a tyre filled with nitrogen will maintain air pressure for longer and, therefore, you

will be driving on tyres that remain properly inflated for longer, resulting in better fuel economy and longer tyre life.

Claims have also been made that nitrogen in tyres helps prevent 'tyre rot' by limiting the moisture that naturally occurs inside tyres and heads off the wheel corrosion that can be caused by contact with moisture. Nitrogen is reckoned to be a 'dry' gas compared to oxygen, and nitrogen-filled tyres don't generate as much moisture inside when tyres expand from heat friction and then contract when they cool.

Are they safe? Basically, yes, they are at least as safe as normally inflated tyres. Nitrogen isn't flammable and therefore won't cause a tyre to explode.



Will I get better fuel economy? Technically, you should always get better fuel economy on properly inflated tyres, whether they are filled with nitrogen or air. However, using nitrogen may help ensure that you tyres are properly inflated for longer.

Can I mix air and nitrogen in the tyres? The short answer is yes. There is no ill effect in topping up

nitrogen filled tyres with air, nor vice-versa. It won't cause any harm to your tyres, but it is somewhat less effective than just sticking to nitrogen.

So the nod was given to purge the wheels of air and replace it with nitrogen, which took around fifteen minutes and cost the princely sum of £12.

A further £3 was invested in the spare wheel for the F-space which is stored in the garage, as there isn't room onboard in the boot of the car. That is now filled with nitrogen as well in the belief, or hope, that it will stay fully inflated for longer.

Was it worth it? A spell of inclement weather just before embarking on the track at Le Mans with the F-type meant that a proper workout wasn't possible but, several months and a couple of thousand miles later, the tyre pressures are still holding up, so I haven't yet needed to take up Jet's offer of a free top-up whenever required.

Steve Rider

**SERVICING WITHOUT ANY HIDDEN DANGERS****JAGUAR****SERVICING FROM £299 FOR VEHICLES
OVER 3 YEARS OLD**

A Jaguar service should never come with any unexpected surprises. That's why we only use Jaguar Trained Technicians and Jaguar Genuine Parts at a fixed and competitive price. Because when it comes to Jaguar servicing and maintenance, we believe our customers deserve nothing less than 100% Jaguar.

Matthew Overall, Head of Business at Grange Jaguar Brentwood has offered the following to all fully paid up members of Area 33.

- 50% off normal labour rates for cars over 5 years old.
- Basic Oil Service with wash - £199. Collection of vehicle is chargeable but most can be completed while you wait.
- 10% off spares

Please mention your membership of Area 33 JEC when booking.

Grange Jaguar Brentwood

2 Brook Street, Brentwood, Essex CM14 5LU
01277 249500

www.grange.brentwood.jaguar.co.uk

Exclusions apply.

100% JAGUAR

SERVICING FOR VEHICLES
OVER 3 YEARS OLD



FIXED PRICE FROM £299



JAGUAR TRAINED TECHNICIANS



JAGUAR GENUINE PARTS



2 YEAR PARTS WARRANTY

