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BVAC News
August 2023

Club Activity

The dust may have settled after Thirlestane, but that doesn't mean the club has gone to sleep. The most important piece of news is that we have set the date for next year's show. We're returning to our traditional date of the first Sunday in June, which means the big day will be **Sunday 2nd June 2024**. If we're going to make that happen, we need to recruit for some big jobs and lots of smaller ones. We only just had enough volunteers to put on this year's show, indeed many of them did much more than we can reasonably expect and while this was much appreciated, we really need to get more of our members involved in the organisation of the 2024 show. Please give some thought to helping out and speak to any committee members who can give you more details – all offers large or small are welcome!

In July we had our usual breakfast meet at Milestone on the 9th, with a turnout of thirty plus cars becoming the norm these days, while on the 19th several of us enjoyed a lunch (also at Milestone) before a pleasant run through the Borders back roads finishing at Bonchester





Bridge Care Centre where many of the residents turned out to see the cars and

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reminisce about their past motoring experiences. The care home is in the former Weens House, in a pretty rural setting just outside Bonchester Bridge.

We also got out and about to other clubs' shows this month and I must say after Thirlestane it's very relaxing just to turn up and enjoy the day. Several cars travelled to Chillingham on 2nd July where a tractor parade along the skyline was a novel feature.







On the 23rd, we'd a good turnout at the Scottish Bus Museum at Lathalmond near Dunfermline. This was the first time we'd visited this show and it was an excellent day out with plenty to see and do. As well as the cars, we could see both the display and workshop areas of the bus museum. There's also a railway museum which shares the site and there were chances to take a short trip on either the narrow gauge steam railway or ride in a guard's van behind a diesel shunter on the main track. Due to the distance and the fast roads, it was understandable that none of our members brought pre-war cars but it was disappointing that there were no older cars at all at the show. Otherwise an excellent day out and hopefully a feature for the calendar in future years.





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Unfortunately, we didn't get a call this year from the Border Union Show so although there were several BVAC members in attendance, none were showing their cars.

Looking Forward



August has no fewer than four shows where BVAC will be putting in an appearance. The first is the Berwickshire County Show at Duns this Saturday, August 5th. This is a country show with an entry of classic cars which has grown year on year so this year there are 42 cars entered, 25 of them from BVAC. It makes a great day out even if you haven't entered your car, so come along and join in the fun.

On Sunday 13th, there are three options although entries have already closed for two of them. The long-established Biggar Vintage Rally has entries limited to pre-1980 cars, while the new show at Ford & Etal in Northumberland has no such restrictions. If you haven't entered for one of the shows, you don't need to book to come along to our breakfast meet at the Milestone Garden Centre in Newtown St Boswells from 10am and you could always go on to support one of the shows afterwards if you like.



Two weeks later, on Sunday 27th, it's 'Carhailes' at the National Trust for Scotland property at Newhailes House on the outskirts of Musselburgh. Now in its third year, this has proved to be a very popular show and once again BVAC has gained the prime site in front of the house. Entries have already closed but if you missed out it might be worth contacting Dennis Fortune (clubstandentries@bvac.org.uk) in case anyone withdraws.

Looking further ahead, entries are still open via the website or by contacting Dennis at the above email address for the last show of the season at Brunton Airfield in Northumberland on Sunday 22nd October. There's always lots to see there, even if the weather can be a little challenging that late in the year. By the way, thanks to the eagle eyed readers who spotted the mistake in last month's BVAC News – the date is the 22nd, not the 23rd as it said last time.

We're planning to mount a car treasure hunt this autumn, something we haven't been able to do for the last few years. Most news to come as soon as we can firm up the details.

Trolley Jack Wanted

John Littlewood is looking to buy a small/medium size trolley jack. If anyone has one that's surplus, drop John an email at charleston2cv@gmail.com.



A Feast for the Ears



More and more these days cars tend to hum rather than roar, either due to excellent silencing or because they're electric. Before Jaguar go all-electric, the soundtrack of the Jaguar F-Type V8 has been recorded and lodged with the British Library so future generations can enjoy the noise. Listen at Jaguar's website here.

How Very Ordinary!



Most of us go to car shows to see exceptional cars or if we're lucky, to show off our exceptional car. Last weekend saw a very different kind of car show at Grimsthorpe Castle, Lincolnshire, FOTU, the Festival of the Unexceptional where people go to show off the very ordinary cars of years past. Don't think of bringing your Ferrari, but if you've got a Cortina or a Metro or even something less common but undoubtedly ordinary – a Yugo or a

Trabant for example – this is the show for you. The only qualification is that your car must have been built between 1968 and 1998 and be as plain as possible. Top prize in the international "Concours d'Ordinaire" went to a Daihatsu Applause from Sweden followed by a British Metro and a Dutch Subaru Justy – all suitably ordinary, but it must be said extremely well presented. There's a full report online here.

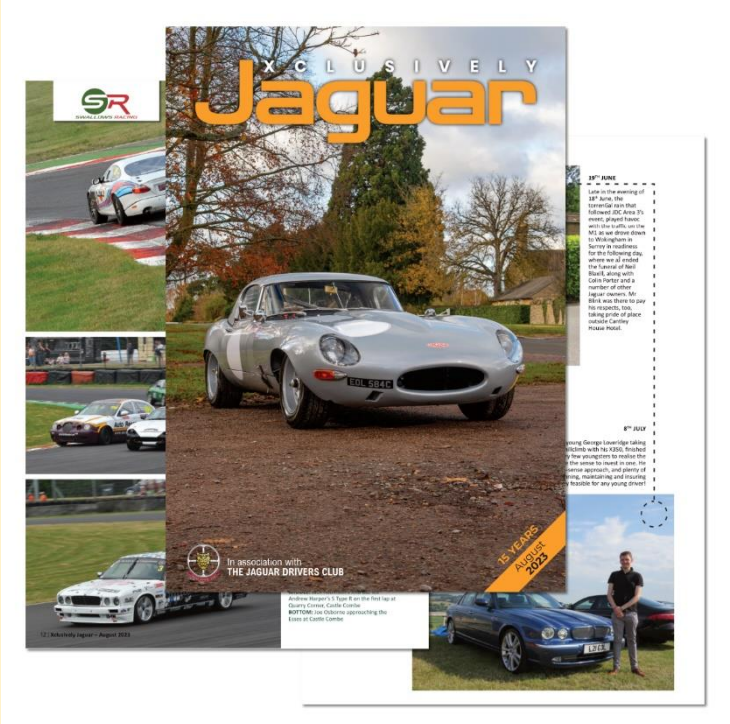
Xclusively Jaguar Magazine August 2023 from Letitia Mace

I say it every year …. I cannot believe that Xclusively Jaguar is another year older! 11th August 2023 marks the 15th anniversary of the very first Xclusively Jaguar newsletter.

A lot has changed since then, not only have we moved from being a newsletter, published online only, but we now boast a proper online e-magazine in flip-page format, downloadable as a pdf for those who prefer this format. Our biggest move forward has been the publication of our monthly magazine in hard copy format, for those who prefer to read and/or collect a proper magazine!

To celebrate the development and growth of Xclusively Jaguar we have included highlights from our early newsletters, before they are lost forever on now defunct websites. We start with August 2009, the very earliest surviving newsletter!

If any of our long-term readers have printed and kept any of the earlier newsletters, dating from August 2008, we would love to hear from you! I am always surprised and delighted to hear from old friends who have been reading "Xclusively Jaguar" since its inception!



This month we also welcome a new sponsor….. The Allanton Inn, near Duns. Plus, we have added an extra 4 pages per issue, going forward, which means that in 3 years *Xclusively Jaguar Magazine* has doubled in size! We think this is a good way to celebrate the 15th year of Xclusively Jaguar!

You will find the latest issue of Xclusively Jaguar magazine (along with all back issues) at https://www.xclusivelyjaguar.org/
Contact Letitia Mace via 07836 68 78 98 or Letitia@xclusivelyjaguar.org for more information or if you have any problems accessing the new website

Until next month, Happy Motoring!

Looking for a Good Samaritan

I've been contacted by Neil Macaulay who entered Thirlestane with his white MG roadster NSL 130P. Unfortunately, he had a problem with it and needed a tow start at the end of the afternoon. Someone with a white flatbed transporter came to his rescue, but with the need to keep the MG running once it was started he didn't manage to say thanks. Neil would like to get in touch to thank his rescuer properly so if anyone knows who it might be, please let me know and I'll make the contact.

That's all this month, thanks to Chris Biggs, Fred Magill and Tim Jackson for providing photos of club activities. If you've anything you'd like to see published next month, contact me at entries@bvac.org.uk or at the phone number below.

Clear Roads,

David