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BVAC News December 2025

Thirlestane Castle Show – 2026 and Beyond

The future of our annual Thirlestane Castle Extravaganza Show was discussed at the Club's recent AGM. As a result, your BVAC Committee is now carrying out an urgent review into the future format and organisation of the Show.

The Show has enjoyed a very successful run over the past few decades, during which time the event has continually grown, both in terms of vehicle entries and excited members of the public coming through the gates. It has become one of the biggest classic car shows in the UK.

This very success has, however, necessitated a review designed to ensure we can maintain and improve the quality of all that is on offer at the event. The principal factor lying behind the need for such a review is the fact that several long-standing Committee members have now retired from the Committee after many years of outstanding service – for which we sincerely thank them. Without their collective experience and knowledge, however, the Committee feels that we do not currently have the human resources necessary to plan, organise and carry out a successful Show worthy of the high quality reputation we have built up over the years - at least until new, enthusiastic Committee members come on board and can gain the necessary experience.

So, while our review is on-going, a decision has been taken not to hold the event in its current format in 2026, but to take the time to thoroughly examine every aspect of putting the Show together so that we can come back 'bigger and better' in 2027 and beyond.

Part of the review is how we can improve the way we present ourselves to members, potential future members and the public in general. In direct response to feedback received from you through the recent Members' survey carried out by Philip Weiss, we will be looking at revamping the Club website, making much more effective use of social media channels and looking also at improving the quality of the equipment and display items we use at various shows and events throughout the year. We continue to welcome any ideas you may have: this is your Club and we want to hear from you.

 Contact – Editor: David Hunter editor@bvac.org.uk; Secretary: Kenny Wilson 01896 849597

Instead of the Extravaganza event, for the first weekend in June 2026 we are excited to be planning a smaller, more informal event aimed at attracting as many car enthusiasts as possible from the Borders and Lothian, especially younger people who, as we all know, represent the future of the classic car movement. This alternative event will be in the style of several very successful "Coffee & Chat" events held throughout the country. Planning is at an early stage – further details to follow in the New Year - but we will be encouraging owners of cherished vehicles of all ages (both the owners and their cars!) to come along and meet fellow enthusiasts. There will be no formal "Concours" judging, just enthusiasts and their cars.

Call for New Helpers and Committee Members

I wish to assure you that the BVAC is in good health, both in terms of number of members and our finances. So, we understand that this decision around Thirlestane '26 will cause some disappointment. As I say, it is our intention to come back in '27. But for that to happen, we urgently need new, maybe younger members to come on to the Committee. Surveys by the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs clearly show that more younger people than ever across the UK are car enthusiasts, often owning cherished cars from more modern times. These are the people we need to take the BVAC on to the next phase of its success in future years.

Every member of the BVAC has a role to play in helping us find the new people we need, either by volunteering yourself or tapping potential volunteers on the shoulder. Please give this your urgent consideration: the future of the BVAC depends on it.

Keith Watson

BVAC Chairman

Milestone





We had another good turnout of cars of all shapes, sizes and eras at the November Milestone breakfast meet as these photos show. I usually refrain from commenting on individual cars, letting the pictures speak for themselves. However, the unusual signwriting on the side of Alistair & Yvonne Skinner's 2CV has a story behind it. If you were expecting a baby at home in

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Belgium fifty-plus years ago, a mobile midwife would rush to help as fast as 435cc could carry her! Yes, it's not even as powerful as the 2CVs imported to this country which boasted 602cc like the one below. For the non-linguists amongst us, Google translate says the inscription on the door is "White & Yellow Cross – Home Care". How many of us knew that the three-wheeler below is a Carver? Ian McKain's latest acquisition is as rare as it is unusual.



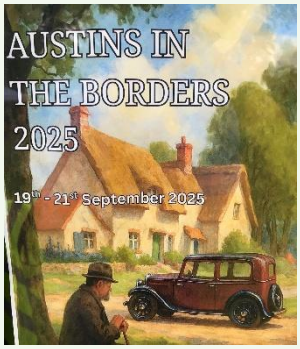






The December meeting is on the 14th. Come along from 10am at the Milestone Garden Centre, Newtown St Boswells and if you can't make that, remember it's the second Sunday of every month so join us another time. **The centre management have asked us to park as many cars as possible is the concrete loading bay area before occupying the main car park spaces.**





Austins in the Borders

As promised last month, here are pictures Philip Kearney has sent in from the 'Austins in the Borders' event which took place back in September. Philip writes: "The event was organised by the Scottish Vintage Austin Enthusiasts Club and held over 3 days, 19th - 21st September at Melrose. The Saturday event was a scenic run from

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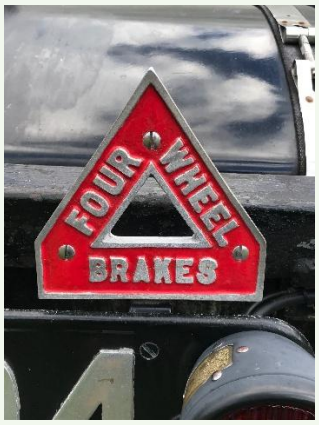
Melrose to Moffat (sorry, I wasn't there, so no photos) and then a static show on the Sunday at the Greenyards, Melrose. In addition to the vintage Austins, other cars were welcomed and included a 1959 Morris Minor, 2 Rover P4's and an Alvis."





















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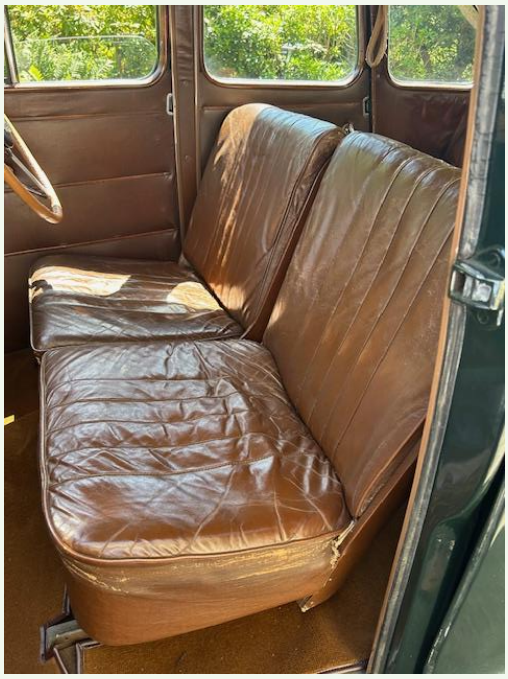


Cars for Sale

Austin A40 Devon GS2 Adrian Kendal



This amazing survivor was first registered on the 02 01 51 . And is only showing an incredible 31000 miles although this is supported by the mot history and the general original condition and some paperwork. One has to draw their own conclusion. I personally believe that it is true. The car is in wonderful original unrestored condition. It was obviously resprayed some time ago in the same original colour. It was a good job with a nice deep shine and just one or two minor marks. I have added a new quality carpet set and an electric fuel pump to aid starting and avoid needing to prime it after it's been sat a while the original pump and primer is still in place should anyone wish to go back to the original but the rest remains as it left the factory. With excellent Chrome (front overriders in boot) undamaged original cloth headlining and a lovely patina on the undamaged leather seats. The door cards, instruments and interior fittings all remain in good condition. Including the original suppliers label on the dashboard. The car has NO rust (see pics of door bottoms etc.) and remains in excellent condition. This is not a concourse car, but a substantially original car in really excellent condition. It has just been serviced after several long trips this year. One of nearly 300 miles. It also took part in the Bonhams sponsored JIMMY GUTHRIE MEMORIAL RUN. Previously it has had a replacement new old stock Lucas rectifier box fitted and a stainless steel exhaust installed and a set of radial tyres. Also flashing indicators have been fitted in the interest of safety. Although the trafficators are still there. Needless to say, the car runs extremely well. With perky performance from the sweet running engine that shows excellent oil pressure. a smooth slick changing gearbox and reassuringly good brakes. It very happily keeps up with modern traffic on the Scottish roads. And has been known to venture out onto the motorway! (in the slow lane!) to sum up the car is light and easy to drive. Good starting and I would drive it anywhere it even has a heater! The only thing





that the car possibly needs is the rubber seals round the doors replacing. As can be seen in the photos they have perished. I have not replaced them as surprisingly they are not Draughty, and if I replace them, it would spoil the originality. Obviously, it's a matter of choice!

Asking price £7500, contact Adrian on 07966 518761 or armykilt@icloud.com – more pictures on request.

Jaguar XK Rob Jenner

- 2006 Jaguar XK 4.2 Convertible
- stunning condition, no faults, no warning lights
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- Full spec car with all the toys
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Contact Rob on 07747 130139 rob@xclusivelyjaguar.org.





More pictures overleaf…









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Unexpectedly available, safe, secure and dry storage covered by CCTV for one classic car, or two bikes. Located close to Reston, easy access from the A1. Please contact Rob Jenner for more details – 07747130139 rob@xclusivelyjaguar.org.

Wedding Car from Geoffrey Minter



Friends of ours have a wedding locally on 27th June next year and would like a really nice vintage/classic car for the occasion. Is there such a car and willing driver in the club? If so, please could you let me know? ghm@minternational.co.uk 07909 447832

Xclusively Jaguar Magazine December

from Letitia Mace

Welcome to the December 2025 issue of Xclusively Jaguar Magazine!

Xclusively Jaguar takes a new direction next year, so in this, the final magazine of 2025 we take a brief look back at some of the most impressionable and important events that have taken place in the last 17 years.

It is merely a random snapshot, with perhaps many other important events overlooked, and before we move on, a final word from Ian Cooling (Jaguar Automobilia) ….



"Hi Letitia,
Warmest congratulations on your world scoop with the X100-MP 19 articles!
Very well-deserved indeed!
I've been on the fringes of both the Jaguar world and also the world of publications long enough to know just how much of a scoop this is!"

We will still be supporting our sponsors, so don't forget to …..

SAVE THE DATES FOR 2026!
Saturday 11th July and Sunday 12th July 2026
The Jaguar Drivers Club 70th anniversary celebrations at Brooklands Museum in Surrey have the advantage of following on directly from Goodwood Festival of Speed on Thursday 9th July and Friday 10th July, making it possible for members to take a break and enjoy the two events back to back!
For more information visit Jaguar Drivers Club

IMPORTANT NOTICE – CHANGE OF DATE!
Due to a clash with another event, Nigel Webb's event at The Mike Hawthorn Museum will now be held on Saturday 1st August and Sunday 2nd August 2026 (one week earlier than previously advertised)
More details can be found in this issue of Xclusively Jaguar magazine or by contacting Letitia Mace at Letitia@XclusivelyJaguar.org

In the meantime we would like to wish all of our readers, sponsors and supporters a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year !!

Amongst all of this there should be some good reading!
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!

Nostalgia Corner

As usual, Fred Magill has provided some interesting nostalgic material. I'm not sure the idea of German policemen in BMW Isettas was to be taken very seriously sixty-odd years ago, and it certainly raises a smile nowadays!



There may be similar wry smiles at Wolseley's description of the 1500 as 'high performance', but I guess it could outrun one of the German policemen!



Meanwhile we can only hope that BL's reputation for quality control issues in the 1970s hadn't reached the Netherlands or they were unlikely to sell many Marinas there.



Happy Christmas and clear roads,

David, editor@bvac.org.uk



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