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BVAC News
January 2024

Happy New Year to all our members!



Club News

There's not a lot to report for December as the Christmas Dinner at the beginning of the month sneaked into the last BVAC News, but we did manage a decent turnout for our Milestone breakfast meet. Inevitably at this time of year quite a few classics are laid up for the winter, but there were still a good number of interesting cars to see.





 Contact – Editor: David Hunter 018907 61710; Secretary: Kenny Wilson 01896 849597





The January date will be Sunday 14th – I'm sure most of you know the score, but for the benefit of new members or anyone who hasn't been before, we meet in the car park of the Milestone Garden centre on the second Sunday of every month from around 10am. No need to book, just turn up and look for the older cars in the car park. Bring your classic if you can but if you can't, you're welcome to come by modern car, bicycle, horse or whatever! The postcode for satnav users is TD6 0PL.

2024 BVAC Classic

BVAC CLASSIC
Festival of Motoring
THIRLESTANE CASTLE
2nd JUNE 2024

Our annual show at Thirlestane this year will be on Sunday June 2nd and the theme is 'The American Dream', so while as usual we extend a warm welcome to the widest possible range of vehicles, there will be a special emphasis on Americana. We'll mark the 60th anniversary of the launch of the Ford Mustang and make a special feature of all American cars from the Model T to modern Muscle Cars. Owners are encouraged to dress to complement their vehicles!

Your chance to enter you car will be available on the website in the next week or so and runs up to the closing date of April 21st. As last year, there is no entry fee for club members and you have the choice either to enter your car to be judged in the age-related concours class or join fellow club members on the club stand near the ring and the hospitality tent. The latter is non-competitive and aims to show the public the diversity of vehicles run by club members – it's 'Class 16' on the entry form.

A Gentle Reminder

BVAC membership subscriptions for 2024 are due. If you haven't renewed, please do so soon. The required form can be downloaded here. Any queries about membership should go to Kenny Wilson at secretary@bvac.org.uk or the phone number below. If you're a new members who joined at or after the 2023 show, your membership is already valid to the end of 2024.

The Car's the Star!



If your Christmas viewing included 'Murder is Easy', the latest Agatha Christie adaptation on BBC, you may have recognised that much of it was shot in the East Lothian village of Tyninghame. Not only that, but prominent amongst the several period cars featured was club member Ian Lindley's green MG TD. It 'belonged' to Major Horton, played by Douglas Henshall. If you missed it or want to check back to see the car, you can find it on iPlayer.



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Electric Adventure



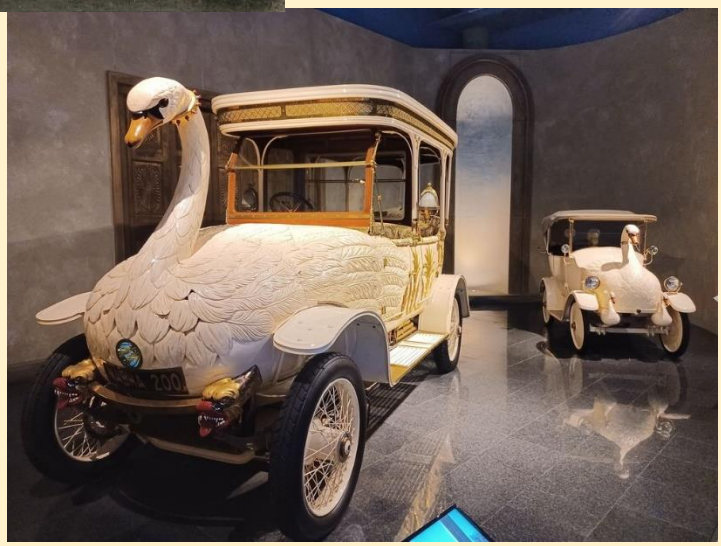
As enthusiasts for classic motoring, we may not be inclined to adopt the latest technology and I know the subject of electric cars can lead to heated discussion. We have some members who've gone hybrid or all-electric for their daily drivers, while others remain sceptical of their practicality for long distance motoring. Against that background, this news item caught my attention recently – an Aberdeen couple have driven the entire distance from pole to pole in an electric Nissan. More details here.

Is it a Car? Is it a Bird?



Fred Magill can always be relied upon to find interesting classic car items online and he's come up trumps this month by sending me an article from the Indian online classic car magazine deRivaz and Ives.

It concerns an eccentric Scotsman, Robert Nicholl Matthewson, who was resident in Calcutta in the early years of last century. In 1909 he commissioned an English company to build a car in the shape of a swan and this is the result. You can read the whole story here, and if you want to see the actual car, it still exists in the Louwman Museum in the Netherlands where it sits next to 'the cygnet', a smaller swan car built a few years later.



Images: Louwman Museum & Gautam Sen

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Xclusively Jaguar Magazine January 2024 from Letitia Mace

Happy New Year to all of our subscribers and anyone new who is reading this for the first time!

Twenty years ago in January 2004 I bought my first Jaguar "JCP". She set me on the path that has led me to where I am now, so this month, as we see the final instalment of Andy Harvey's restoration of an XJ-S V12, I begin a new series about the Jaguars I have owned in the past.



Our regular "Looking Back" feature takes us to December 2009 when there was quite a heavy snowfall in the Scottish Borders and Rob Jenner, who was a regular reader and contributor to Xclusively Jaguar, sent me some pictures of Jaguars in the snow at his home. Little did I know that a few years later I would be living there myself and taking my own pictures of Jaguars in the snowy Scottish Borders!

A poignant thought, as none of us know what is before us. Earlier this year we were marvelling at the energy of our 80 year old friend, Terry Young whose youthful good looks defied his age. Along with his wife Marilyn, Terry participated with great gusto in all of our Jaguar events when suddenly illness struck from nowhere and he was given just 2 months to live. This time last year he was planning his next trip to Shetland and now, for us, a Christmas funeral is sadly becoming quite the norm.

We hastily move our thoughts to the coming year. Xclusively Jaguar will be hosting another Tea 'n' Torque event at Scott Brown Cars in Reston, details of which are in this issue of Xclusively Jaguar magazine. This event is open to owners of all interesting cars, but we hope to see a good proportion of Jaguars and Daimlers on the day.

Finally, after all the shows were over for the 2023 season I began to catch up, so this issue sees a look back at the JDHT event held at Gaydon on 2nd September. Tying neatly in with this are John Wilson's memories of a lunchtime meeting with Tony Rolt, whose family, along with those of Duncan Hamilton, were invited to Gaydon and interviewed at the above show.

Amongst all of this there should be some good reading for when Christmas is over and it's time to wind down before we begin planning for the events of 2024!

Happy New Year from 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

That's all for this month, I hope to see you all soon.

Happy New Year and clear roads,

David

entries@bvac.org.uk