BVAC News
July 2023

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Thirlestane Success!



Glorious weather and a great turnout of cars, owners and the public at Thirlestane on Sunday 18th June meant the 2023 BVAC Festival of Motoring was a huge success. The centenary of the MG was marked with a lineup of MG models in front of the castle covering 84 of the 100 years along with dozens more MGs dotted around the showground. The public were entertained not just with parades of cars in the ring but also exciting displays of BMX bike riding, the Hawick Scouts Pipe Band, the off-road cars of the Hill Rally, the funfair and a variety of other entertainments which added up to a great day out for all the family. Final attendance figures are not in yet, but it seems we attracted over 6500 visitors, well up on the typical pre-covid numbers.

The team of judges had a hard time deciding on winners from such a well-presented entry, but the top prize went deservedly to George Muir from Fife with his immaculate 1926

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Vauxhall, while it was fitting this year that the best club stand was awarded, not for the first time, to the MG Car Club Caledonian Centre. The Karmann Ghia Owners Club were holding their international rally in the Borders and brought along several of these attractive Volkswagen coupes and cabriolets from all over Europe, including a gentleman who'd driven from Barcelona – a clear winner for our long haul prize! A full list of winners is below.

The Sporting Bears raised over £2700 for children's charities by offering rides in a variety of exotic cars and several local organisations that provided volunteers to help on the day will also benefit from contributions. While on the subject of charity donations, the donation box in the BVAC hospitality tent raised £205 for Alzheimer Research – well done to Daphne, Pauline and their helpers for keeping us fed and raising funds at the same time.

An event on this scale is a huge effort to put on and thanks must go to our sponsors, particularly lead sponsor Thomson Quarries, to the team from Thirlestane Castle and especially to the volunteers who put in the hours in planning, setting up and dismantling the site and running things on the day. You know who you are and we couldn't do it without you! It was a team effort, but we must mark the contribution of David Webster who has managed the site preparation in recent years.

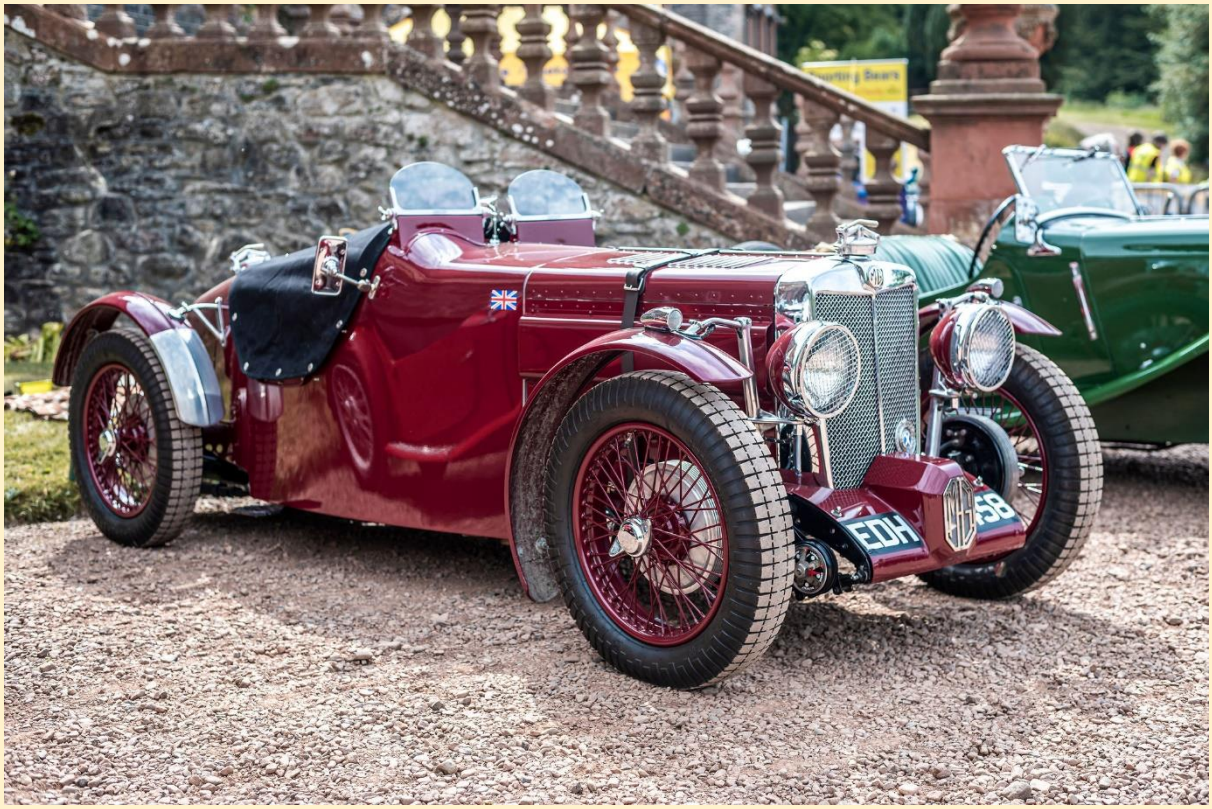


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David has moved away from the area but came back to run the site for one last time this year. We all appreciate his efforts and he was a deserving winner of the Chairman's Cup this year. Thank you, David!



Ridgeline Prints had a team of photographers on site all day taking some marvellous pictures of the cars and the action. They have provided us with the illustrations you see here and some that will appear on our website and social media. You can view their whole portfolio at https://ridgelineprints.pixieset.com/bvacclassicthirlestanecastle2023/ and prints are for sale.



Inevitably, not everything runs smoothly and there are always things that can be improved. Late delivery of the hardware and poor connectivity restricted our ability to take card payments at the gate and the thorny problems of traffic management and parking grow as we attract more spectators.

We're already looking forward to next year when the decision has been taken to revert to our traditional date of the first Sunday in June, avoiding confliction with the Jimmy Guthrie Run in Denholm. We need to recruit a team to put on that show with some key roles falling vacant

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next year. Joining the team is a great way for new (and not so new!) members to get involved and get to know people in the club, and while there's a lot to do, many hands make light work.

B.V.A.C Trophy Winners 2023

Pre 1940's Cars	**G.Muir**	**1926 Vauxhall 30/98**
1940-59 Cars	**G.Wright**	**1959 MGA**
1960'S Cars	**B.Gill**	**1968 Rover 2000 TC**
1970's Cars	**W.Dunsmore**	**1972 MG Midget**
1980's Cars	**P.Stevenson**	**1984 Triumph Acclaim CD**
1990's Cars	**J. Kelly**	**1993 Rover 216 Cabriolet**
Veteran & Vintage Motorcycles		**No Awards**
Classic Motorcycles	**R.Davidson**	**1939 Royal Enfield Model A**
Commercials	**J. Newton**	**Leyland Fleetline Bus**
Agricultural	**T Myatt**	**1955 Ferguson TE 20**
Military Vehicles	**S.McAulay**	**1956 Keyser Jeep Reo**
Kit Cars	**E.Phillips**	**1987 Austin Mini**
American Cars	**G.Armstrong**	**1959 Ford Edsel Ranger**
Interesting Vehicles	**D.Kemp**	**2000 Honda Prelude Vti**
Best B.V.A.C Members Car	**K.Wilson**	**1969 Triumph Herald 13/60**
Best One Make Club	**MG Car Club Caledonian Centre**	
Long Haul Award	**J.Rivas, Barcelona, Spain**	**Karmann Ghia Cabriolet**
Best Amateur Restoration	**B.Blackwood**	**Ford Fiesta XR2 Turbo Technics**
Best Dressed with Vehicle	**H Wells and Family**	**1962 Triumph Herald 12/50**
Captains Choice	**S.Brown**	**1925 Rolls Royce 20 hp.**
Best In Show	**G.Muir**	**1926 Vauxhall 30/98**
Chairman's Cup	**D.Webster**	

Club Events

It's certainly true that Thirlestane has dominated club activity in June, but there was something on every weekend. The regular breakfast meet at Milestone on Sunday 11th produced a varied turnout of around thirty cars, proving the continued popularity of these informal meetings. Dennis Fortune has provided a comprehensive update on our visits to other clubs' shows which is below with additional photos from Kenny Wilson. **Note that the entry deadline for Lathalmond is imminent!**

There are two other events in July:

- Sunday 9th will be our regular meet at Milestone Garden Centre, Newtown St Boswells. For anyone who hasn't been before, it's totally informal - just turn up from 10 o'clock

until around midday for car chat in the car park and coffee or more in the Greenhouse Café.

- Wednesday 19th will see a scenic run out after lunch at Milestone to the Bonchester Bridge Care home. We've done similar events in the past which have proved very popular allowing the residents to indulge in some nostalgia with the older cars. Numbers are limited, so contact Chris Biggs (chrisjbiggs@btinternet.com) if you'd like to come along.

Club Stands Update from Dennis Fortune

Sunday 4th June saw our club stand at **Bo'ness** with 11 cars on display in a spacious area close to the front of Kinneil House where our members enjoyed the day chatting amongst ourselves and enjoying the sunshine. Although a fair distance and an early start meeting at Carfraemill for 8.30am, it's definitely one to consider for next year.





The weekend after our own show saw us attending the **Moffat** show on Sunday 25th June where we had a nice selection of 10 cars on display, although this was a little bit disappointing since we originally had 18 entries for the show with only two members notifying that they would not be able to attend. In addition, although the weather started off dry as the day went on the rain clouds appeared and just after lunchtime the heavens opened and in the end the show came to a premature close around 3.00pm.





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Forthcoming shows start this weekend on Sunday 2nd July when we will have a club display at **Chillingham**, near Wooler where we currently have 12 entries from club members, however, if you fancy coming along then it's not too late as there is no closing date and you can just turn up on the day, but if you do want to come along then just send a quick e-mail to Dennis at clubstandentries@bvac.org.uk and he will send you final instructions for the day.

Recently we were made aware of a classic car show at the **Scottish Vintage Bus Museum** at Lathalmond just outside Dunfermline to be held on 23rd July and to date we have 9 entries going along. The closing date for this is the end of the week so there's still time if you fancy a visit to the Vintage Bus Museum just let Dennis know by mid-day on Friday 30th June so that final numbers can be sent to the organisers.

On the 29th July the **Border Union Show** takes place in Springwood Park, Kelso, where last year we were invited at short notice to put on a display of cars to fill show space not taken up by traders. The day was a great success with a good selection of cars and lots of interest from the public. As of now we have not been contacted but if we were to be invited again then the club would certainly be interested an e-mail would be sent out to all members during second or third week of July to advise of the requirements.

August is a busy month for shows starting with the **Berwickshire Show** at Duns on the 5th August and you can enter online at https://bvac.org.uk/events/category/club-visits-car-shows/ for this ever popular show but please note the closing date for entries is 14th July. Following the same link you will also find the show details for the Albion Trust show at Biggar but please note here that the closing date is Friday 30th June and you should also be aware that vehicles registered post 1980 will not be able to participate in the show.

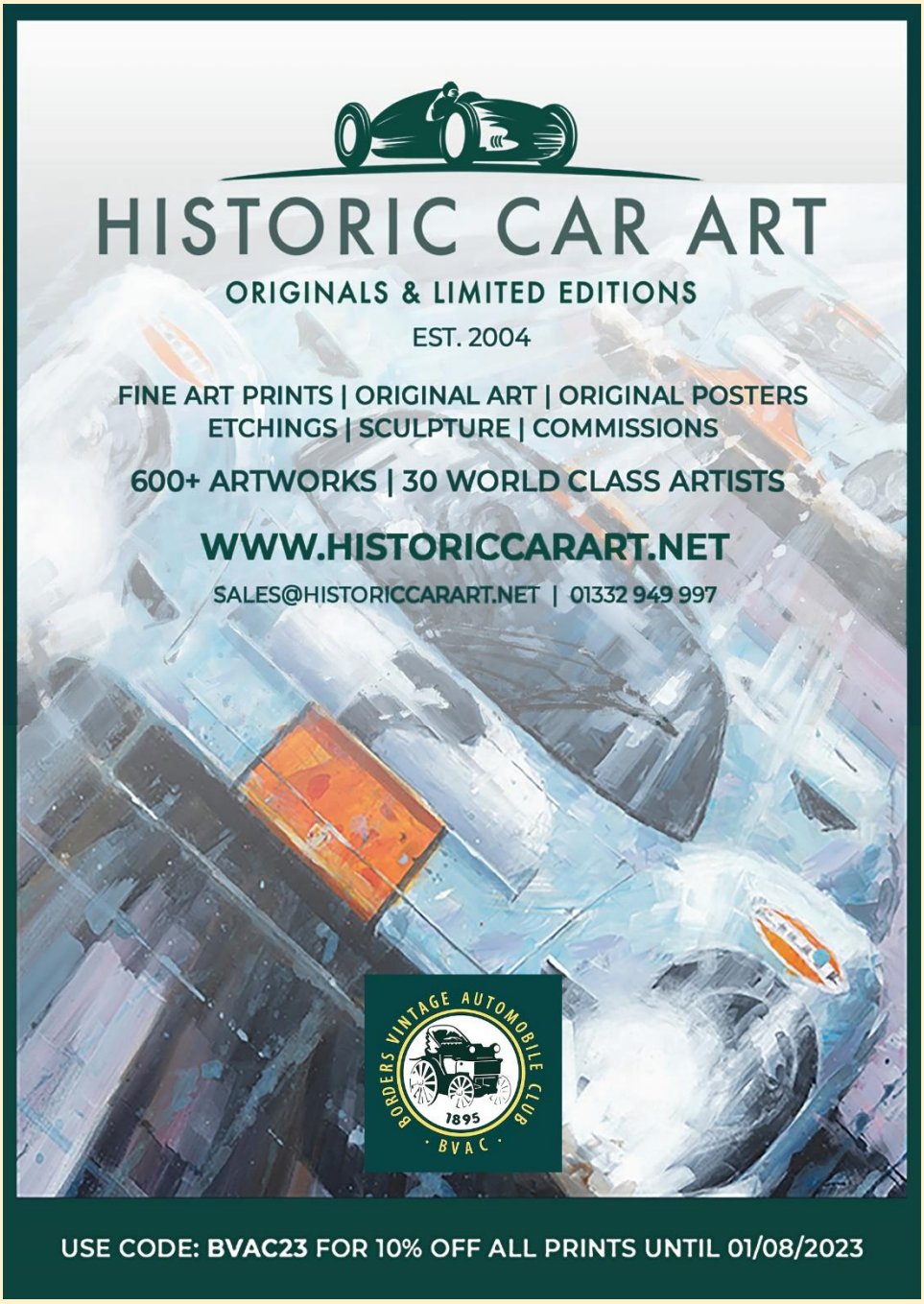
Newhailes House, run by the National Trust for Scotland, is again hosting its **Carhailes** classic car show on Sunday 27th August and we have already confirmed 26 members cars will be on display. However, if you missed this then there is still chance to participate for a handful of members as we have again been given the large lawn area in front of the house and we could squeeze in a few more cars, so if interested just drop Dennis an e-mail (as above) to find out more.

As always, the last show of the year is at **Brunton** Airfield to be held on the 23rd October and again you can access details and the online entry form all on the club website and the closing date for entries is 15th September.

Finally, we have also been invited to a couple of village fairs at **Cardrona** and **Scremerston**, both to be held on 6th August, but due to clashes with other events we will not be putting on a club display. However, if anyone is interested in going along then get in touch with Dennis and he will be able to pass on the organisers contact details.

Historic Car Art

You may have seen artistic prints on sale at Thirlestane, some dramatic, some amusing. If you fancy one to hang on your wall, the company have offered us a discount on any purchases until 1st August.



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Beamish Event



Many of you will have visited the marvellous open-air museum at Beamish, just south of Newcastle. It's certainly well worth a trip at any time of the year, but last weekend was a special one for fans of the pre-war Morris. The Morris Register held what has now become an established annual event where members can take their cars into the museum to add to the period scene. After a briefing by museum staff (strict 12mph speed limit, give way to buses, trams and wayward pedestrians) we were free to drive our cars round the site, along the early 20th century High Street, past the 1950s town (still under construction) and the 1940s farm and down to the pit village. There was a parade of almost thirty Morrises from the 1920s, 30s and 40s at one o'clock, but otherwise we were free to drive around at will, park in front of the Co-op and look into the meticulously reconstructed 1912 garage which boasts a 'brand new' Renault in the showroom. It was a wonderful event to be part of and even if you aren't the owner of a suitable Morris, it would still make a great day out. Watch out for it being advertised next year.









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Xclusively Jaguar Magazine July 2023 from Letitia Mace

IMPORTANT: New email address

If you have sent me an email **on or after 14th June** and not received a response, please re-send/forward your original message to me at the new email address below.

PLEASE DELETE ALL OLD EMAIL ADDRESSES YOU HAVE FOR ME IN ORDER TO SAVE ANY CONFUSION IN THE FUTURE

New Email Address: Letitia@xclusivelyjaguar.org

(Xclusively Jaguar is one word and begins with X, not E)

New website address!

https://www.xclusivelyjaguar.org/

This replaces our former website address, so please update your settings in order to remain in touch.

Next month (August 2023) sees the beginning of the 3rd year of producing Xclusively Jaguar as an online magazine and in print! To assist with finding past articles of interest, we have included an index in this issue.

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!



That's all this month, if you've anything you'd like to see published next month, contact me at entries@bvac.org.uk.

David