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BVAC News June 2025

BVAC Classic at Thirlestane

By the time you read this set-up work will be starting for the BVAC Classic on the 8th. It's shaping up to be another fantastic event, marking our fiftieth show with a spotlight on cars of the seventies. Philip Weiss (kinderscoutpgw@hotmail.co.uk) is still looking for more help this week and for the clear-up day on Monday 9th, so please contact him to offer a hand. There will be the usual helpers' session on Wednesday evening from 6.30, so even those of you who haven't retired yet can do your bit! Just turn up at the castle and we'll find you a job. If you can help with marshalling on the day, get in touch with Jono Hunter (Hunterjono4@gmail.com or 07745 845889). Moira and Robert Stewart have done a sterling job in their first year as entries secretaries, so everyone should have their passes by now. Let's hope the weather is kind and we all get to meet up with friends old and new and show off what a thriving classic car scene we have here in the Borders.



Club Events in May

The regular Milestone breakfast meet was again well attended with some interesting newcomers amongst the regulars, including this dramatic Buick and a classic Jaguar which has been converted to electric power using a Nissan powertrain.

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The day before Milestone, the 80th anniversary of VE Day was marked with a huge event in Kelso town square. BVAC was asked if we could provide some suitable period cars to form part of the show and we put on a varied lineup with Adrian Kendall's impressive Wolseley 25 dwarfing my Morris 8 together with Tim Jackson's MG and Neil Morrison's Austin 7 special. Unfortunately, Dick Warren's Austin 7 was suffering engine trouble and couldn't join us, but the four cars got a huge amount of attention and we spent much of the day answering questions from interested members of the public, even handing out a few membership forms.



There were also two car shows during the month at Kielder Castle and Springwood Park in Kelso. Kielder is a relatively small show in a delightful setting in front of the castle and reached by a scenic drive through the Borders and Northumberland countryside. It always attracts some unusual visitors that we don't often see north of the border, including our hosts' "Wallace and Gromit" A35 van and this rare Peugeot cabriolet from the early sixties.





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A much bigger event is the Borders Vintage Agricultural Association's annual show at Kelso which always turns out not only a good number of classic cars but is also the best event in the area for seeing classic commercials, tractors and agricultural equipment.













Thanks to Kenny Wilson, Alasdair Beaton and John Littlewood for pictures of these events.

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Forthcoming Events

This month, our usual informal monthly breakfast meet will be from 10am to midday on June 15th at the usual venue, Milestone Garden Centre in Newtown St Boswells. **Note that because of Thirlestane it is one week later than usual.**

Beyond that, we have a full programme of visits to car shows for the summer which you can find on our website here. You can enter online or if you need more information, contact the organiser, Philip Titley, email: clubstandentries@bvac.org.uk



MGF Spare Part Wanted

David Tait is looking for a window guide for his 1996 MGF as the part is now obsolete. Here's a picture to show what he's after. If anyone has one or knows where one might be available, please contact David at tait65@btinternet.com or 07795379700.



Madeira Flower Festival, May 2025 from Dennis Fortune



While in Madeira on holiday recently we were lucky enough to catch the first 2 weeks or so of their annual Flower Festival which is held during the month of May.

The Festival begins with a large parade of dancers dressed appropriately with lovely dresses (suits for the males) and all adorned with lots of flowers, a really beautiful sight to see and well worth the 2 hours plus it takes the parade to pass. Luckily for us we managed to get seats on one of the temporary grandstands to enjoy this festival. On the following weekend there is another large parade comprising dressed dancers again but with the addition of a classic car theme. this takes about 1 hour to pass and comprises classic and vintage cars from all European countries, and others further afield, and with cars of all ages being paraded. A truly beautiful sight with the dancers and marvel at the sight of all these classic cars on this wonderful tropical island. A selection of a few











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photos is attached which hopefully gives a flavour of the event. So, if ever in Madeira during May this is a must not to miss - highly recommended.

No mistaking what the guy in the front row wants for Christmas! Ed.

Classic MGs on Test

from Chris Biggs

Came across this very clear image of a 1960s Abingdon High Street. The MGB and the Midget are almost certainly on a test run from the factory.

How many more can you recognise? I've spotted A40, Minor, Imp, two generations of Victor and Corsair as well as Morris (or Austin?) and Bedford vans – Ed.



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Xclusively Jaguar Magazine June 2025 from Letitia Mace

Welcome to the June 2025 issue of Xclusively Jaguar Magazine!

Sponsored by Xclusively Jaguar and DM Conversions (among others), this month's cover features Scottish driver, Ronald Ferguson, as he takes a leap of faith at Cadwell Park in the Classic Sports Car Club Alpha Lexis Law Firm Jaguar Championship! New to circuit racing, and only in his second race of the season, Ronald finished in both races, coming in 16th overall and 8th in class for Race 1 and 13th overall and 5th in class for Race 2 …… watch this space!



This month we have a double whammy of "In the Rear-view Mirror" with another double whammy planned for next month, to bring this series back inline with the relevant month. The topics featured may be 14 years old, but many are timeless and others are an important part of Jaguar history, so I think you will enjoy them. I certainly have thoroughly enjoyed revisiting each topic. Some, coincidently, are very relevant to current news and there is an unintentional racing bias.

Still on the subject of topics featured in April and May of 2011, a number of articles relating to the Lynx Eventer have not been included here as they were included in Xclusively Jaguar February 2021 which was dedicated entirely to the Lynx Eventer.

Other items referred to in the April and May 2011 Welcome are not included as the pictures are too small to reproduce in the printed version of Xclusively Jaguar magazine.

We were very sorry to hear of the recent deaths of two very important Jaguar people. The first was Brian Martin, a Jaguar apprentice in the 1950's, he designed and fitted the wiring loom for XJ13 and went on to write "From the Shop Floor" after his retirement. These few words cannot do justice, so find a copy of the book and enjoy!

This sad news was followed up by news of the death of Penny Woodley (nee Griffiths) who inherited (among other important cars) E2A, from her father, Guy. E2A was already destined to feature in this issue, even before we heard the sad news of her passing, so this is our tribute to a great Jaguar personality.

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!

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That's all for this month. Thanks to everyone who contributed.

I hope to see you at Thirlestane,

David
editor@bvac.org.uk