





Rover owners in the club, so bring them along and see how they compare to the modern machinery. Our hosts would like an accurate indication of numbers, so if you'd like to come along, please email chrisjbiggs@btinternet.com.

Dennis Fortune is taking bookings for our visits to a number of other shows this summer, see his article below.

BVAC Classic Update

Entries for the BVAC Classic in June are flooding in, so much so that we have closed entries for Class 'O' (the more modern cars) to make sure we have plenty of room for the older models. Members with a modern classic needn't worry, you can still get a place in the BVAC



Members display, and remember to tick the box that says you're a member so you don't get charged an entry fee. Whether your car is ancient or (relatively) modern, book your place today!

There are some very fine cars already booked in, some old friends like Neil McGarva's beautiful 1914 Arrol Johnston which featured in the Border Life programme shot at Thirlestane in 2017, and some we



definitely haven't seen before, like a Lotus Elan that apparently was raced by Sir Jackie in 1964 and this amazing 1936 Auburn Speedster.



Car Shows This Summer (from Dennis Fortune)

Further to the article in last month's newsletter regarding Club Visits to Other Car Shows, FIVE of the car shows previously identified are now listed on the BVAC website under Events/Club Visits to Shows.

Entry forms are now available for both Kielder and BVAA (Kelso) and can be found under the individual show listing and these should be completed and submitted on line BUT please bear in mind that for Kielder you must also register an individual entry form direct to "Eventbrite" using the link given in the Kielder event details.

For the other shows listed, namely Chillingham, Berwickshire and Newhailes, show entries are currently not available pending further information from the organisers which will be added as soon as this becomes available.

In addition, club visits to other car shows to be held later in the year, will be added to the events listing as and when the events are confirmed and details made available. Details of any additional Club Visits to Other Car Shows will also be highlighted in future newsletters. There has been no information yet from the organisers of the Moffat Rally.

A Chance to Make a Difference (from Chris Biggs)

There can be few of us who have not been touched by the consequences of advancing age either directly or within our families. More of us are living longer and the evidence of this is apparent in the number of Care Homes of varying types that now form an essential part of our social structure. Some residents will suffer increasing difficulties with memory during their time there and we will all know of someone who retains perfect clarity of childhood experiences whilst not being able to recall the day of the week or what they had for breakfast.

Those who choose to work in such places, supporting others who have grown too old or frail to support themselves, deserve our admiration and such help as we can give.

The Activities Organisers in both St. John's Care Home in Melrose and Galahill Care Home in Galashiels have both requested a visit from us with our cars this summer. We could take a small group to Galahill and an even smaller one to St. John's as they have limited space there. It is important in Care Homes to take account of established routines so the visit to St. John's in Melrose would need to be a week day after lunch, around 1.30pm. The visit to Galahill Care Home in Galashiels would be on a Saturday morning around 10.45am. In both cases we might stay for about an hour.

This would be a very good thing for the Club to do in support of our local communities and may well evoke great memories and interest amongst the residents. We are looking at dates in June and July. It would help me in my planning if I could compile a list of BVAC members who would be willing to take part in such a visit. Once I have some dates agreed I can contact you and put together a group for each visit.

Please indicate your interest and willingness to be involved by emailing me at

chrisbiggs@btinternet.com [The picture shows the club's visit to Galahill in July 2018]



Time to be Proud and Loud? (by Chris Biggs)



Of course we all love our cars. We belong to BVAC, drop in to Breakfast Meets at Milestone, take part in Runs, visits and social get-togethers, spend time fettling, polishing and driving our beloved ancient mechanical beasts and develop relationships with them that convince us they possess personalities of their own. Some of us give them names.

Our Club has members who have devoted years of their lives to restoring seemingly random

piles of automobile history to put fine vehicles back on the road and give them a new life. Congratulations and very well done to every one of them. No doubt we have all had occasion to defend our cars against accusations of pollution and inefficiency. Fortunately it is quite easy to do so. The amount of energy and materials expended on the creation of our cars so many years ago is a modest fraction of that expended on today's electric vehicles. Our cars complete very small mileages each year so the pollution is relatively little. Not long ago a very thorough and scientifically based comparison using whole life cycle analysis showed that one of the 'greenest' vehicles to be using on a regular basis was a Land Rover Mark 1.

This year as we celebrate fifty years since the formation of our Club I hope that you will think it a particularly appropriate time to demonstrate your support. Drive your cars, show your cars, enjoy your cars and let others enjoy them too. We could well have record numbers at our Thirlestane show this year after two years of pent up demand. There will be lots of variety on offer through Club Events and other Shows to attend.

Have you considered how much joy you could spread, how many smiles on the faces of others? From the thousands who flock to big shows like ours down to the chap who spends five minutes with you in the Milestone car park sharing that "I had one of these when I was young". I often have occasion to drive past Kelso High School at times when pupils are coming and going. If I am driving one of my 'Classics' there are always some who spot it, point it out and exchange animated comments – mostly complimentary I think – judging by the smiles and waves.

After an enforced break to so much of our regular activity, this year is the perfect time to get back involved, have fun and share with others. I hope to meet increasing numbers of you out and about in the coming months ready to be proud of the contribution we make to the cultural and historical components of Society.

Restoration News

This blue beauty on the next page is Bernie Hartnett's 1963 TVR Grantura Mk3b which has just emerged at the end of a long restoration and which we hope to see at club events this summer.

Bernie tells the story:

This is my TVR that after four years in rebuild has finally, with the exception of a set of carpets, been completed! Some of the work was done by myself here at home and some of the more complicated corrective reengineering was undertaken by a good friend down in Somerset, he being a marque expert. The car had been off the road for 35 years in a state of hill climb hot rod butchery, whereby the previous owner had transplanted into the car a Rover V8. He'd altered the engine, the drive train and the suspension to make a radical special, but cutting away a lot of the engine bay to fit in the Vee of the V8 had really messed up the car's originality. A great pity, as factory records state only 95 of this model were constructed in period.



We found my car in Evesham in Worcestershire five years ago, the car having originally been registered in Coventry. The objective was to bring it back to original specification, so flash fibreglass moulds were taken off a similar car, by me, and my Somerset friend let in the repair sections. I sourced all of the missing parts, including an 1800 cc MGB engine and numerous other items, the only concession being that we have fitted an overdrive gearbox to give the car "longer legs" for journeys abroad including a trip to the LeMans Classic in early July. A sister car to mine will be competing in the event, my Somerset friend, Ian Massey -Crosse, having restored that car that raced there in 1962. He found that Grantura a few years ago in the United States where it ended up in the mid-1960s. He repatriated it to the UK and completely rebuilt it and it has competed at LeMans and Goodwood a number of times since. Ian and I will be forming part of the pit crew during the race, which will be plainly loads of fun!

My car to never to my knowledge ever competed as the Hill Climb modifications never got completed, it was just laid up for many years until we rebuilt it and it first drove again when we took it for an MOT a few weeks back. It's now back in the Borders and I am looking forward to using it on our fabulous Borders roads over the summer!

The Racing TVR (by Bernie Hartnett)

Here are some pictures of the Le Mans Grantura (number 31) I mentioned above, the black and white photos show no 31 in 1962 at Le Mans prior to the race, the car on the right being a reserve car. Unfortunately its debut at Le Mans was very disappointing, when the car had to pull up after it suffered overheating after a relatively few laps. The car was later bought



from TVR engineering by a UK based club racer and it ran within the UK at Goodwood and other race circuits and hillclimbs, and was reasonably successful. It then was sold to gentleman in Canada and then to another owner in the US running in Sports Car Club

America Club Racing (SCCA) for many years, never being road used. Then my friend Ian bought the car and brought it home for a nut and bolt rebuild some 20 years ago, once rebuilt (see colour Photo) it has gone on to appear and compete with good placings at the Le Mans Classic and at Goodwood. Uniquely the car is not a stripped out racer in that its fully upholstered and apart from a roll cage its much as it was in France in 1962, but nonetheless very similar to my blue car, and it's road legal but plainly its fully race tuned and goes like stink!



My friend Ian Massey-Crosse I am proud to say effectively rebuilt both the Le Mans Grantura and twenty years later my own with myself being more of a hindrance than help with some minor bits of rebuild activity!



Absent Friends

Kenny's reminder to pay your subs (hint!) prompted an email from David Kerr explaining that he wouldn't be renewing his membership as he and Julia have moved permanently to New Zealand. I guess it's a bit far for a monthly trip to Milestone! David said some very kind things about the club and the friendliness of the members, so consider yourselves complimented. He didn't say if he's taken his lovely Model A Ford with him.



Buy One, Get One Free

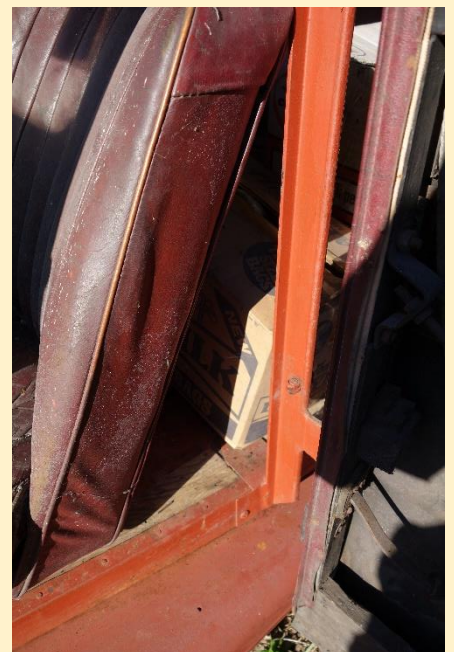
Peter Hammond has decided that he has more projects on hand than he's ever likely to complete or has space to store, so is offering not one but two Riley RME 1.5 litre saloons for sale to anyone who'd like to take them on.

1953 RME running board model. Abandoned project due to loss of workshop. Very sound body, wood frames replaced where necessary, roof recovered. The body was removed from the chassis to overhaul the running gear and is now refitted. All mechanical parts to finish plus spares. Price £2,500

1955 Riley RME spatted model. Another abandoned project, this was retrieved and stored with the aim of restoring it. Now needs much work, but not an impossible project. Front suspension and sub frame was rebuilt, most mechanical parts are with it. To restore or break for parts.

Contact Peter at 4 Brockholes Farm Cottages, Grantshouse, Duns, TD11 3RL, telephone 07504 199504. Most pictures are the 1953 car, the last two are the 1955.





Jaguar News (from Letitia Mace)

This month at Xclusively Jaguar we look back at the history of Jaguar Police Cars with Howard Hunt, Gil Keane tells us the importance of good car lighting (so you don't get pulled over by those police cars!) and Lockton Performance discuss how you can ensure that your car is safe and secure when not in use!

Looking forward to events this year, we start preparing for the upcoming show season with details of several special events, including the Sir Jackie Stewart Classic.

Don't forget to keep your eyes peeled for all our special offers ONLY for our readers, and you can also keep up to date with our day to day activities, latest updates and photos, and join in with other Jaguar owners over on our Facebook and Instagram pages.

www.Xclusively-Jaguar.co.uk

For the Jaguar enthusiast who doesn't mind a long drive, here are a couple of events taking place over the last weekend in July at the Mike Hawthorn Museum in Surrey...



JAGUAR MARK 1 DAY

THE MIKE HAWTHORN MUSEUM

SATURDAY 30 JULY 2022
10.00AM

CALLING ALL MK 1 OWNERS!

Bring your cars and share your passion at this dedicated event for Jaguar's landmark saloon.

All Mk 1s are welcome and in any condition – concours, daily drivers, restoration projects on trailers, clean and polished or grubby and well-used.

We have space for up to 70 Mk 1s and we hope to fill every one of them – our record is 60, so let's see if we can beat it this year!



by kind permission of Nigel Webb
and supported by
the JDC and Xclusively Jaguar



xclusively
jaguar.co.uk

To secure your place at this exclusive event, contact

Letitia@exclusively-jaguar.co.uk

with details and a photo of your Mk 1. Once registered, we will send you full details,
along with directions, catering arrangements and options on where to stay.

JAGUAR XJ COUPE DAY

THE MIKE HAWTHORN MUSEUM

SUNDAY 31 JULY 2022 - 10.00AM

CALLING ALL XJ COUPÉ OWNERS!

Bring your cars and share your passion at this dedicated event for Jaguar's landmark saloon.

All XJCs are welcome and in any condition – concours, daily drivers, restoration projects on trailers, clean and polished or grubby and well-used. We have space for up to 70 XJ Coupés – Jaguar or Daimler, 4.2 or V12 – and we hope to fill every one of them



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**xclusively
jaguar.co.uk**

To secure your place at this exclusive event, contact

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*with details and a photo of your XJC. Once registered, we will send you full details,
along with directions, catering arrangements and options on where to stay.*

... And Not Just Jaguars

Last year, **Xclusively Jaguar** held several "Tea 'n' Torque" gatherings, for car enthusiasts to meet and chat to other liked minded individuals and to enjoy seeing some interesting cars.

For 2022 Scott Brown, having seen that we have outgrown our current venue, put forward the idea of moving "Tea 'n' Torque to his garage premises in Reston.

Our first Tea 'n' Torque 2022 will be held on Saturday 16th April, from 11am onwards.

Venue: Scott Brown Cars, Reston, TD145JN

No booking required – just turn up on the day – all BVAC members welcome, not just Jaguar owners!

For more details please contact Letitia@exclusively-jaguar.co.uk or phone 07747 130 139

That's all for this month, hope to see you at club events soon and if you've anything you want to comment on or contribute, email me at entries@bvac.org.uk.

David