



BVAC News

September

2022



September Saunter

With the car show season winding down, how about another opportunity to get out and about in the countryside in your classic? Then join the club's September Saunter - SATURDAY 17th September - from 10am. Chris Biggs is organising the event and needs to know the numbers for lunch no later than the 9th.

Chris promises a relaxed Scenic Run beginning from Milestone Garden Centre, Newtown St. Boswells and taking in a variety of iconic Borders landscapes including Scotts View, Southern Uplands edge, Tweed valley, Northumberland Heritage villages, lunch at the Tankerville Arms, Wooler, Cheviot edge villages and finishing in Kelso.

Facilities are available at start and finish points as well as at our lunch stop. You can order lunch as soon as you arrive at the Tankerville Arms from their varied luncheon menu.

It is expected that most participants will finish in Kelso by mid afternoon to pause for a while or continue directly home. If you wish to take a more convenient route directly home from Wooler after lunch simply let Chris know on the day.



Don't delay – book today by emailing Chris at chrisbiggs@btinternet.com giving your name, car details and the number of people wanting lunch.

This lovely Run should prove a great curtain raiser to Autumn as we approach the end of our outdoor Club activities programme.

Milestone in September

The other event in our calendar this month is our regular Sunday breakfast meet at the Milestone Garden Centre, Newtown St Boswells from 10 – 12 on Sunday 11th. I'm sure most of you know the form, but if you haven't been before, just turn up and find us at the foot of the car park. It's totally informal, and the bacon rolls are great - other breakfast options are available!

August Roundup

We had a busy month in August with participation in the Berwickshire County Show at Duns on the 6th, Cardrona Village Fayre on the 7th, both the Albion Biggar Vintage Rally and our Milestone meet on the 14th and the 'Carhailes' show at the NTS Newhailes House in Musselburgh on the 28th. Since I haven't perfected the trick of being in two places at once, the report and photos of Biggar are thanks to Dennis Fortune who also sent the note on Cardrona.

Berwickshire County Show

More than half the thirty-odd classic cars in the Vintage & Classic Car class at the county show were from BVAC members. They were ably judged by Archie Simmonds who gave the club a

clean sweep with Neil Morrison taking top prize for his Austin Seven. Chris Biggs was placed second with his Morris Traveller (one better than last time!) and Alistair Skinner's Morgan took third. This show is rather different from most we visit as the cars



are just one class in what is primarily an agricultural show, but that means there's plenty of other competitions and displays to see, from cakes to livestock.



Cardrona Village Fayre

It was a last minute e-mail from the organisers of the Cardrona Village Fayre held on Sunday 7th August to ask if we would be interested in putting on a small display of cars for them, resulting in a last minute mail chimp to club members to see if anyone was available, particularly those members local to the area. In



the end we managed to have two club members attend with their cars and the promise that, with more notice next year, we would hope to be able to provide a few more cars for them, and certainly worth considering as they reportedly had over a thousand visitors on the day.

Albion Biggar Vintage Rally



Sunday 14th August saw a number of our club members drive through the Borders to Peebles and on to the Biggar Rally where we joined some more of our colleagues to put on a nice selection of thirteen cars displaying on our club stand. The rally field is easy to get to being on the northern outskirts of Biggar and the show field facilities providing for all our needs in every respect. Despite the weather

warnings for thunderstorms, the sun came out and we were bathed in sunshine for most of the afternoon (as the photographs show). This is the first time that BVAC has entered a club display at Biggar and it will certainly be a strong contender for next year's programme, the only downside being that cars must be registered prior to 31st December 1981 to be eligible for entry to the show.



August Milestone

Despite clashing with Biggar, we'd a good turnout at Milestone as the pictures below demonstrate. Biggar is quite a distance for the older cars but their age limit eliminates the more modern classics, so the two events co-exist quite well. This month we suggested that members 'Share A Ride' at Milestone so that they could experience what it's like to travel in a car quite different from their own. The uptake wasn't huge, but it takes no real organisation so there's no reason people shouldn't try it any time at Milestone. There are plenty of country

roads around Newtown to offer a variety of routes of 5-10 miles. Personally, I enjoyed swapping trips in a Triumph Herald and MGB for runs in the old Morris Eight.



Carhailes

After last year's successful inaugural event, we were looking forward to another great day out



and it didn't disappoint. The grey weather in the morning gave way to a sunny afternoon and there were good crowds who seemed to appreciate the variety of cars on display. It's a lovely setting in the grounds of Newhailes House, a Palladian mansion in wooded grounds on the outskirts of Musselburgh. BVAC once again had the prime location on the lawn in front of the house and members (and a few guests) put on an impressive and varied display of cars. This year cars were judged and two prizes came our way – David Chudziak's Mini Cooper was judged 'Best Modern' while the prize for a unique car went to the immaculate Citroen SM brought along by David Marks, a guest of Rob Jenner and Letitia Mace.



Obituary

This month we have the sad news of the recent passing of long-standing BVAC member Donald Hawes. This obituary has been contributed by Robin Wild in consultation with the Hawes family.

Lt.Col Donald Hawes came to live in Ettrickbridge in 1988 after serious heart trouble put an end to a long and distinguished military career. He was an enthusiast for old cars and campaigned them enthusiastically too, taking part in many rallies at home and abroad. Over the years in the Borders, he owned a Daimler Dart, two Volvo Amazons, a yellow Fiat 500 and an MGB GT. His experience with rallying led him to organise quite a number of runs for BVAC and he and his wife, Vivienne were always regular attenders at all our events. One particular exploit was undertaking the Liege-Rome-Liege rally in the Fiat 500 with his friend, Chris Berens, who recalls the struggle getting the little car up the Stelvio Pass.

In recent years he and Vivienne moved to Gattonside and their daughter came to live nearby to keep an eye on them. Very sadly, their daughter died of cancer a week after Donald died. We send our deepest condolences to Vivienne to whom Donald was married for 61 years and to their son, Alastair and his family.

Hospitality Success

Daphne Pratt tells me that the donations for catering in the BVAC hospitality tent at Thirlestane raised a total of £300 which has been donated for Ukraine relief. Well done to Daphne, Pauline and Christine for their efforts in keeping us well fed and fundraising for a good cause.

Daphne would very much like to have a photograph of Sir Jackie Stewart with the catering team at the cutting of the club's anniversary cake. I know there were several people with cameras at the appropriate moment – can anyone oblige?

Better Late than Never!

Two months ago, I published Alistair Skinner's article about the visit to Charterhall by the Marcos Xylon ("the ugly duckling") that Sir Jackie Stewart raced there in 1960 & 61 along with Doug Niven's 1960 Lotus Elite. The first picture shows the Xylon, the second has the Xylon, the Elite and a period shot of the Xylon racing, and lastly



they're joined by Alistair's Morgan. Apologies for the delay in getting the pictures to you – my fault entirely.



Classic Magazines

While on the subject of editorial omissions, Alistair Lindsay asked me some time ago if anyone in the club would be interested in acquiring his stock of classic and motorsport magazines. Contact Alistair at lindsay.prendergast@gmail.com

Rover for Sale

Alistair Skinner has told me about a 1959 Rover 60 that is for sale. The owner is no longer able to complete it and wants it to go to someone who would give it a good home. He's spent a considerable amount on bodywork repairs and a half respray. It's been off the road for



about four years, so would need recommissioning. These photos were taken just before it was taken off the road. Overall, Alistair reports it is in sound condition, but would need work on the sunroof (which has had a botched repair in the past) and roof lining. The owner doesn't want to be bothered with prospective purchasers, so Alistair can act on his behalf. Contact him on 07840 452574 or alistair.yvonne55@gmail.com.



Xclusively Jaguar Magazine August 2022 from Letitia Mace

Last month we were welcoming in the 14th year of Xclusively Jaguar in Orkney, at the Orkney Vintage Motor Show!

This meant that although our magazine was online we were unable to send out our usual announcement to BVAC and other clubs, however, you can still read the August issue on line, if you wish to catch up, and the September issue will also be online from 1st September.

So, here we are again – welcoming in the 14th year of Xclusively Jaguar! The 12th anniversary of Xclusively Jaguar in August 2020 presented new challenges as I got to grips with creating a flip page online magazine as opposed to a simple online newsletter, and I learnt to work with a layout artist and print company, producing a printed magazine for the first time since the inception of Xclusively Jaguar in 2008. Despite this being done at the relative leisure of the international Covid lockdown it was none-the-less a steep “on the job” learning curve and the 13th anniversary of Xclusively Jaguar coincided with a change of layout artist as, post lockdown, Brin Seward returned to full-time employment and Esta-jane Middling took the plunge and entered into self-employment – the timing was perfect!

As we enter our third year of the new interpretation of Xclusively Jaguar, lockdown seems far behind us and, as the magazine will stand testament, events have returned to their former pre-Covid prolificacy with a full programme of events competing with time spent producing Xclusively Jaguar magazine and contributing to the Jaguar Drivers Club and Classic Jaguar magazines, respectively.

It seems that only yesterday I was introducing Esta-jane and the 13th year of Xclusively Jaguar!

Other News...

- > Racing news from Swallows
- Racing by Colin Porter
- > Event write ups
- > Salon Privé winner announcement
- > Continuation of "Where the XJS Rusts and Why" (Part 5 of 6)
- > Book Reviews
- > Readers Stories and so much more!

You will find the latest issue of Xclusively Jaguar magazine (along with all back issues) at www.Xclusively-Jaguar.co.uk

Contact Letitia Mace at Letitia@exclusively-jaguar.co.uk for more information

Until next month, Happy Motoring!



For the Surfers...

Fred Magill has as usual provided me with some pointers to interesting articles on the internet.

- Prewarcar.com marks the centenary of the Austin Seven with a short illustrated article on the history of the oldest unrestored Austin 7, chassis number 2026 dating from 1923 - <https://www.prewarcar.com/the-motor-for-the-million>.
- Its sister website postwarclassic.com has some antipodean pictures showing the Sydney Opera House under construction as the background to publicity shots of British cars being sold there at the time – a Vauxhall Viva HA and an Austin 1800. It also shows the site's previous existence as a tram depot. Read it at <https://www.postwarclassic.com/sydney-before-the-opera-house>.
- I'm sure none of you would be tempted to use your mobile phone when driving, but it's as well to keep abreast of the rules. Although the Parkers website doesn't generally concern itself with classics, it does have a summary of the recent rule changes at <https://www.parkers.co.uk/car-advice/mobile-phones/new-law/>

Looking Ahead

Last month I mentioned the NVTC show at Brunton Airfield near Seahouses in Northumberland. That takes place on October 16th and you can still enter [here](#) or by contacting Dennis Fortune at clubstandentries@bvac.org.uk. **The closing date for entries is 15th September.**



Stop Press!

Make a date in your diary – after a gap of three years, the ever-popular club Christmas Dinner at the Kingsknowes Hotel, Galashiels will return on Saturday December 3rd. More details to follow.

That's all for this month, I 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.

Clear roads,

David