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BVAC News
September 2023

Club Activity

August was a month of car shows, four of them in total including two on the same day. Dennis Fortune has contributed a report which you can read below. There is a selection of fine photos of the Biggar show kindly contributed by Sjoerd Brandsma via Fred Magill. Sjoerd had brought his fine looking Ford Model A from the Netherlands on holiday. Now I call that making good use of a 90+ year old car!

With such a plethora of shows, the only other club event last month was our monthly breakfast meet at Milestone. This happened to be the same day as we had two shows, and that combined with the parking limitations while extension work is underway at the garden centre inevitably meant a reduced but still respectable attendance.

September Events

The club's car treasure hunt is scheduled for Saturday 9th September and there are still some places available. There are two routes, starting either at Newtown St Boswells (Milestone Garden Centre Car Park) or Duns (Car Park next the Primary School) at 1pm. At the common finish point there will be light refreshments available – tea, coffee, cakes (including gluten free options) etc. The run should take a couple of hours or so with lots of puzzles to solve on the way just to keep the brains active. Teams should consist of a driver and at least one navigator/scribe. Numbers are limited, but as I write there are still a couple of places free for the Milestone start with plenty of space for Duns starters. As I have to give the caterers an indication of numbers, deadline for entries is this Monday, 4th September. To enter, email entries@bvac.org.uk

The day after, Sunday 10th, is our regular breakfast meet at Milestone which will follow the usual informal format between 10 and 12. There may still be work in progress in the car park so exercise caution.

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

Looking Forward to October

There will be three events in October:

- Our regular breakfast meet at Milestone Garden Centre (TD6 0PL) from 10am until about noon on Sunday 8th.
- The club's AGM will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 11th October in Earlston Parish Church Hall which is on Earlston Main Street at TD4 6HG.
- The Northumberland Vintage Tractor Club show at Brunton Airfield on the 22nd (details below)

Club Stands Update from Dennis Fortune

August was a busy month for club stands at other shows, kicking off with one of our favourites, the Berwickshire Agricultural Show at Duns Castle which was held on Saturday 4th August and where we had 15 cars on display and where we came away with "Best in Show" awarded to Peter Robertson with his Jaguar Mk V. Despite the odd heavy shower a good day was had by all.





The following weekend on Sunday 13th we had displays at 2 shows, the first being another all-time favourite put on by the Albion Trust at Biggar where we had 13 cars on display and although the weather was mixed another enjoyable day. Once again, the club came away with a prize, this time for new member Frank Lethbridge who won the post-1965 classics class with his Sebring Sprite. The second show was a new addition to the calendar organised by Ford & Etal Estates where we had a nice selection of 12 cars on display in the showfield on the edge of Etal village. The weather turned out to be quite sunny although a bit windy at times and there were lots of side stalls to for members to peruse. The organisers are planning to hold the show again next year and hoping to encourage a few more car clubs to attend.

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After a break with no shows on the third weekend the last weekend in August saw a big turnout of our members attending the "Carhailes" show held at Newhailes House just outside Musselburgh. Since its inception just after Covid this has always been a popular show and for this year we had a great selection of 25 cars on display and came away with "Best in Show" this being awarded to Dr Peter Copp with his immaculate Jensen 541S. Despite the odd shower the weather was otherwise warm with some sunshine and as always there is plenty to occupy exhibitors with trick cyclists and a motor bike stunt team putting on shows as well police and fire exhibits and the ever popular restaurant in the stable block.







Now that we are into September there is only one more show left to be held and that is the NVTC show at Brunton airfield, to be held on 22nd October. Another good show with quite a few traders selling their wares and the good news is that you still have time to enter as the club closing date is not until the 15th September and further details together with the online entry form can be seen on the club website here; [NVTC Brunton - Borders Vintage Automobile Club (bvac.org.uk)]

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Biggar Portfolio from Sjoerd Brandsma

















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Midget for Sale



1975 RWA, on steel Rostyles,1275cc Midget, colour is citron, mileage is 37778, registered in my name, is running but hasn't been used since before Covid, but has been run periodically and battery charged. Has a couple of "bubbles" in the paint that need attending to, but no actual rust. Like new soft top and tonneau, spotless leather seats and head restraints, all in black. For sale at £7,500 ovno.

Contact Claudette Bloomfield on 01890 882445 or claudettebloomfield@btinternet.com





GTM Events

If any of you are having an Autumn break in the Northeast, you might be interested in a couple of events at the Grampian Transport Museum in Alford. There is an evening talk on Thursday September 14th entitled 'Jim Clark Remembered' and an Autojumble on Sunday 24th. For more details or tickets for the talk, contact Alex Macloed alex@gtm.org.uk

Electric Bentley?

The march of modern electric cars continues apace but attempts to electrify classic cars mostly seem to manage to destroy the character of the original while producing very poor electric cars at great expense. This trend seems to have reached its most extreme form with the announcement of the latest offering from The Little Car Company, apparently with the blessing of Bentley. Up to now, they have produced electric scale replicas of supercars for use off road, essentially as very upmarket toys. They have now produced a fully road legal 85% scale two seat replica of the 1929 4½ litre Blower Bentley. If you dare take this out on the road, you'll find a mind-blowing top speed of 45mph, but it gets worse if you live in the USA where local regulations will limit it to 25mph. Prices aren't quoted on the website, but as they're hand built you can bet they won't be cheap. My only question is **why??** If you want to find out more, go to Home - Bentley Blower Jnr - The Little Car Company.



Morris Leslie

Regular Thirlestane exhibitors and sponsors, Morris Leslie Auctions are holding their next Classic Vehicle Auction at Errol on Saturday 16th September. Whether you're buying or selling, you can get details from Keith Murray on 07976 089029. Highlights already entered include a 1939 Morgan 4/4 or if your tastes are more modern, a 2000 Subaru Impreza.

Xclusively Jaguar Magazine September 2023 from Letitia Mace

This summer has been incredibly busy for us, with the number of events equalling those pre-Covid, therefore I have featured some pictorial reports over the summer, along with short features, which will contrast with forthcoming winter content.

This sits well with my intention of not having a set format for the magazine, which soon becomes boring and predictable – not knowing what to expect makes it far more exciting!

'Looking Back' is a series that I have enjoyed putting together, as it compares current Jaguar news with that of 14 years past and it is always interesting to look back and review my views and comments, some of which I probably wouldn't claim were necessarily correct, with hindsight, but they are there for comment or debate.



I re-tell the story of a unique collection of TWR automobilia in this issue, which is particularly relevant as it will be displayed at the JDHT event on 2nd September at Gaydon. In 2009 when this collection was offered to me I hadn't the means to buy it or the room to store it, but at least it has gone to a very worthy home.

I have also re-published the stories from contributors past, as they were submitted (warts and all) so don't be too critical – just enjoy the stories!

Many subscribers to our printed magazine should expect delivery of their complimentary Xclusively Jaguar magazine binder with this issue. This year we have introduced a new style binder to accommodate our increasing number of pages, so if you are a subscriber to our printed magazine, look out for a parcel coming to you!

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!

Sign Off

That's all for this month, thanks to all those who contributed text or pictures, particularly Sjoerd Brandsma who's not even a club member but contributed the fine shots from the Biggar show – there were many more than we could publish so the hardest job was choosing eight to show.

Clear roads,

David