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# BVAC News

## May

## 2022

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This BVAC News is reaching you a few days later than usual as the editor wears two hats and his other role as entries secretary for the BVAC Classic has kept him rather busy of late. Normal service will be resumed next month.

### BVAC Classic Update

We kick off this month with a request for volunteers – Keith Watson has taken on the job of Chief Marshal for the show and he needs a team of helpers willing to turn up early on June 19<sup>th</sup> to guide well over 1000 participating cars to their correct display slots. Apart from the early start, it's not particularly onerous as a full briefing and hopefully some refreshments will be provided. This year we are only responsible for the display area beyond the castle forecourt, not the driveway or the public car parks. We have more than 40 cars booked into the BVAC Club Display, so surely some of you will be willing to help. A few marshals will be needed on Saturday as well. Please contact Keith at [Keith@kmwagencies.co.uk](mailto:Keith@kmwagencies.co.uk) or leave a



message on 07785 901 238 to offer your services.

Entries have now closed and the site layout is being planned to incorporate the 55 car clubs and about 375 individuals who've

booked to come along. There are some highlights to look forward to – the Bentley Drivers Club have promised no fewer than six vintage Bentleys including one that was at Mellerstain in 1972 (not the one illustrated, although that one is booked in too), while if your tastes run to something more modern,



the Citroen Car Club will bring what is believed to be the last right hand drive Citroen GSX still on the road. All told there are only a dozen or so GS Citroens of all models left on UK roads more than 50 years after the introduction of this revolutionary family car.

Meanwhile, Chris Biggs has managed to see the Austin Seven Coupe that Sandy Blair drove in 1972. It still belongs to his son, and while it hasn't been on the road in about thirty years, Chris describes it as 'an absolute peach'. We hope to get it cleaned up and trailered along to the show as a static exhibit.



## Club Events – Recent and Coming Soon by Chris Biggs (with additional photographs from John Littlewood and David Hunter)

The visit to Lloyd Land Rover in Kelso was very popular and attracted 22 members in early April. We were officially greeted by Lloyd staff and provided with a welcome drink whilst



looking over the showroom vehicles. Several members had arrived in their Classic Land Rovers and there was an interesting contrast with the modern pieces of high technology adorning the showroom. After this relaxed and friendly start,

we were given a short presentation about Lloyd as a dealership, current Land Rover models and an interesting 'Any Questions' session. Finally, a tour of the workshops with vehicles on ramps and in various stages of Service in the company of the



Service Manager was enjoyed by all. The Service Manager was even able to offer a possible solution to a member's problem on his Discovery. All in all, a fascinating and detailed look into the workings of this shrine to modern motoring technology.

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> was our regular Milestone meet and it was good to see a couple of 'new' cars (and their owners) joining us.



Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April saw our Club's contribution to the National Drive it Day event. Thanks are due to Ian Lindley who devised a splendid route over little used roads and affording fabulous views of the Borders landscape and produced his usual efficient 'Tulip' instructions in a handsome booklet. A rather disappointing turn out of Club members at Milestone for the start at 11am was fortuitously bolstered by Edinburgh and District MGs and a number of other 'guests'. Over 30 cars were eventually lined up for the 'drive off' and we set off on an adventurous but sympathetically devised route that included fine moorland roads that hugged the Cheviots, an easily passable ford, charming villages and hamlets and plentiful



Spring blossom and flowers. Our destination was Woll Golf Club at Ashkirk where arrangements for a late lunch awaited those who completed the Run. We were well looked after and the Golf Club had devised a special limited menu for us on the day. The trip was enjoyed by all those who participated.



May sees Club activities getting into full swing. As well as our usual Milestone breakfast meet on the 8<sup>th</sup> there are no fewer than three opportunities to visit other Classic Car Shows and join a Club visit to Dawyck Botanical Gardens. With so much going on there are some overlapping of dates and you must choose what you want to support. Full details are on our website at [www.bvac.org.uk](http://www.bvac.org.uk) and we hope to get lots of bookings. There are very few bookings for the Dawyck gardens visit at present so members are urged to email me to book at [chrisbiggs@btinternet.com](mailto:chrisbiggs@btinternet.com) as soon as possible.

It is worth looking forwards to June when the Club will be recreating the Northern half of the historic Run undertaken 50 years ago that caused BVAC to be formed. In this our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year, we hope that many Club members will want to join in this significant event. On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations we will drive from Wooler via Kelso, Mellerstain House and onwards to Thirlestane Castle as a curtain raiser for our own two day Show at Thirlestane two weeks later. Details are on the website and being updated on a regular basis as things become finalised. If you intend to join us on this 5<sup>th</sup> June

Run please email me at [chrisbiggs@btinternet.com](mailto:chrisbiggs@btinternet.com) with a note of the car you intend driving and the number of occupants.

Looking even further ahead, beyond the BVAC Classic, two visits have now been arranged to Care Homes so that residents there can enjoy seeing a small selection of Classic cars. The visits are -

- Saturday 2nd July at 10.30am - Galahill Care Home, Galashiels
- Wednesday 6th July at 2pm - St.John's Care Home, Melrose.

Members willing to take part in these simple visits should email Chris Biggs at [chrisbiggs@btinternet.com](mailto:chrisbiggs@btinternet.com) and he will be in touch. Members who had previously indicated an interest do not need to contact Chris again unless it is to say that they are not available for one or more of these dates.

## Car Shows This Summer (from Dennis Fortune)

Now that we are into May, we have three car shows coming up this month, the first two being Kielder Castle on 8<sup>th</sup> May, and the BVAA Annual Rally held in Springwood Park, Kelso on the 15<sup>th</sup> May. Entries for both these shows have now closed, with 7 confirmed for Kielder and 16 confirmed for BVAA.

The third show is a recent addition, ***The Doune Historic Hill Climb***, held at Doune, Stirlingshire on 22<sup>nd</sup> May. This is along the same lines as is the Bo'ness Revival & Hill Climb, which was unfortunately cancelled, so as well as the classic car show on the Sunday you can also watch some hill climb action. The entry form is live on our web site but you will need to be quick as the ***closing date for entries set for 14<sup>th</sup> May.***

June is mostly filled with our own show at Thirlestane although there is the chance to go to ***Moffat Car Rally*** on 26<sup>th</sup> June where we have been allocated a club stand sufficient for 10 cars, entries are on a first come first served basis, ***so get your entry in now*** for this great classic car show in the Border town of Moffat, a show which we haven't been able to attend as a club for a number of years.

Three other shows now confirmed, with entry forms live on our web site, are:

- Berwickshire Agricultural Show on 6<sup>th</sup> August.
- Newhailes Classic Car Show on 28<sup>th</sup> August.
- NVTC Brunton on 16<sup>th</sup> October.

Two other shows pencilled in are the Chillingham Vintage Tractor Rally near Wooler on 3<sup>rd</sup> July and Wheels & Wings at the National Museum of Flight held in late September, but for both of these shows further details are yet to be published.

## Flying Scotsman Rally



Just too late for last month's BVAC News, the Flying Scotsman Rally passed through the Borders on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Thanks to Bernie Hartnett for this shot of a Delahaye 135 LM on a chilly Borders road. The rally sees almost 100 cars built between the 1920s and 1940s take a three day route from Northumberland to St Andrews, Aviemore and finally Gleneagles.

## Maurice Leslie Auction

Maurice Leslie are holding another classic vehicle auction on May 21<sup>st</sup>. You can find their online catalogue [here](#).

## From the Internet

Fred Magill is very good at keeping me posted with interesting items from the World Wide Web. This month, he's found another take on the E10 vs E5 petrol saga. This comes from 'Flying Spares' whose stock in trade is Rolls Royce and Bentley parts. Read it [here](#). It gives a rather different view from one I read recently on the MX5 club forum which I could paraphrase as "what's all the fuss about, other parts of the world have had more ethanol in their fuel for years and their cars are fine". Take your pick!

If your taste is more American, try the [Hemmings Daily](#) for some interesting articles.

## And Finally...

Do you think Starbucks might want to rethink the design of their van livery?



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](mailto:entries@bvac.org.uk).

David