

spalding classic car club and east elloe

NEWSLETTER

No 115 January 2018

What's On www.seecc.co.uk/events

Tuesday 9 January

CLUBNIGHT FUN QUIZ

Your support will be much appreciated for this first clubnight of 2018 which is a quiz kindly organised by Julie Baxter. The evening will be held at the Constitutional Club in Broad Street, Spalding (PE11 1TB), starting at 7.30pm. £2/head.

The format will be teams of 4 or 6 so, if you wish to take part, please email your team's names to Julie at browneydgal67@yahoo.co.uk so she knows how much paperwork to prepare.

Tuesday 13 February

FISH & CHIP NIGHT AT THE BOUNDARY

Nigel & Joy Mann are organising this evening at The Boundary in Market Deeping. Bookings have to be in by the end of January to secure the seats. They are doing a special rate for us at £7 per head for *regular* cod or haddock with chips and peas. (Standard menu prices will apply if anyone requires large instead of regular). Book by email with Joy at jmann@eemc.co.uk or call 01775 723856. Pay on the night.

Tuesday 13 March

CLUBNIGHT TALK *in aid of HELP FOR HEROES*

Our March clubnight is a talk on classic car appraisals by Brian Page. The evening has been kindly organised by Neil & Pamela Williams. The evening will be held at the Constitutional Club in Broad Street, Spalding (PE11 1TB). 7.30pm for 8.00 start.

Sunday 25 March

SUNDAY BRUNCH MEET

David Chapman is putting together the arrangements for this meeting which will be at Benny's Diner at Long Sutton, from 10am. Full details to follow next month.

Chair's Chatter

Happy New Year to all our members. I hope you have recovered from turkey overload and are looking forward to another year's classic motoring in 2018.

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This SEECCC Newsletter is edited by Adrian Cunnington — seecc@btinternet.com ☎ 01775 761520

Find us on **Twitter** @spaldingclassic and **Facebook** at Spalding & East Elloe Classic Car Club

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Thank you to everyone who supported the club's AGM which attracted a record attendance (surely free food wasn't that much of an attraction!) and, most importantly, yielded four new members to our Committee, namely Terry Carter, David Chapman, Steve LeSage and Phil Treversh.

At the same time I would like to acknowledge the contribution of Brian Patmore, who decided to step down after a couple of years in post and Simon Leonard, who handed over control of the Club's finances to Joy Mann after a marathon 21 years as treasurer of EEMC.

I announced to the Committee, after the AGM that, for reasons of workload, I will stand down as Chairman at the end of this year. 2018 will see SEECCC celebrate its 10th birthday in May, so by December it will be high time there was someone else to lead the line, as I have been in the chair since we set up this classic car venture back in 2008.

Last month over 60 of us enjoyed a superb Christmas lunch at the Toft House Hotel and we are very grateful for the work put in by Joy Mann to organise the event on our behalf. Congratulations also to Chris (Shallice) & Sally who were awarded the *M'Duck Trophy* for their work in hosting the Charity Fun Day back in June.

This month I would like to encourage you to attend Julie Baxter's fun quiz. It will be a light and not-too-serious start to the year's events and Julie's first go at organising an event for us, so it would be great to give her some support. It will also be the first event of a comprehensive calendar we are putting together, the first version of which is included elsewhere (page 6). There are lots of details to finalise but we hope this gives you a good idea of our intentions so that you can plan your diaries.

See you soon.

Adrian Cunnington

Officers & Committee

Following our AGM in early December, here are the names of your new Officers and Committee:

President: Robert Oldershaw
Vice-President: Nigel Mann
Chairman: Adrian Cunnington* (also editor)
Secretary/Treasurer: Joy Mann*
Committee:
 Terry Carter
 David Chapman
 Simon Leonard*
 Steve LeSage

Jenny Overson
Ian Pollard*
Jean Pollard* (minutes secretary)
Paul Pollard*
Steve Saunders*
John Sidebottom
Phil Treversh
Neil Williams*
Pamela Williams

*directors of East Elloe Motor Club Ltd.
Minutes of the AGM will follow.

Garlic bread...

What's the next thing that springs to (my) mind?

Garlic.....?

Answer: Garlic bread

Renault.....?

Answer: Renault 16

Wotswonnathemthen? * Read on...

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The Renault 16 was one of, if not the first, five door hatchback in the mid-sixties; 1965 to be precise and I had just started at secondary school, developing a very healthy interest in two and four wheel vehicles. This passion was fuelled, no doubt, by a friend whose father had the local Renault car and Honda motorbike agency.

As one does at that age, a few extra bob was earned evenings and weekends working at his Dad's garage cleaning cars and motorbikes, leaving me with more than a soft spot for the then top of the Renault range, the R16. I'm not sure if it was the bench seat, column gear-change, or simply its Gallic quirks, but seeds were certainly sown. Renault advertising at the time promoted the car's very supple ride, equating the comfort factor with the potential owner's lounge!



In the intervening half a decade, thoughts of Renault 16s occasionally passed, without anything concrete happening until a couple of years ago when I joined the Renault Classic Car Club. I discovered the UK's R16 guru just happened to live in Spalding and therefore Mike Stokes became my new best friend! I'm sure he cringed every time my number appeared on his phone, but eventually I wore him down and after two false starts with cars that didn't meet my criteria, he told me of one about to come onto the market in Southern Ireland.

Residing in a modest collection of classic cars near Dundalk, the retired Renault dealer had two 16s, one being the all singing, all dancing TX version, and he was simply thinning down his collection by selling the other "cooking" version TL!! The TL has no central locking, no power steering, keep-fit windows (wind up yourself!) and the only way to lock the front passenger door is from the outside, harking back to its origins of left hand drive, I guess.

One of the last produced in 1978, it is all original, with a mere eight thousand miles from new. The dozens of images he had emailed to me confirmed this immaculate status, so one sunny Wednesday in 2016 saw me at Holyhead waiting for the Dublin ferry to dock and disgorge two mad, excitable Irishmen in a gleaming red Renault 16!

At the end of 2017 and almost a thousand miles later, the 16 still manages to make me smile (plus, I'm sure, many other people, but for very different reasons!) due to its supreme comfort, multiple oddities, simplicity and of course, rarity. So after fifty years of languishing in the annals of my mind (cue for a song, perhaps?!) the reality resides in my garage, allowing that particular itch to have been scratched and another tick on the bucket list!

(*) with apologies to Peter Kay!

Nigel Mann

Do you have a classic car story to tell?

Send in a photo, a bit of text or even both to Adrian at the address on page 1 or post to:
Adrian Cunningham, 37 Grange Drive, Spalding, PE11 2DX.

MoT Test exemption rule changes

FEDERATION OF BRITISH HISTORIC VEHICLE CLUBS (FBHVC) RELEASE : MoT TEST EXEMPTIONS

SEEECC members may find this information of use as the Department for Transport (DfT) has redefined what it considers vehicles of historic interest (VHIs) and, therefore, those exempt from MoT once 40 years old. Specifically, DfT will exclude 'modified' classics from VHI recognition and have reportedly said "while reconstructed classic vehicles can have age-related registrations that are more than 40 years old, they are not VHIs." (*Practical Classics*, November 2017)

Department for Transport Guidance on Substantial Change of Historic Vehicles

1. The Guidance sets out the definition of a Vehicle of Historic Interest (VHI), vehicles which will, from May 2018, be entitled to be exempt from taking a vehicle (MoT) test.
2. The Guidance reflects the outcome of intensive discussions between the DfT and the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs (FBHVC). FBHVC wishes to express its appreciation of the open and collaborative manner in which the DfT approached these discussions.
3. In the discussions FBHVC was careful to take account of all possible members of the historic vehicle family.
4. The Guidance supersedes all previous potential criteria released for discussion by DfT.
5. The Guidance makes clear that it does not in any way affect DVLA's registration criteria and processes which remain unchanged.
6. The Government included motorcycles in the Motor Vehicles (Tests) (Amendment) Regulations 2017. As the Guidance implements the Regulations, DfT could not accept FBHVC's representations, based upon the requirements of the EU Directive, regarding historic motorcycles, so they are included in the Guidance.
7. Following strong representations by FBHVC, a vehicle may generally be a VHI if relevant changes were undertaken more than 30 years previously. This will be a rolling 30 years and replaces the fixed 1988 date previously proposed by DfT.
8. Major points of note are:
 - a. The process is one of self-declaration.
 - b. Owners will only be required to declare their vehicle to be a VHI if they wish to be exempted from an annual MOT Test.
 - c. All vehicles will still be able to be tested if their owners wish
 - d. The criteria are generic and permit changes made, less than 30 years prior to the declaration, which improve efficiency, safety, preservation or environmental performance.
 - e. Those vehicles registered on a Q plate, as kits or built up classics are not entitled to be declared as VHIs until 40 years after they were registered.
 - f. For motorcycles only the criteria of Q plates, kits and built up classics prevent declaration as a VHI
9. The Guidance refers to "a marque or historic vehicle experts". A list will be published on the website of the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs by 30th April 2018. Vehicle owners wishing to confirm if they may declare their vehicle as a VHI, may choose to contact the appropriate nominee from this list
10. FBHVC will be explaining the Guidance in full in its first Newsletter of 2018 and as soon as possible on its website at www.fbhvc.co.uk.
11. Text of the Guidance is available at:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/668274/vehicles-of-historical-interest-substantial-change-guidance.pdf

Snippets

SUBSCRIPTIONS REMINDER

A reminder that Club subscriptions are due from 1 January 2018. New rates apply which were voted through at the 2017 AGM. These are £15 for single and £20 for joint membership. Please renew as soon as possible. A subscription form has been issued with this newsletter.

All members receive a copy of this newsletter via e-mail. A copy can be sent by post on special request if the Postal Supplement of £8 is paid.

Applicants for Country Membership (£10) must live over 20 miles from Spalding and be a full member of another MSA affiliated club. An email copy of the newsletter is included. All membership applications/renewals should be returned to the Club Treasurer: Joy Mann, 33 Grange Drive, Spalding. PE11 2DX.

Membership cards are only issued on request.

OLD BOOKS UP FOR GRABS

Sunbeam Talbot 10 H.P. Models 1946 Handbook of Instructions. Small black hardback book in OK condition although was kept in a garage for a while so a bit musty. One of the pages even has an oily fingerprint on it!

Automobile Engine Overhaul - A practical Handbook for Service and Maintenance Engineers and All Car Owners. By A W Judge. Pitman's Automobile Maintenance Series, third edition 1948. Red hardback book. Same condition as above without the fingerprint!

500cc Racing by Gregor Grant. Blue hardback book still with dust jacket, although the jacket is a bit torn. 2nd edition 1952. Clean condition but again was kept in a garage for a while so is again a bit musty.

If interested, please contact Bill Fisher at billfisher@obtmail.com

MID-LINCS ROVER MEET BACK ON!

The Mid Lincs Rover Club Classic Car Show is back on for 2018 at Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre, East Kirkby PE23 4DE on Saturday 14th July. MLRC say they have been contacted by numerous people who were so disappointed to hear their 2017 rally was potentially the last. It was clear as a small local classic car club they were unable to continue the rally in its previous format as it was becoming incredibly time consuming for the handful of volunteers within the club.

So they have come up with a more streamlined and easier to administer classic car gathering. Gone is the need to pre-book and rally passes sent beforehand, gone is the formal judging of vehicles. They have moved to a turn up on the day, pay your entry fee, park up and enjoy the unique venue and chatting with like-minded classic car enthusiasts.

MLRC are keen to attract modern classics to the meeting, classic cars pre-2003, also any Rover or MG of any age is welcome to attend. Entry fee payable at the gate on the day is £10 (cash only) per vehicle, including passengers, this includes full entry to the museum, entry into a free prize draw to have a ride in 'Just Jane' while doing her taxi run on the day, and also a donation to charity. Gates Open 9.00 – 10.30 am; Leave 3.30 – 5pm. No Pre-Booking required. Further information from Rally Secretary David Jackson 07970 035550 or email enquiries@midlincsroverclub.co.uk

CALENDAR : 2018

DRAFT

| Month | Date Day | Event | Organiser | Venue |
|-----------|-------------|------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| January | 9 Tu | Clubnight quiz | J Baxter | Consti Club, Spalding |
| February | 13 Tu | Clubnight: fish'n'chip night | N & J Mann | The Boundary, MD |
| March | 13 Tu | Clubnight: talk | N & P Williams | Consti Club, Spalding |
| | 25 Su | Brunch meet | D Chapman | Benny's, Long Sutton |
| April | 10 Tu | Clubnight: pub meal | tbc | tbc |
| | 22 Su | Drive It Day | S Saunders/L Bollons | tbc |
| May | 8 Tu | Clubnight run | A Cunnington | tbc |
| | 22/29 Tu | Clubnight social | tbc | tbc |
| June | 10 Su | SEECCC CLASSIC CAR RUN | B & E Aistrup | Elton Hall |
| | 12 Tu | Clubnight social: meal | N & P Williams | Norfolk |
| | 17 Su | Bourne Classic Car Show | Committee | Bourne |
| | 26 Tu | Clubnight run | tbc | tbc |
| July | 1 Su | Baston Show | Committee | Baston |
| | 10 Tu | Clubnight run | tbc | tbc |
| | 24 Tu | Clubnight social | tbc | tbc |
| August | 14 Tu | Clubnight run | tbc | tbc |
| | 27 Mo | Brunch meet & run | A & C Cunnington | tbc |
| September | 1 Sa | Sleaford Show | A Aistrup | Sleaford |
| | 11 Tu | Clubnight run | C & C Cornish | tbc |
| | 15-21 Sa-Fr | Autumn Trip | B Patmore | N Wales |
| October | 9 Tu | Clubnight: talk or visit | A Cunnington | tbc |
| November | 13 Tu | Clubnight: pub meal | tbc | tbc |
| December | 4 Tu | AGM | Committee | tbc |
| | 16 Su | Christmas lunch | J Mann | tbc |