

spalding classic car club and east elloe

No 152 February 2021

NEWSLETTER

Chair-Mann's CHATTER

Joy Mann jmann@seeccc.co.uk

This month I need to talk about the GD at GD – the great divide at Grange Drive. No one warned me 20 years ago that embarking on a life with a seasoned petrol-head would come with certain foibles. (A lot of good stuff too!)

I recall on our third "date" Mr. Mann suggested that we should swap cars until our next meet-up. So, I handed over the keys to my Golf GTi and took charge of his BMW 528 Sport. Little did I realise, his sole goal..... was to clean my alloys as he was concerned about all the black brake dust.....!

My present day gripe is how maintenance of the garage block (and all that lives within) receives top priority over anything domestic. For example, I am a cupboard short of a handle (no, that is not a euphemism!) and this small task has been on the to-do list for over a year. For Mr. Mann, the major project this month has been the installation of new switches in the Bug – NM eagerly awaiting postie's daily arrival just in case the package turns up.

A recent Range Rover screen crack resulted in a replacement windscreen being fitted a couple of weeks ago. When Nigel upped the bonnet to do the weekly clean his eagle eyes spotted two pieces of bonnet insulation had been ripped out, one either side of the engine bay. Quelle horreur! He sprang into action – sorting out immediate replacements and tackling the fitters for re-imbursement. They had the audacity to suggest we must have vermin.....

During the RR shenanigans, I was left wading through a stack of January deadline HMRC paperwork, organising the trace of a roof leak on our new kitchen, the installation of a new boiler and some temporary extra heating, doing battle with Scottish Power and an Open Reach / Western Union scam call that left my very unwell brother £501 short.....

We then had a 'domestic' about the hygroscopic nature of freeze-dried instant coffee and why a wet spoon ruins everything... Yes, I know, I need a chill-pill. N swiftly turned the discussion round to brake fluid – apparently that too is hygro-thingy!

>2



This SEECCC Newsletter is edited by Adrian Cunnington — acunnington@seeccc.co.uk ☎ 01406 364795

Find us on  Facebook at Spalding & East Elloe Classic Car Club

Spalding & East Elloe Classic Car Club — a specialist section of East Elloe Motor Club Ltd — www.seeccc.co.uk
Registered office: 33 Grange Drive, Spalding, Lincolnshire. PE11 2DX. A company limited by guarantee, registered in England No 1874444

> My next gripe – the need for there to be a mucky mag or two by the side of the bed. I should just clarify I am referring to motoring journals that have previously lived in someone else's garage or have blown around on our driveway in all sorts of weather, having been kindly placed on the back doorstep for Nigel to find the next day. My stack of foodie mags is also taboo as stubbed toes lead to much swearing!

Finally, a "Sparky" update. Having spent most of his new life languishing in the garage, covering only 550 miles since his purchase 3 months ago, I am pleased to report we are really chuffed with the i3. Very nippy and quite straightforward although the 'handbook', if you had a hard copy, is probably the size of Encyclopaedia Britannica. It takes a while to get used to the idea you don't really need to use the brake pedal that much and is a tough lesson when later on you forget which car you're driving!! One gripe for me, the "A pillar" is quite large, meaning vertically-challenged folk need to do a bit of bobbing about at junctions! I cannot wait to be released back into the wild and hopefully clock up a few more Sparky miles.

Enough of my prattling, I hope all is well with you and yours and jabs are heading our way. Oh, and by the way, all our previous issues were resolved satisfactorily! 😊

Take care,
Joy

SNIPPETS

▶ Please continue to send in your **AutoFile** answers in the format shown on page 4 so we can keep this popular new feature running. Your contributions of other articles, quizzes etc continue to be welcome as the 'reserves' from Joy's original request last autumn are now pretty much exhausted.

Please email them to the SEECCC editorial desk at seeccc@btinternet.com.

Thank you.

Ed.

▶ We have been asked by **Tim Cox**, an acquaintance of SEECCC member **David Shepherd**, if anyone knows of a pre-war restoration project to do. If you know of anything that might be available, please contact Joy Mann who will put you in touch with Tim.

▶ Thanks to **Warwick Banks** who has sent in the latest in the long story about the extensive problems resulting from alleged widespread mismanagement and criminal activity at London auction house **Coys of Kensington**. Apparently, the firm is now up and running again and you can find the full story by following this link:

<https://www.prewarcar.com/the-crooks-of-coys-a-truly-new-beginning>

CLUB TRIP IN SEPTEMBER

Subject to COVID controls, we are provisionally planning a Club break in September in the Northern Dales of Teesdale and Durham. We have found a superb hotel that has been recommended by other car clubs - see link below. Also, the hotel has assured us that in the event of government restrictions preventing our stay there will be no charges.

Link to hotel website: www.headlamhall.co.uk

We are looking at **Sunday 5th September for 3 nights**, and have agreed some very favourable rates:

Doubles or twin room **£170 per room per night**
DBB

Deluxe – limited availability **£190/rm/nt DBB**

Junior suites – limited availability **£220/rm/nt DBB**

Use of double (single occupant) **£105/rm/nt DBB**

We plan to ask for the hotel to provisionally hold 10 rooms for us, so do please take a look at the website and let us know asap if you're interested, along with your room preference, so that I can add you to the list - no obligation at this stage!

We all need something to look forward to, so let's hope we get plenty of interest.

Best wishes

Jenny & Trevor Overson

01406 258207 or 07736 271113



Lincs Yellowbelly Settlements Quiz

by ALAN AISTRUP



Below are 30 clues to **towns, villages, hamlets and other place names** associated with **Lincolnshire**. Can you identify them? The clues will require lateral, as opposed to literal thinking! To get you started you have an example shown below (this village is in Cambridgeshire!) but it may help you to get into my way of thinking. Good luck!! *Alan*

E.G.	A jealous ogre? – back to front! (3,5)	Eye Green
1	A shoddy cricketing extra! (8)	
2	Do ‘gingers’ come from here? (7)	
3	Burp! Whilst crossing the river with wet feet? (9)	
4	A young male in a large church? (12)	
5	A small body of water - no leaks here, it’s puddled! (4,4)	
6	A chilly place for ships? (4,7)	
7	Horses pulling pints – by the barrel! (7)	
8	A Heavenly garden, for cured pork? (7)	
9	Has the first woman finished? (6)	
10	A little stream, running high? (7)	
11	A place where travelling people cross over (6,6)	
12	Assist in surrounding bacon? (11)	
13	An elevated river crossing? (4,5)	
14	Mis-spelt soft furnishing stops here (6,3)	
15	A small amount of frozen rain? (6,4)	
16	A place of worship. That got too hot and turned to liquid? (7,6)	
17	Long in the tooth? Relative to an onion! (3,5)	
18	Four circles in a French water-course? (8,7)	
19	Do Afrikaners spend this at home? (4)	
20	Strong winds can tear through this place! (10)	
21	Has this gone now autumn is here? (8)	
22	Near the beach. You will find many ships on the crest of a wave! (8)	
23	Is this large country residence in rags? (11)	
24	A lumberjack’s call! But not by air or sea. (10)	
25	Paper structure with a sting in the tail (5,4)	
26	A well-known, extant, senior cleric – C of E (5)	
27	Are there cowboys on the slopes here? No it’s flat! (6,5)	
28	They just go on and on and on! - It’s constant! (9)	
29	Wrestle a steer to the ground? (7)	

PS By the way, there’s another helpful factor which should become apparent as you get going.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 6

Your first car

1930 **MG 'M' type**

I bought this car in 1950. It had a fabric beetle-back body on a wooden frame. I committed a vintage heresy by sawing off the beetle back and re-covered the hole with a metal plate carrying the spare wheel. In my mind, it was now a J2 – some hopes!

Favourite car you owned 1925 **3 Litre Red Label Bentley**

Current classic driver 1986 **2.8 litre Panther Kallista**

The one you regret selling The **Bentley**, but also a **Coombs-prepared Mark 2, 3.8 litre Jaguar**. This car had a balanced engine, triple Webers, louvred bonnet, cutaway rear spats, Burgess exhausts and chrome wires. Of course, it was finished in British Racing Green. With this car I felt I had truly arrived! Where? You might ask!!

The one you regret buying Without doubt, a 1987 (un)**Reliant Scimitar GTE**. It cost me £000s and I'd rather not dwell on the matter...

Fond memories of..

Three **Jaguar XK120s**, an **XK140** and an **E-type**. I owned this red brute during my thirteen years between marriages – it was highly successful!! Also three **Jaguar Mks I and II**. And a very distinctive **Teal Bugatti** which, at a distance, could pass for the real thing! Only the front wheel discs really gave it away.

Others that I remember fondly include a **Westfield** and, from much earlier, a **Fraser Nash** with a chain-driven gearbox that was only separated from one's backside by a piece of thin plywood. I quickly covered this with a metal plate!

Dream car

1927 **4.5 litre Bentley** with a Vanden Plas body, similar to this. A good one now costs upwards of £375000

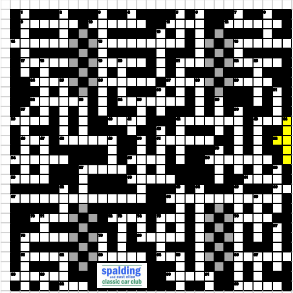
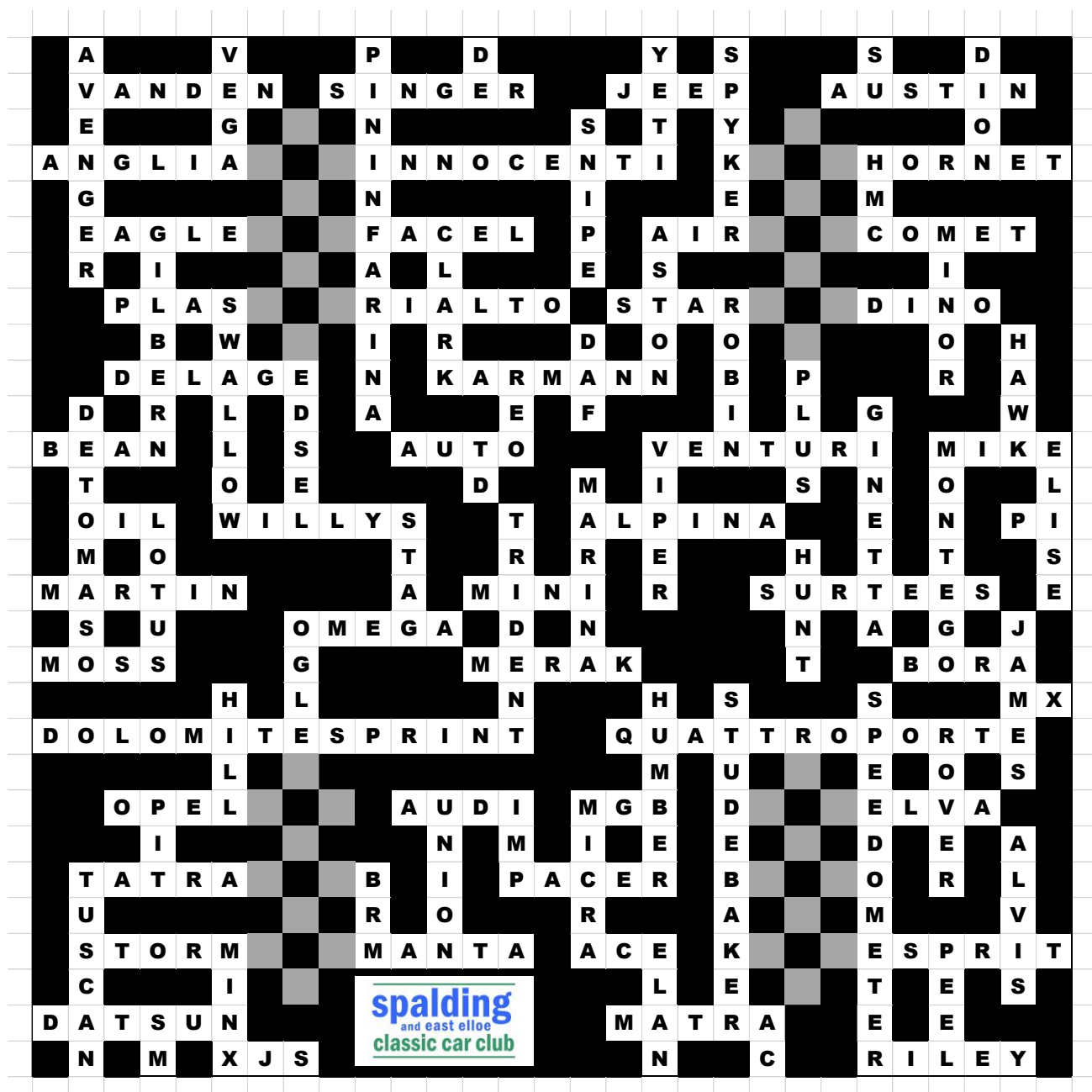


Funny/Weird Moment

In my lifetime, I've owned over 100 vehicles: cars, motorbikes, vans, lorries, buses and 2 steam engines! One car I bought was a 1950 Allard P1 V8 but to afford to run it (17 mpg!) I needed to save £3 a week, so I gave up smoking there and then. When the nicotine pangs got to me, I went into the garage and looked at my large, black monster. I immediately felt better!!

GIANT NEW YEAR PRIZE CROSSWORD

Solution



Thanks to everyone who entered the New Year Prize Crossword.

There were a lot of people caught out by two clues half way down the right hand edge. 44 down: 25 years of excellence from Hethel and 52 across: Mathematical Triumph 2½ litre, which were 'ELISE' and 'PI' respectively. Perhaps some of you hadn't realised the Lotus Elise is now 25 years old? Doesn't time fly?! So, with just two fully correct entries, I've decided to double the awards: Patrick & Alice Limming win a bottle of fizz and Nigel & Joy Mann a box of chocolates. Prizes to follow post-lockdown! Well done all and thanks to everyone else who entered.

Ed.

NEW YEAR CAPTION COMPETITION



From our January edition

featuring Sir Jackie Stewart

Thank you for your entries shown below

- ▶ Can you believe that Rolex still pay an old stager like me £½ million a year to give you chaps a tour round these wonderful machines? I can't remember the make but....
- ▶ I had you down as just the ordinary country-loving gent but the matching trousers you've got on today show you're a real fan, sir....
- ▶ You could afford several of these, Elton!
- ▶oh it's a Ferrari?
- ▶ Aye, but it does handle like a Bond bug!

ANSWERS

LINCS YELLOWBELLY SETTLEMENTS QUIZ (page 3)

Aslackby	1
Aubourn	2
Belchford	3
Buckminster	4
Clay Lake	5
Cold Harbour	6
Drayton	7
Edenham	8
Evedon	9
Fulbeck	10
Gipsey Bridge	11
Helpringham	12
High Ferry	13
Kirton End	14
Little Hale	15
Moulton Chapel	16
Old Leake	17
Quadrang Caudyke	18
Rand	19
Rippingale	20
Somersby	21
Surfleet	22
Tattershall	23
Timberland	24
Wasps Nest	25
Welby	26
Weston Hills	27
Wittering	28
Wrangle	29