

spalding classic car club and east elloe

NEWSLETTER

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Chair-Mann's Chatter

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Well, here I am *still* car-less in Spalding! Quelle surprise! Not that I am champing at the bit to go anywhere in particular, you understand, but the knowledge you do actually have a set of wheels is somehow comforting even in the current climate. I can hear you all chuckling, particularly when you know I am married to Nigel - a.k.a. "Honest John" in certain echelons!



I could always use his beloved Range Rover – a vehicle bought by H. J. to deliberately challenge even the most determined of short people! Amazingly comfortable, once you get there, but reaching the summit is fraught with hazards. You have to position one bum-cheek on the seat edge and hope you've remembered to wear heels to give you more height and leverage. Then, once seated, you realise you can't reach to close the door.....! Take two!

Plan B - We have various treasured pieces of motoring history languishing in the garage, some are even tucked up ready for the colder weather.....aaahhhh! Whereas my very redundant shopping paraphernalia is heaped in a corner sadly waiting for a boot to cosset it. Would I dare to venture out with anything whilst he's not looking? Probably not.....

First, I would need insider knowledge. How do you disconnect a battery conditioner? In my world, manual gearboxes have become a thing of the past, let alone a heavy clutch pedal or God forbid, one of those choke thingys! Now, where do you find the seat adjuster? Never mind, I'll bring cushions. My plan is coming together nicely. Is there a button somewhere for power steering? Any Bluetooth in here? Oh, a cloth to clear the screen – such luxury!

Thank goodness I'm not doing a bank job – it's taken me ages to suss it out – the car, not the bank, that is!

Eventually, I give up and book an online grocery delivery. I also ring the garage and get an update on the whereabouts of "Sparky", our new electric baby. Ah-ha! They know it's en route, it's been via rail and sea and now it's somewhere in the UK, on a transporter.....

Till next time, look after yourselves and stay in touch. Any newsletter items will be gratefully received!

Joy



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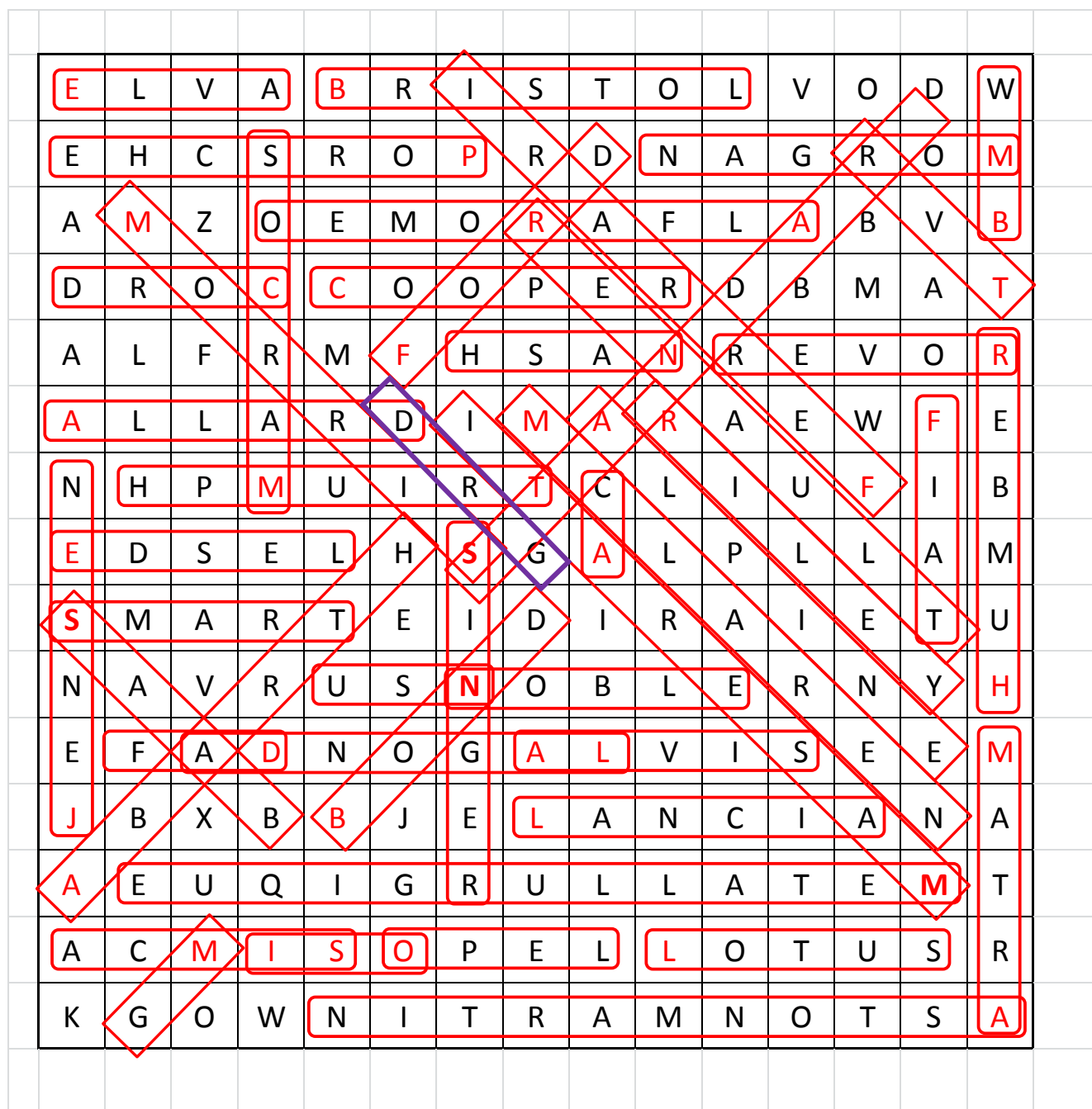
Ancient & Modern Wordsearch: ANSWERS

How did you do with last month's wordsearch? Congratulations to those of you who found any or all of these 48 car makes, old and new, hidden in the grid:

Abarth, AC, Alfa Romeo, Allard, Alpine, Alvis, Aston Martin, BMW, Bond, Bristol, Cooper, Cord, Daf, Edsel, Elva, Ferrari, Fiat, Ford, Humber, Iso, Jensen, Lagonda, Lancia, Lotus, Marcos, Maserati, Matra, McLaren, Metallurgique, MG, Morgan, Morris, Nash, Noble, NSU, Opel, Porsche, Renault, Riley, Rover, Saab, Simca, Singer, Smart, Standard, Triumph, TVR.

Best effort received came from **Paul Haylock** who only missed a couple of the names on my list. And Nigel Mann found GRD (highlighted below), a little-known manufacturer of 1970s racing cars eventually taken over by Van Diemen, which wasn't on it. Thank you all for your contributions.

AC



Thanks Tim!

I had a phone call a few weeks ago from a potential new member, who had recently moved into the area, enquiring not only about the Club, but asking if we had any members going to Cadwell Park for the Wolds Trophy meeting on 19/20 September.

Having never heard of the Wolds Trophy I felt some research was necessary to discover there were numerous races including classic single seaters in the form of Formula Ford 1600 and 2000s, Formula 3s and Historic Touring Cars amongst others.

Well, my excitement level hit the rev limiter (I lead a very sheltered life!), permission was sought from a very much higher authority to book a ticket, Covid restrictions dictating only pre-bookings were acceptable and arrangements made to meet Tim at some unearthly hour on the Sunday at Morrisons.

I decided it was appropriate to give the MGB an outing and, remarkably, I was first to arrive at the Pinchbeck supermarket. Tim arrived soon after in what must be described as one of the most immaculate and well-presented Mimosa Yellow Triumph TR6s that I have seen. Respecting all pandemic restrictions, we introduced ourselves and headed off north to Cadwell.

Clearly a TR6 has no problem keeping up with an MGB and we arrived at the circuit after a virtually traffic-free, yet slightly detoured (due to roadworks), trip to discover a very impressive crowd for a club meeting.

We found a suitable socially-distanced space at the bottom of the Mountain and took our seats in the sunshine to enjoy some terrific,



competitive racing, far better than most soporific F1 races of recent years!

For the lunch break, a decision was made to move round to another side of the circuit that gave us a sunlit view from Coppice Corner all the way round the circuit to the bottom of the Mountain to witness during the afternoon numerous overtakes into Park Corner, Mansfield and even one Alexander Albon-style daredevil stunt round the outside at Charlie's!

Apart from the very predictable single seater Formula Ford antics and argy-bargy, another memorable race was the Historic Touring Cars containing, amongst others, screaming Minis, a brave chap in a Jensen Inteceptor plus two mightily impressive Lotus Cortinas that took the 'Best Sound Of The Day' award in my opinion!

The Historic Road Sports race had a full, eclectic grid containing various Alfas, 911s, a couple of Europas, a Cobra, assorted Morgans all surrounded by cheeky little Elans champing at their heels. Brilliant!

All in all, a superb and varied race meeting, a brilliant day out, plus a 'blast' into The Wolds and back, so thanks once again to Tim Davies for alerting me to the day's events. It was a much better option than grass cutting, domestic duties and car cleaning!

Nigel Mann

PS Welcome to SEECCC, Tim & Karen

CAPTION COMPETITION

Thanks for your suggestions!



Why *did* we both have to travel to this secret location in the back of separate vans before we could start our tour?

Hang on Phil! I've a feeling this map you've brought is going to be a tad difficult to read once I'm in the saddle.

Buy me a roller skate will you for next time, please, Phil. Yes, I'll only need the one!

It's a much bigger one than I'm used to and makes it harder for getting one's leg over!

SNIPPETS

■ Plans for the AGM (normally held in early December) are undoubtedly going to be affected by the current limitations placed upon us all. Thoughts at the moment are that the Club should keep things 'bubbling under' and keep everything as we are for the time being, until the situation improves and we can start to run events again. If you have any issues that you feel warrant a more collective discussion, please contact our Club Secretary, Adrian Cunnington at seeccc@btinternet.com

■ Unfortunately, the planned trip to Losehill in the Peak District fell victim for a second time to the coronavirus restrictions in September, so Jenny & Trevor Overson are hopeful of rearranging the trip for May 2021. Please call Jenny on 07736 271113 if you are interested in joining them.

■ One of our members is looking for some good quality storage for his classic in the Spalding locality. If you can help, please contact Joy Mann.

QUIZ: NAME THE UK CITY OR TOWN

Here's one to get you started:

Join to next one (7) LINCOLN

1. Dark water collection (9)
2. Cliff-jumper with heavy weight, going to practise boxing? (10,3)
3. Dull off? Quite the opposite! (8)
4. Resolve an argument (6)
5. Lion in front of a large church (10)
6. Doing macramé with cured pig meat (10)
7. Have a letter to spare (5)
8. Roller for a Spanish nobleman? (9)
9. Needed for a replacement door (7)
10. Offal like snooker (9)
11. A prime number of trees (9)
12. Others arrived? (9)
13. Where cattle cross the river (9)
14. Left Right Left Right Left (5)
15. Water seepage (4)
16. 'Manage' a heavyweight (6)
17. Travel by horse (4)
18. Straw can be painful? (8)
19. Multiplying by two? (6)
20. Choose some jewellery (8)
21. Sounds like the dogs are depressed (8)
22. Fuel the fire over thirty French? (5,2,5)
23. Browns bread (9)
24. Pounds, shillings and pence (8)
25. Stupid French fries (8)
26. Keep fortified wine to sell (9)
27. Industrial lift for Mrs Rantzen (10)
28. Tub (4)
29. Mr Fawltly has finished (8)
30. Student loan for overacting (8)

Courtesy of Barry Phipps
(with minor edits)

Answers next month



Your first car

Austin 1300 GT I built myself from a new (2 door) shell powered by a tuned motor with a Downton head. Understated speed has always had its attractions!

Favourite car you've owned

Porsche 911 Carrera

Current classic driver

1983 BMW 635 CSi

The one you regret selling

Renault Alpine GTA V6



The one you regret buying!

My last **Alfa Romeo Alfasud (Sprint)** burnt a valve in the first month I owned it and a rear wheel bearing collapsed at 70 mph in the outside lane of the A1 going to London... It was great apart from that!

Fond memories of.....

My first Alfasud and two Pug 205s – just brilliant to drive. The quirky Alpine, lots of BMs, an Audi S5 and the 911.

Your dream car

McLaren F1

Funny/ weird/ memorable moment

Following the RAC Rally in Northumberland, one rainy November in the early 80s, coming over a brow of a hill in the Alfasud at speed and finding a queue of stationary traffic. We took to the wet (& wide) verge on the left and passed about eight cars in the queue by the time we stopped... Never been stared at so hard since!

Send your Auto File answers/photos to: Adrian Cunnington at seeccc@btinternet.com

VETERAN & VINTAGE TIME

Unfortunately, another victim of coronavirus in 2020 is the **Annual London to Brighton Run**, normally run at this time of the year. Alas, none of these rarities will be able to grace the long-standing event over the weekend of November 1st.

Bill Fisher has kindly supplied these shots of some of the machines that will be missing their annual excursion along the A23.

