

No 211 – January 2026

Events

Thursday 15 January

CLUB NIGHT TALK

The first of our Thursday club nights is a talk entitled *Images of Fenland Life* by Stuart Gibbard. At The Tigers Club, Park Road, Holbeach. PE12 7EE. Gather from 7pm for a 7.30 start. £3/head charge in aid of the club's 2026 charity, Prostate Cancer UK.

Thursday 12 February

CLUB NIGHT QUIZ

Our annual night of quizzing organised this year by Barry & Liz Aistrup. Teams of 2,3 or 4 required. Please email your entries to Barry at aistrup@btinternet.com. This event will also be held at The Tigers Club. Meet from 7pm for a prompt 7.30 start. Full details next month.

Sunday 01 March

SUNDAY BRUNCH MEET

Our first morning meet up of the new year organised by Adrian & Caroline Cunnington. Please save the date. More information next month.

Sunday 22 March

CLUB TRIP: GREAT BRITISH CAR JOURNEY MUSEUM

Organised by Jenny & Trevor Overson. GBCJ is in Ambergate, near Derby. Group rate of £15 pp includes a free drink; ideally we need 25+ participants. We also plan to stop off for an optional meal on the way home, venue to be confirmed. E-mail jenny.overson@tiscali.co.uk to book. More at <https://greatbritishcarjourney.com/>

Chair Mann's NEW YEAR CHATTER

Joy Mann Chair jmann@seccc.co.uk ☎ 01775 723856

Whatever happened to 2025? It has whizzed by in a blur and here we are at the starting line of 2026. One thing I do know, from 2025, is we had a rollercoaster of a year at SEECCC, thanks to all the club's elves who work tirelessly behind the scenes and the heartwarming support from all our members. So... Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! >>>



December was no exception and we were absolutely thrilled to see so many turn out for the SEECCC Christmas lunch on the 14th. A very convivial afternoon ensued (pics elsewhere) with good food and great company and I thank all those who very kindly acknowledged all the graft that goes into making our club events a success.

Nigel and I still had one problem hanging over our heads, the challenge of finding our grand-daughter a Barbie Dream House, the first one having mysteriously gone AWOL at a parcel hub, and then, to our horror, discovering there was a worldwide shortage... OK, I exaggerate, a UK shortage, but a very serious situation, nonetheless. Now, I don't know if you've ever entered a race to snare one of these highly prized bits of kit; you certainly need to be in ultra pro-active mode!

So, this was down to me then... (Never expect Nigel to get enthusiastic about anything pink, plastic and girlie!!...)

I'm delighted to report my mission succeeded but I am deflated to tell you we had to **cancel** Christmas. We both were punched by the Covid fairy and although I had been jabbed, I can categorically say it was the worst we'd been. (I write this on the 30th and Nigel is still struggling. No thermometer required – useful yardstick is the amount of garage door activity and I'm sad to say they're still firmly shut...)

Spalding's Rapunzel panto was also a no – goer ... Oh, yes it was! ... well, for some anyway, but we remained home alone. Family lunch was off the menu and I had, unfortunately, forgotten to cancel the massive joint lurking in the fridge. DO NOT Google '26 Ways With Pork!'... I still can't clear the steam from my glasses!

Our Christmas present exchange was done by stealth, with us allowed into an outbuilding provided we were masked and gloved. Hilarity ensued as I couldn't stop giggling at how ridiculous we looked. We were real adrenaline junkies, high on vintage *Covonia* from the back of the bathroom cabinet! The criminal fraternity would certainly have signed us up for one of their gangs as, after all, we had a mega-valuable stash, the Barbie Dream House!

So, peace on Earth reigned chez Mann, home alone on the 25th, pepped up by sherry trifle and paracetamol. You can't beat it!

We hope this finds you all fit and well and raring to navigate another SEECCC year. We wish you all the very best for 2026! Cheers!

Joy

REMINDER



If you have yet to acquire a copy of "The Big C and Me", the book we're promoting to raise funds for Prostate Cancer UK and Macmillan Cancer Support, please let Joy know and she'll either arrange to deliver or post one out to you. So far, we have raised a good wedge of cash and continue to get good feedback about this excellent, often humorous, informative book. It's easy-to-read, illuminating and carries some valuable - and potentially life-saving - messages. It costs just £5.99. Simply email Joy if you'd like to support these very worthwhile causes at jmann@seeccc.co.uk.

2026 CLUB CALENDAR

supporting **Prostate Cancer UK**

AMENDED DETAILS IN GREEN

DATE	DAY	EVENT	ORGANISER	VENUE
15th Jan	THU	Talk: Images of Fenland Life	Stuart Gibbard	Tigers Club, Holbeach
12th Feb	THU	Quiz Night	Barry & Liz Aistrup	Tigers Club, Holbeach
1st Mar	SUN	Sunday Brunch Meet	Adrian & Caroline Cunnington	T.B.A.
22nd Mar	SUN	Visit: Great British Car Journey	Jenny & Trevor Overson	Ambergate, Derby
26th Mar	THU	Annual General Meeting	SECC	Myers Room, Moulton
11th Apr	SAT	Visit: Aston Martin	Stuart & Sue Gibbard	Newport Pagnell
26th Apr	SUN	DRIVE IT DAY	Steve & Chris Le Sage	Bressingham Steam, Diss
3rd May	SUN	Sunday Brunch Meet	Joy & Nigel Mann	Baytree G/C, Weston
13th May	*WED*	Club Night Run	Charles & Celine Cornish	T.B.A.
7th Jun	SUN	ANNUAL CHARITY CLASSIC CAR RUN	Alan & Jackie Aistrup	T.B.A./Petwood/T.B.A.
25th Jun	THU	Club Night Visit & BBQ	Stuart & Sue Gibbard	Ropsley
28th Jun	SUN	Baston Classic Car Show	Graham Faulkner	Grimsthorpe
5th Jul	SUN	Treasure Hunt / Sunday Lunch	Steve Le Sage & Mick Nundy	T.B.A
16th Jul	THU	Club Night Run	Joy & Nigel Mann	New Lodge Farm, Bulwick
26th Jul	SUN	KLDMC Annual Charity Run	Kings Lynn & D.M.C.	T.B.A.
2nd Aug	SUN	Afternoon Tea	Colin & Karen Langwade	Pinchbeck
9th Aug	SUN	Boston Classic Car Show	Graham Faulkner	Hubbert's Bridge
16th Aug	SUN	Sunday 'Hog Roast' Run	Adrian & Caroline Cunnington	T.B.A. > Gedney Dyke
30th Aug	SUN	'The Sheringham Shanty Men'	Jenny & Trevor Overson	West Acre Theatre, Norfolk
5th Sep	SAT	Sleaford Classic Car Show	Graham Faulkner	Sleaford
10th Sep	THU	Club Night Run	Jean & Paul Pollard	T.B.A
14-17 Sep	M-TH	CLUB TRIP	Teams Gibbard & Le Sage	Coniston Cold, Yorkshire
4th Oct	SUN	Sunday Brunch Meet	Jenny & Trevor Overson	Warehouse, Setchey
15th Oct	THU	Talk: Tanks & Tractors	Stuart Gibbard	Tigers Club, Holbeach
1st Nov	SUN	Sunday Brunch Meet	Steve & Chris Le Sage	Bosworth's G/C, Elton
19th Nov	THU	Club Night Meal	T.B.A.	T.B.A.
13th Dec	SUN	Christmas Lunch	Joy & Nigel Mann	T.B.A.

DATES MAY BE CANCELLED WITHOUT NOTICE; T.B.A. = to be announced

Most club nights now on **Thursday** evenings to help organisers secure venues, as many are not open on Tuesdays anymore.

SECC Yorkshre Trip: September 2026 – BOOK NOW!

Teams Gibbard and Le Sage have been busy planning our 2026 Club Trip and have organised a visit to the Yorkshire Dales staying for three nights from Monday 14th September until Thursday 17th September at the Coniston Hotel Country Estate & Spa at Coniston Cold, near Skipton (right).



The price will be £795 based on a Classic double room for three nights including bed, breakfast and 3-course evening meal in our own private dining room. The price includes one hour's spa access; deluxe rooms are also available – contact the hotel for details and prices. In 2024, the hotel was awarded an AA Rosette Award for Culinary Excellence.

Already confirmed, as part of the trip, is a visit to one of Europe's finest collections of early cars. This breathtaking and immense private collection is not open to the public, or even normally open to car clubs, but we have managed to negotiate special access (sometimes it's not what you know but who you know). As well as containing some of the world's earliest and rarest cars, it also encompasses bicycles, motorcycles, tractors and steam engines. An opportunity not to be missed – we are assured that even the ladies will be enthralled!

Other highlights of the trip will be a tour of the Black Sheep Brewery and a steam train ride inclusive of tea/coffee and a scone while on the journey. There may be other attractions, but these are yet to be confirmed, subject to availability and timings. The Coniston Hotel also offers a range of activities (at extra cost) including spa facilities, off-road driving, shooting, archery and fishing should any member be in an adventurous frame of mind. *Please note: the car collection visit and the brewery tour route include several flights of stairs and may not be suitable for those with mobility issues, although three of the buildings housing the car collection have ground-floor access.*

To secure your room, you will be requested to pay a 50% deposit when booking. Please call the hotel direct on 01756 748080 and ask for the events team, tell them that you are part of the Spalding Classic Car Club party and quote the reference number **GA004848**.

We have provisionally booked 15 rooms, but the trip seems extremely popular and, at the time of writing, at least half of the rooms have already been booked – so be quick to ensure you don't miss out.



Visit one of Europe's finest collections of vintage cars. The car collection houses some of the world's earliest and rarest vehicles.

Ride a steam train through the stunning Yorkshire Dales scenery.



Any questions or queries, please contact Steve (stevelesage1ee@gmail.com) or Stuart (stuart@gibbardtractors.co.uk) and please also let one of us know when you have booked so we can add you to our list.

Steve & Christine Le Sage, Stuart & Sue Gibbard

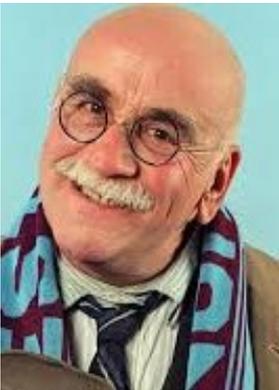
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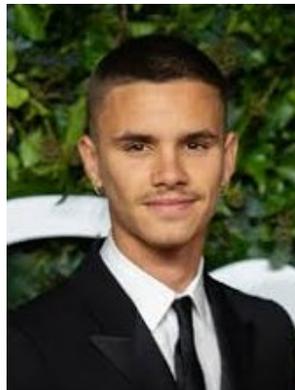
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NEW YEAR QUIZ – DINGBATS

Car makes and models: some classics, some maybe not...

Answers to seeccc.editor@gmail.com by 30 January

More >>>>

JUST FOR FUN!

5.



6.



7.



8.



CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH ANSWERS

These were the makes:

Allard	Evante	Honda	Lotus	Wolseley	Porsche*	Citroen	Lancia	Panhard
Ginetta	McLaren	Rover	Chrysler	TVR	Renault	Mini	Volvo	Toyota
Mazda	Gordon Keeble	Rolls Royce	Aston Martin	Alfa Romeo	Morris	Maserati	Fiat	Bristol
Triumph	Hillman	Ferrari	Humber	Delage	MG	Ford	Saab	Sunbeam
Vauxhall	Jaguar	Austin	BMW	Alpine	Riley	Elva	Lamborghini	VW**

These were the corresponding models for the makes in bold above:

		Civic	Excel	Hornet	Boxster	Saxo, AX, DS	Aurelia	
		Sterling		Tasmin	Gordini	Countryman		Camry
		Camargue	Virage	Brera	Minor, Mini	Bora	Uno	Beaufighter
Mayflower	Hunter	Testarossa	Snipe		Midget, A	Cortina		Stiletto
Victor	XJS, SS	Somerset, Mini			Elf, RMA		Countach	Beetle

Sorry!

- * **Porsche** was unfortunately misspelt 'Poreche' in the grid. **Boxster** was the hidden model.
- ** **VW** also accidentally slipped off the table. **Beetle** was the model. Thanks to all who had a go.

WHY NOT HAVE A CRACK AT THE NEW YEAR 'DINGBATS' ON PAGES 6 & 7?

CAPTION COMPETITION!



Entries to the editor by 30 January: seecc.editor@gmail.com

XMAS LUNCH 2025





Photos by Patrick Limming

SNIPPETS

► **Our AGM is coming up shortly.** It will be held on **Thursday 26 March**. Please save the date. All members are invited to attend; full details in the next News. The Club will be looking for a new Vice-Chairman to take over from Steve Le Sage who has indicated that he will be stepping down. Any volunteers? If so, please contact Joy.

► **Bourne Motor Racing Club** start their year with their AGM and the visit of **John Barker** as their first guest speaker of 2026 on 8th January. John has over 30 years' experience as a road tester, journalist and race driver. He also worked extensively for Jaguar in the 2010s developing the F-type and other performance models.

Warwick Banks has also given notice that he will be stepping down as BMRC President at the end of August after 20 years in the role. His successor will be **Rick Hall**.

► **King's Lynn & District Motor Club** have invited SEECCC members to attend their Casino & Awards Dinner Evening on Saturday 14 February.

Menu details are shown here. To book tickets, please contact Duncan Russell by 19 January at secretary@kingslynndmc.co.uk.

KLDMC has a programme of classic car events planned for 2026 with evening runs scheduled for 17 April, 15 May, 19 June, 14 August and 4 September. The Club's 48th Annual Charity Classic Car Run will take place on Sunday 26 July, venue to be announced.

Membership information is available from Helen Haylock at treasurer@kinglynndmc.co.uk or apply online at www.kingslynndmc.co.uk/membership/

King's Lynn & District Motor Club

Casino & Awards Dinner Evening

Join us for a night of celebration, entertainment, and fine dining as we honour the achievements of the past year in true style.

📍 Watlington Village Hall

📅 Saturday 14 February 2026

🕒 Arrival from 7.00pm | Dinner at 7.30pm

🎫 Tickets: £35.00 per person

Menu

Main Course (choice of):

- Beer-braised short rib with rich buttered mash
- Stuffed chicken ballotine with dauphinoise potatoes
- **Vegetarian:** Caramelised onion & chicory tart finished with crumbled gorgonzola (V)

Dessert (choice of):

- Dutch apple streusel tart with caramel glaze & Calvados cream
- Individual chocolate torte

☕ Tea & Coffee Station available

Dress to impress, enjoy the casino tables, celebrate our winners, and share a fantastic evening with fellow members and guests.

✉️ RSVP by 19 January 2026

🚗 Carriages at 11.45pm