

'DRIVE IT DAY': SUNDAY 26th APRIL - WILL YOUR CLASSIC BE READY?

spalding classic car club

and east elloe news

www.spaldingclassiccars.co.uk

March 2009

Club Night: Tuesday 10 March

Visit

This clubnight is a trip to the premises of **Contour Autocraft** who make high quality body panels for Jaguars at Lordship End, French Drove, Thorney, PE6 0PP. Despite the address, it's on the site of the old station on the Thorney road out of Gedney Hill! A few places are left: pre-booking is a must and there's a £5/head charge, payable on the evening. If you would like to attend, please contact **Ian Stancer** ASAP: mobile 07973 725592, home 01406 330452 or email i.stancer@farming.co.uk.

24 March: Committee meeting WMH, 8.15 pm

MG Car Club Inter-Marque Quiz

Five members made up a joint EEMC/SEECCC team for this event held at Woodhall Spa last month. We ended up in 2nd place. See *The Romer* for results.

February clubnight talk

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the excellent turn out for the talk by Chris Chandler, formerly of Aston Martin. Chris gave us an interesting insight into working for the legendary car maker and its former chairman, Victor Gauntlett. Thanks also to Chris for giving up his time and to Nigel & Joy Mann for doing the organising.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: FINAL REMINDER

Club subscriptions fell due for 2009 for all members on 1st January.

Our subscription rates remain at £10 for single membership and £15 joint.

Please ensure you have renewed (remember that cheque payments must be made to **East Elloe Motor Club Ltd**) by 31 March as we will be revising the newsletter despatch list before next month.

A renewal form is included on page 4 and more information can be found at www.seeccc.co.uk

2009 SEECCC Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Venue/organiser
Tue 10 Mar	Visit	Contour Autocraft, Gedney Hill (Ian Stancer)
Tue 24 Mar	Committee	Whaplode Manor
Tue 21 Apr (NB: DATE CHANGE)	Pub night	A trip out to a hostelry (Brian Gilham)
Sun 26 Apr	Club display for FBHVC <i>Drive it Day</i>	at Baytree, Weston (Steve Saunders)
Tue 12 May	Noggin' & natter	TBC
Sun 17 May	EEMC/SEECCC Historic Rally	TBC (Adrian Cunnington) <i>See The Romer</i>
Tue 09 Jun	Evening Run in the Bourne area	TBC (David Shepherd & Alan Lyon)
Sun 14 Jun	Bourne Classic Car Show	Club stand at Bourne (Alan Lyon)
Sun 14 Jun	Holbeach Vintage Show	Club stand at Holbeach (David Shepherd & Steve Saunders)
Fri 10 Jul	BBQ & gliding	Postland airfield (Nigel & Joy Mann)
Sun 19 Jul	Kings Lynn DMC 32nd Vintage & Classic Car Rally	Venue TBC (Ivan & Adrian Cunnington)
Tue 11 Aug	Clubnight visit	TBC
Sun 09 Aug	Boston CCC Show	Kirton (TBC)
Sun 09 Aug	Wisbech DHVC Run & Show	Wisbech (David Shepherd)
Sat 15 Aug	Maxey CC Show	Maxey (Bill Fisher)
Sat 05 Sep	Sleaford CV Show	(Bill Fisher & Steve Saunders)
Sun 06 Sep	EEMC/SEECCC 12 th Annual Classic Car Run	(Alan Lyon)
Sun 06 Sep	Moulton Show	(Jeremy Satherley)
Tue 08 Sep	Noggin' & natter	TBC
Tue 13 Oct	Clubnight	TBC
Tue 10 Nov	Clubnight	TBC
Tue 08 Dec	Clubnight	TBC
Wed 16 Dec	EEMC AGM	Whaplode Manor

If you have any suggestions for events, especially for the autumn months, please give me a call on 01775 761520 or email acunnington@eemc.co.uk. I've been a bit underwhelmed so far...

Adrian C



FBHVC's "Drive It Day": Sunday 26th April

So why not "drive it" and join us at Baytree Garden Centre, Weston for a classic car gathering? This will be an ideal opportunity to show off your car, help to promote the club and pick up some garden essentials all at the same time ! We have exclusive parking reserved for us between 10 am until 3pm. Meals and refreshments are available from the "Hop-In" restaurant on site.

If you really want to get in the swing of things and create an atmosphere, why not turn out in costume appropriate to the days when your car would have been new ? There will be prizes for the best turned out! For further details or to book a place contact **Steve Saunders** or **Liz Bollons**, tel: 01406 424735 or e-mail ssaunders12@btinternet.com

April 21 pub night: DATE CHANGE

April's Club Night is now on 21st and will be an informal drive to the Fitzwilliam Arms at Marholm, near Peterborough. The plan is to meet at The Vista, Spalding at 7.00 pm for a prompt 7.15 pm departure to allow us to be at the pub by 8.00 pm - or you can make your own way there.

The pub has asked us to pre-order our food and I will try and get an up to date menu for the April newsletter. Please let me know if you will be joining us at the start at the Vista.

Brian Gilham

Tel: 01406 424343 (w) 426614 (h).

Club officials

Your SEECCC Committee is:

Adrian Cunnington 01775 761520

SEECCC Co-ordinator/News Editor & Vice-Chair EEMC

Joy Mann 01775 723856 SEECCC Secretary

Simon Leonard *ex-officio*, Chairman, EEMC

Ian Pollard *ex-officio*, Secretary, EEMC

Nigel Mann Vice-President, EEMC

Jean Everitt, Brian Gilham, Alan Lyon, Dave Pollard, June Pollard, Paul Pollard, David Shepherd, Steve Saunders

All can be contacted by sending an email to

<initial><surname>@eemc.co.uk

e.g. acunnington@eemc.co.uk or jmann@eemc.co.uk etc

My Classic Story

(dedicated to KEG 509Y): part 2

Continued from last month

It's 1992. Enter VAN 50Y – a 1983 VW Mk1 Golf 1500GL. I could not fault this one. I put over 100k miles on the clock and only stopped using it because of the cost of petrol. I was doing so much driving that I had to have a diesel for everyday use.

The Golf was stashed away in my garage in 1997 and was replaced by C919 DVU, a 1986 VW Mk2 Jetta CL Turbo Diesel – it averaged 52mpg over the next 9 years – yep I have documented every mile. I paid £900 for that car and recovered the cost in fuel savings alone, in under 2 years. It had 185k miles on the clock when I bought it and currently has 275k, still on the original engine. I also took the number VAN 50Y and put it on this car thinking that one day I might sell the Golf on (shock horror!).

The story now moves on to the year 2000, sees me hit 40 and it's time for the mid-life crisis. By now VW's are my life and of course it had to be a sports car (I was not married, so could not have an affair for my compulsory MLC!). VW GTI? Sirrocco? No, not radical enough. So I started looking at distant relatives. Porsche of course – but 911s were over-priced for what they are. A 924 perhaps? Test drove one – OK but not exciting. I almost bought a 944 Turbo but talked myself out of it. Audi Quattro – a proper one? Yes, that would do me. Started looking, researching, reading until that is I read a road test on the Quattro from which I recall the line "the Quattro performed very well. On our test route through the Welsh mountains it was ALMOST able to keep up with our other test car – a Porsche 928". From that moment I started looking into the 928 – understated, way ahead of its time, undervalued, unappreciated, quicker than any 911 bar the Turbo and better handling too - this was the car for me. It took a further 6 months of searching and thousands of miles up and down the country before I found A2 XXL – a 1985 S2 4.7litre V8 Auto – yes Auto. Manual 928s are rare and it really doesn't make much difference to the performance, 23 years old it will still out-perform most things on the road. This is the car you will see us out in most often.

The Porsche insurance requires it to be garaged and sadly that meant that the Mk1 Golf had to be resigned to the driveway, where it's condition would deteriorate rapidly, so I took the grave decision to sell it. I sold it locally and saw it around for a while and saw it not being cared for – it broke my heart to see it like that. I really wanted it back – but then it disappeared. After I took the original registration for the Jetta, the Golf was re-registered as KEG 509Y. Basically it is the only car I have ever sold – I still have all the others, hence the dedication at the start of this story. If I ever had the chance, I would buy it back again.

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To bring the story right up to date, in 2005 I happened across a 1995 VW Passat TD at a silly cheap price, just parked by the side of the road. By then I was partnered with Liz and we already had a 1994 Passat TD Estate which is her everyday car and dog transporter. This was the same model but in saloon form. Liz had frequently complained about the lack of power steering on the Jetta, so a second Passat would resolve all those issues because we would have 2 cars essentially the same. A quick trip to a cash machine sealed the deal and we drove that car home, so the Jetta was retired to Liz's garage – where it has been ever since.

In amongst all this, way back in 1987, I was fortunate to acquire a 1956 VW Beetle in need of restoration – that lives in my garage alongside the Porsche and the Camper Van – untouched since I bought it all those years ago. Until now! A classic VW event in Lavenham, Suffolk in 2008, at which we showed the Camper has inspired me – the next classic VW show is scheduled for 2012; I want to be there with the Beetle.

Also lurking in the shadows, well, in one of mum's barns to be exact, I have a 1964 VW 1500s Variant – that's the rear-engined estate car which is quite rare now and really deserves to be restored – one day!

When I bought the VW Camper back in 1982 there was no owners' club. The Split Screen Van Club was founded in 1983. I joined the committee of that club in 1985 and have remained a committee member ever since. I founded our spares service and later served 5 years as club chairman. For the past 10 years I have maintained the club's vehicle register. We have a database of over 4000 vehicles and can locate vehicles

for film and TV as well as magazine photo-shoots etc. In 2008 I was honoured to accept an honorary life membership of SSSC for services to the club.

I am occasionally engaged as a concours d'elegance judge. Indeed, I used to be a competitor back in the early 90's when I first finished restoring the camper – never again! I would rather be the nasty judge! Over the years I have had the van featured in *Practical Classics* magazine, it has appeared in several books and was even on *Top Gear* with William Woollard way back in 1991.

Although VWs have been my life over the past 26 years, I still have a passion for anything old. Sadly my father died in 1995 and the Austin 10 remains unfinished – maybe? My brother appears to have lost interest in his collection of MG Midget, MGB and E-Type Jaguar. I got my "never get rid of anything" gene from my dad. In 1971 he bought a 3 year old Triumph Herald 13/60 Estate – that is in the barn down at the farm, as is the 1972 Mk1 Ford Granada 2.5 V6 that he bought when it was also about 3 years old. There is a 1982 Austin Metro that he bought brand new. There are also some other relics in the barn – brother's Hillman Imp, my Sister's Singer Chamois and inevitably a spare VW Camper Van which I also bought in 1982! – all just a lottery win away from being resurrected and preserved in the Saunders family transport museum.

Steve Saunders

Do you have a classic story to tell? If so, please send it to the Editor at acunnington@eemc.co.uk or by mail to Adrian Cunnington, 4 Miles Bank, Spalding, Lincs. PE11 3EZ.



East Elloe Motor Club Limited

and its specialist section

Spalding & East Elloe Classic Car Club

Application for membership or renewal: 1 Jan - 31 Dec 2009

Applicant	Spouse/partner
Surname	
First Names	
Signature	
Address	
Postcode	
Telephone	
E-mail	

Subscription

(tick/complete boxes)

All members undertake through this application to abide by the Rules of the Club and agree to pay a maximum of one pound (£1) towards any outstanding liability of East Elloe Motor Club Ltd.

Single Membership @ £10.00

Joint Membership @ £15.00

Applicants for **country membership** must live over 20 miles from Holbeach *and* be a full member of another MSA affiliated Club. Membership number should be stated. No direct issue of newsletters is included but copies can be accessed via the Club websites.

Country Member @ £5.00

Club:

Member No:

Junior members must be under 18 years at 1st January of the year of membership and their **parent or guardian should sign** above.

Junior Member @ £5.00

Date of birth:

Newsletters

Members eligible to receive the Club newsletters, can elect to have them sent in PDF format by e-mail instead of by post. If you wish to receive yours by e-mail please **tick** the box and ensure you have filled in your **e-mail address** above.

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I enclose payment for £_____ - 00 (please make all cheques payable to EAST ELLOE MOTOR CLUB LTD)

Send applications to: **IAN POLLARD, 5 ESTELLA WAY, SPALDING, LINCS. PE11 1HS**