

DORSET A7 CLUB

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 1982

I sit down to write this newsletter in the Christmas spirit at last. My family and I have just returned from the pantomime at St. Peters School, a superb fun "Production".

It is very pleasing to have some members’ contributions this month and I am including a little something I saw in a trade journal that should make you smile.

Well, this. is it! This is the month! Club night, committee meeting, Christmas dinner and club run all in the one month. The excitement is almost too much and, OH, those Christmas presents yet to get and cards to write too. Have they moved? Have you got their address? I think they were in Wigan or was it Widnes? You know the feeling.

The next club night has a 16mm sound film, runtime of about 20 mins. We hope to have some music and laughs, and we will see Bill Quayle’s slides of that wonderful LONGBRIDGE RALLY.

We’re having a "BUMPER" raffle with lots of prizes at the Christmas dinner with a STILTON CHEESE, 3 BOTTLES OF WINE, A Christmas Pad., HARVEY’S BRISTOL CREAM, PRESENTATION BOX OF NUTS, CRACKERS, A MYSTERY PRIZE, A BOX OF BLACK MAGIC and the star prize is a beautiful "HAM".(I told you SANTA ­might come!)

Let’s hope it isn’t you that gets the BOOBY PRIZE.

See you club night assuming I don’t go off to foreign parts (LEEDS!) again.

Yours in festive spirit.

George.

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MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

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YOUR LAST REMINDER ABOUT RENEWING YOUR SUBSCRIPTION THIS MONTH AS THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY PAID

We have one new member this month welcome.to:

Mr. Nick Grace-Moffat, The Lodge, Aldeney Hospital, Ringwood. Road, Parkstone, Dorset.

Glyn

DORSET RUN TO THE BRIGHTON RUN

At 7 o'clock on Sunday morning I managed to drag my eyelids up over my eyes and squinted out of the bedroom window, to see the rain beating down. "Shall we bother"? I asked Pat, " I shouldn’t think anyone else will go in this weather". "Please yourself" came the sleepy reply. "We'll go" I said after a moments deliberation.

So, it was at 8 o'clock we were "hissing" along the forest road, peering into the sheeting rain on our way to the 'Fighting Cocks' at Millbrook. We past the 'Pages' in Lyndhurst and soon arrived
at the meeting point to find Gary Munn in his 'Box', George and Joy Mooney with Sarah, Gary and Sue in their CORTINA (sorry, Ed.) and Jimbo and Mary in their Tickford, waiting for us. George had been there since 8 o'clock thinking that this was the starting time (he obviously doesn’t read his newsletter, he only writes it!! (Groan, Ed)

Anyway, we were soon joined by John, Cynthia, Steven and Richard Paget and we set off in 5 cars, 2 moderns and 3 'sevens' for Brighton. Shortly after joining the motorway, we were overtaken by a Cortina, blasting its horn, the occupants waving and laughing. It was John and Janet Stone with Peter and Karen. After a stop for coffee and some rather nice Danish Pastries, we arrived in Brighton around midday and parked the cars in a multi storey car park. We walked in the rain to the finishing
line on the undercliff, just in time to see the first arrivals. There was much blowing of horns and whistles, cheering and waving as the beautiful veterans, all brass and polished woodwork, roared, spluttered or hissed their way along the sea front. The rain had eased now, and we stood watching and cheering, as we ate fish and chips. .

After a while, Pat, Gary and I decided to go along to the Classic Car Show, where there was some very exotic machinery on show such as Lamborghini, Jensen, Aston Martin and Rolls Royce. There were two Austin Sevens, however (sensible cars Ed) - a supercharged super sports model and a 1922 Chummy.

We started for home.at 5 o'clock, driving.in pouring rain, arriving home at 7.30 p.m. after a wet, but very enjoyable day.

Glyn

Sunday 5th December Last Run of 1982

To those who missed the event

A good turnout of nine cars met at Ringwood car park. There was Richard and Margaret in the Pearl (on her first club trip). A welcome to Cyril and friends in the Ruby (purchased from Wendy and Brent), and Paul and Emma in their '26 Chummy. We were the last to arrive at 10 past eleven (sorry folks!!)

After a briefing from Phil we left Ringwood and headed out through Hightown up to Poulner through Linford and Highwood and a left turn took us through the first ford!!

Wanting to create a splash, we held back and then charged at the stream, but to our horror our off-side wheels had gone over the edge of the hard concrete, but as fast as we were in - we were

back out!! On to the first wooded and winding tracks, covered in late Autumn leaves and full of puddles. More tracks and lanes then into another wooded area which took us up a nice curving hill climbing about 60 feet onto a flat area of gorse-covered forest which overlooked the surrounding countryside. There was a large waterhole which was charged by the mire insane members!

(including me, Ed). Next to a place known as Ogdens, we came across a large rut, followed by a double ford. I instructed Jane, (Toyah Wilcox) or is it the other way round, to take a photo as I drove through. My intention being to turn round and go back for her, but she decided she would run through but half-way, by kind invitation of Pat and Glyn, was allowed to jump on their running board! (They say it takes all sorts!) By the way, the camera was knocked off the T.V. the night before and the front is broken (chances are the photos won't come out!) Having got Jane (Ginger Rodgers) back into her half of the Box I noticed river weed stuck to the windscreen and bonnet!

Back onto the tarmac lanes, eventually all nine Sevens arrived at the High Corner Inn. Dogs, children and adults either looking for a tree, the loo, or the bar! After seeing to the least important items, we got to the bar, ordered our respective tipples and meals (which were served most efficiently).

A most enjoyable lunch-time had by all. Hope we will be seeing you at the Christmas Dinner - Hurry Hurry Hurry! Send for your tickets to-day

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Dusty and Jane (The Redhead)

Thank you Dusty and Rusty for a good article at very short notice - Ed.

Letters to the Editor

7, Brudemell Road, Canford Cliffs, Bournemouth.

Dear George,

Do consign this to the WPB.if you wish. Must be desperate to use it.

Best Wishes,

Bill and Norma .

(and wots rong wiv it then? Eh? Ed.)

I am firmly of the opinion that new members should be seen and not heard for at least five years and then only quietly and not often. Any excuses for breaking this golden rule are two-fold. Firstly, from what I have seen out of the 70 members I must be the 69th oldest and there may not be time to qualify as already stated (although must say that when I ask Gary and Glyn to deal with my Nippy problems, I see that famous Munwellyn team visibly overtaking me and, secondly, I have owned Nippy for 31 years -.before most of the Committee members were born and I thought it was only the policeman that were looking younger these days!

It was just over a year ago when I saw a Nippy leaving a car park in Portsmouth and chased and stopped it. The owner, Mark Pain, "who does something in Solent Club" was a real enthusiast and after a chat gave me Bernard's name and address. I duly phoned and in his inimitable friendly way he made me feel very welcome and I felt compelled to join. He duly met me at my first meeting with usual charm and manner (what lucky people Elfords of Tuckton are to have to have him as I am sure he could sell a double bed to the Pope). In fact, all members and the ladies were so kind and helpful. I was reminded of the words of the successful SDP candidate recently when thanking his supporters after the results were announced. He said that he had had little time to get to know them and felt like the young bridegroom whom, after a whirlwind courtship had wooed, won and married his lovely bride. The unsuccessful candidate said he thought the comparison between his opponent and the bridegroom was very apt because if his party ever formed a government they would, throughout their term of office, perform on the public the only remaining duty of a bridegroom.

However, if all was so friendly, why, after my first meeting was the venue suddenly changed from Ringwood to Wimborne without my being told? Seemed a drastic step to avoid one new member! Further, why were the Bromsgrove Brigade at Longbridge told to report to our camp on the show site only to find it deserted "Gone to Stratford". Were they telling us something? Felt as I did when my parents moved while I was at school without giving me their new address.

In spite of this, I have not missed a meeting and it is so good to be able to bring Norma along. The presence of our ladies is an added attraction in more ways than one. There is no doubt at all that their support and enthusiasm makes it possible for their males to attend rallies etc. as they come along with children and make it a real family party. Our meetings are unique as they are so. enjoyable and informally informative. The "laid back" approach of Chairman Derek sets the standard and I am sure a great deal of pre-planning is done to ensure that Club evenings and activities are a

success. There is so much enthusiasm and know-how available which they are always keen to impart. They all do a great job, especially Phil with his spares section which has to be a vocation as he will go to any lengths to keep us supplied. His "End to End" record run must have seemed like a week off.

He really does give a cradle to the grave service (or if we are allowed a "modern" idiom Basket to casket).

There is no doubt that 7's are a way of life and enable you to meet such interesting people. We all need an outlet be it darts, snooker, underwater basket making or even watching Southampton play football. I tried the latter but gave it up and it was no surprise to me to read in the paper recently that their forward line is incapable of scoring even off the field.

Now, George, if this epistle is not printed I shall not be offended. Norma and I just felt we should say "thank you" and at the same time clear our magazine contribution conscience.

You could stick the paper on your Pink Panther to keep the glare down at Beaulieu next year (your "H" reminds me of Satin Cushions for golden oldies only) I have typed this with my own fair finger as I have experienced in the past that with my hand-written efforts so much is lost in the translation. Bill Quayle

(Now, to all you others with a conscience! Let’s be having you, ED)

PS. Where do Policeman Live? Eh?

LETSBY AVENUE! HO! HO!

Old school House,

Charlton Horethorne, Nr. Sherborne, Dorset.

25.11.82

Dear George,

I enclose an article about the Pearl, which is now on the road, should you think it suitable for inclusion in the Newsletter.

Yours, sincerely,
Margaret Cressey

DKL 409 - 1936 Pearl Cabriolet

At last the Pearl is on the road thirteen months after we bought it. For some time, Richard had been hoping to find a Tourer for restoration but I had particularly wanted a Pearl. So, when I spotted an advertisement for a 1936 model in a motoring magazine and Richard jokingly suggested I ring the

number given, I quickly took him up on it. This resulted in our visiting the owner in Oxfordshire on our way back from the 1981 Longbridge Rally.

The owner wanted rather a lot of money for the car, which was not a runner, but after looking it over, it really was impossible to resist. The only unoriginal points on the car were the hood and the paint, everything else being in compara­tively good order.

Since we had two Rubies idling in the garden, we decide to sell these and buy the Pearl.

We arranged that a friend from Warwickshire would tow the Pearl down for us with his Landrover in exchange for a weekend in Somerset.

Restoration started in November 1981 with Richard aqua-blasting the chassis (courtesy of a local pig farmer) after four strong men had lifted off the body. Compared with most Seven restorations, there was little to be. done. Richard welded the body, replaced some rotted wood and set to work on the engine. The majority of the body was sandblasted and the remainder rubbed down by hand. It was then ready to be hand painted by Brent and a jolly good job he made of it too! Meanwhile, I was cleaning and polishing the leather and chrome, renewing any broken stitching and patching the hood lining.

We thought all was going well enough to enter the Pearl for Longbridge 1982. Unfortunately, Richard encountered problems with the engine, when bubbles appeared in the radiator. After
having a couple of heads and a block skimmed and trying several gaskets, he decided to take his father’s advice (he owned a variety of Sevens some years ago) and hammer it up and down the lane a few times. This seemed to solve the problem and Richard decided he had been over-cautious.

Since the Longbridge deadline had passed, we decided to slow down a bit but on 6th November the Pearl passed the M.O.T. and the following afternoon we went out for a 26-mile run in torrential rain with no problems.

I was rather surprised to find that the Pearl is narrower than the Box Saloon and at first, I was digging my passenger in the ribs when changing gear. I’m gradually educating my passengers into travelling light and all looks set for some enjoyable motoring in the future.

Margaret Cressey

Is Brent trying to put me out of business? What’s wrong with spray guns? Ed.

Events Calendar

16th December Thursday CLUB NIGHT. 16MM SOUND FILM "CORNWALL CALLING". LONGBRIDGE SLIDES, MUSIC AND LAUGHTER at the DORMERS Wimborne

8th December Saturday CHRISTMAS DINNER. OUR FIRST WITH GRAND RAFFLE at the DORMERS Wimborne.

3rd December, Thursday CHRISTMAS COMMITTEE MEETING at the DORMERS Wimborne.

1st JAN. Saturday 1st run of the year to The Flying Boat at Calshot. A popular venue and good catering OK for kids 1st Run of the year depart Cat and Fiddle, Hinton Admiral, nr. Christchurch on A35 11 a.m. sharp.

8th January, Saturday \* STAR \* ATTRACTION THE GRAND SKITTLES EVENING PITCH YOUR SKILL AND WIT AT 9 STICKS. A GREAT EVENING. TEAM EVENTS, REFRESHMENTS, A GOOD PUB. 7.30 PROMPT AT THE LANGTON ARMS, TARRANT MONKTON

20th January, Thursday Club Night - DORMERS Wimborne. AUCTION. CLEAN GOODS ONLY, MOTOR PARTS, BRIC A BRAC, VICTORIANA, RECORDS ETC. 10% of sale value as commission to club funds. These auctions can be great fun so please come along and bring something with you. Please label clearly.

27th January, Thursday Committee Meeting Dormers Wimborne

29th January, Saturday Beaulieu friends evening first of 3. An evening with Richard Noble from project thrust. Should be a super evening.

12th February, Saturday DON’T FORGET! ANOTHER \*STAR\* EVENT...SUPER BARN DANCE. GET YOUR TICKETS NOW. 7.30 - 11.30 at Scouts Hall, Redcotts Lane, Wimborne. ALWAYS A FUN EVENING AND CATERED FOR BY ALL OUR LOVELY LADIES. GOD BLESS ‘EM

17th February, Thursday Committee Meeting Dormers

EASTER 4 cars are interested in taking their owners to France. If you are interested in taking your owner, please ring John Page, Christchurch 473207 BEFORE XMAS.

DON’T FORGET! MODERNS ALWAYS WELCOME ON RUNS!

SERVICES

MUNWELLYNS A7 Repairs/Restorations. (Mechanical) All work undertaken. Ring Glyn on New Milton 613080 or Gary on B’mth 745951

Austin Seven Brake Relining Service

Set of 8 shoes, any year (Exchange Service) £15.25 incl. VAT

Clutch linings and-rivets 1923/36 £8.50 incl VAT

Clutch linings Borg & Beck 1936/9 £8.50 incl."
Exchange Borg and Beck clutch. plate 1936/9 £10,50 incl.”

 All prices include postage.

Service by return of post from Bernard Cowley, 232 Rempstone Road, Merley, Wimborne, Dorset Wimborne 887666.

SALES AND WANTS

None reported from members this month but I have-two to include.

1. Article seen in Bridport paper declared a farmer has a 1927 Austin in bits could be rebuilt, believed HEAVY 12.

Gentleman’s name: Mr. Larder phone number believed to be Powerstock 218

2.1929 Heavy 12 Saloon 4 door original trim & upholstery has gone hard. Body needs new roof timbers and covering very sound. Chassis overhauled. Body panels good, wings sound basically but requiring some welding. Engine dismantled but bored, crank ground. Some spares. Excellent restoration project and reasonable. (Secretaries of other clubs please report in your magazines, please, please, Ed.) Offers on £1,300 Ring: - KEVIN WISSETT 0254 37399. (ACCRINGTON LANCS.) .

Technical Tips Can You See?

On purchasing our Seven I was a little dismayed by the low output of the headlamps. At Beaulieu this year I picked up some (apparently hard to get) 6V 24W S.C.C. headlamp bulbs.

So a headlamp inspection was put on the next Sunday afternoon’s agenda. Although the headlamp glasses and reflectors appeared clean enough from the outside, once-the rims and glasses were taken off it was amazing how much dirt was removed by using a soft clean rag, moistened with a little water and very carefully wiped around the reflector. Past experience has proved that care is needed, it is all too easy to rub away the surface of the reflector. The glasses were cleaned with wire-wool, then a clean rag, then re-assembled with the new bulbs. Both lamps were aligned to focus on the same spot of road ahead of the car. Although only another 3 watts had been added to each lamp I felt the output was doubled. I notice quite a few dirty headlamps, and have heard other owners grumble of dim lights, but I am sure even using the 6V 21W S.C.C. lamp as were fitted to our Box, other owners could greatly improve the output of their headlamps! So, rags out!

Be seeing you all I hope.

Dusty

Lost Oil Pressure?

Glyn gave me this one for you to look out for if you aren’t going to send your car to him for repair!

If you ever find you have lost oil pressure and can’t trace why, after checking the pump, drive gear, woodruff key on the pump shaft, pressure relief valve and pressure gauge, here is one you won’t have thought of. There are 3 types of rear camshaft bushes! If you fit the wrong one for your crank case, you can finish up with no oil pressure.

Check that rear bush to ensure it is a good running fit on the camshaft and close fit within the crankcase thus avoiding oil by passing the bush altogether.

Oh, and by the way, on 3-bearing engines don’t forget to ensure the pipe to the centre main is seated well and not fractured. (Oh, those beautiful 3 bearing engines Ed.)

Club Spares

Ruby owners, banish your leaking windscreen - we now have proper moulded windscreen rubbers (no problems around the corners!) £7 each

Other new items: -

Early/late spring U Bolts and packing pieces

Shock Absorber Bolts -front and rear

Front starter ring gear

Bonnet Corners

Distributor Caps

Distributor base plate with points and condenser Pin valve cups

Editors Other Bit

Well here we are at the end of another epic. Will it make the worst sellers list?

We appear to have our act together - better regards mailings, newsletters and membership lists, superb new Membership Sec.

If something is going wrong with our running of your membership i.e. no mag, wrong address. etc., please let, Glyn know.

We hope you enjoy your Christmas and I look forward to seeing some of you before then.

On behalf of my colleagues on the committee and all wives may we wish you all a VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS and a BRIGHT and PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

George & Joy

