



ROLLS-ROYCE  
ENTHUSIASTS' CLUB  
NORTH EASTERN SECTION



*Newsletter May/June 2010*

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The Teesside *Noggin and Natter evenings* continue on the second Wednesday of each month at The Hotel Baltimore, 250 Marton Road, Middlesbrough. This is a social evening and not just technical talk about cars, though it is always possible that the subject of Rolls-Royce and Bentley may come up!

### Events for 2010

- 9 May** Frank Dale and Stepsons Open Day.  
**16 May** Lunch at Lumley Castle. Ray and Margaret.  
**19 May** Visit to Rolls-Royce Heritage Centre, Derby. Derek.  
**26 May** 7.30pm. Pub meet at **The Honest Lawyer**. Presentation by Bentley Newcastle.  
**31 May** Ripley Castle Rally. Yorkshire Section.  
**13 June** Visit to Yorkshire Gliding Club. Roger and Janice.  
**18-20 June** Annual Rally, Rockingham Castle.  
**27 June** Sutton Park Picnic. Yorkshire Section.  
**28 June** Committee meeting  
**4 July** MGOC Classic Vehicle Show, Tynedale Park, Corbridge.  
**17 July** **Saturday**. Visit to Ripon Races. Peter and Susan  
**18 July** Newby Hall Rally, NECPWA.  
**31 July** **Saturday**. Visit to North East Theatre Organ, Howden le Wear. Geoff and Sheila.  
**8 August** North of England Rally, Harewood House  
**15 August** Ilton Barbeque. Lucy and Dennis. **Change of date.**  
**22 August** Joint visit to Raby Castle with the Jaguar Enthusiasts' Club. Geoff and Sheila  
**17-19 Sept** Section weekend, Briery Wood Hotel. Paul and Sue.  
**27 Sept** Committee meeting  
**12 Dec** AGM 11.30am at The Blackwell Grange Hotel, Darlington.

### ADVERTISING RATES

Yearly:	full page	£75.00
	half page	£50.00

### Members' private advertisements - maximum space $\frac{1}{4}$ page

Under £200	Free
Over £200	£5.00

**Wanted advertisements** Free

Cover: Two well known 20/25s - John Harrison's Sports Saloon by Hooper, GNC7, and Nick Clark's Limousine by Hooper GLR 82X. Not so well known is Dennis Wheatley's 1956 Jaguar XK140. For more information, see later in the newsletter.

## Welfare

Members are asked to let the Chairman or Secretary know if they are aware of other members of the Section who are unwell or in hospital. Peter Kitching has been under the surgeon's knife and has had a double by-pass operation. All rather a surprise, I understand, as he only went in for a test! Anyway I am pleased to report that he is now doing well and we all wish him a speedy recovery. He hopes to be at Newby Hall and meet up with old friends there.

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## Chairman's Challenge

Well here we are just at the start of summer; we have just had 'national drive it day' and I do hope most of you had your cars out for an airing on 25 April. Some members went to Stratstone Jaguar, Stockton, and had a very enjoyable day. One lucky member won first prize of a new Jaguar car to use for a weekend.

The visit to the Rolls-Royce Heritage centre is all booked so please can I ask those who have booked to forward a cheque for £20 each to cover the cost of the coach.

There will be three pick up points on the way and they are:-

0615am Washington Services Southbound;

0640am West Park Darlington;

0710am Leeming Bar Services;

to arrive in time for a prompt 10am start at Derby. Please do remember to buy your parking ticket at the services for the day. We have been asked to join on a visit to the North East Theatre Organ at Howden Le Wear on Saturday 31 July, at 11am, for about 1½ hours which will include a tour of the Mighty Wurlitzer Workings. This event is free but please make a donation to help with the running costs. We will then retire to a local pub for lunch, which is not compulsory. Please return the enclosed booking form by 7 June if you wish to attend.

Martin and I attended the Club Conference at the Hunt House in April and there will be a full report in the next Bulletin. The monthly meetings are still going well and we had a new member of the club attend for the first time, Lee Taylor, who is very



keen. Please remember that the May meeting will be at the Honest Lawyer, Durham, with a presentation by Bentley Newcastle. Please do come along and enjoy the chat.

On the events list you will see a visit to Raby Castle on Sunday 22 August. This event is with Mark Woodward Events and the cost is £5 each including a light buffet. There will be several car clubs at this event so plenty to see. Please return the enclosed booking form by 7 June. If the ladies would like to contribute something savoury or sweet towards the buffet please can you indicate on the booking form - thank you.

The Annual Rally will soon be upon us. This year's event will be over three days so more than enough to see and do. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. The annual Bonham's Auction will be taking place on the Saturday, I am sure there will be plenty to tempt you, from a bargain to a more expensive buy.

Drive Safely.

**Derek**

## Secretary's notes

First of all some correspondence which has come my way over the past couple of months. First from Richard Harrison who sent me the following e-mail:

*Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2010 10:35 AM  
Subject: Old Bulletins*

*Martin,*

*I have just discovered that the Belgium-Luxembourg Section website (accessed via main RREC site) has a Library section which contains .pdf files of all Bulletins from 1 to 70.*

*These are easily downloadable and can be saved on hard drive.*

*Interesting reading,  
Richard*



Subsequently Richard brought this up to date with the following:  
*re- my note on old bulletins on the Belgian Section site, these have now appeared on the main RREC site under "publications".*

Roy Brooks sent some information regarding this year's Le Mans 24 Hour endurance race:

## ***BOLTON LE MANS MOTORSPORT FESTIVAL***

*Saturday and Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> June 2010*

*Bolton is twinned with the town of Le Mans in France where the renowned 24 Hour endurance race takes place every year – and where Bentley famously won five of the first eight races. We are specially invited to display our cars at this Festival celebrating the union of the two towns. The event coincides exactly with the weekend of this year's race which will be shown live on a huge screen in the Town Hall Square alongside a collection of famous Le Mans race-winning cars.*

*The RREC has been allocated the exclusive use of a top location to display our cars, the car park of the Parish Church of St Peter, although we must pay due consideration to the needs of regular worshippers on the Sunday. Surrounded by lawn and trees this is a very pleasant spot with toilets and light refreshments available in the adjacent parish hall. The position is safe and convenient to other activities.*

*With wide backing by the Town Council, local business and organisations, a whole host of activities are planned, including Live Music, Fine Food Fayre, Fine Arts and Crafts and Antiques market, a traditional family funfair, Fashion Show at Bolton University, Festival Golf Tournament and much, much more. Check out [www.boltonlemansmotorsport.com](http://www.boltonlemansmotorsport.com) for more details.*

*You are invited to display your car on either or both days, but it is essential that you book in advance since space is limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. A nominal admin fee of £5 covers admission for both days.*

*For more information contact Roy Brooks on 0161 764 3770 or [roybrooks100@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:roybrooks100@yahoo.co.uk)*

*In order to provide an appropriate display you are requested to arrive at the Event about 10.00 to 10.30 am on the Saturday; but, in deference to the regular church goers, no earlier than 12.30 pm on the Sunday.*

There is a booking form, which I will send to John Harrison for the website, or contact Roy direct.

I have also received correspondence from John Schumacher, which is self explanatory:

*I am the General Secretary of the North East Club for Pre War Austins. I am also the co-ordinator of NECPWA events at:-*

- 1. Ryedale Folk Museum on the 23.05.10.*
- 2. Yorkshire Museum of Farming 19/20.06.10 and*
- 3. Thwaite Mills Museum, Leeds 12.09.10.*

*I have just been looking at your January February News Letter on the net and was very pleased to see that my club got a mention. I must tell you that the entry for Ryedale is now fully booked and closed. No late entrants will be accepted in view of the very limited space available.*

*However, we have plenty of room at the other two venues at this time, we would be pleased to see any of your members. Entry forms can be down loaded from our web site.*

*As well as my NECPWA hat, I also work one day a week for the Sue Ryder Care Charity, in the York fund raising office. We hold two Classic Car Events, both at Sue Ryder Properties. One at Holme Hall, Holme on Spalding Moor on the 5th June and the other at Hickleton Hall near Doncaster on the 13th June. Both events are quite small, about fifty cars or so. They are both open to all makes of car. Sue Ryder do make a small charge of £3.00 for entry however it is a fantastic cause.*

*Entry forms are again on the net. Any difficulty then I could arrange a form.*

***John Schumacher***

From Richard Harrison again, this time about the North of England rally:

*Hi Martin,*

*I have just looked through the latest newsletter and would like to correct an unfortunate error in my e-mail regarding the North of England Rally. This will in future be organised by Mike Blunsom, and not by Trevor Stokes as I stated.*

***Richard***

While on the subject of the North of England Rally, I have also received the following from Ian Hick:

*Hi Martin*

*Just reading through the North Eastern Section Newsletter, which I always look forward to receiving, and note the piece on the North of England Rally, on page 14.*

*Could I just correct a couple of points please, as follows:*

*The decision to change the layout of the cars was made by the organizing committee, not Trevor Stokes and me, after the idea had been put forward by one of the "Saturday volunteers". As has been previously published, and was announced at last year's event, Mike Blunsom (one of the Yorkshire Section representatives) has taken over my position on the organizing Committee. I had asked all the members of the committee to "advertise" the vacancy in their sections the year before and Mike suggested that he may be interested. He "shadowed" me for the twelve months up to last year's event and then was pleased to assume the mantle. Trevor Stokes is one of the Northern Section representatives on the organizing committee and is in charge of the production of the programme, i.e. obtaining advertisers, photographs, editorial copy, and printing. Mike's contact details are in the front of the Yorkshire Section Newsletter (he is a committee member).*

*Can I add my praise to John Harrison for the Section website. I now look at that on a regular basis as well - it's great!*

*Best regards.*

*Ian*

James Thomas has sent me a photograph of a 20/25 that he has restored. It is Chassis No. GZU29, Registration No. YY6392, Hooper bodied six light saloon, first registered on 21 September 1932, exactly



eleven years before I was born. James's e-mail was headed 'New member' and I assume he is very new as he does not yet appear on the Club database of members.

Club Chairman, Tony James, commented on Derek's Chairman's Challenge in the last newsletter regarding the names of the retiring and new CEOs at Rolls-Royce Motors. The retiring CEO is Tom Purves and the new CEO is Torsten Müller-Ötvös. Derek denies all blame for these errors as he says that he found the names on the Club website, which was subsequently changed!

You will have noticed in the dates for your diary page that there is an event at Ripley Castle being organised by the Yorkshire Section. This is in fact an event by Mark Woodward Classic Events and includes vehicles of all types from all ages. It should be quite a display. Ripley is a few miles north of Harrogate and a booking form can be downloaded from <http://www.markwoodwardclassicevents.com/bookingforms.asp> Send this form back to Mark Woodward direct, or if you would prefer to be part of the Yorkshire Section display send it to Tonie Dobby, 12 Oak Bank, Gaisby, Shipley, BD18 1AL.

*Martin*

## New members

Mr Lee Taylor from Middlesbrough. Lee has already been to a pub night at West Auckland, and we hope to see him and his family and/or friends at more of our events where they will be very welcome. Just a reminder to all members that this is an 'enthusiasts' club and it is not at all necessary to arrive in a Rolls-Royce or Bentley. We shall be just as pleased to see you no matter what the means of transport!

### Where we have been:-

Forty of us were booked in for lunch at Hardwick Hall on Sunday 21 March. Unfortunately Jim Clark was struck down on the day so he and Janet were unable to attend. We were sorry not to see them and hope that Jim is, by now, fully restored to health. After some difficulty in finding the room and someone to serve behind the bar, a good time was had by all. Owing to a wedding we were unable to park our cars at the front of the building which would have been a good 'photo opportunity', so we were dispersed at the rear. It was good to see Sheila and Geoff's Mk VI make its debut appearance.

On Sunday 25 April Geoff and Sheila Mansfield arranged an invitation for us to join the Jaguar Enthusiasts' Club at Stockton. The local

Jaguar dealership had organised a promotion day for the new XK, which involved a display of classic cars of all marques and a Concours d'Elegance, to be judged by those present. Several members put in an appearance, notably John Harrison and Nick Clark who were asked to display their 20/25s in the showroom, together with Dennis Wheatley's XK140 and some very shiny Jaguars and Jaguar replicas and a TR5. (See cover). The rest of us parked in the car park! Dennis's XK deservedly won the Concours and as a prize he has the use of the new 5 litre V8 XK for a weekend - but not before Lucy has returned from California!

### Where we are going:-

#### Lunch at Lumley Castle, Co Durham - 1.00pm - 16 May

I understand from Ray and Margaret that this lunch is now fully booked to the extent that Lumley Castle are refusing to add just one more chair round the table and Ray and Margaret were going to have to eat by themselves in the dining room. However, Jackie and I will be joining them and if there is anyone else who would like to join us who has not yet booked, please let Ray and Margaret know.

#### Visit to Rolls-Royce Heritage Museum - Wednesday 19 May

There are still a few places on the coach available. Please contact Derek if you would like to join us on what should be a fascinating visit. Derek has mentioned the times and pick up points in his Chairman's Challenge on page six.

#### Visit to Yorkshire Gliding Club, Sutton Bank - 10.30am - 13 June

There is still plenty of room for more 'round the table' for this event. A booking form is enclosed if you have not already sent one in. Colin Hutchinson is still taking names for anyone interested in having a flight in a glider after 4.30pm, so if you fancy this ring him on 01609 777591, the cost has been reduced from £80 to £65 per person.

#### Classic Vehicle Show, Tynedale Park, Corbridge -

From 9am - Sunday 4 July

Once again MG Northumbria's Classic Vehicle Show will be held in the picturesque setting of Tynedale Park, within easy walking distance of the historic town centre.

The show is open to all makes of vintage, veteran and classic vehicles classified as follows:

Cars: Pre-war, 1940s, 1950s, 1960s, 1970s;

Historic Commercial Vehicles; Classic Motorcycles; Other Interesting Vehicles.

Trophies will be awarded for Best in Class and Best in Show. If enough people are dressed in the period appropriate to their vehicle, there will also be a trophy for the best costume.

Club Stands can be catered for by arrangement with MG Northumbria.

The show will open to entrants at 9am and to the public from 11am. It will close with the presentation of awards at 4pm.

Other attractions will include musical performances by Newcastle Concert Band, a World War Two re-enactment display, various stalls, a bar and refreshments.

Last year, thanks to the generosity of those attending the show, £4,662 was raised for Hexham Priory School, which caters for children with severe learning difficulties. Proceeds from this year's show will be donated to several local charities. Booking form enclosed.

### *Ripon Races - 10.45am - Saturday 17 July*

Another slow response to this event and a booking form is enclosed. Why not make a weekend of it and come to the races on the Saturday followed by the Newby Hall rally on the Sunday? Meet at the Black A Moor Inn on Boroughbridge Road, Ripon, HG4 5AA for coffee, then travel in convoy to the racecourse which is only about a mile away. The cost of £18 covers coffee and entrance to the racecourse.

### *North East Theatre Organ - 11.00am - Saturday 31 July*

This visit is being arranged at the suggestion of Geoff and Sheila Mansfield. A booking form is enclosed, which please return to them.

### *North of England Rally - 8 August*

Details in the Bulletin and on the Club website - see you there!

### *Barbeque at Ilton - 11.30pm - 15 August*

Please note that the date has been brought forward one week. This year it is suggested that we drive direct to Ilton for the barbeque, rather than meet up somewhere first. For those who have not been before,

Ilton is just west of Masham and for those with SatNav the post code is HG4 4JY. Dennis's garage remains full of interesting cars. There is his concours-winning Jaguar XK140 and the SS100 replica, which is now taxed, tested and looking stunning. At present there are also two other SS100 replicas there, though the owners may have taken them out by August. As in previous years, bring your own meat and booze, but everything else such as rolls, salad and soft drinks will be provided in the cost of £5.00.

### Raby Castle - 22 August

This is the reason why the barbeque has been brought forward a week, and is another Mark Woodward event so there will be a wide assortment of vehicles parading in beautiful surroundings. Cost is just £5 which includes a buffet, so excellent value for money, but see also Derek's Chairman's Challenge! Again a booking form is enclosed and please complete and return this to Geoff and Sheila by 17 July.

### Section weekend

Briery Wood Hotel, 17, 18 and (19) September 2010

Our annual weekend will be at Briery Wood Hotel, which is between Windermere and Ambleside. [www.brierywood.co.uk](http://www.brierywood.co.uk) LA23 1ES.

We have reserved the full hotel until mid June (24 rooms). There is no single room supplement.

The cost for the weekend will be £190 per person. This includes dinner, bed and breakfast for 2 nights, the steamer on Saturday and entry to the Motor Museum on Sunday. In addition, there is a special offer of £50 per person for a third night, dinner, bed and breakfast.

On Saturday we will drive to Lakeside at the southern end of Windermere where we will board the "steamer" for a tour of the lake. You will be able "hop on and hop off" at Bowness, Ambleside and Brockhole to look around at your leisure.

A visit to the newly opened Lakeland Motor Museum has been arranged for Sunday.

A £50 per person deposit is required.

We can arrange a later meal on Friday evening to allow travelling time for those who are at work if required.

### Club Conference

Conference Chairman Benno Müller welcomed the President, Lt Col Eric Barrass and everyone to The Hunt House.

The first presentation was given by Kate Latham and Terry Lee of

Bentley Motors. They said that it was their ambition to be the first port of call for spares and parts for all motor cars built at Crewe post 1955, both Rolls-Royce and Bentley.

Parts that are not currently available will be manufactured to the original specifications if there is a demand. Crewe also have local heritage support for the older parts. [www.bentleytechinfo.com/](http://www.bentleytechinfo.com/) will give more information.

Chris Cunnington of the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs gave a presentation entitled "Upholding the freedom". The Federation lobbied both the UK and European parliaments in order to keep our cars on the road and not become part of a static display.

Tony James brought the conference up to date with regard to The Hunt House lease. David Evans gave an impromptu reply on behalf of SHRMF. Apparently that the rules regarding charities have changed since SHRMF was set up and the original lease to the Club was signed in 1988. However, it seems that there is now an agreement for a new lease but it needs solicitors to produce a correctly worded document. It is hoped that this will be achieved by July this year. Let us indeed hope so.

Jim Fleming gave a short presentation about the need, or otherwise, for a Club Mission Statement and delegates then broke up into syndicates to discuss this and other topics including the reasons for the existence of sections, the representation of members through their sections and the effect of new fuels on our cars in, say, 50 years time.

On Sunday morning the conference continued at the Hilton Hotel.

Kris Sukhu, materials designer, from Rolls-Royce Motors, Goodwood, said that 1002 cars had been produced in 2009, including 150 Ghosts. 85% of customers were new to RR and the production had been sold up until the end of the summer 2010. 80% of the 800 employees were British.

Johan Vanden Bergh of the Belgium Flemish Section reported that it was proposed that foreign section news should be in the language of the section as well as English. He also commented on the technical information that was available on the Australian website, and encouraged all sections to consider 'twinning' with sections in other countries in order to promote friendship and understanding.

There followed reports on the various topics that had been the subject of discussion by the syndicates;

Generally it was felt that there should be more co-operation with other car clubs and The Hunt House should be made available to other clubs.

It was important that sections:-

- **welcomed and involved members in order that they should get**

- to know one another
- arranged events
  - supported repair and restoration of Rolls-Royce and Bentley motor cars
  - arranged technical/support meetings
  - promoted the Club
  - communicated information down to members
  - promoted events in such a way that the Club and members cars would be more acceptable to the general public

It was considered that future fuels will be developed as and when needed and that it was important for the Club to remain to protect the heritage of the marque.

In order to involve members in the sections and registers it was suggested that new members should receive one year's free membership of sections and registers.

The conference was in favour of a ten year badge to the same design of the present 20, 30 and 40 year badges, but using a different colour.

Steve Lovatt reported on the progress of the technical seminars. The engine shop was now working and a V8 engine was installed and could be used for training purposes. There will in future be seminars on diagnostic testing for the later cars.

Following from this Tony James reported that replacement electronic systems were being produced for these later cars. Also that work was in progress to improve the fuel economy of the Silver Shadows. Technically it was possible to run a Silver Shadow on a batteries, only using the engine to charge them up!

**WANTED**

**ROLLS-ROYCE AND BENTLEY MOTOR CARS**

**FROM 1946 ~ 1966**

**Any condition**

**Ring**

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