

# The "Nelly" Newsletter

## September 2021



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Clubnights



Motorsports



Group Visits



**Next Clubnight: at the Beaufort Suite**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September**

**Guest Speaker, Tom Way:**

***"Wildlife on Your Doorstep"***



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*Hi Everyone*

*First off, thanks to Mike Biss for pointing out the calendar error last month; the dates for the autotests have now been corrected.*

*With E10 petrol coming to a forecourt near you this month, some of you may be wondering whether your car's fuel system will be compatible, so a visit to this government website might be worthwhile: <https://www.gov.uk/check-vehicle-e10-petrol>*

*E5 petrol will still be available from those filling stations that have a higher octane (and price) pump though.*

*Interestingly, the addition of ethanol to petrol is not a new idea, as some of the more senior motorists of you out there may remember a pump on your local forecourt that sold "Cleveland Discol"...? This was introduced in 1928 and discontinued in 1968 and although the exact percentage of ethanol added is unclear, there do not appear to be any reports of it causing problems to the cars of the day – many of which will be today's classics of course. Back then, petrol still contained tetra ethyl lead as well, so this may have compensated for any of the problems that may arise with today's unleaded fuel.*

*But in order for us all to get our heads around which of these, alcohol enriched, E numbered fuels is right for our own particular vehicle(s), my suggestion would be to colour code the pumps (and fuel) with a standardised system most of us are already familiar with: white, rosé and red...?*

*Cheers...! - Dave*

Please send copy for next issue to Dave Rosher at the email address above: **to arrive by 24 September**

*The opinions and recommendations expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors and are not necessarily those of the Editor, the North East London Group Committee, or the Civil Service Motoring Association Ltd. (Boundless by CSMA).*

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## **Chairman's September Chatter**

It's nice to be back! We were perhaps a little low on numbers but I was so pleased to see us filling the hall at clubnight just as we used to. Our speaker was Damien O'Dell who told us about his involvement in ghost hunting, investigating the paranormal [and writing books about it] and what was very interesting was that a lot of his related experiences were local so we were able to relate to them.

He mentioned that he becomes a 'ghost tour guide' round about Hallowe'en time, in his local town of Royston and takes groups around various locations that have a ghostly history. I latched on to this and asked if he would do something just for us and he said that may be possible to arrange, so more on that next month when we would be looking for names.

The Noggin & Natter started up as well, at the much-improved Fish and Eels, and six round the table was ideal for some nice chat. Let's hope we can keep the numbers up

What I didn't know until I read it somewhere was that the GB plate is to be replaced by the end of the year with a UK plate – this is to emphasise Northern Ireland's place in the UK and it supposedly will help them with their green card arrangements in future. Also, the blue EU flag circle at the end of some plates is no longer relevant, as you have probably already realised.

### **Juniper Autotests Sunday 5 September**

Mike has come to an arrangement with Cherwell Valley Services to use one of their tarmac parking areas for our annual championship event and I am looking forward to seeing our new venue. The competitors are always complimentary about the design of the tests and we should get a good entry this year, as the events are slowly getting back to normal. The pandemic has resulted in many of the processes taking place on line, which has to be a good thing, and should now be the standard way of working.

### **Clubnight Tuesday 14 September**

We meet again at the Beaufort Suite in Cheshunt, to continue our live clubnights, and are pleased to have Tom Way, the wildlife photographer, paying us a return visit and his illustrated talk this time will be 'Wildlife on your Doorstep'. Do come along, we start at 8pm, so arrive a little earlier than that and, refreshments afterwards, and it's all free!

### **Autumn Walk Sunday 19 September**

This will take place on Sunday 19th September, starting from The Crown, Hunsdon. The walk is 3.5 miles around the Hunsdon Airfield, visiting and viewing the 2nd World War Memorial and the Microlight Flying Club, followed by a circular route back to The Crown, where those that wish can have lunch. There are 10 places available on a first come basis. We will meet at 10.45 to choose our menu and depart by 11.00. The meal is booked for 1 p.m. Please let Mick know as soon as possible if you are attending and/or eating - 01920 423738 or [mickoblath20@gmail.com](mailto:mickoblath20@gmail.com)

Closing date for booking is Thursday 16th September.

### **Noggin and Natter 28 September**

It's back to the pub meets, and this month we will be at what they describe as a gastro pub [I think that means they do food as well] - the Galley Hall, Hailey Lane, Hoddesdon, SG13 7NY, where John will book us a table [or two]. Numbers depend on John being told who is coming, so letting him know will help him to book. Plenty of parking and it comes highly recommended

For now, as always    Keep safe    *Bernard*

# Secretary's Scrawlings

Hi Everyone,

It was great to see the good turnout for clubnight. It was a very interesting one too. I can't say I believe in ghosts, but there are times and places that give me the creeps.

There was some talk of the Enfield Poltergeist, which I recall hearing about a while back. It was near Green Street on the old Enfield/Hertford Road as I recall. Must have a google for it again when I've got nothing to do (so that's unlikely to be any time soon...☺).

I couldn't make the Noggin last night, I heard it went well and that it's now been redecorated – much brighter now; It certainly was a gloomy hole when I remember going there. The last time I was there (a few years ago) they had some awkward parking ticket arrangement where you had to guess how long you would be there, pre-pay then claim it back at the bar, it was a terrible scheme. I wonder how it works now...

On the subject of being busy, I'm finding my days are getting chopped up by having to wait for deliveries, "though just as I typed the word "deliveries", the doorbell rang and it was Amazon delivering the replacement shredder...

Having worked for a number of organisations since my Post Office days, I've accrued quite a few pension and investment schemes, each with a long running supply of paper. Realising the drawer under the bed where I habitually throw the statements in was groaning under the strain, I was determined to get rid of the waste. As this was somewhat sensitive, bearing financial and identity details, they had to be shredded.

Using my existing 6 sheet capacity machine I started work on the stack, but before long awful grinding and straining noises were coming from it, as were bits of plastic that were part of the shredder... Well it was only a cheap special deal from eBay so what could I expect. I found a 'Heavy Duty' shredder on Amazon for £40 and decided on the spur of the moment to take out accidental damage and extended breakdown cover for a mere £5.

The shredder arrived and was set to work... within 10 minutes I'd managed to jam it up with paper inside the feed slot blocking the paper path. A call to Amazon customer support and half an hour on the phone, a replacement was on its way, this time I'd decided a bottle of shredder oil was a good investment too.

I now have 2 shredders one somewhat better than the other, but I can work them in shifts to allow cooling down time. So having had 2 things break down on me, what was the third going to be? It didn't take long for the hand of fate to loosen the engine mounting bolts on my mower. Not realising just how loose they were, I started the engine and set off mowing the front  $\frac{3}{4}$  the way through a loud bang and the engine was now wobbling crazily and the cutting blade clouting the now departed bolts. Aargh!

Decision time – find new bolts, or get a new mower? With the issues of E-10 fuel causing garden machinery to have increasing problems, I think on balance its time to splash out on a new mower.

If anyone would like an 'In need of attention' mower as a project, they are quite welcome to it. I guess I'm just being lazy but as its about 30 years old and I've had it for over 25 years since it was given to me, I guess it's time I bought a new one anyway ☺

I've been watching the online talks organised by Boundless – Very interesting, and a chance to ask questions of the speaker by just typing your question. Definitely worth a go – and it's all free with your membership.

Cheers, Ron

## September Club night; Tom Way, Wildlife Photographer

### “Wildlife On Your Doorstep”

For Clubnight on 14<sup>th</sup> September we are very fortunate to have been able to book Tom Way, an award winning, Fine Art Wildlife Photographer for a repeat visit. In 2018 he gave us his talk “Exciting Wildlife around the World”. This we enjoyed so much we have invited him back this time to give his talk “Wildlife on your doorstep”.

Although still very young he has produced some outstanding work with great attention to detail. His work has won him the accolade of being awarded the European Wildlife Photographer of the year, 2015.

As well as giving talks to photographic societies and other clubs like ours he makes a living exhibiting and selling his Fine Art prints. His work is widely published and is a contributor to the BBC Wildlife magazine. Tom also runs photographic workshops and leads Wildlife Safaris particularly to Africa.

If you would like a preview of some of his amazing photography Tom has a website

[www.tomwayphotography.co.uk](http://www.tomwayphotography.co.uk)

Staff Steed



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## NEL GROUP AUTUMN WALK – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September

Starting from - The Crown, Hunsdon, SG12 8NZ.



The walk is 3.5 miles around the Hunsdon Airfield, visiting and viewing the 2nd World War Memorial and the Microlight Flying Club, followed by a circular route back to The Crown, where those that wish can have lunch.

There are 10 places available on a first come basis.

We will meet at 10.45am to choose our menu and depart by 11.00am. The meal is booked for 1 p.m.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you are attending and/or eating.

Phone contact is: 01920 423738 or, email:

[mickoblath20@gmail.com](mailto:mickoblath20@gmail.com) (Please note new email)

Closing date for booking is Thursday 16th September.

There are 3 parking spaces in front of the Pub and several at the rear.

DO NOT USE the area on the junction, as this is for the VILLAGE HALL ONLY.



**Due to computer problems earlier this month, if I have not yet acknowledged your email or confirmed your attendance, please contact me again – thanks...**

**MICK O'BLATH**

## Forthcoming Evening Noggins at: The Galley Hall P/H Hoddesdon.

For the next couple of months our noggins will be held at the above mentioned pub, it is situated midway between Ware and Hoddesdon near the Gt. Amwell roundabout. I can recommend the food, drink and the friendliness of the staff plus it has reasonably sized car park.



This will be our eating and drinking place for September & October on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday evening of each month. I look forward to seeing you all and any of our new members will be very welcome.

Please let me know if you would like to come, if you can give me a bit of notice that would be appreciated, so I can book everyone in.

Address of The Galley Hall P/H is, Hailey Lane, Hailey, Hoddesdon, SG13 7NY.

My email & Telephone No is [fosterjohn92@gmail.com](mailto:fosterjohn92@gmail.com) ; 07984723449.

Thanks *John*.

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## NEL Christmas Lunch, 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - update.

We have now had chance to view the Mill Green Golf Club, venue for the Christmas lunch, following the takeover by the new owners who have spent a lot of money renovating the building. It looks very presentable.



The agreed Christmas Package so far is a two course set Festive Menu served with tea, coffee, and mince pies, Christmas Crackers and Novelties etc for £30 per person.

We are still in negotiation to improve the package by giving a slightly bigger choice. Unfortunately, we weren't able to finalise details for this issue of the newsletter but will be available for October when we will have full menu details along with a wine list available to order in advance. We will then be looking for definite bookings, we already have 30 declarations of interest, by the closing date I like to think we'll have a few more. Hopefully I can also coax the club's treasurer for funds for something to welcome members back after a somewhat dismal couple of years.

The lunch will be in their newly renovated Salisbury suite which will have its own bar totally separate from Golf Club members. It will also have a terrace available for our own private use with open views across the golf course and Hertfordshire countryside. Taking everything into consideration we are expecting a very enjoyable afternoon and a chance to see members who you might not have seen for 2 years.

Lesley, [lesley.steed@btinternet.com](mailto:lesley.steed@btinternet.com)

# Puzzle Page Sept 2021

The correct answers were:

inVESTigates  
 InVESTor  
 VESTigial  
 VESTry  
 diVEST

Only a few totally correct answers

Many were very close

So 2 points to everyone and an extra bonus for perfection

3 points to Barry Childs

2 points each to:

Alan Rawlings, Robert Daines, John Foster, Mick O'Blath, Brian Beard, Rosie Rosher.

## This month's puzzles:

I am a four legged animal

Change one letter and I'll keep you warm and dry

Change one letter and I'm a defensive structure

Change one letter and I'll keep you warm and dry

Change one letter and I'm at home on water

Change one letter and I'm ill gotten gains

Change one letter and you'll find me in the dark

**What have I been? And what am I now?**

	7				2			
		4		5				8
	6		7			3	5	
2		7	4				3	
		1	9	2	5	6		
	8				7	4		2
	5	9			1		6	
1				8		9		
			3					1

1esudoku.com

n° 234276 - Level Medium

							4	6
					1			
				9	3	1	2	7
	1				9	4	7	
9	4		3	6	8		1	2
	3	2	1				8	
1	9	3	2	8				
			9					
6	7							

1esudoku.com

n° 23561 - Level Medium

Answers to me by email, post or carrier pigeon before the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month.

As usual 1 point for entering, 2 for a correct answer.

**Please send emails to [nel@rjbarnett.co.uk](mailto:nel@rjbarnett.co.uk) beginning the Subject line with 'PUZZLE', without quotes or any other extraneous characters so I can find them.**

Date	Day		Event (Status)	Type of Event	Club
Sep	Sun 5	*	Juniper Autotest (Cm)	Tarmac autotest (MSUK/BTRDA)	CSMA NEL
	Wed 8	*	Bookworm 12 Car (CM)	Navigational rally	Oxford MC
	Fri 10	*	Summer Jolly 12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC
	Sun 12	*	Chiltern Autotest (Cm)	Grass autotest	CSMA NWL
	Sun 12	*	Bordon Autosolo (Cm)	Cross between autotest/sprint	Farnborough DMC
	Sun 26		Gravel Autotest (Cm)	Loose surface autotest	Bedford CC
Oct	Sun 3	*	Boanerges AutoSolo (Cm)	Cross between autotest/sprint	Oxford MC
	Sun 10	*	Autumn Autotest (Cm)	Grass autotest	CSMA NWL

**Licence required:** (I/Nat/Inter/Cm) = MSUK Licence, (C) = Club Card, () = Nothing, \* = Regs available

### Past Events

**Paddock Autotest** The event was in doubt due to a lack of entries (again) but the decision was taken to go ahead anyway and just 12 competitors had a fun day in the new field. This was a vast improvement over the June one but was still smaller than previous years, which meant it was difficult to move the cones around between runs. Although we had plenty of time to have three rounds, it might be better to just have the two, which might keep the landowner happy, as he wasn't impressed when he saw it after our visit. Thankfully he has allowed us out again, but fingers crossed we can continue with it, when he sees how quickly the surface recovers.

### Future Events

**Juniper Autotest** This tarmac event is back on for this year, now that a new venue has been found at Cherwell Valley Services at Bicester. This will be a round of the Motorsport UK and BTRDA championships and some superb driving will be on offer. Come along to marshal to see all the action first hand. Please let myself know if you are interested.



**Chiltern Autotest** This will be run by NWL on Sunday 12th September, in the same field as the Paddock event. I am down to organise this one, in conjunction with Ian O'Connor, as we are now having two permits, one for passengers and one without, so with separate organisers for the two permits, we can each enter the other one, so meaning the organiser doesn't have to miss out. Nice easy all-forward tests are on offer and are suitable for your standard car. Regs are out and available either from the website or myself. Entry fee is £27 (juniors £15) and entries and marshals can register on the website links shown in the advert below.

**Autumn Autotest** This will be run by NWL again, this time with John Clavey and Dean Askew, running it. This will have two permits again, one for passengers and one without and is held on a smooth grass field. Nice easy all-forward tests are on offer and are suitable for your standard car. Entry fee is £27 (juniors £15) and entries and marshals can register on the website links shown in the advert below.

**Future Of Our Events** It is more than likely that we will continue to use John's online system for events, as it gives a lot better control from an organisers point of view and also reduces the amount of work on the day that is necessary. Keeping things paperless is so much easier.

**Other Events** Please see the calendar above for other events we have an invite to. I can get regs for any of these, just contact me if interested. We will be invited to all the Anglian Motor Sport Club autosolos/autotests throughout the year.

**Mike Biss:** NLR Motor Sports Coordinator

**Tel:** 07753 137415

**E-mail:** [mike.biss@btinternet.com](mailto:mike.biss@btinternet.com)



# **MARSHALS REQUIRED**

## **Juniper Autotest at Cherwell Valley Services**

### **A43/M40 junction**

**A round of the MSUK British and BTRDA championships**  
**Sunday 5th September**

Come along and help marshal on this National Championship tarmac event and get as close to the action as you can get. No previous experience needed (all can be explained beforehand).

There are Mini's, saloons, sports cars and specials, all competing in the MSUK/BTRDA championships and the things they can do with a car are sometimes unbelievable. Hot food and drink, and facilities, are available all day in the main building.

Please contact Mike Biss 07753 137415 [mike.biss@btinternet.com](mailto:mike.biss@btinternet.com)



### **NWL Chiltern Autotest - Sunday 12th September**

At Berkhamsted - Organisers: Mike Biss/Ian O'Connor - Entry Fee £27 (Juniors £15)

All forwards tests, passengers (PCA) or no passengers (Clubmans)

Great fun day out driving - Marshals required

Regs available from Mike B or from the website - Online entries only

[MSUK Clubman Licence](#) (free) & [Boundless MSUK card](#) (free) required

[Competitor PCA Entry Form](#) or [Competitor Clubman Entry Form](#)

[Marshal Registration](#)

### **NWL Autumn Autotest - Sunday 10th October**

At Berkhamsted - Organisers: John Clavey/Dean Askew - Entry Fee £27 (Juniors £15)

All forwards tests, passengers (PCA) or no passengers (Clubmans)

Great fun day out driving - Marshals required

Regs available from Mike B or from the website - Online entries only

[MSUK Clubman Licence](#) (free) & [Boundless MSUK card](#) (free) required

[Competitor PCA Entry Form](#) or [Competitor Clubman Entry Form](#)

[Marshal Registration](#)

