



# boundless

North West London Group
July 2023



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# Clubnight

Tuesday 4h July, from 7:30pm

#### THE 40TH TWO BREWERS TROPHY - 2023

Starting from the car park on Chipperfield Common opposite the Two Brewers Hotel Map reference 166/043½016

With 15 easy questions and only 8 answers required to complete the event.

Map 166 required but photocopied map provided

Finish is at the Red Lion PH

#### THE BIRTHDAY BOX!

July's birthday wishes go to Jan Yardley, Kit Yardley and Steve Graves!



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The recent WRC round in Kenya saw the Toyota team take a 1-2-3-4 finish for the second year running, with Ogier getting a second win. The Hyundai team had a bad weekend again, with propshaft failures in testing and again in the event, which saw Lappi drop out of the top three contention race and give the top places to Toyota. Toyota didn't have it all their own way all the time, when on the shakedown stage,

Katsuta got caught out on some bumps and rolled the car, wiping the whole back end off! The team managed to rebuild it in time for the start. During the event, Ogier seemed to go wide at one corner and hit a bush, but this managed to rip off the whole tailgate assembly. Mind you, he still went quicker than the others on the next few stages before service. Worse was to come for the Hyundai team, when after the event, Neuville was excluded when the organisers reported someone known to Neuville was seen driving on the stages to be used, after the reconnaissance runs, which is against the rules.



There is some good news on the grass autotests for this year, as Dean Askew has hopefully secured us the use of a new field for the August event, subject to us finalising the details. We will have to see what they think about us using it again after the first event happens, so September and October will have to stay provisional dates at the moment.

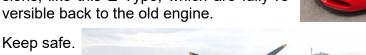
In the F1 race in Canada, there was a lot of things happening, what with Norris getting an 'unsportsmanlike behaviour' penalty for driving too slowly under the safety car period, due to trying to prevent double stacking when changing tyres. Then there was the sight of the Williams car of Albon holding back a queue of faster cars, due to its straight line speed. And then there was the build strength of the Mercedes, when Russell hit the wall and broke the wheel and lost a lot of bodywork. He managed to get it back to the pits and they put a new wheel on it and sent him back out! He got back up to eighth, before retiring due to brake cooling issues.



I had a day trip out to the Bicester Heritage Flywheel weekend recently, care of the MSUK, and a rather nice day it turned out to be. Classic aircraft, bikes, cars and armed forces vehicles on display and cars running round the track, even a bit of a flying display at lunchtime. There was even a Merlin engine on a test rig, that started up and ran for a bit, mind you, nowhere near as loud as the old racing bike starting

up by the gate! The show even had some modern cars on display, like a McLaren F1 (well not so new now) and a fully electric Nio EP9 (nope, never heard of it either, it's Chinese) with the equivalent of 1360bhp, all yours for a mere £1.5M. Being a classic event, there was also the electric conversions, like this E Type, which are fully re-









NOTE: Deadline for contributions to the August newsletter is Thursday 20th July



A good number of us assembled at the Five Bells pub in Stanbridge for the Boule evening at last month's clubnight. Although a somewhat cold evening, it didn't rain and everyone had a great time, with lots of friendly banter shall I say and my thanks to Alan T for organising the event.

Doug and I teamed up for once and I believe I am correct in saying that we ended up winners on the night with some great or lucky shots although; Alan T might have the final say in this.

After the CB Weekend and Track Day last month, the Sprite's alternator developed a fault in that it was drawing current from the battery and is currently at Frontline having a new one fitted. I would have done this myself, but it's in a horrible location with lots of heat shielding around it and other pipework that keeps the starter motor from melting under the exhaust manifold etc., so its best left to the professionals.

Unfortunately, this meant that it missed the trip back to its birth place, the British Motor Heritage Factory at Witney in Oxfordshire, and I had to take the Audi instead. The Sprite has been re-shelled using one of their shells. Well I could at least listen to the radio on the way up and back! The maximum number for the factory tour was 12 and we filled all 12 spaces, although we had one member drop out due to illness. Although the tour was free we did charge everyone £10, but donated this to a charity of their choice, which was to the local Hospice called Sorbell House.

This was a great tour and the company representative could not have been more helpful and gave a really informative talk before the tour and answered loads of question during the two hour tour and there were no restrictions on photographs on the way around. Although we unfortunately didn't see any Midget shells or MGB shells being made as we wandered around, we did see Mini shells and Jaguar E-type bonnets being made and other parts.

The factory was much smaller than I expected and apparently they can change the production between models in about two hours! I have included a few photographs, but hopefully Ian O'Connor is going to do a write up. After the tour, we retired to the local golf course for a beer and lunch, as the local pubs don't serve food on Tuesdays. I will organise another visit in the autumn, but on a Thursday so we might retire to a pub next time for lunch!

Last weekend, the Midget and Sprite Club had organised a trip to the Imperial War Museum at Duxford airfield, which houses a fantastic collection of aircraft and military vehicles from both world wars. It also includes between the two wars and afterwards to take in the cold wars and the Falkland's War as well.

With the Sprite still at Frontline, we again took the Audi, although it did mean that we could take Claire and Jacob as well with us, and Ann and I still manged to use our discount tickets. Duxford has a whole range of aircraft, some flying, some in stages of restoration and some which will never fly, but are being preserved and this applies to the armoured and other military vehicles as well. I wonder if the Jag panther will eventually run.

I would advise you wear a good pair of walking shoes, as the museum is spread out between several buildings (however, there is a minibus that runs between them which is free) and take your own lunch as the choice in the various cafes are rubbish and expensive! The best café is the one just adjacent to the shop, which is also the entry and exit to the museum. But allow a whole day for your visit, otherwise you won't fit everything in that is there to see and explore. Finally the shop is great, especially for father's day presents!

Ann and I are away down to Lynton and Lynmouth for a long weekend at the end of this month, hopefully in the Sprite, and then for our July clubnight we have the 40th running of the Two Brewers on the 4th July, which starts at Chipperfield Common and finishes at the Red Lion and I am once again organising it. If any of you have any good and legal ideas about how to make it special, please contact me.

So hopefully see you on the 4th and if not, then perhaps on the 20th at the Red Lion for our normal drink and a chat.

Mike H

(ED: For pictures, please see page 8)



Our clubnight last month saw us make use of the boule pitch in the garden of The Five Bells pub in Stanbridge and was, once again, a very enjoyable evening. The weather was a bit cool but it stayed dry and everybody that wished to play, got a couple of games. There was no official competition, however the ladies team of Anne G / Anne R played particularly well and certainly showed the rest of us some previously hidden skills.

Our monthly, informal 'Chat and a Drink' evening had to be cancelled in June, as The Red Lion was closed to host a private function. The next 'Chat and a Drink' will be held on Thursday 20th July back at The Red Lion – do join us from around 8.30pm for a sociable evening.

Quite a number of our Group members will be attending the Classic Vehicle Group's centenary celebration on Sunday 2nd July at Old Warden aerodrome, Shuttleworth. The organisation of this special day has largely been taken care of by the Member Events team at Brighton, but the CVG will have around 20 vehicles taking part in a classic run from Leighton Buzzard to the Shuttleworth site and about a further 15 vehicles will form a static display at the site. One thousand bargain price entry tickets were made available to general members and were all snapped up within a couple of days!

Chairman Mike will be running the 40th anniversary of The Two Brewers Scatter event on Tuesday 4th July and starting from Chipperfield Common (opposite The Two Brewers pub). The event takes the form of a pleasant drive through the lanes to collect simple answers to questions along the way. Once again a prompt start at 7:30pm will enable the best use of daylight, but a good torch is always useful if you are taking time to make sure you have the correct answers! Please do come along to this very special event if you possibly can.

An advance date for your diaries will be our August clubnight on the 1st, where we have reserved 10 places for a trial flight in a glider. There will be a £30 per flyer charge to cover the cost of a winch launch and hopefully between 10 - 15 minutes in the air, where you normally get a chance to fly the glider yourself (obviously, a skilled pilot will accompany you). The venue will be the London Gliding Club just outside Dunstable, where wonderful views of Dunstable Downs will be beneath you. If you do not wish to 'fly', please come along anyway, as the flying club bar will be open to refresh us after the flights are completed. The fun starts at 6:00pm, but please let me know prior to the date if you wish to be included in the action.

Another date for your diaries, as we have just finalised a group visit to the DeHavilland museum at London Colney for Thursday 24th August. Starting at 2pm, the cost of £20 per person includes a guided tour of the museum, plus a cup of tea. Names to Doug Harrison please, for one of the 20 places available.

It is hoped that we may have found a suitable venue to run a grass field autotest in August. I am sure Mike B will have the latest details, so please check out elsewhere in this Big End to check on the up to date information.

Our September clubnight on Tuesday 5th sees a return to the bowling lanes at Dunstable, so please watch out for further details

#### Our planned future programme is as follows;

Tuesday 4th July – NWL Two Brewers Scatter event, Chipperfield

Thursday 20th July - NWL Chat and a Drink at The Red Lion

Tuesday 1st August - NWL Gliding evening at London Gliding Club

Thursday 17th August - NWL Chat and a Drink at The Red Lion

Thursday 24th August - NWL Visit to DeHavilland museum at London Colney

Tuesday 5th September – NWL Tenpin bowling at Dunstable
Thursday 21st September – NWL Chat and a Drink at The Red Lion

#### That's about it for now - hope to see you at some of our activities

Alan T

## Motor Sport Coordinators' Bulletin

July 2023

Date	Day		Event (Status)	Type of Event	Club
Jul	Sun 9		Grasshopper Autotest (Cm)	Grass autotest - Cancelled	CSMA NEL
	Sun 23	*	Twisted Arms Autotest (Cm)	Grass autotest	Oxford MC
Aug	Sun 13	*	Paddock Autotest (Cm)	Grass autotest - Now Running	CSMA NWL
Sep	Fri 8		12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC
	Sun 10		Chiltern Autotest (Cm)	Grass autotest - TBC	CSMA NWL
Oct	Sun 8		Autumn Autotest (Cm)	Grass autotest - TBC	CSMA NWL
	Fri 13		12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC
	Sun 22		Boanerges AutoSolo (Cm)	Cross between autotest/sprint	Oxford MC
	Fri 27		12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Oxford MC

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

#### **Past Events**

#### **Future Events**

**Summer Grass Autotests** Although the July event remains cancelled, there is good news for the August one, as a field has been found for us to use, so this event will be running. The September and October events will be at the mercy of the landowner, after they have seen what we did to the surface in August, but fingers crossed they are OK with it and the fact it recovers quickly, despite how it looks! An email will go out to all those on the Autotest list about keeping the date free and the regs will be available as soon as the agreement is fully completed. Just need to find a venue for the tarmac events now!

**MSUK Clubman Licence** It is now time to renew your free MSUK licence, so that you can compete on our grass autotests. If you go to <a href="https://rsclubman.motorsportuk.org">https://rsclubman.motorsportuk.org</a>, you can click on the option to renew for 2023. Please make sure you don't leave it to the last minute if planning on doing the August event.

**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

#### NWL Paddock Autotest - Sunday 13th August (Running)

Venue - T.B.A.

Organisers: Ian O'Connor / Mike Biss - Entry Fee £28 (Juniors £15)

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

Great fun day out driving - Marshals required

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

#### **NWL Chiltern Autotest - Sunday 10th September (TBC)**

Venue - T.B.A.

Organisers: T.B.A./Mike Biss - Entry Fee £28 (Juniors £15)

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

Great fun day out driving - Marshals required

Regs available (when site confirmed) from Mike B or from the website - Online entries only

# THE TWO BREWERS TROPHY SCATTER - TUESDAY 4th JULY Compact route and no map plotting required.



# 40th Anniversary Event



You are invited to the 40th running of the Two Brewers Trophy. This year's event will be of a similar format to previous ones. You may need a torch to find clues if it gets

too dark!

The start will be 7:30pm onwards from the car park on Chipperfield Common opposite the Two Brewers Hotel - Map ref 043½016. If you arrive after about 8:30pm you'll probably find I've already moved to the finish venue (The Red Lion) so find me there.



The scatter will take place in the SW corner of O.S. map 166.

A copy of the relevant section of map will be provided, if required.

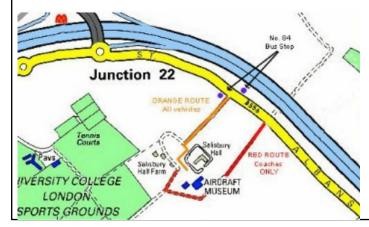
- Motorsport UK exemption certificate 131614 has been issued.
- The entry fee for the event is £5 per crew
- Crews will be entered in two classes by the organisers, Experts (won the event within the last 5 years) and Novices.
- There are 15 easy questions but each crew are only required to answer a maximum of 8.

I hope you have a very enjoyable evening! Mike Harrison (organising this year)



# **NWL** Group Visit Thursday 24th August

# Tour starts at 2pm



£20 per person (free guided tour and a cup of tea)

20 spaces available

Contact Doug Harrison to book



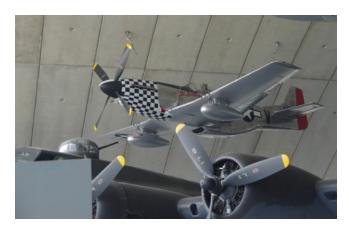


Mike H pictures - British Motor Heritage above and IWM Duxford below













#### Motorsports Group visit to British Motor Heritage

Tuesday 6th June saw a few of us visit The British Motor Heritage factory in Witney. The morning started with a presentation in the Boardroom, with a talk from their marketing team on the current ownership plans for the business moving forward.

What we understood is that it is moving forward and growing, with a recent lucrative order for MGB shells to a company that will install electric vehicle components and they will be newly registered cars. The shell components retain all the mounting points to revert back to a petrol engine vehicle, with the EV components tailored to suit the shell.





Once the shell is complete, it is then sent for the priming process, using electrostatically applied primer to get into all the nooks and crannies.

They alter their production runs on a scheduled basis, meaning one month may be MG's and another they may turn their run toward Mini Mk1 or the latest of the original shells identified here, with side repeater indicators that appeared on the last production run. The company has the pressings and jigs from the Longbridge factory and

a change between production runs is easily achieved in a day.

As well as producing complete shells, the company supplies all

the panels as separate items. With the many racing series still using the shells, on any given weekends the following weeks usually sees the need for wings, doors and bonnets surge. They produce the MK1 shell with external door hinges and small round rear lights, through the MK2 and MK3 .

We had the chance to see one of the fabricators put the components of a Mini front wing together. The headlight has a stiffener spot welded in place by the ceiling mounted heavy duty tracked spot welders.



The front subframe also includes a multi position clamping and moving within the jig, to access all the areas for welding.

We were issued with safety glasses for the areas where grinding or welding work was being carried out. The pre-paint workstations carry out fine panel beating and large-scale rasps highlight high points, that receive further fettling before priming.

The company has just passed the milestone of 1000 Jaguar E type bonnet arrangement, with that famous tipping forward hinges and balance springs.

We also saw carpet production, including a moulded turret tunnel underlay stitched together at industrial sized sewing machine workstations. We al-

so went past the windscreen wiper blade workstation, showing the diverse range of spares that British Motor Heritage produce and market.

Our tour lasted around two hours, before we left to enjoy a lunch at the local golf club, that Mike Harrison had arranged. It was a very enjoyable way to spend a birthday, thank you Mike for arranging.

Ian O'Connor





# **Diary** №₩**L** 2023



CLUBNIGHT Venue Function Room, The Red Lion, 56 London Road, Hemel Hempstead HP3 9TD DRINK & CHAT Venue The Red Lion, 56 London Road, Hemel Hempstead HP3 9TD

## July

Sun 2nd F1 - Austria

**Tue 4th** NWL Clubnight - Two Brewers Scatter
Sun 9th NEL Grasshopper Autotest - Cancelled

Sun 9th F1 - Silverstone

Thu 20th NWL Chat and a Drink - The Red Lion, HH

21st-23rd WRC - Estonia Sun 23rd F1 - Hungary Sun 30th F1 - Belgium

### <u>August</u>

Tue 1st NWL Clubnight - Gliding at Dunstable Downs

4th-6th WRC - Finland

Sun 13th NWL Paddock Autotest - Running

Thu 17th NWL Chat and a Drink - The Red Lion, HH

Thu 24th NWL Visit to DeHavilland museum - London Colney

Sun 27th F1 - Netherlands

# September

Sun 3rd F1 - Italy (Monza)

Tue 5th NWL Clubnight - Bowling, Dunstable

8th-10th WRC - Greece

Sun 10th NWL Chiltern Autotest - TBC

Sun 17th F1 - Singapore

Thu 21st NWL Chat and a Drink - The Red Lion, HH

Sun 24th F1 - Japan 29th-1st WRC - Chile

Dates to reserve: