

# The "Nelly" Newsletter

## August 2024



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or the News and Events website at : <https://news.boundlessevents.uk>



Clubnights



Motorsports



Group Visits



**Next Clubnight - Tuesday 13 August**

**John Foster's -  
"Seventies"  
Vinyl Night**



# NEL Group Contact Information & Editorial

Web Sites - Club: [www.boundless.co.uk/nel](http://www.boundless.co.uk/nel) or,  
North London Region: <https://news.boundlessevents.uk>



**Chairman: Bernard Ward**  
07532 117 868  
Email: [bernard.ward3@btinternet.com](mailto:bernard.ward3@btinternet.com)



**Secretary: Robert Daines**  
07944 732 890  
Email: [robert.daines12@googlemail.com](mailto:robert.daines12@googlemail.com)



**Treasurer: Stafford Steed**  
07964 612 619  
Email: [stafford.steed@btinternet.com](mailto:stafford.steed@btinternet.com)



**Competitions Sec.: Mike Biss**  
07753 137 415  
Email: [mike.biss@btinternet.com](mailto:mike.biss@btinternet.com)



**Committee: John Foster**  
07984 723 449  
Email: [fosterjohn92@gmail.com](mailto:fosterjohn92@gmail.com)



**Committee: Lesley Steed**  
07984 760 950  
Email: [lesley.steed@btinternet.com](mailto:lesley.steed@btinternet.com)



**Committee: Philip Perry**  
07586 158 751  
Email: [perryphilip47@gmail.com](mailto:perryphilip47@gmail.com)



**Newsletter Editor: Dave Roshier**  
07724 164 576  
Email: [nel.editor@boundlessevents.uk](mailto:nel.editor@boundlessevents.uk)

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*Hi Everyone*

*Well summer looks like it's finally arrived and it seems that plenty of you have been enjoying the recent outdoor club activity evenings. Results from John can be found further on.*

*Thanks to Owen for his Derbyshire article, Staff for his River Cruise photos - and to everyone else for all their flyers for upcoming events.*

*A nice day last Sunday, so we went along to the local Worthing Seafront Bus Rally. Here's a nice example of what was on display; 1930's art deco body styling, complete with a sliding sun roof - and a dorsal fin....! And, locally built in Hove by Harringtons, of Le Mans Sunbeam fame.*



*The Olympics are well under way now and there are some interesting additions to the events this time around. Looking forward to the Kayak Cross, which sounds pretty chaotic, and I imagine will be a bit like four cars doing an autotest all at once - but in the water....*

*That's all for now - Dave*

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

*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 August Chatter**

Welcome to our August Nelly, produced each month to keep you in touch with what's occurring or has occurred in the Boundless North East London Group.

Who of us knew that there were three civil wars until we learnt as much from our July speaker Paul Baker? First off we had the background to the 17th century Wars of the Roses, then a summary of the battles after which he homed in on a battle close by, the Battle of Barnet. Who would have thought that so much went on just down the road, in Barnet? The Houses of York and Lancaster came together and, not surprisingly, the Lancastrians lost as they had just walked 100 miles to get there and were, I should imagine, quite tired and footsore. Very well explained and thanks must go to Ann and David for providing the door to door taxi service for the speaker.

Next up was the evening boat trip along the River Lea, starting from Broxbourne and thankfully finishing there as well. A lovely evening for the twenty or so Nellies who enjoyed a fish and chip supper on board while watching the scenery pass slowly by. Our thanks to Robert for arranging this.

With the nights starting to draw in we were fortunate to once again have decent weather for our second outdoor activity, the pétanque evening followed by a meal in the Old Bulls Head, Ware. A baker's dozen was there for a nail biting final match to determine who earned maximum points in the new championship table (I have to admit 'twas not I).

John took the 'I'm in charge' baton at the pétanque and will be doing so again at this month's Clubnight when he takes centre stage to present his Sounds of the Seventies, perhaps my favourite era, so I'm looking forward to a reminder of the best songs of the decade. We start at 8 and finish off with our usual refreshments, all free gratis courtesy of Boundless.

We do have another outdoor activity but that's not until Mick's Sunday morning walk in September so the fourth Tuesdays from now on are indoor and this month will find us at the Galley Hall for an evening get together.

I spent a nice Sunday last month driving around en plein air in the Merc on one of our Classic Vehicle Group runs around Berkshire and Oxfordshire, finishing with a cream tea somewhere and, as it was an Allan Goddard event, we ended with a quiz and a paper dart competition. It's not often you see one ending up behind the thrower! Enjoy the Olympics - I know that chess-boxing is only a taster event but it's one of those sports that you didn't know existed (and hope it doesn't appear again) so enjoy all your favourite sports and at a sensible time of the day as there's just the hour difference for a change.

What's coming up?

### **Clubnight Tuesday 13 August – Music Evening**

Our annual feast of music from John's collection of oldies, this time we re-live the Seventies, so leave room in the aisles.

### **Noggin Tuesday 27 August – Monthly Dinner**

We are back to our summer watering and eating hole, the Galley Hall; an evening get together for as many Nellies who wish to join John – It will help his arrangements if you let him know in advance that you are going – just a text will do.

### **Clubnight Tuesday 10 September – Speaker**

We welcome back Phil McKinder who will be taking us back to the Lynton & Lynmouth Flood Disaster which occurred back in August seventy two years ago – I remember it well!

*Bernard*

## ROBERT'S RAMBLEINGS

August is here and as we head towards the end of the summer; I wish I knew where it has gone. July club night was a talk on the Battle of Barnet, part of the Wars of the Roses. Well explained with slides and an excellent speaker. This was followed a week later by our Fish and Chip trip on the River Lee from Broxbourne. We could not have chosen a better night for it, as it was a pleasant evening. Ah that was our summer. They even served the food on a plate with proper knives and forks. We even managed to have ice cream for afters. Thank you to me. This was followed a week later by our annual game of pétanque, and ten of us enjoyed two games of throwing boules.

So, what does August hold for us. Well for club night, John will be treating us to yet another of his excellent music evenings. This will be followed by us returning to The Galley Hall for an evening meal, and details can be found in the article in this newsletter. Just remember to give John a ring so he can reserve a place for you.

Doing more of our own visits in London, and this month we first decided to visit The Globe Theatre which is located on the South Bank of The River Thames. Arriving a bit early for our time slot we started to go round the exhibition, before meeting up for our tour. We were given headphones and a wireless so we could listen to the guide. Moving through the theatre, we stopped outside and were given a history of the theatre. It is the third one to be built, and it is not on the original site, as in Shakespeare time the Thames was a lot wider, and we would be standing in muddy water if it was its original width. Moving inside we sat in the theatre in complete silence. No mobiles were to be used for filming as the actors on the stage were rehearsing. With no roof on the theatre, it was rather warm, another summers day. After some time, we moved down to the outside, before finishing the tour in the gift shop. After that we finished off the exhibition, before going for lunch.

The next visit was to Apsley House which can be found by Hyde Park Corner. It is the home of Duke of Wellington and his dependence. Upon entering we descended to a small room, where a history of the Duke could be found, from his birth to his death. His coffin was supported on an iron frame a made from guns captured at the Battle of Waterloo. Returning to the ground floor and picking up headphones so we could listen to the audio description of each room, off we went. Entering each room, we were given a talk of what exhibits were on display. Although some of the exhibits were gifts from grateful heads of state for his victory at Waterloo, a lot were purchased by the Duke himself. One room does contain portraits of Napoleon, although the two never meet face to face. Whilst looking at a picture of the Battle, the audio quoted the Dukes' famous saying, "that next to a battle lost, the worse site is that of a battle won." I wonder how many commanders in World War One said that. I must mention the following. In the great dining room, where each year on the anniversary of the battle was commemorated, the windows were covered not with blinds, but with mirrors. Each one could be pushed up to let the light in, but when dinner was served, they were pulled down to reflect the candle light. Finally, ninety minutes later, we finished and went for lunch. We chose a pub in Whitehall just south of Trafalgar Square. When we finished the traffic in Whitehall was hardly moving, and the Square was gridlocked. We went home via the Underground.

Well, that is all for this month. So, keep safe.

Robert.



## NEL Clubnight - 10 September

### Lynton and Lynmouth Flood – talk by Phil McKinder.

On 15th August 1952 around 1700 people were staying in Lynmouth, North Devon, many of them on holiday in the fine Hotels and Guest Houses. What they experienced that night was a shock to the nation and around the world. The flood was one worst incidents of its kind to have ever occurred in Britain.



Phil will explain the cause, resultant damage and what has been done to ensure the disaster never happens again.

Phil is himself a Boundless member who has many interests which includes music, he is an accomplished guitarist; railways; canals, he owns a canal boat; and he is an official guide to the Copped Hall Trust, some of you may remember he gave us a talk and guided tour of the Hall. He gives a number of interesting talks, most of his fee for these goes towards the Trust.

Phil's most recent talk to us took the form of trial based on the 1931 murder trial of William Wallace where the audience had to decide on whether he was guilty or not.

Stafford Steed

## COUNTRYSIDE WALK - 14 September

A 4 mile, 90% level square route, starting from the Robin Hood & Little John Car Park, Ware Road, Tonwell, SG12 0HN. Phone 01920 463352

Mainly hard surface with some footpaths and nice houses of various sizes. The Pub has a varied menu of reasonably priced food, which will be available at 1p.m., at your own cost.

There is no entry fee for the Walk.

Meet in the Car Park for an 11 a.m. start.

Please let me know if you are coming and are eating as well. There is a maximum of 12 people, to avoid pre-booking the meal choice and a minimum of 6 for the event to take place. Closing date for the event will be 10th September ( after Club Night ), to let the Pub know the numbers.

PLEASE send an email to confirm to Mick at [mickoblath20@gmail.com](mailto:mickoblath20@gmail.com). This event does not count towards the Group Championship.



MICK

## 24 September – Visit to NUTHAMPSTEAD AIRFIELD MUSEUM at:

### THE WOODMAN, SG8 8NB

Most of you will be aware that the northern part of our NEL area coincides with the part of East Anglia most associated with the airborne warfare waged by this country and her allies in the determined efforts to defeat the tyranny of Nazi Germany. Last year a group of Nellies visited Duxford air museum and a few months ago I visited nearby Fowlmere Airfield, which has a far smaller but still very interesting museum dedicated to the WWII heroes who were based there.



This has led me to organise a NEL visit to Nuthampstead Airfield Museum, an American base a few miles south of Duxford, which I am sure will be equally worthwhile. Because the museum is in the grounds of the Woodman pub, the visit will be combined with one of our monthly pub meals. In fact, the Woodman was the Americans' "local" and the pub itself has its own distinctive atmosphere, with the WWII memorabilia on its walls.



The museum's mission is to provide a facility for public education on the roles of the 8th Air Force 398th Bomb Group and 55th Fighter Group, especially their activities and roles in the national defence whilst at Station 131. The aim is to do this through a programme of engagement with the visitor, where storytelling and interaction are at the heart of the museum experience.

Through the varied exhibits you will learn veterans' stories, not only with a historical perspective, but on a personal level too. Many of the artefacts at the museum compliment those stories, along with items found on the airfield itself and identified later. Voluntary monetary contributions to the museum from visitors are obviously much appreciated.

The visit will take place on 24 September, starting at 12.30. Please e-mail me by 20 September if you would like to join us.

*Phil Perry*



## 25 June - Pitch 'n Putt Scores

On one of the best days for sunny weather so far this year six of us took up our clubs and ventured on to the 9 hole short course. Two groups of three enjoyed the evening sun which ended at the 10<sup>th</sup> hole for a welcome beer and bowl of chips.

Results were as follows :-

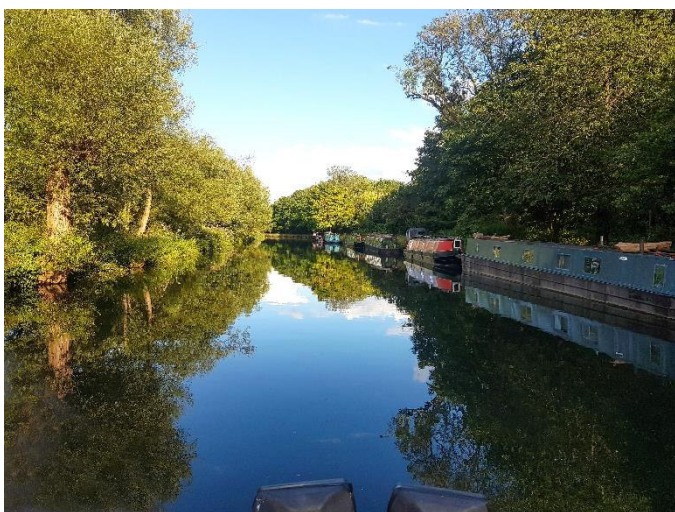
Joint First place, Robert Daines & Curtis Storer - 42 Shots

Third place, Bernard Ward - 43 shots

Joint Fourth place, Brian Beard & John Foster 44 shots

Sixth place, Ron Barnett 50 shots

## 16 July - Fish & Chip Cruise photos from Staff



## 23 July – Pétanque Results

1<sup>st</sup> Tina Farr & Philip Perry

2<sup>nd</sup> Brian Beard, Alan Farr & Jeff Kenyon

3<sup>rd</sup> Bernard Ward, Mick O'Blath & Robert Daines

4<sup>th</sup> Jeanette Perry & Curtis Storer

David & Richard Smith attended but did not take part.

*John*



## RETURN TO DERBYSHIRE

Many moons ago the Group had a self-drive break in Chesterfield at Wetherspoons' Portland Hotel, named after a Duke of the same name as part of his plan for the Lancashire, Derbyshire and East Coast Railway. Unfortunately, the Railway did not reach either ends of the proposed termini so failed and the Hotel is all that remains as Market Station and tracks have long disappeared. Conversely, St Mary's Church has survived some 700 years longer despite its twisted spire, caused, it is believed, by a combination of use of unseasoned timber and heavy slates.



Last month I made a return visit but travelled by express coach and used local buses so did not have the hassle of find a parking space or of how to pay for it and had the bonus of admiring the scenery, often from a top deck. The X17 route runs from Sheffield through Chesterfield to Matlock and beyond on alternate journeys and also connects with the Trans Peak Derby to Buxton service. There are also Peak Sightseer open-top, hop on/hop off bus services to Chatsworth House, through Hope Valley to Castleton and spectacular Winnats Pass and another circular one via Bakewell. Sadly my camera ran out of juice on these trips.



Camera recharged, I was able to record my visit to the Heights of Abraham at Matlock Bath, so called as Benjamin Brian thought his newly acquired 60acre site was similar to those in Quebec scaled by General Wolfe in 1759. Although 169metres high, the Heights have several caves, some natural caused by water erosion of limestone rock and others by mining for lead and sodium crystals. By 1847 the caves had been worked out so Benjamin developed a Georgian pleasure garden and ex-miners gave tours.

The venue became popular with the wealthy and donkeys were used to take the gentry up the steep slopes, which included the then Princess Victoria and this Tower was built subsequently to commemorate her visit.

Following the coming of the railway vast numbers came on special trains from as far away as Birmingham but much rowdiness ensued.

Patronage steadily declined, mainly due to the difficulty in climbing up, as most did, 160metres of rough terrain until 1984 when a cable car was opened, which revitalized the venue and enabled facilities to be updated. There are spectacular views through the Derwent Valley which leads to my next visit in the village of Cromford.





In 1771, Richard Arkwright built his first water powered spinning mill at Cromford that transformed the cotton spinning process from a cottage to manufacturing industry and the original building is seen here. Now preserved, the whole complex is a World Heritage Site. Other mills were built nearby using the waters from the River Derwent and another of Arkwright's mills, Masson Mill, built in 1783 was operational until the 1990's is also preserved.



Arkwright provided houses for his workers and the first 27 were built in North Street, with 16 on top and 11 on bottom. It is a marvel that after 100 or more years these buildings of the Georgian and Victorian eras are still standing whilst modern buildings are falling apart in less than 50.

My next journey was a long trip on Trans Peak bus through Bakewell to Buxton, a spa town with many fine buildings of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Century – The Crescent, Pump Room, Opera House (pictured here) and Devonshire Dome and Palace Hotel, which was requisitioned by the Government in WW2.



Buxton has its own micro-climate – anyone remember the date 2 JUNE 1975 when an inch of snow fell and stopped a county cricket match?

My mother, evacuated during WW2, loathed the winters there when snow falls were measured in feet not inches due to enormous drifts that isolated the town. Being a teleprinter operator, she had the heartbreaking task of preparing telegrams informing local families that one of their number would not be coming home or who were missing in action.

I did not partake of the spa waters but came near with a visit to Buxton Brewery Tap with an ale named 'Right to Roam'. This commemorates the famous mass trespass by walkers over the moorland plateau of Kinder Scout in April 1932 that the landed gentry forbade public access to so they could have exclusive right for shooting. The wave of sympathy for the jailed leaders kick started a campaign that led to formation of National Parks after the War – so I raised a glass or two to that.

OWEN

Date	Day	Event (Status)	Type of Event	Club
Aug	Sat 10	* Autotest/PCA (Cm)	Grass autotest	Blackbird AC
	Sun 11	* Autotest/PCA (Cm)	Grass autotest	Blackbird AC
	Sun 18	* Autotest/PCA (Cm)	Grass autotest	Falcon MC
Sep	Sun 1	* Paddock Autotest (Cm)	Grass autotest	<b>CSMA NWL</b>
	Fri 13	* 12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC
	Sun 29	Chiltern Autotest (Cm)	Grass autotest - TBC	<b>CSMA NWL</b>
Oct	Fri 11	* 12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC
	Sun 13	Boanerges Autosolo (Cm)	Cross between autotest/sprint	Oxford MC
Nov	Fri 1	12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	<b>CSMA NWL</b>
	Fri 8	* 12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC
	Fri 29	12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	<b>CSMA NWL</b>
Dec	Fri 6	* 12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC

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

## Past Events

**Greenacres Autotest** We finally got to run a whole event, but not until after a last minute panic, when the original site owner decided to go on holiday instead, and it was only after a plea for help resulted in a new venue almost the same day! So it was that the event was held at Weston Underwood, just outside Olney, and a superb venue it was, with a good field surface. There were 21 entries, with 19 starters, and everyone seemed to have a good time. We will be able to use it one more time this year, but unfortunately, it isn't going to be a replacement site for our whole season.

## Future Events

**Paddock Autotest** We will be returning to the Greenacres site for this event, thanks to the landowner agreeing to one more visit. Regs are now available from the website. This will have two permits again, one for passengers and one without and is held on a grass field. Nice easy all-forward tests are on offer and are suitable for your standard car. Entry fee is £28 (juniors £15) and entries and marshals can register on the website links shown in the advert.

**Chiltern Autotest** With us back to looking for another permanent venue, it might be that we can source a couple of different ones and spread the use out, to keep the ground in a better condition over the year. We might be able to go to our original venue for this year, but again it is not going to allow us the early usage we would like for a full season.

**12 Car Rally Season** The 12 Car Rally dates for this season, due to the January event being the most likely to be hit by bad weather, the events will now run in Nov, Dec, Feb and Mar. The existing January event has moved to Nov and the existing April event to Dec, with the existing February and March events staying as is. This also allows for the two uses of the John Bunyan PH start to be better separated. The December event, as Blackbird have moved their event forward a week (most likely to miss the Preston Rally weekend), will now run on 29th November instead, but that is still four weeks from the previous event.

**MSUK Clubman Licence** Almost all these events in the calendar require you to have one of these licences as a minimum to compete, either as a driver or passenger. If you go to <https://rsclubman.motorsportuk.org>, you can order your free licence, but please make sure you don't leave it to the last minute.

**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. Most of these events are entered via the Sapphire System, so regs, etc. can be found there. We will be invited to all the Anglian Motor Sport Club autosolos/autotests throughout the year.



## NWL Paddock Autotest - Sunday 1st September

Venue: Weston Underwood, near Olney

Organisers: Mike Harrison / Mike Biss - Entry Fee £28 (Juniors £15)

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

Great fun day out driving - Marshals required

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

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

<https://autotest.sapphire-solutions.co.uk/eventlist.php?sitename=boundless>

## NWL Chiltern Autotest - Sunday 29th September (TBC)

Venue: TBC

Organisers: Graeme Presswell / 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

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

<https://autotest.sapphire-solutions.co.uk/eventlist.php?sitename=boundless>



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We spotted this well preserved, 1970 BMC JU250 based, ice cream van whilst visiting Edinburgh recently.

Unfortunately, the prices definitely weren't from 1970...!

# Dates for your Diary - 2024

**Club Night Venue: Bishop's College  
Churchgate, Cheshunt, EN8 9XQ**

Lunch / Dinner Venues may vary month by month so keep a close watch on the Newsletter each month for precise details of location.

Evenings start at 7.45 for 8.00pm

Clubnights – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday

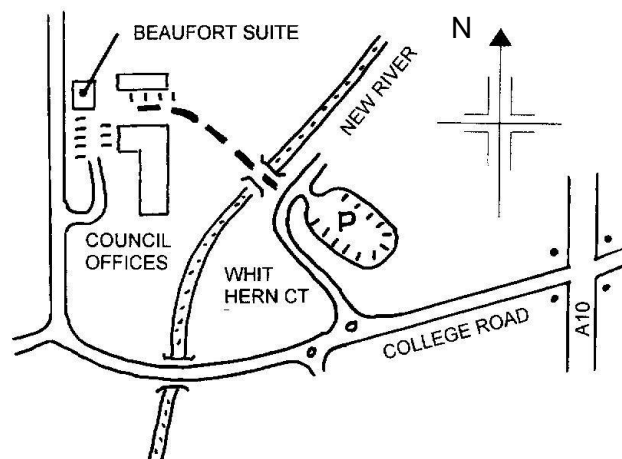
Daytime Lunches, 12.30pm – 4th Tuesday  
Evening Dinners, 7.30pm – 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday

Month	Event
<b>Aug</b>	Tue 13 <sup>th</sup> – Clubnight: Vinyl Evening and a talk on Music of the 1970's Tue 27 <sup>th</sup> - Monthly Dinner at: The Galley Hall, Hailey Lane, Hoddesdon, SG13 7NY
<b>Sept</b>	Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> - NWL Group Paddock Autotest Tue 10 <sup>th</sup> – Clubnight: Speaker – Phil McKinder – <i>“The Lynton &amp; Lynmouth Flood Disaster”</i> Sat 14 <sup>th</sup> – Countryside Walk – Starting from Tonwell Tue 24 <sup>th</sup> - Monthly Lunch at: The Woodman, Nuthampstead, SG8 8NG to be followed by a visit to the Nuthampstead Airfield WW2 museum <b>** Note change of venue **</b> Sun 29 <sup>th</sup> - NWL Group Chiltern Autotest (TBC)
<b>Oct</b>	Tue 8 <sup>th</sup> - Clubnight: Speaker – Joanne Lerner – <i>“The Wonder of Norway”</i> Tue 22 <sup>nd</sup> - Monthly Dinner at: The Galley Hall, Hailey Lane, Hoddesdon, SG13 7NY
<b>Nov</b>	Tue 12 <sup>th</sup> – Clubnight: Speaker – Mel Byron – <i>“Old Films Saved My Life”</i> Tue 26 <sup>th</sup> – Monthly Lunch at: The Plough, Sewardstone Road, EN9 3QQ

Our Indoor Club Night venue is: **Bishop's College**, EN8 9XQ (Civic Offices), located on Churchgate, at its junction with College Road, about 300m West of the A10 junction with College road (Traffic lights and pedestrian footbridge).

Our Clubroom is in the Beaufort Suite, which appears to be an old Chapel from outside.

There is a **Free Car Park** in Whit Hern Court off College Road ( **Ignore “Permit Holders Only” sign** ) then a short walk over the New River footbridge to the venue.



For further details, see inside or, ring the Secretary; Robert Daines on: 07944 732890

Or, contact him via E-Mail on: [robert.daines12@googlemail.com](mailto:robert.daines12@googlemail.com)

Visit the Websites at: [www.boundless.co.uk/nel](http://www.boundless.co.uk/nel) or, <https://news.boundlessevents.uk>