# The "Nelly" Newsletter June 2025

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Next Clubnight –

- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June

Speaker – Alan Smith

"The Peking to Paris Rally"







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Hi Everyone - and welcome to your June Newsletter.

Hopefully, the eagle eyed amongst you will have spotted the gradual updating of the committee photo gallery that has been taking place over the last few issues. It's now complete, apart from yours truly that is.

Thanks this month to John & Owen for their articles and photos from recent trips away. Talking of going away, Rosie & I also enjoyed a week away in the campervan recently; not too far, just a couple of hours drive to a canal side campsite near Devizes; close to the flight of the Caen Hill locks Owen wrote about some time back. It made a nice change to wake up to the twittering and chirping of songbirds, instead of the now familiar seagull squawk we have become accustomed to since moving down here.

After a few days (and pub lunches) there, we moved on and joined a couple of dozen or so members of the Boundless Caravan & Camping Group, who were holding a four day rally, along with around 2000 other units, at the Newbury Motorhome Show, just off the M4/A34 junction at Chieveley. As well as the usual vehicles and associated paraphernalia for sale, the show also featured some 1960's themed evening entertainment.



Anyone else out there remember The Swinging Blue Jeans...?

That's all for now - Dave

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

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#### **Chairman's June Chatter**

Welcome to our June Nelly, and I hope the bank holiday wasn't spoilt too much by the rain - I know we needed it but why on the holiday?

At last month's clubnight a somewhat smaller audience enjoyed another visit by Paul Baker in our temporary clubnight hall at Cheshunt. By way of explanation the inauguration of the new lady mayor took preference so we were relocated – and we learnt about Camden Town, what makes it tick and a look back into its history.

I boosted the attendance figures at the Galley Hall a couple of weeks later when I joined our regulars for the monthly nosh and natter. Their meals never disappoint, both quality and quantity and their specials always provide a good choice. I probably choose the most messy item on the menu this time, BBQ spare ribs, but the finger bowl came in very handy.

Having described last month about the (very unusual) failure to proceed with the SLK the car decided to breakdown again, this time with a flat battery. I had lowered the roof which turned out to be its last act with the old battery, and I had an agonising wait until BR came to my rescue yet again. Fortunately, the rain clouds in the distance didn't get any nearer or I'd have looked a little stupid, sitting there with an umbrella over me.

It's seldom that I have both my cars immobile at the same time as the Jag continues its sojourn in the Hertford garage, while they try different things to cure the gearbox problem – maybe it will be fixed in time for me to take it to the Jag Restorers workshop next month over in the Cotswolds with a CVG group - perhaps I should leave it with them.

You can read inside about Mike's suggestions for a revamp of the 12 car arrangements, which should attract a few more entries from those who just enjoy a drive round the lanes following a map without the pressure of having to progress upwards to the next level of competition. I hope we can keep this element of the motor sport going as the summer field events seem to be fated with venue problems.

And finally, a recommendation to visit the Tutankhamun exhibition at the Excel waterfront site, - I wore VR goggles for the first time and it's just an amazing experience.

What's coming up?

#### Clubnight Tuesday 10 June

Back in the Beaufort Suite, a chance to hear from Alan Smith, Boundless member and long-time rally navigator, who has for many years been involved in the organising of long-distance rallies.

His talk will go behind the scenes of a recent Peking to Paris rally, before we see a most impressive short film of the rally itself; not just for the rally buffs but the stories are of interest to all.

#### Pitch & Putt At Chadwell Springs – 24 June

Meet in the car park at 6.30pm on what we hope will be a sunny evening if you want a friendly round, or, join us a bit later for a noggin & natter at the 19<sup>th</sup> in the nearby Kings Mead.

#### Clubnight Tuesday 8 July

A chance to hear another of Tricia Thompson's talks, this time all about Morecambe and Wise

Best wishes, Bernard

#### ROBERTS RAMBLINGS

June is here, and with it comes the summer equinox. After that the amount of daylight becomes less. So, what does June hold for us. Clubnight is a talk by Alan Smith on the Peking to Paris Rally, held when the world was a much safer place to be. This will be followed by our annual pitch and putt evening at the Kings Mead course, between Hertford and Ware. We shall meet at 18.30 for a round, before a drink at the nearby watering hole.

Please let John or myself know at clubnight if you wish to take part. This event will replace our usual evening dinner at The Galley Hall.

Not much has happened during the month of May. I was going to include a picture of the Spurs parade, but after what happened in Liverpool, I think it will be inappropriate.

Mind you, looking well ahead to October, I have just booked a trip with the Enfieldian Coach Company on the trip to Southend, on the PS Waverley. Having been years ago up stream on the Thames, this trip goes downstream from Tower Pier to Southend, and then I get the coach back to London. I just hope that the ammunition ship which sunk in the Thames Estuary, does not go off.

A short edition this month.

Keep it on the road.

Robert.

Clubnight - Tuesday 10th June



# A Talk by Alan Smith on:

When you read this a 100 vintage and classic cars will be half way through their epic 13,000 km journey from Peking to Paris.

The first event was held in 1907 when 5 intrepid explorers completed the journey, some achievement when they were no roads, no maps and no petrol.

Alan Smith will tell the story of how they managed to reach Paris against all the odds and then tell of his own experiences on the 2007 event where, starting from the Russian border, he marshalled time controls back to Paris.

## Annual Pitch and Putt at Chadwell Springs on 24th June

NEL's annual Pitch and Putt takes place at the above venue which has been our preferred course for some time. Cost is £8 for a round of 9 holes, with an extra £2 to hire a putter & Iron. Afterwards its always nice to have a drink and chat in the pub (King's Mead) at the venue for our Noggin.

Nobody needs to be a Golf pro to take part, most of us who come play but once a year. Everyone is welcome especially newcomers hopefully to enjoy the lovely sunny evenings we sometimes are lucky to get in June.



Meet in the car park by 6.30 which is situated at Ware road, **SG12 9LE –** Hertford / Ware boundary.

Just let me know if you like to come so we can look out for you before the start. <a href="mailto:fosterjohn92@gmail.com">fosterjohn92@gmail.com</a> or 07984723449.

Thanks, John.

## Epping and Ongar Railway, Fish Fryer excursion - 5th July

Due to high demand a further six tickets have been purchased by the club at £34.50 each for the evening Fish Fryer excursion. This will depart from North Weald station at 19.00 on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July.

You will be seated in a comfortable carriage and served with fresh fish 'n' chips followed by ice cream dessert when the train leaves the station at 7pm prompt.



Parking at North Weald station is now available as there will be no Heritage bus service running from Epping tube station to North Weald station that evening.

Please contact me regarding the current ticket availability. My Mobile 07984723449; email fosterjohn92@gmail.com

Payment by bank transfer, bank details will be supplied at time of confirmation. Alternatively cash or cheque payable to CSMA ( NEL Group ) at club night.

Thanks, John

# **NELLY RIVERSIDE TREASURE HUNT, 27 JULY**

The Riverside Treasure Hunt, for teams of two people, comprises 24 questions at Great Amwell and then 40 questions at Stanstead Abbotts, concluding with lunch at the Red Lion in the High Street. Please let us know by 17 July at <a href="mailto:perryphilip47@gmail.com">perryphilip47@gmail.com</a> if you wish to join us, so that we can make the lunch arrangements. By then you will have needed to visit <a href="https://theredlion.net/kitchen/">https://theredlion.net/kitchen/</a> to check out their Sunday menu so that you can tell us in advance what you would like to eat. After 17 July, late entries are permitted, but you would have to contact the Red Lion to make your own arrangements for lunch or, of course, just stay for a drink.

#### **Great Amwell**

Please park by 10.00am in Amwell Lane, in the vicinity of the War Memorial and the sign-post pointing to the Nature Reserve. If you park facing south (ie with the New River on your right), you will be ready to drive straight off to the second part of the Treasure Hunt. We will note what time you start at Great Amwell and what time you finish at Stanstead Abbotts, and will use overall time taken to determine the winners in the event of two teams being tied on number of correct answers. Please take particular care as you will walk around the village as, for the most part, there are no pavements. At the end of this stage, we shall be looking to collect your answers so that we can start marking, but if you cannot find us, do not worry.



#### **Stanstead Abbotts**

Drive down to the southern end of Amwell Lane and then left into High Street. Drive past some shops and then turn left into the public car park opposite "Abbotts Stoves". The charge is £1.50 – both cards and cash accepted.

In this section of the walk, you will be visiting the main branch of the River Lea, and also one of its mill streams, as well as spotting clues along both sides of the High Street. The deadline for finishing at the Red Lion is 12.45.

Phil & Jeanette Perry

## Pendine Sands Speed records during the 1920's - John Foster

During my stay in Tenby recently I visited the Museum Of Speed, which highlighted the feats of racing driver John Godfrey Parry-Thomas during the 1920's

He was a Welsh engineer and motor racing driver who was responsible for breaking the land speed world record twice. His car, the Higham Special, was acquired from the estate of the deceased Louis Zborowski. The car was rebuilt with new bodywork for improved aerodynamics and powered by a huge 27 litre Liberty V-12 aero engine.





In April 1926 the car now named Babs, emerged with another new body. Despite poor conditions and soft wet sand, he took the record at Pendine sands, Wales; the same six mile beach that Malcolm Campbell had used in 1924 and 1925. The following day, 28th April he raised his speed to over 170 mph, a record that stood for over a year.

When he died a year later in an attempt to beat Malcolm Campbell's recent new world record, his car was buried by his team mates in the Pendine sands. Babs was excavated after 42 years of burial and restored over the following 16 years by Owen Wyn Owen and is now the prime exhibit at the Museum of Speed.

John.





It's good to know that "Babs" is not just a static museum exhibit, having made regular appearances in recent years at both The Goodwood Revival and Festival of Speed.

Seen here in 2007 - Ed

#### BABBACOMBE MODEL VILLAGE AND GARDENS - Owen Woodliffe

My highlight of the weekend break at Torquay was the visit to this venue.

The founder started his first model village in Southport in 1956 but moved south and took advantage of the steep valley at Babbacombe to create a superb collection of authentic buildings. addition. magnificent а collection of conifers (over 400 varieties) and shrubs have been assembled, plus immaculate grass that has to be cut around models using hand clippers. This view is looking from the entrance down the valley.





It opened in 1963 following two years of construction and by 1965 it had 300 models of buildings and around a thousand models. One of the first was Wombley Stadium which, in keeping with events of that time, has models of a streaker being pursued by officials.

Keeping abreast of the times, there is a model of an oil refinery being picketed by 'just stop oil' protesters with a van with the 'Stuck-On-You Glue" name and Del Trotter selling from a suitcase nearby – just two examples of subtle humour displayed on many exhibits on site.





New attraction are constantly being added – a creation of Royal Crescent in Bath using modern materials glass fibre and 3D printing took 6 months to build and cost £25000.

Recent diverse additions are of Shakespeare's Globe and a modern calamatous building site (remember Ronnie Barker's 'Home of your Own) in the 1960's?

The models need constant attention to maintain their immaculate appearance so after a few years experience it was decided to duplicate every model so that every Spring these can be replaced whilst the painstaking work to renovate them can be done.



There are buildings that house special features and an example of the attention to detail shown here in this Dad's Army exhibit where the likeness of the models to the characters are easily seen. There is a similar one of Eastenders, although I do not have any knowledge of these.

It is a fascinating place and, as Robert mentioned last month, we stayed far longer than first planned.

Owen

# Motor Sport Coordinators' Bulletin

June 2025

Date	Day		Event (Status)	Type of Event	Club
Jun	Sun 8	*	Autotest/PCA (Cm)	Grass autotest	Blackbird AC
Jul	Tue 1	*	Two Brewers Scatter ()	Treasure Hunt	<b>CSMA NWL</b>
	Sun 13	*	Autotest/PCA (Cm)	Grass autotest	Blackbird AC
Aug	Sat 9	*	Autotest/PCA (Cm)	Grass autotest	Blackbird AC
	Sun 10	*	Autotest/PCA (Cm)	Grass autotest	Blackbird AC
	Sun 24		Autotest/PCA (Cm)	Grass autotest	Falcon MC
Sep	Sun 4		Londinium Pedo ()	Walking Treasure Hunt in London	UHULMC
	Fri 12		12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC
Oct	Fri 10		12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC
	Sun 12		Boanerges Autosolo (Cm)	Cross between autotest/sprint	Oxford MC
	Fri 31		12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	CSMA NWL
Nov	Fri 14		12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC
	Fri 28		12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	<b>CSMA NWL</b>
Dec	Fri 5		12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC

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

#### **Past Events**

#### **Future Events**

**Future of 12 Car Rallies** Thank you to all those people who have replied to the request for how we go forward with these events. The change to mid-week didn't get much favour, due to work commitments, so we will stay on Friday evenings and go down the revised class route, allowing people to choose how much they have to plot/plot on the move. It will be interesting to see what sort of response we get for the first event at the end of October.

**Grass Autotests** Bad news for our grass autotest season, as we do not have the use of the field we used last year. This is due to the lack of rain we have had over the winter/spring, meaning there hasn't been much grass growth. Hopefully things will change for next year. If anyone can find a venue that doesn't get used for a grass cut, then we might have a chance, but it is starting to get a bit late for this year. If you want to do a grass autotest this year, then have a go at the Blackbird ones up at Towcester, as myself, John and Dean are doing.

**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 <a href="https://motorsportuk.sport80.com">https://motorsportuk.sport80.com</a>, you can order your free licence, but please make sure you don't leave it to the last minute. The MSUK have introduced a new system for licence registration and it is still a work in progress, much to the users frustration. You will have to change your log-in details and the whole ordering process is different. From an organisers point of view, they don't issue you with a licence that is easy to show in advance, it is more geared to showing it on your phone in person!

**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.

Mike Biss: NLR Motor Sports Coordinator Tel: 07753 137415 E-mail: mike.biss@btinternet.com



## RS Clubman Licence Requirement

https://motorsportuk.sport80.com

Remember, to enter any MSUK permit event these days, you need the above licence as a minimum (which is free).

If you had one in 2024, you can go onto the above site and renew your licence.

This is a new system and you get a file to store in your phone wallet!

# **Boundless by CSMA Classic Vehicle Group**

### William Heynes Workshop Tour, Saturday 26 July 2025



Come and join us in Bidford on Avon B50 4JG for a tour of the William Heynes Workshop on Saturday morning, 26 July.

The factory tour, led by Mr William Heynes personally, will start at 10:30 am and will last for about 2 hours after which refreshments will be provided, in the form of sandwiches, cake and a drink.

William's understanding of the inner workings of an E-Type is unrivalled. Starting from being raised immersed in Jaguar heritage as a child, onto beginning his career working in fabrication and body work and through scouring the globe procuring cars for clients; there are few living who have amassed an understanding of these cars as thorough and as deep as William's.

William Heynes Limited have prepared E-Type projects for a wide range of events including a preservation project which was accepted into 2022's Pebble Beach Concours. In 2021, William was a judge at Hampton Court's Concours of Elegance for the Jaguar Trophy Award.

The entry fee will be £25 per person, collected in advance by CVG, and will include the refreshments and a donation to a local charity. More information and Entry form from Bernard Ward.

#### bernard.ward3@btinternet.com

Spaces are limited so be quick to book.

## Dates for your Diary - 2025

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

Evenings start at 7.45 for 8.00pm

Clubnights - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday

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

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

Month	Event				
June	Tue 10 <sup>th</sup> – Clubnight: Speaker – Alan Smith, a talk on:				
	" <u>The Peking to Paris Rally</u> "				
	Tue 24 <sup>th</sup> – Pitch & Putt followed be a Noggin & Natter at King's Mead, Ware				
July	Sat 5th - Evening Fish & Chip supper trip on the Epping and Ongar Railway				
	Tue 8 <sup>th</sup> - Clubnight: Speaker – Tricia Thompson, a talk on:				
	" <u>Morecambe and Wise</u> "				
	Tue 22 <sup>nd</sup> – Petanque, followed by a Noggin & Natter at:				
	The Old Bulls Head, Ware, SG12 9DZ				
	Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> – Riverside Treasure Hunt – Amwell and Stanstead Abbotts				
Aug	Tue 12 <sup>th</sup> – Clubnight: Vinyl Record Evening				
	Tue 19 <sup>th</sup> – Hearing Dogs visit				
	Tue 26 <sup>th</sup> - Monthly Dinner at: The Galley Hall, Hailey Lane, Hoddesdon, SG13 7NY				
Sept	Sun 7 <sup>th</sup> – Countryside Walk, starting from Dobbs Weir, EN11 0AY				
	Tue 9 <sup>th</sup> – Clubnight: Beetle Drive				
	Tue 23 <sup>rd</sup> - Monthly Dinner at: The Galley Hall, Hailey Lane, Hoddesdon, SG13 7NY				

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 pay parking in the Council Offices and Whit Hern Court car park off College Road, then a short walk over the New River footbridge to the venue.

Free parking is available in the Whit Hern Park car park – entrance between the two white pillars, just beyond the Green Dragon pub in Churchgate.



For further details, see inside or, ring the Secretary; Robert Daines on: 07944 732890 Or, contact him via E-Mail on: <a href="mailto:robert.daines12@googlemail.com">robert.daines12@googlemail.com</a>
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