

The "Nelly" Newsletter



December 2025



Visit the Club website at: www.boundless.co.uk/nel
or the News and Events website at : <http://news.boundlessevents.uk>



Clubnights



Motorsports



Group Visits

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



Christmas Clubnight:
Tuesday 9th December

Christmas Fun & Games,
Food & Drink



NEL
North East London Group

boundless BY CSMA

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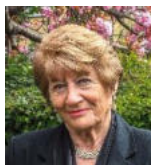
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Hi Everyone - and welcome to the December Christmas issue of your Nelly Newsletter...

A larger than usual issue that includes a special edition of the Communique covering the recent AGM and Volunteer Recognition Awards event at Stratford upon Avon.

No awards for Nelly this time but I'm sure many of you will recognise some familiar faces amongst the winners.

There is also a final chance for you to make a booking for the New Year lunch, along with details of the February and March lunch arrangements from John.

Another year almost over, so my thanks to everyone who has contributed articles, be they on a regular basis, or just occasionally, over the past 12 months. Keep them coming...!

Interesting that the recent budget confirmed the new 3p a mile levy for EV's, with 1.5p a mile for plug-in hybrids. Not good news if you intend to do a lot of mileage abroad, especially if you use the French Autoroutes, the majority of which have tolls, as you will effectively be paying twice. Motorists visiting the UK from the continent will of course continue to pay nowt. Looks like we will be sticking with the petrol Fiesta for a while yet then...

Good news for classic vehicle owners though, as the 40 year tax free status hasn't been tampered with – this time at least.

That's all for now, so until the New Year, have a great Christmas everyone – Dave

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

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Chairman's Christmas Chatter



From all the committee, may we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We've found some holly for you this month. It comes with Festive Greetings from me and the NEL committee, may you enjoy the things you like about Christmas and ignore the things you don't like. I'm making up a list of the latter - it should be a long one.

So much to chatter on about this month but let's start with our speaker last Clubnight, when we had a return visit by Tricia Thompson who spoke about how Christmas has developed over the years and gave us some interesting facts on things that we didn't know; one was that the move to a red Christmas was nothing to do with Coca-Cola. It happened many years before that; another thing is about the alms boxes and why Boxing Day is so called, not what I thought it was. You had to be there.

We've already booked Tricia for a return visit next year for another themed talk. By then I hope to have my IT equipment sorted!

The lunchtime gathering at The Plough took a while to get going – I have heard of the pub with no beer, now we have one with no food!

Last month I was on about headlight dazzle and that problem seems to have registered with the politicians as there is now to be a study but what they might do about it I don't know. I have been wearing my pair of nice new expensive yellow night driving glasses and I realise that even though it does dim down the oncoming lights it also dims down the brightness of your own lights and so it's more difficult to see the verge, to me anyway.

There was some wonderful coverage on YouTube last week about the classic Roger Albert Clark rally, some tremendous footage and it was just like going back 40 years to when I was standing out in the cold and rain and mud watching the Escorts go by, and I felt very sorry for the Stratos that finished up in a ditch. What a lovely sound that made. I also felt sorry for Colin McRae's daughter who was driving a Mini in the Mini Challenge and she managed to put it on its roof, but it was very icy.. No injuries thankfully just a loss of pride.

Talking of injuries, we heard at Club night about the accident that Steve Aimes had that resulted in heavy damage to his hip and he has finished up with a metal rod holding it together so our best wishes to him and hope for a speedy recovery.

Our Clubnight this month is speakerless and will be a do-it-yourself evening, with the usual quizzes, games and eating the food generously provided by your good selves (and drinking of course). Robert is once again raffling a seasonal cake and we shall have a table set aside for distributing Christmas cards, which we all collect before we go home. Should a pile be left, they will be posted on never fear. Main thing is, we aim to get started by **7.30** . Christmas hats are allowed.

No lunchtime meet this month but in January we have our late-Christmas lunch and Staff will be coming amongst you to take late bookings.

How about a run-out in the New Year? Join Allan Goddard, and Dave and myself, have a pleasant run round the Berkshire countryside on Sunday 11th January and finish up with a cream tea. It is open to all types of cars, not just classics. Dave & I have details.

What's coming up in the programme?

Clubnight Tuesday 13 January – Speaker

We are pleased to welcome back Paul Baker who has some wonderful images to share with us on one of his favourite topics, Street Art.

Post-Christmas group lunch Sunday 18th January

We gather at the Galley Hall for our annual feast and we again have the sole use of the function room.

12 Car Rally Friday 6th February

NEL are organising this one, see Mike's Bulletin, starting from the Rose and Crown, Tewin. Forty five miles of the best lanes in the County, and back in the pub before last orders.

Clubnight Tuesday 10th February – Speaker

We shall be entertained by our very own Robert Daines who will share with us his photos and memories of his trips to Canada and Switzerland.

Lunch meet Tuesday 24th February

We continue our winter season with our lunchtime meets, at the Plough, Sewardstone Road 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.

All the very best to you and yours, and stay safe over Christmas.

Bernard

ROBERTS RAMBLINGS

December arrives and I start off with some unwelcome news and good news. Unwelcome news is that as I am not over seventy-five, this year I do not get a free Covid jab. So, I went to Tesco's and paid to get one in their pharmacy. It cost me ninety pounds. The good news was that I got ninety club card points with it. Oh well every little helps, as they say.

Looking back to November club night, we had an excellent talk by Tricia Thompson called "Deck The Halls." Yes, all about Christmas throughout the ages. Thank you for all the useful information. Due to the small numbers, the raffle of my charity cake will now be in December club night. These notes are being written before our return visit to The Plough, but I know our return will be excellent.

Looking into December, our club night will be the usual fun and games. Unfortunately, thanks to UEFA, yours truly will not be there. Why...? For some reason Spurs are playing at home on a Tuesday instead of Wednesday. I have already planned for my Christmas Cards to be left for delivery at club night. So, may I take this opportunity to wish you all Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Keep it on the road, and do not drink and drive.

Robert.

Lunch Socials for February & March 2026

The next of our Lunch socials will be on Tuesday lunchtime 24th February and 24th March starting at 12.30 pm at The Plough P/H Sewardstone Road. Everyone will be welcome especially any new members who have not been before. Come and enjoy the friendly atmosphere at this popular hostelry which has a good menu at reasonable prices together with a friendly atmosphere.

I will be pleased to see everyone. You pay for your own meals and enjoy lively conversation.

Please let me know in good time if you will be coming so I can book the correct places.

Address :- The Plough, Sewardstone Road, Waltham Abbey, EN9 3QQ.

Contact me please by email: fosterjohn92@gmail.com or Mob 07984723449. - Thanks John.



NEL group New Year lunch

Sunday 18th January 2026, 12.30 for 1.00pm

The Galley Hall

Hailey Lane, Hoddesdon, Herts, SG13 7NY

At the NEL group AGM in March it was agreed to continue with a New Year lunch instead of Christmas for 2026. We will still treat it as a festive occasion although they will undoubtedly have taken the Christmas decorations down. We will still have the usual raffle and Heads and Tails game so bring along a little extra cash, any profit will go towards the gratuity for the staff.

The Galley Hall is a country pub set in the Hertfordshire countryside to the North of Hoddesdon, it has its own car park, should this be full there is ample safe parking in the road outside.

By January you will probably have had enough Christmas Turkey so we are basing it on the Galley Hall's standard Sunday menu which offers a wide choice. Under the circumstances it will be difficult to offer a fixed price package so please make sure you complete the booking form carefully and accurately including noting down the correct price. For those used to ordering Chinese takeaways we have annotated a reference number per item, this will help us in checking that the correct items have been ordered. For the Traditional Roast, as well as the reference number, don't forget to state type of meat and regular or small. The restaurant has a range of desserts which, this year is added as a pre order, although if you are not sure if you will have enough room for one I'm sure they could be ordered and paid for separately on the day along with any drinks ordered. I'm sure they will set up individual tabs should this be necessary. To be clear we will be responsible for paying pre ordered items on the booking form. Additional items must be paid for separately.

Bookings will be taken on a first come first served basis which must be accompanied by booking form and payment in full. Booking forms, choice of menu and payment is required to us by Saturday 4th January at the latest so that all arrangements can be coordinated and presented to the restaurant in time for the lunch. Payment will be accepted by cheque, cash or bank transfer.

Stafford and Lesley Steed

The Galley Hall

Sunday Menu

Starters

- | | | |
|---|---|------|
| 1 | Tomato Soup u Δ
<i>Served with a white roll and butter</i> | 7 |
| 2 | Garlic Breaded Mushrooms u
<i>Mushrooms coated in garlic breadcrumbs served with garlic mayonnaise</i> | 7 |
| 3 | Southern Fried Chicken Goujons Δ
<i>Deep fried breaded goujons served with a barbecue dip</i> | 8 |
| 4 | Calamari Rings
<i>Seasoned chunks of squid served with sweet chilli sauce</i> | 8 |
| 5 | Prawn Cocktail Δ
<i>Served with Marie Rose sauce and brown bread and butter</i> | 8.50 |
| 6 | Baked Camembert Sharer
<i>Served with sourdough toast and onion chutney, perfect for two</i> | 12 |

Roast Dinners

All served with roast potatoes, vegetables, Yorkshire pudding and gravy

- | | | |
|----|---|-------|
| 7 | Traditional sliced Roast Lamb, Roast Turkey, Honey and Mustard
Glazed Roast Gammon or Beef Brisket Δ Δ
16 regular/14 small | |
| 8 | Vegetarian or Vegan Roast
<i>Ask for today's vegetarian/vegan roast option</i> | 15 |
| 9 | Lamb Shank slow-cooked in red wine, garlic and rosemary | 19 |
| 10 | Roast Chicken Breast | 17 |
| 11 | Minted Lamb Chops | 18.50 |

Other Mains

- | | | |
|----|--|----|
| 12 | Cumberland Sausages
<i>Traditional 'swirl' sausages served with mash, peas, crispy fried onions and gravy</i> | 16 |
| 13 | Beef Lasagne
<i>Served with garlic bread and a salad garnish</i> | 16 |
| 14 | Battered Haddock ±
<i>Deep fried in a light and crispy beer batter. Served with chips and peas or mushy peas</i> | 17 |
| 15 | Spinach and Ricotta Cannelloni u
<i>Served in a tomato sauce, topped with creamy béchamel sauce & cheese, served with chips or garlic bread and a salad garnish</i> | 15 |

Δ Gluten free

Δ Dairy free

◇ Vegan

u Vegetarian

± may contain bones Oct25

The Galley Hall

PRE-ORDER YOUR PUDDINGS – ALL £8.50

- 16 Lemon Meringue Roulade served cold with cream Δ
- 17 Chocolate Brownie Sundae
- 18 Cheesecake of the Day served cold with cream
- 19 Tiramisu served cold with cream
- 20 Vanilla, chocolate or strawberry ice cream Δ
- 21 Lemon sorbet Δ \mathfrak{A}
- 22 Crème Brûlée served with a shortbread biscuit
- 23 Vegan Chocolate Orange Sponge served warm with vegan ice 'cream' $\mathfrak{A}\Delta\Diamond$

FOOD ALLERGIES

If you suffer from any food allergies please speak to a member of staff to discuss your dietary requirements. There is a code system within the menu identifying gluten free/dairy free meals, however you must still discuss your requirements with our staff as many of our dishes need to be modified at the time of ordering to make them gluten/dairy free for you. While we make every effort to prevent cross contamination in our kitchen, we cannot guarantee that any food item we make is 100% free of any specific allergen

Δ Gluten free

\mathfrak{A} Dairy free

\Diamond Vegan

\mathfrak{u} Vegetarian

\pm may contain bones Oct25

New Year Lunch
Sunday 18th January 2026
The Galley Hall, Hoddesdon

Name	Starter	Price	Main	Price	Dessert	Price	Total / person
Example	5; Prawn C	£8.50	7; Traditional Roast, Lamb, Reg.	£16.00	16; Lemon Meringue	£8.50	£33.00

Please state any allergies or special requirements:-

Booking form to Stafford and Lesley Steed, 4 Cedar Rd, Hatfield, Herts., AL10 8PA e.mail: Stafford.steed@btinternet.com With payment which can be made by:- Cheque payable to CSMA (NE London group) Cash Bank transfer to CSMA (NE London group); a/c details on request	Lead name - E.mail - Tel. -
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Date	Day		Event (Status)	Type of Event	Club
Dec	Fri 5	*	12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC
	Sat 6	*	Donington Autosolo (Cm)	Cross between autotest/sprint	Loughborough CC
Jan	Fri 9	*	12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC
	Sat 17	*	Donington Autosolo (Cm)	Cross between autotest/sprint	Loughborough CC
Feb	Fri 6		12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	CSMA NEL
	Sat 14	*	Donington Autosolo (Cm)	Cross between autotest/sprint	Loughborough CC
	Sat 14		20/20 (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC
Mar	Fri 6		12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	CSMA NWL
	Fri 13		12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC
	Sun 29		Bocardo Autosolo (Cm)	Cross between autotest/sprint	Oxford MC
Apr	Fri 10		12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC

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

Past Events

October 12 Car Rally The first round of our winter season saw a reasonable eight entries take the start, for the challenge of some of the best Hertfordshire roads. With four experts, one Semi-Expert, two Novices and one RallyRun crew, the new classes have had enough of a benefit to make sure the event took place. With the organisers only deciding to 'organise' the event when there were enough entries, the navigation didn't get checked and one error slipped through. It was only picked up just after the first car started, so we resorted to the App option of contacting the crews with a message to make them aware. Unfortunately, this didn't reach all the crews, with one receiving it on Saturday afternoon and one has still not had it! Thankfully, those without the message either worked it out themselves or used the Help option to get to the next control. Naturally, this section had to be voided at the finish. Thankfully everyone got to the finish in time for refreshments and will be back for the next event.

November 12 Car Rally The event hasn't taken place at the time of writing this, but we do have seven entries across the four classes, which is a good sign hopefully for future events.

Future Events

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

12 Car Rally – A guide to the new format

- Any standard car can be used. Event limited to only 12 cars. Around a 45 mile route, timed at an average speed of 30mph. Friday evening, starting at 20:30, with the start/finish at the same location at a pub, for a social before and after the event.
- Novice class now split into **Semi-Expert** and **Novice** classes. **Expert**/Semi-Expert/Novice class based on navigators experience only. Expert/Semi-Expert class have to work out the route from navigation issued at controls around the route. Novice class will have the route issued before the start, so they can plot the navigation before leaving the start (and get help if required). Semi-Expert/Novice class have a more straight forward navigation style.
- Beginners class now called **RallyRun**, for anyone to use marked maps for as long as they like, which allows people to just enjoy doing the event. You can do all the same things as the other classes, but don't have to work out the route.
- Penalties are incurred for missing loops and booking in early/late at time controls. Time recording and route checks are done using a Smart Phone and the Timing App, which give notice when approaching a control/check, so you know you are on the right route.



RS Clubman Licence Requirement

<https://motorsportuk.sport80.com>

Almost all the 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 the above webpage, you can order your free licence, but please make sure you don't leave it to the last minute.

Member Communities Communique

Volunteer Recognition Meeting and Awards

A message from Geoff Gaunt, Club Leader

At last week's Annual General Meeting I was elected as Vice Chair of the Association, so I must now relinquish the Club Leader role that I have held for only the past eighteen months, and it does feel like I hardly got my feet under the table! I have greatly enjoyed every minute and want to put on record my sincere thanks to you all for your support. Special thanks must go to Kadie and the Member Communities Team for whom my tenure has coincided with a difficult period of re-building following last year's re-structure. Now back at full strength, I know they are busy with a number of initiatives that I am certain will help sustain and grow the active club and make life easier for all our volunteers. Watch this space! The election for my successor is also underway and I wish him/her every success in the role going forward.

There have been a number of other significant recent comings and goings from the Club Council and you can read about these elsewhere in this update. Whilst on the subject of comings & goings, I am delighted to introduce Clair McMahon, recently appointed as the Head of Member and Business Operations, a role that includes oversight of the Member Communities Team. Clair comes to us with a wealth of knowledge and experience of the active Club having previously worked for CSMA/Boundless in a number of roles, with much of that time having been spent supporting the active club.

It was a special pleasure that my "last official duty" was the presentation of awards at our inaugural Volunteer Recognition Event. The smiling faces of the award winners, and the enthusiastic applause of their colleagues, will long stay in my memory. You will get to read more about the event and the awards themselves in the pages that follow.

By all accounts, another highlight for those who came to the Volunteer Recognition event was the Networking Meeting held earlier in the day. As well as a chance to meet and chat with each other, volunteers had the opportunity to meet a range of staff from across the departments at Brighton, learn about what they do and discuss ways in which this could support the active club. Ideas are already forming on how we might build on the success of the meeting going forward.

We will, of course, be collecting feedback from those who came to Stratford upon Avon, as well as from those who did not, so that we can look to make the event even better in future.

I will sign off now with a final thank you for all you continue to do to provide events and enjoyment for your fellow members

Geoff Gaunt

Three Cheers to our Governors

A heartfelt thank you to our Governors who have recently completed their tenure and been awarded Fellowship of the Association in recognition of their outstanding contribution and many years of dedicated service.

After 15 years as Governor and 36 years of membership, Graham Rood stepped down in June 2024; Bev Cooper, who served 10 years as Governor and has been a member for 37 years, completed her tenure in March 2024; and Geoff Lockwood, with an incredible 61 years of membership and 10 years on the Board, concluded his tenure in June 2025.



We are immensely grateful for the time, expertise and passion they have given to Boundless, helping to shape and strengthen our community over the years. As they step into their well-deserved Fellowship, we are delighted to welcome our new Governors, Madeleine Grubb and Jeff Kenyon, who bring a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to continue guiding the Association into its next chapter.

You will all know Madeleine for her fantastic work on the Club Council, and most recently serving as Association Vice Chair, bringing insight and a true passion for the club. Jeff Kenyon will also be a familiar face to many, having served for many years on the Club Council, most recently as a dedicated Local Group Representative. We're delighted to welcome them both as they step into their new roles as Governors.

Thank You Pete Gregory

We would like to recognise Pete Gregory, who was awarded Fellowship of the Club on 14th October upon stepping down at the end of his tenure as Chair of Club Council. Pete has been a dedicated member for 40 years, since joining in 1985, and has made an outstanding contribution to Boundless through his leadership, commitment, and unwavering support for our members and volunteers.



2025 Annual General Meeting

The 2025 Annual General Meeting took place on Wednesday 15th October 2025, 2pm at the Crown Plaza Stratford Upon Avon.

The Business of the Annual General Meeting included:

- A presentation on the Association
- Approval of the 2024 minutes of the ninety-fourth Annual General Meeting, by a show of hands
- Approval by show of hands, of the 2024 Annual Report and Accounts
- The Announcement of the results of the ballot for the election of Vice Chair and an Independent Club Council Member
- Approval of the Re-appointment of the Auditors by show of hands
- Approval of the 3 Special Resolutions that have been proposed by the Board of Directors.

The Association Chair announced that Richard Ashcroft was duly elected as the Independent Council Member for a two-year term of office. We'd like to congratulate Richard on his new role.

Gerard O'Sullivan announced the results of the Special Resolutions as follows:

Special Resolution 1 passed in favour

Special Resolution 2 passed in favour

Special Resolution 3 passed in favour

Please visit boundless.co.uk/agmvoting and log in for AGM slides and more.



Volunteer Network Meeting

We were thrilled to host a successful Volunteer Networking Meeting, bringing together over 80 volunteers along with staff from our Brighton office. It was a fantastic opportunity to connect, share ideas, raise concerns and discuss the exciting opportunities for the club. The meeting began with a presentation from Geoff Gaunt and Claire McMahon, highlighting current projects and developments within the Member Communities team.



Volunteers then had the chance to network with one another and mingle at dedicated drop-in tables, which included Boundless staff and representatives from across the organisation.

Round tables included:

- **Our Governors, Brian Comber, Dave Farris and John Herington**, answered questions about the Association and their roles in guiding and supporting the future direction of Boundless.
- **Rachel Hall**, *Digital Applications and Development Manager*, who showcased the new website refresh launching in May 2025, including exciting new features like postcode and location look-up for events and a refreshed volunteer hub.
- **Andrew Hunter**, *Group Head of Data and Compliance*, who shared updates on location information such as member heat maps to support groups.
- **Emma Hesketh**, *Senior Marketing Manager (Member Value)*, who discussed how marketing campaigns are developed and how groups can get involved in promoting their activities.
- **Simon Back**, *Member Services Manager*, who spoke about how his team supports members as the first point of contact and explored ways they can assist volunteers even more.
- **Kadie Crichton**, *Senior Marketing Manager (Member Communities & Magazine)*, who led discussions around the Boundless magazine, its renewed focus on member stories, and how groups can get involved in future features.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended and contributed, it was wonderful to see such enthusiasm and collaboration.



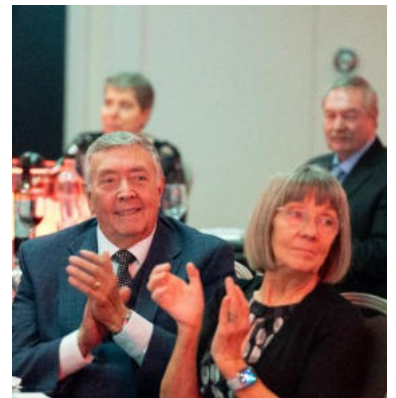


2025 Volunteer Recognition Awards

What a fantastic evening we had celebrating so many incredible stories at the Boundless Volunteer Recognition Awards. It was truly inspiring to hear about the passion, creativity and dedication that each of our volunteers brings to the Boundless community. From long-time organisers to those new to volunteering, every story shared on the night reminded us of the amazing spirit that keeps our club thriving.

A heartfelt thank you to all our volunteers, both those who joined us at the awards and those who couldn't be there in person. Your time, effort and enthusiasm are what make Boundless so special. Every event you plan, every member you welcome, and every idea you share contributes to something bigger - a community that connects, supports and inspires.

As we continue to celebrate your achievements, we invite you to enjoy reading the stories of our finalists and winners over the next few pages. Each one is a wonderful reflection of the kindness and passion that make the club truly extraordinary.



Social Break Host of the Year

Hosts who go above and beyond to ensure members feel welcomed and cared for



Finalist: Geoff and Marjorie Hadnam

Geoff and Marjorie have been Boundless members for over 40 years, bringing warmth, energy, and fun to every social break they host. Their thoughtful balance of relaxation and connection creates memorable experiences for guests - from lively evening activities to selfless hosting, even on Marjorie's birthday. Their dedication truly embodies the Boundless spirit.

Winner: Karen and Alan Murray

Members for over 35 years, Karen and Alan truly are renowned for making social breaks extra special. From warmly welcoming solo travellers to working closely with hotels, they ensure every guest feels comfortable and cared for. Their commitment and warmth foster a truly inclusive atmosphere where lasting memories and friendships are made.



Camping and Caravanning Rally Marshal of the Year

An exceptional Rally Marshal who has organised an unforgettable rally for members



Finalist: Simon Amos

Deputy Leader for the Camping and Caravanning Community and a Boundless member for over twelve years. Simon is known for being an exceptional Rally Marshal, friendly, approachable and always ready to lend a helping hand. Those who know Simon describe him as supportive, organised and the kind of person who makes every rally seamless and welcoming.

Winner: Gordon and Katharine McKinnon

Gordon and Katharine truly personify the spirit of Boundless volunteering. This year, they led the Bristol Balloon Fiesta Rally, one of the largest and most complex rallies in the calendar and delivered it with great success. They show great resilience, guiding a team of new marshals and first-time ralliers through a memorable event.



Innovation Award

Members who introduce new ideas, events, or approaches



Finalist: Karen and Alan Murray

Our finalists Alan and Karen continue to show creativity and forward-thinking in everything they do. From supporting in developing exciting new breaks that consistently sell out, to adding thoughtful touches such as welcome teas and evening activities, Alan and Karen know how to turn a great idea into a truly special member experience. A shining example of innovation and member focus.

Winner: Rick Lee *(not in attendance)*

Although unable to join us on the evening, our winner Rick Lee deserves huge recognition. As secretary of Swindon local group since 2014, Rick Lee has tirelessly sourced events and speakers, often travelling long distances to ensure every meeting is engaging and enjoyable. Over the years, Rick's efforts have grown the group's attendance and strengthened its sense of community. Always welcoming, organised and dedicated, Rick's work has made a lasting impact. A true testament to what consistent, passionate volunteering can achieve.

Online Champion

A volunteer who has excelled in engaging with Boundless' online presence

Finalist: Gwilym Griffiths

Gwilym has been a Boundless member for 23 years and is the driving force behind the Karting Group's online presence. As group treasurer and events manager, Gwilym keeps members informed, engaged, and inspired, updating and promoting events and maintaining the group's social media with enthusiasm. His efforts ensure members stay connected, whether on or off the track.



Winner: Trevor Warren *(not in attendance)*

Our winner Trevor has brought real energy and positivity to Boundless' online spaces. Trevor shares uplifting posts, exciting upcoming events and keeps the conversation going long after events have ended. Always ready to help others, Trevor creates a sense of fun and belonging, ensuring everyone feels part of the Boundless community, both online and in person.

Newsletter of the Year

Editors who create an engaging read for members to find out more about their group



Finalist: John Barnes

John has transformed the Thames Valley Group newsletter into a vibrant and engaging publication. Producing up to six issues a year, John blends event updates, motoring features, quizzes, and member stories into a newsletter that captures the Boundless spirit. His attention to detail, creative flair, and commitment make it a true highlight for members.

Winner: Barry Haughton

After becoming the CVG's newsletter editor, Barry has used his dedication and passion to ensure The Squeaky Wheel remains a vital tool for engagement. He has expanded its reach, sharing events and updates with a wider audience of members who might otherwise have missed out. His enthusiasm continues to help the group grow and thrive.



Membership Champion

For actively engaging in Boundless membership and encouraging new faces to events



Finalist: Denise Griffiths

Denise is a long-standing and valued Boundless member, contributing across areas from rallying to karting. Always seeking to grow the community, Denise promotes membership, supports events, handles communications and helps with finances. Her drive, organisation and love for Boundless shine through in everything she does. A true ambassador for the club and its values.

Winner: Allan Goddard

Allan has dedicated 57 years to Boundless, playing an important role in shaping the club we know today. A former Club Captain, he still chairs groups, organises ride-outs and events, and inspire others, leading over 2,000 activities to date. Allan's energy and commitment make him a true Boundless legend and a worthy Membership Champion.



Rising Star

A new volunteer who has made a significant impact

Finalist: Barry Weller *(not in attendance)*

Barry has made a great start in his first year as the Karting Group Secretary. He has shown initiative, professionalism and real promise for the future. His confidence and attention to detail have made a strong impression, setting the stage for more successful events to come.

Winner: Pauline Johnson

Pauline joined the Leeds Group committee earlier this year and has already made a real difference. She's brought fresh ideas, started a WhatsApp group to connect members, and given energy to each meeting. Her enthusiasm for engaging with everyone, new and old, has inspired us all and created a renewed sense of excitement. A true breath of fresh air and a wonderful Rising Star.



Long Service Award

Honouring a long-serving volunteer dedicated to the Club's growth and progress



Finalist: Peter Morris

Our finalist Pete has been a Boundless member for over 45 years and has served faithfully on the committee for as long as anyone can remember. Quiet, steady and always with a smile, Pete performs his duties with humility and grace. A shining example of commitment that truly stands the test of time.

Winner: Sheilagh Dickinson

Our winner Sheilagh has been part of Boundless for many years and has served as the Leeds Group's Treasurer since its very beginning. Taking on one of the most demanding volunteer roles, Sheilagh has managed it with care, accuracy and dedication. Even through personal challenges, she has continued to keep the group running smoothly, embracing new systems and ensuring its future. Her resilience and loyalty make her a cornerstone of the group and a most deserving Long Service award winner.



Above and Beyond

This category is full of winners and an opportunity for us to select several volunteers we felt should be recognised for the amazing support they have given when they have gone above and beyond.

Anne Gilbert



Anne's energy and enthusiasm make the Dorset group a joy to be part of. She's always at the heart of things, finding great speakers, planning visits, and making everyone feel welcome.

George Bacon



George's creativity and intuition provide members with exclusive behind-the-scenes experiences at museums and aviation sites, creating unforgettable moments and truly elevating the Boundless experience.

Bob Thomas



Bob continues to give his all to the community, producing three monthly newsletters, representing local groups on the Club Council and supporting at Member Days, always bringing positivity and dedication.

Nikki & Mark Hart



Described as 'incredibly valuable' by the Events Team, Nikki and Mark add magic to every Boundless social break and member day, filling each event with laughter, thoughtful touches, and unforgettable memories.

Paul Whiting



Paul always makes guests feel welcome. At one member day, his quick thinking during a medical emergency showed compassion and calmness. Always dependable, Paul's kindness and dedication have made a lasting impact.

Volunteer Group of the Year

A group that stands out in its own way, whether trying something new, creating an epic event, or supporting members

Finalist: Peterborough Group

The Peterborough Group is a wonderful example of teamwork and dedication. Each committee member contributes by organising events, planning the annual programme, and creating a welcoming, family-like atmosphere. With over sixty years of history, their sense of togetherness and shared effort keeps the group thriving year after year.



Winner: York Group

The York Group continues to go from strength to strength. One of the most active and engaging groups, their committee works tirelessly to organise talks, trips, and social events, from stately homes and river cruises to gin distillery tours! With around forty members attending each event and a strong spirit of teamwork, they truly embody what Boundless is all about: friendship, fun and community.

Volunteer of the Year

A volunteer has shown outstanding commitment and has made a big impact

Finalist: Denise Knight

Denise is a true all-rounder: Treasurer, Newsletter Creator, Event Host, Member Day Steward and Local Group Representative. She brings enthusiasm to everything she does, growing her group and supporting Boundless nationally. Balancing volunteering with work and family, Denise is the definition of dedication and heart. A fantastic role model for us all.



Winner: Pauline van der Sanden

A member for over 35 years, Pauline continues to innovate the Swindon Group with passion. From embracing new tools to manage bookings, to creating member-friendly systems that make events run smoothly, she combines creativity with commitment. Always forward-thinking and looking for ways to promote Boundless, Pauline is a shining example of what volunteering can achieve.

NEW Online Networking Sessions!

Following the fantastic immediate feedback from our recent networking meeting, we're thrilled to announce that we'll be launching online drop-in sessions with different departments across Boundless. These sessions are a great opportunity to connect directly with staff, ask questions, and learn more about the tools, resources and developments that can support your group.

Our first session will be hosted by Andrew Hunter, Group Head of Data and Compliance, where you'll be invited to discover more about how data insights, such as member heat maps, can help with planning and promoting events.

Looking ahead, future sessions will feature teams from Website Development, Events, Marketing and Communications, and more, giving you a behind-the-scenes look at how Boundless operates and how each department can support you in your volunteer role.

Keep an eye out for an email invitation in the coming weeks with full details and sign-up information - we can't wait to see you online!

We want your feedback!

We recognise that 2025 has been a year of change in how we celebrate and recognise the incredible contributions our volunteers make. A huge thank you to everyone who has already shared their feedback. We've received a wide range of thoughtful comments and suggestions, all of which will be carefully reviewed and considered as we plan for 2026.

As we look ahead, we'd love to hear from all of you (whether you attended the awards or not) to share your honest opinions and ideas on how we can continue to recognise and celebrate our volunteers in the future. Please take a few moments to complete our short feedback survey; your input will play a key role in shaping how we celebrate your achievements in 2026 and beyond.

Survey Link: <https://form.typeform.com/to/wxdTvrA2>

About the Communique

The Communique is sent to around 350 of our volunteers, Group and Association Officers and other interested members. Many of our Group Secretaries also forward the Communique to those members who regularly attend their Group events.

We're always looking to improve the Communique, and would really appreciate your feedback regarding what you like and what you don't, what you'd like to see more of, or less of, is the format ok, etc.?

Let us know by emailing: membercommunities@boundless.co.uk

Dates for your Diary - 2025

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 – 2nd Tuesday

Daytime Lunches, 12.30pm – 4th Tuesday
Evening Dinners, 7.30pm – 4th Tuesday

Month	Event
Dec	Tue 9 th – Christmas Clubnight: Fun, Games & Festive Food
Jan 2026	Tue 13 th – Clubnight – Speaker: Paul Baker, with a Talk on “Street Art” Sun 18 th – New Year Sunday Lunch at The Galley Hall
Feb	Fri 6 th – NEL 12 Car Rally Tue 10 th – Clubnight: Photos of Trip to Canada Tue 24 th - Monthly Lunch at: The Plough, Sewardstone Road, EN9 3QQ
March	Tue 10 th – Clubnight: AGM – plus, a talk on the Post Office Railway (TBC) Thu 12 th – (TBC) Trip to the Post Office Underground Railway Tue 24 th - 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 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: robert.daines12@googlemail.com

Visit the Websites at: www.boundless.co.uk/nel or, <https://news.boundlessevents.uk>