

The "Nelly" Newsletter

June 2026



Visit the Club website at: www.boundless.co.uk/nel

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



9th June Clubnight Speaker Paul Jiggins "The History of Postcards"

What's in this edition

2. Editorial
3. Chairman's Chatter
4. Roberts Rants & Cromer Holiday
8. Mick's Nelly Holidays
10. Promotion: Pitch & Putt, 23rd June
11. Promotion: August Treasure Hunt 9th August
12. Promotion: Cream tea Cruise, 10th September
13. Motor sport
14. Diary Dates

NEL
North East London Group

boundless BY CSMA

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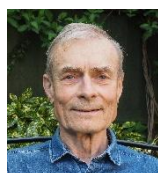
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Hello Everyone

Certainly, have had a hot May, well, we also have a hot June edition of the newsletter. Plenty to read along with dates for your diary for up-and-coming events.

As can be seen I'm still experimenting with the layout. All comments accepted.

We had an excellent speaker last month with the wildlife photographer Tom Way.

Thank you to Keith and Gill for doing the teas and coffees along with some lovely shortbread.

Not so lucky this month as its Brian and I doing the teas and coffees.

Robert managed to raise over £65 last month for Cancer Research on the raffling of his cake which he dually won after a redraw. We have received a nice thank you note from the Cancer Research Charity thanking us for the £65.20

Anyway, less of me as you have plenty to read this month.

Take care

*Thanks for reading.
Alan (Editor)*

Please send any information that you wish to be included in the July issue to Alan Farr at the email address above:

To arrive by 24th June

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 June Jottings

Welcome to our June Nelly Newsletter, keeping you up to date with our Group's happenings. At the start of the month NEL were represented at Ann's funeral by Staff, Lesley and Robert. I had to send apologies as I was confined to barracks due to having injured my leg, playing bowls would you believe.

Clubnight was on the 12th May – a return visit by the celebrated wildlife photographer Tom Way, presenting a mixed bag of images, taken for maximum effect, in black and white. Now you know.

Back to the fourth Tuesday for the dinner at the Galley Hall, which will be the case through the summer – just let John know in advance that you intend to come.

This month we have a different sort of 'wild life' a view on the world at a certain period in time and we welcome back Paul Jiggins with his illustrated talk entitled 'The weather is here, wish you were lovely' so you can gather that the talk won't be too serious! It describes the rise and fall of the picture postcard over the years.

I mentioned last month that I had visited our Museum in Bourton on the Water and discovered all the major motorsport trophies languishing in an upstairs back room of the building. The room also was the storage space for all the old records of the CSMA which, ten years ago, had its name changed to Boundless, a bit less of a mouthful I grant you but that was the start of air brushing the motorsport activities from the main business of Boundless. You will be lucky to spot any reference to our activities anymore in the magazine and to rub salt in our wounds the website now refers to the many local groups, such as NEL, as social groups, ignoring the fact that many of us do more than that. For the last ten years we have been trying to get Brighton to mention our existence in the renewal card that is sent out as a reminder for the new joiners to stay with us. My quest had been to discover the proof of when NEL Group was founded, and the archives revealed that it was born out of the Motor Cycle Group when that disbanded in 1958. I guess many of the regulars in that group came from this area – North West London had been formed a few years previous.

Eventually you will discover the Classic Vehicle Group on the website which, like the other groups, is well hidden. Those with an interest in classic cars and the runs they organise will notice that on 6th September, there is a run being organised that starts locally up at the Vanstone Park garden centre near Codicote. Before then I hope to attract a few of the fraternity to the Lodges Coaches car show at High Easter on 16th August – an event that Owen reported on a while back, based on his visit there last year, I'll have details on that later, when I know them.

What's coming up?

Clubnight Tuesday 9 June – speaker

As I mentioned, the speaker this month is Paul Jiggins describing from his collection the history of the picture postcard. Promises to be good.

Group noggin & natter Tuesday 23 June - NEL goes outdoors

It's Pitch and Putt at the Kings Mead course, on the road between Hertford and Ware with an early start at 6.30 meeting up, to sort out club hire.

Clubnight Tuesday 14 July – quiz

it's that time of the year for the Committee Quiz, when each committee member provides a set of questions and each joins a team. Then, of course, presents their questions so takes no part in the answers.

Looking ahead, the garden area of our regular hostelry for many years has gone to pot, shall we say, so we are returning, after a break of many years, to the much better pétanque court opposite the Farmers Boy which has had more owners than I've had hot dinners.

That's July noggin & natter evening and a pre-ordered meal for afterwards.

Take care, Bernard

ROBERTS RAMBLINGS

Following on from last month, Lesley, Staff and myself, attended the funeral of Ann. It was here that we decided that it would be a clever idea for me to bake a cake for clubnight, raffle it, and send the proceeds to a charity for Lung Cancer. We raised £65.20 but I won the cake. Below is an abbreviation of the thank you I received from the charity.

Hello Robert,

We can't thank you enough for your donation in memory of your loved one.

Your donation will help our researchers find new ways to prevent, detect, and treat cancer that will be transformative for future generations.

It will also help to create a world where everybody lives longer, better lives, free from the fear of cancer, so thank you.

The Cancer Research UK team.

ROBERTS RAMBLINGS

Club night last month was a talk by Tom Way on his wildlife travels in Africa. It was fantastic, particularly as most of the pictures were in black and white. Tom explained that by using black and white, the audience will focus more on the animals than the surrounding backdrop. Although I do not think that I would have the patience to sit for days for one shot. This was followed by another visit to The Galley Hall.

So, into June we go and we are nearly halfway through the year. Bet Christmas cards will be on sale soon. Club night will be another talk. This time the subject will be "The History of Postcards." Whether a few, or all, will be the type you used to find at the seaside shops, remains to be seen. This month will see a break from The Galley Hall, as we shall be playing our annual game of Pitch and Putt, before adjourning next door to The Kings' Mead for a drink. Details are given elsewhere, and if you are thinking of taking part, please inform John.

ROBERTS RAMBLINGS

Continuing our visits in London, last month we went to see the exhibition on Cleopatra at the Excel centre. Arriving at the centre via The Weaver Line to Liverpool Street, and then The Elizabeth Line to Custom house we stopped for cup of coffee. Upon entry, firstly, we got a brief history of how She became Queen. Descended from Alexandra the Great via a lot of Ptolemy's, who had a silent P in their name, she was the daughter of Ptolemey the XII. In order to strengthen Her claim to the Throne, she married Her younger Brother, who mysteriously died early, leaving Her to reign. Her life story was told to us in a visual display, which included Her relationships with Julius Ceaser and Mark Antony. No need to explain that part of Her life. We then entered the next part. This was the scarry bit. Putting on some goggles which gave us a video, you could not see the floor of the room we were in, but you followed some yellow bubbles. As you moved round guided by the bubbles, the videos showed us the Egyptian Gods and what they represented. As I followed the bubbles the floor in the video started to build, and even though I knew that I was walking on the floor of the room, I found myself waiting for the stones to build a walkway for me. Why, because the video showed an exceptionally large hole in front of me. At one point I needed to climb a step, so I tried. Arriving at the end the assistant removed the goggles, and we moved on. We then entered a large room where we sat down and watched seven chapters of Her life. Anybody seen Carry-On Cleo, where she enters the room in a carpet. Well, they reckon that actually happened. After that we continued into another room where although goggles and headphones were again supplied, we sat down. I am glad we did. This time the video showed what it was like to be in an Egyptian City, as it was destroyed by an Earthquake. If you think that was scarry, er no. Suddenly you reached the edge of the harbour and then a Tsunami rushed in. Finally, you finished inside Her tomb, where She was laid to rest. After that we moved on to the end of the exhibition, entered the gift shop, but once again thought that it was excellent value for money.

Keep it on the road.

Robert.

VISIT TO CROMER APRIL 2026

This year it was decided to visit the Alfa hotel, Hotel de Paris, Cromer. We arrived on the Saturday, unpacked and then meet up for dinner. The next day we all decided to try out the North Norfolk Railway. So, first we caught the bus to Sheringham. Alighting we crossed the road and walking through the car park, where we were confronted by a strange site. A Rolls Royce Estate car. Yes, this was correct, but I could not get my camera ready before it drove off. Must have been custom built. Buying a ticket and boarding the train to enjoy a steam hauled train ride to Holt. Here we wandered round the station, even watching the engine use a reversing loop to change ends, so it could return to Sheringham. Time was passed by a visit to the museum and a carriage which was converted to cheap living quarters, after the First World War. Our return was broken up by deciding to alight at the halfway station, Weybourne for a look around the station, before returning to Sheringham to catch the bus back to Cromer.

Next day Owen and I decided to visit Wells. A typical fishing village with a long walk to the Lifeboat station.

The final day Mick, Owen and I decided to visit the Wells and Walsingham light railway. This is advertised as the world's smallest public railway. Believe me it is. Arriving again by bus, we boarded the train for a thirty-minute ride, through the fields to Walsingham. Here we enjoyed a walk round the town, even visiting the local Abbey. Before long though it was time to return to Cromer. In the evening Christine, Jim and myself, took part in the quiz. Questions were not hard, but we did not win. We returned home on the Wednesday.

Below are a few pictures. My mind is playing tricks with the first one. Many thanks to Owen for the last two.





MY HISTORY OF NELLY GROUP WEEKENDS

PART 1

My first memory of one was during the nineties, organised by Bernard. A visit over 2 days, to the East Anglia Transport Museum near Lowestoft. We started with lunch on Saturday at a Cafe near the Museum, visited the Museum in the afternoon, then stayed overnight, with an evening meal, at a chain Hotel in the area. Sunday after breakfast, we returned to the Museum, which included free bus rides to Lowestoft and back. We returned home sometime in the afternoon.

The next one I have recorded was in October 2003, after I had met Margaret, was organised by Dave & Rosie (then Secretary), for 2 nights at Wetherspoons in Chesterfield. I remember that Dave had a problem finding somewhere for a Group to get an evening meal at the weekend. 2004 was the first year Margaret & I organised a Group Weekend, which had moved to the Early May Bank Holiday and was I believe 3 nights, at the Taunton M5 Services Hotel.

2006 was Bernard's turn again and he booked the Shearing's Hotel in Chippenham. He was not happy to have to pay the whole cost upfront when making the booking. This was in April, possibly over Easter.

2007 my turn again and was the Weekend that nearly didn't happen. The Motel I had booked was having work done in the kitchen and I was promised it would be finished in time for our visit in May. In the week before our visit I was contacted with the bad news, the kitchen will NOT BE FINISHED. Opposite the Motel was a Restaurant, who were willing to provide breakfast and dinner, if we fitted in with their previous bookings. This meant an early evening meal and nowhere to go in the evening, but luckily the Motel lady had found a large Hotel, used by Shearing's, who could take 20 people and offered a reasonable meal deal as well. The very successful weekend finished off with a visit to the Morgan Car Factory, on our journey home for who's interested.

2008, again in May, was to Teignmouth in Devon with half board at a Guest House. Numbers had increased to around 20 members.

2009, a change back to April, with a visit to Bournemouth in a half board Guest House, notable for the closeness at mealtimes and the landlady's strict manner.

2010, April in Hereford, in a Shearing's Hotel creaking and uneven floors. Dining was shared with another Group of a sporting nature. Quite lively. Last attendance of Mike Sumner and his partner, before their departure to Australia.

2012, back to May for a visit to Berkeley in an up-to-date Shearing's Hotel. We dined in an all-glass conservatory extension, which was very nice and secluded. The Hotel was near Slimbridge WWF centre.

2013, May again to Sandown I.O.W. to another regular Shearing's Hotel. Numbers going to are still reasonable.

2014, May to Mold in North Wales in a private Hotel, which Shearings use nowadays. Very loud musical entertainment, so the next night Dave & Rosie found a large landing space for a Group get together.

2015, May and 22 people to Weymouth, another Shearings Hotel right on the seafront. It is now owned by Alfa Holidays, and I am going there in June.

2016, May and 24 people to Skegness, again on the front slightly away from the centre. Still used by Shearings. Near a wildlife area.

2017, May and 22 people to Porthcawl, South Wales. Our first visit to an Alfa Hotel. Places visited were Royal Mint & St.Fagans Village.

2018, May to Alfa Hotel at Eastbourne, possibly their best at the time.

2019, Owen organised a May visit to a Shearings Hotel just outside Stratford-on-Avon. Margaret & I had stayed there the previous Twixmas. Numbers were starting to drop. Due to her ill health this was Margaret's last Group Weekend.

PART 2 Due to COVID there was no Group Weekend in 2020 & 2021.

2022, September 9 members went to Bournemouth, 4 members Half Board at a Hotel in West Bournemouth, 4 members Half Board in a Hotel in East Bournemouth and me in a Bed & Breakfast Hotel in Boscombe, between the other two. We all met up at the East Hotel, more convenient parking, on Monday and Thursday evening for a good drink and natter. This was the first 5-day NON-Weekend Weekend and the last for Pat & Owen together.

2023, No Group Weekend due to C.S.M.A.100 year's celebrations.

2024, I organised 10 of us booked into the Alfa Hotel at Scarborough, starting on a Wednesday through to Sunday in April. A free drink is included and at some Hotels a half price bar is also available until the end of April.

2025, Owen with assistance from myself organised for 11 of us to the Alfa Metropole Hotel in Torquay, starting on a Saturday through to Wednesday in April. Due to my recent ill health Brian & June were willing to take me with them to Torquay. Being without a car I made use of Steam trains, a boat trip and several bus journeys.

2026, I organised 9 of us into the Alfa Hotel in Cromer, again from Saturday through to Wednesday. The Hotel has a free parking area, but it is based on a first come, first served basis. We were in luck and all found room the first day and then did not move our cars again until we left.

I hope you have all enjoyed my efforts over the last 30 years and good luck in the future.

Regards
Mick O'Blath



Transport Museum

Alfa Hotel Cromer



Annual Pitch and Putt at Chadwell Springs on 23rd June

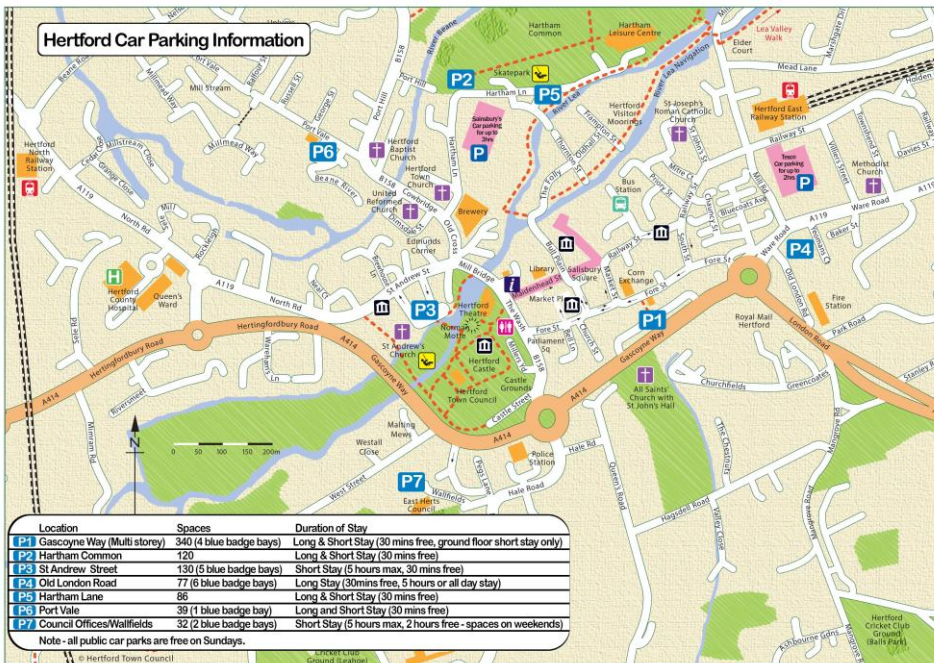
NEL annual Pitch and Putt takes place at the above venue, which has been our preferred course for some time. Cost is £9 for a round of 9 holes, with an extra £2 to hire a putter & Iron. Afterwards it's always nice to have a drink and chat in the pub (King's Mead) at the venue for our Noggin.

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, and hopefully enjoy the lovely sunny evenings we sometimes are lucky to get in June.

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

Just let me know if you would like to come so we can look for you before the start. fosterjohn92@gmail.com or 07984723449.

Thanks John.



Prizes

Explore Hertford

Explore Hertford Heath

Stay for a Drink

Have a Lovely Sunday Lunch

SUNDAY 9TH AUGUST WALKING TREASURE HUNT

Walking treasure hunt. Only £1 per person

(Max 2 people per team, pay on the day)

10am start at Hertford Tesco, meeting at the bus stop at the side of the main entrance to the car park.

Paper and questions provided!

Pens or pencils can be provided for a 2-point deduction!

A clipboard will be handy if you have one!

Walk around both Hertford and Hertford Heath searching for various clues. Once you have answered the clues in Hertford, make your way to Hertford Heath to answer some more.

More than welcome to join us for a meal at the Galley Hall payable at own expense. Must have numbers of those wanting to eat by the end of June please.

CONTACT

Alan Farr

07493 283762

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For further info

Cream Tea Cruise on Thursday 10th September 2026

Start at Ware quay pontoon from 2pm (Please arrive at least 15 minutes before)

Come and join us for a pleasant afternoon taking in the sights of the river while enjoying a freshly prepared cream tea. Your cruise will start from Ware town quay. The cruise will pass the unique Ware gazebos that overhang the river's edge then cruising through the town centre and the beautiful Lee Valley's Amwell Nature Reserve, going through Hardmead lock before returning to Ware town quay again. Cruise takes approximately 3 hours.

Family and friends will be welcome. Please let me know if you would like to come on this enjoyable cruise along this lovely stretch of the river.

Once you have confirmed your interest, payment details will be supplied. Cost of trip is £35 per person.

Ware town quay (SG12 9XB) is next to The Priory and behind the library car park.

Please contact me on fosterjohn92@gmail.com or 07984723449

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards John.



Joining Point

Ware Gazebos

Date	Day		Event (Status)	Type of Event	Club
Jun	Sun 14	*	Autotest/PCA (Cm)	Grass autotest	Blackbird AC
Jul	Sun 12	*	Autotest/PCA (Cm)	Grass autotest	Blackbird AC
Aug	Sat 8	*	Autotest/PCA (Cm)	Grass autotest	Blackbird AC
	Sun 23		Autotest/PCA (Cm)	Grass autotest	Falcon MC
Sep	Fri 11		12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC
	Sun 13		Autotest/PCA (Cm)	Grass autotest	Blackbird AC
	Sun 27		Boanerges Autosolo (Cm)	Cross between autotest/sprint	Oxford MC
Oct	Fri 9		12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC
	Fri 30		12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	CSMA NWL

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

Past Events

Future Events

Grass Autotests We still don't have a venue yet, but we are invited to all the Blackbird AC ones, which are held at a field at Towcester. The entry fee for these events is £30 and entries are limited to 25, as only one test is run at a time, but there are usually six different tests run. They are running an event each month between May and September, so why not join John Clavey and myself.

Road Rally Insurance There is some good news announced today (Monday) from Motorsport UK, regarding a new cover scheme. It is based on the existing one through Kingfisher and looks like Motorsport UK are providing some guarantee to the insurers, so that premiums may return hopefully to their previous levels. The new system will have payment via a permit surcharge to MSUK, per car needing it (rather than as paid currently to Kingfisher), with this surcharge figure passed on to the relevant competitor. So drivers pay the club the fee as usual, but the club make a payment to MSUK, rather than to Kingfisher. Waiting to see how this works for pre-paid permits, but may be an addition to when entry numbers are entered on the MSUK website against the permit after the event. This doesn't affect those that have taken out a yearly rally policy. The new cost for 12 Car rallies is now £35, up from the previous £25, but a lot lower than the current £65. Unfortunately, it is still an expensive £60 for a full night rally. Hopefully this will see a few more people come back out again on the 12 Cars, now the cost of doing the event has gone back to affordable levels.

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>

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.

Dates for your Diary - 2026

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

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

Clubnights – 2nd Tuesday

Month	Event
June	Tue 9 th – Clubnight – Speaker Paul Jiggins, “ <i>The History of Postcards</i> ” Tue 23 rd - Pitch & Putt followed by a Noggin & Natter at King’s Mead, Ware 6:30pm
July	Tue 14 th – Clubnight – Committee Quiz (Committee Members) Tue 28 th – 5pm dinner followed by a pétanque competition (7pm) at The Farmers Boy, Brickendon
Aug	Sun 9 th – Walking Treasure Hunt – Hertford & Hertford Heath (10am) Tue 11 th – Clubnight – Mid 1960’s Vinyl Record Night (John Foster) Tue 25 th - Monthly Dinner at: The Galley Hall, Hailey Lane, Hoddesdon, SG13 7NY
Sept	Tue 8 th – Clubnight -Robin Claydon, “Two Bears” Thur 10 th River Lea Cruise trip with Cream Tea (2pm) Tue 22 nd - Monthly Dinner at: The Galley Hall, Hailey Lane, Hoddesdon, SG13 7NY
Oct	Tue 13 th – Clubnight – Talk by Owen Woodlife – Transport of The Isle of Man Tue 27 th - Lunchtime meal at The Plough Sewardstone Rd, 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>,