

AREA 1 JAGUAR DRIVERS CLUB NEWSLETTER



MAY 2019

We have already had quite an eventful year and there is still lots going on over the next few months so please make sure you make a note of all the dates in your diaries and come along.

13 people attended the skidpan course at Thruxton Racecourse recently and it was very much enjoyed by everyone and there was lots to learn and I think everyone would agree it was a worthwhile experience. Afterwards some of us went to a local pub for lunch.

Drive out day last weekend was another great success and thanks must go to Alan and Marilyn Ravenhall for organising it and for the superb directions which took us along narrow country lanes and through pretty villages. After a chilly start when we met up at Tot Hill Services, we were able to warm up with a coffee at the Avenue Garden Centre near Alton before going on to Petworth House in Sussex where the sun came out! We then had a late lunch at the Halfway Bridge Inn between Petworth and Midhurst, which was most enjoyable, before making our own way home.

Events for 2019 and future plans

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Tickets for **Flying Day** on 16th June are now on sale. They cost £15.00 per head to include a Hog Roast, salad and a dessert and of course the opportunity to take a flight in one of the planes that will be available for a contribution of £25.00 towards fuel costs for the pilots. Tickets for the event must be purchased in advance (there will be no ticket sales on the day) so please let me know as soon as possible how many tickets you will require and send me payment. I understand this is Fathers' Day but don't let that stop you from coming, just bring your family and friends along for a great day out. Participants do not have to be members of the Club.

Basingstoke Festival of Transport – Sunday 12th May. If anyone is interested in going to this event, please contact Martin Fielder on 01256 770836. The Club used to support this event many years' ago.

A reminder once again that on **30th June**, Thatcham Rotary Club are holding their Classic Car Show so if you are interested in attending you will need to go on their website and download a booking form or register on line at www.rotarythatcham.org.uk. Don't forget to put down Jaguar Drivers Club to be part of a club stand. I understand there are a few members who are already planning to attend which is always a good social event.

Club night, 2nd July – this meeting will be at the Millhouse, North Warnborough. This time we will eat on an ad hoc basis and not have the formal arrangements we had in March. This is in the hope that the weather will be good and members will want to have the choice to eat outside.

Chairman's lunch, 21st July – this will be held at Mike and Sally's house at Chieveley and, as we did last year, we will be asking everyone to bring a picnic together with their own tables and chairs, etc. Unfortunately if the weather is bad this event will have to be cancelled as Mike and Sally do not have the space for everyone to eat inside but I am sure this won't happen! Nearer the time I will be asking for numbers attending.

Starlight Charity event – 7th August – this event takes place at Popham Airfield and is an event held for critically and terminally ill children and their families to give the children a magical day of fun with motorbike, helicopter, hovercraft and car rides along with many other attractions and of course the opportunity to enjoy the many trips on offer from the Popham Airfield pilots. Last year a few of our members went along and took some of the children out in their cars on an informal drive around the airfield which was very rewarding. It would be great if this year we could get as many members there as possible with their cars, so please make a note of the date. If you think you are able to go along, please let Dave Greenly know.

3rd September club night – I have arranged a speaker from The Motor Garage near Salisbury.

(Apologies – in the last newsletter I said this would be at the October club night!)

The Mill at Sonning, 30th November 2019 – tickets are almost sold out but I am sure if anyone would still like to go we will be able to obtain some more tickets even if it means we can't all sit together. The show this year is "Singing in the Rain" and the cost is £62.50 per ticket and includes dinner before the show.

Christmas dinner, Saturday 7th December 2019 –don't forget to book for our Christmas dinner at the Norton Park Hotel again. The cost for this year will be £24.00 per head for a three course dinner and a Champagne reception all in the Wonston Room. This is a heavily discounted price which we negotiated with their management in view of the problems we had last year. So far there are 40 people attending but it would be great to fill the room with 50 members as last year so please do not be put off by the problems we had last year and come and make it a great success to finish off the year. If you are interested please let me have a deposit of £6 per head. The hotel is also holding rooms for us at a special rate of £85.00 per room, for bed and breakfast, so if you intend to stay at the hotel don't forget to book your room with central reservations and let them know you are with the Jaguar Drivers Club. This should be a very good evening and this year the Club will provide the wine on the tables.

Future tours

We are in the last stages of finalising our European tour for 2020. The dates will be 18th-26th May 2020 for the 8 night tour and 22nd-26th May 2020 for the 4 night tour. Both sets of dates are slightly later than originally planned due to a large convention in Dinant throughout much of May. As soon as I have the final details and costs from Scenic Car Tours I will let everyone know.

We have not yet finalised the details of the Lake District tour in September 2020 and are considering various hotels, locations and prices. If you will be at the next Club night on Tuesday I will be asking for a show of hands to see what interest there is for this tour together with an option on hotels and costs. For those of you who won't be there, if you are interested please let me know as soon as possible. Prices will vary from £399 to £599 per head for 4 nights depending on the class of hotel. At our committee meeting last week the general opinion was that it would be good to choose a quality hotel more in the central Lakes rather than in Kendal, which was the original plan, but I would welcome your opinion.

Just a reminder to keep an eye on our website which Dave Greenly is updating all the time and don't forget to let him have any photos of your cars on events for inclusion.

Finally, I did mention this at a recent Club night but for those who weren't there, Marshalls of Newbury (Jaguar dealership) will offer Jaguar Driver Club members a substantial discount on labour costs from £140 to £85 per hour and a 10% discount on parts. I have also approached Harwoods of Basingstoke and am waiting for them to come back to me with some sort of discount deal as well.

In the meantime if anyone has any questions or any other ideas for future events or anything you would like us to improve, please let me know.

Sue Parkinson
Chair Person