

AREA 1 JAGUAR DRIVERS CLUB NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER



We have had a quiet January although we had a good turnout at our January club night.

Our committee met at the beginning of this week and are busy finalising events for 2020.

Events for 2020

I will just mention a few of the up-coming events:

Tuesday 4th February – Don't forget this meeting is at **the Millhouse at North Warnborough** as the Vine will be closed. Hopefully you have all given Caz your menu choice for the evening. If you haven't, I am afraid it is probably too late to do so, but please come along anyway even if you do not eat with us.

Tuesday 3rd March – this will be a darts evening and a menu choice will be forwarded to you in due course.

Saturday 25th/Sunday 26th April 2020 – There are still spaces on the Drive out weekend in Weymouth at the Best Western Rembrandt Hotel, with a visit to Nothe Fort on the Sunday. The cost of the rooms are £145 for bed and breakfast with the addition of an evening meal at a cost of £25 per head. At the moment we have 12 couples participating in this event and if you haven't already done so please let Derek Clark and me know if you would like to join us and at the same time let me have a deposit of £34 per couple. Derek is also hoping to arrange a lunch for us on the Sunday at a nearby restaurant following our visit to the Nothe Fort.

Saturday 2nd May – Jenny Lewis has organised a visit to the Lasham Heritage Glider Centre, arriving at 10am at the main building, good parking, for a briefing about the gliders. We will then have a drive either round the runway or along the road (depending on how busy the airfield is that day) to the Black Hangers for a tour and photo opportunities and then return to club house for lunch. There is no charge for this visit but all visitors are asked to make a £5 donation towards the upkeep of the gliders. We have ten cars so far for this event, but it would be great to have more. Please contact Jenny on jenclaire@btinternet.com or phone 01420 564088 if you are interested and let her know whether you intend to stay for lunch.

18th-26th May 2020 (8 nights) – tour to the Black Forest area of Germany, Belgian Ardennes and Ypres. I will have a draft copy of the route book available for people to look at on Tuesday evening. Please remember if you are joining us on this tour that if you want to

change your crossing from Dover to Calais by ferry to using the Eurotunnel from Folkestone you must inform Scenic Car Tours. Also, the chance to go to Spa for the Spa Classic is an option and must be pre-booked with Scenic Car Tours.

Saturday 28th June is our annual Flying Day and following on from the success of the Hog Roast last year we shall be having one again! Tickets will be on sale from April at £15.00 each.

24th-28th September 2020 (4 nights) – tour of the Lake District. It is not too late to book this tour.

Other events still to be finalised for 2020 are:

A day out to the Portsmouth Dockyard. Derek Clark and Alan Matthews are working on the details. The proposed date is **Sunday 11th October 2020** so make a note in your diaries as this could be a very good day out.

We are also looking at arranging a breakfast meeting sometime during the year when the weather becomes better, possibly at the Regency Park Hotel in Thatcham, as the new manager there is very keen to promote events in particular classic cars.

Finally, we have still to confirm the date for the Mill at Sonning and the date for our Christmas dinner and are aware that last year the two events were only a week apart which was not ideal. Caz and Lorraine have been busy looking at suitable hotels for our dinner and, at the moment, the Regency Park Hotel in Thatcham and the Donnington Valley Hotel in Newbury are the favourites, but it will very much depend on a meeting with them later next week.

We would like members to consider whether they would prefer to have our “Christmas” dinner, say on 5th December, or move it into January.

Secondly we would like members to consider moving the Mill at Sonning to a different time of the year. At Christmas this year, the production is another musical, “Top Hat”, which runs from 28th November 2020 to 6th February 2021 which means we could move that event into January and still have the Christmas dinner at the beginning of December. However, an alternative is to go to one of the productions in the summer and autumn both of which are comedies - Ray Cooney’s ‘Two into One’ (18th June to 8th August) and ‘Shady Business’ by Robin Hawdon (1st October to 21st November).

I shall be asking for our members’ views on both the timing of the Mill at Sonning and the Christmas dinner at our Club night on Tuesday and will probably ask for a vote, but if you are not going to be at the Club night could you please let me know your preference before then and we will hopefully be able to please the majority.

Looking further forward, Alan Ravenhall is looking at hotels in the Shropshire area for September 2021 and we are still looking at ideas for a tour in May 2021. Originally it was felt that the Channel Islands would be a good venue although there is not a lot to do on the islands and the speed limit is 40 mph (a little bit restrictive for some of us!!) An alternative is Northern Spain and the Paradors, and I would welcome members' views on their choice of venue and/or if you have any other suggestions.

Please don't forget to keep an eye on our website as Dave is always updating it and make sure you let him have loads of photos of our cars from all our events. These photos can also be included in our Calendar for 2021.

It is really important to get feedback from our members so please let me know as soon as possible your views on the Mill at Sonning, Christmas Dinner, and May 2021 tour.

Sue Parkinson
Chair Person