

The

Mutterings

Review



2019

60 years of the 3000



<http://ahc-eastern.co.uk/>

CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Austin Healey Club Eastern Centre review of 2019.

We hope you enjoy this brief ramble through the year and it will encourage you to have a look at the Mutterings Editions on the Website to reminisce in more depth about the events held in our centre and hopefully it will encourage you to get the Healey out and join us on the road in 2020.

There are many Noggins and other events that happen through the year but there is insufficient space to include all of them but rest assured that your committee is trying it's hardest to provide events of interest for all members all over the area.

These events give long term members a chance to catch up with Healey friends made at previous functions and hopefully they will give a chance for new members to benefit from the knowledge that abounds in this centre to gain full enjoyment from the cars. If you are a new member please don't be shy, come and introduce yourself and immerse yourself in the wonderful world of Healeying. There are occasionally some events that we can attend where the cars provide access to areas where the public is not normally allowed which can give great photo opportunities, so keep your eyes peeled in case such an opportunity arises in 2020.

Over the many years I have been involved with the Austin Healey Club I have found the help and camaraderie invaluable to the enjoyment of the cars. Please join in and experience this for yourself.

Don't forget all the latest information will be found on the Eastern Centre website <http://ahc-eastern.co.uk/>

Happy Healeying,
Dave Holman



EASTERN CENTRE COMMITTEE 2018/19

CHAIRMAN & MSA LIAISON

DAVE HOLMAN

NEC DIRECTOR & TREASURER

MAGGI BYFORD

WEBMASTER

MIKE QUINN

COMPETITION

Vacant

EDITOR

ROB RANSOM

MEMBERSHIP

TONY WITHRINGTON

SOCIAL SECRETARY

ANGELA BONNER

SECRETARY

JUNE HEBDITCH

TROPHY MASTER

ANDY HOLLICK

GENERAL MEMBERS

JOHN KEENER

BRETT STEAD

TECHNICAL SECRETARIES

100, 100/6 & 3000

DAVE HOLMAN

SPRITES (All Marques)

PAT KIMBER

WARWICK HEALEY

JOHN KEENER

VALUATION OFFICER FOR INSURANCE PURPOSES

DAVID SINGER

JANUARY

The January edition reported on the Norfolk Noggin' Group's Christmas lunch held at the Three Horseshoes at Roydon, one of a number of similar events held across our region.



*Pamela Longmate with
Chairman Dave Holman:
Bob and Linda Kemp with
Sandra Leyland and
below, Tony Walden and
Sheila Allen*





***John 'Pipemajor' Raybould
and wife Janine: John
and Janet Harper with
John Wilson opposite:
Angela Bonner, Sandra
Leyland, Robert Kemp and
Brian Page all enjoyed the
annual Christmas
celebration***



FEBRUARY

The February edition reported the sad death in January of one of EC's stalwarts, Kate Mayes and included 'Me and my Car' articles from Philip Oldman and Luke Bradley.



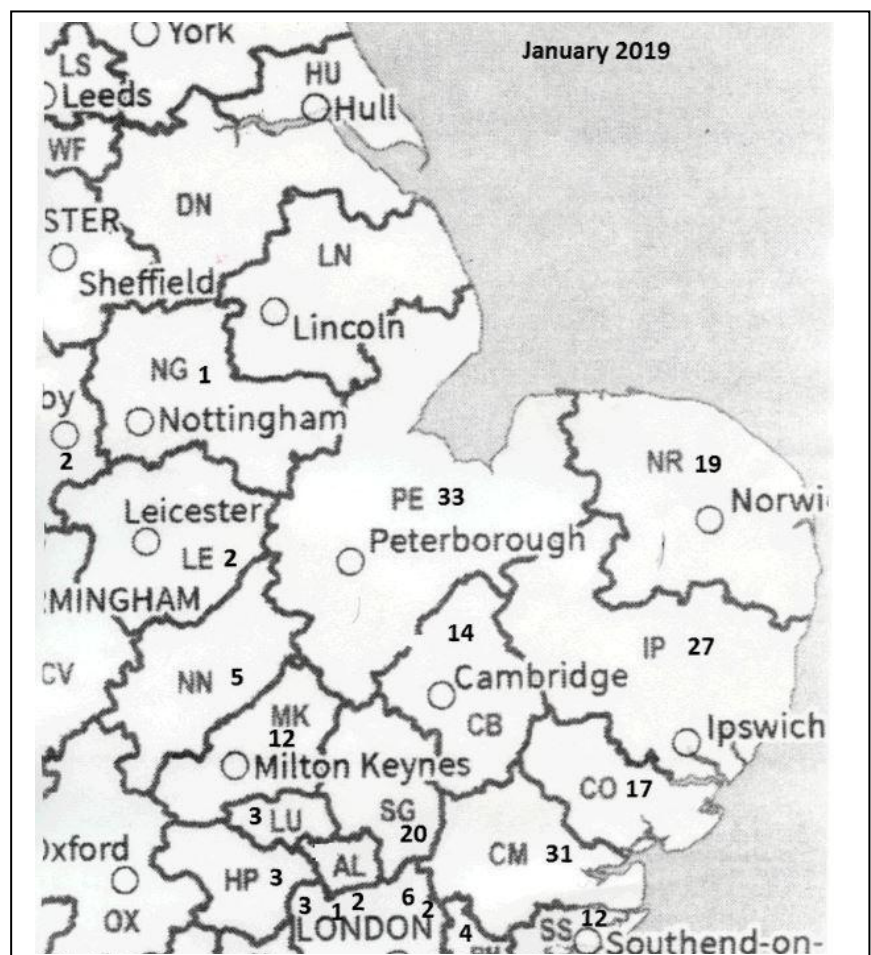
Kate with husband Richard in their 3000: Nice picture of Kate: Philip Oldman's 100





Luke Bradley's car has been in his family for 42 years

...also included was a graphic showing the distribution of EC members prepared by the Membership Secretary, Tony Withrington.



MARCH

Mike Sutton shared his 'Me and My car' with us and the Norfolk Noggin was well supported..



*Mike Sutton's
superb BJ7:
Ladies that do
lunch: The
Norfolk Noggin'*



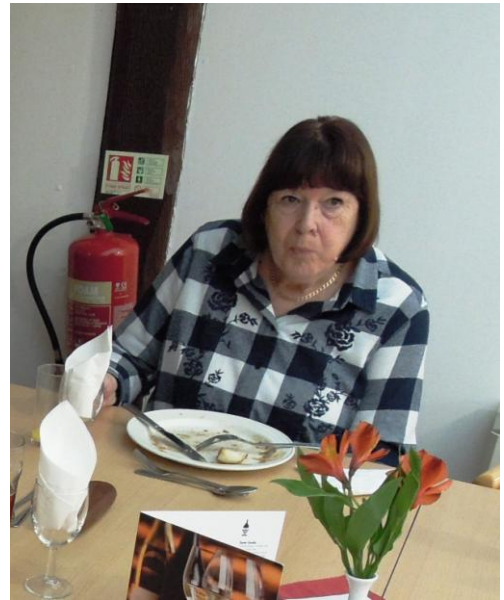


*Pamela Williams and
Terry Sprosson at the
Noggin'. Attendees
enjoyed the usual
excellent meal.*



APRIL

The Toft reunion lunch in March brought a good turnout of old and new members.....



Steve Sargent with Andrew and Paula Hollick: Chris Pugh: Frank and Doreen Rush: Good turnout.



.....and experienced some extreme weather.



*Martin Berrington
after his dash to put up
the Frog's hood:
hailstones were NOT on
the menu!*



MAY

April's Drive-it-Day and the Daffodil Weekend in Hunstanton both received coverage in the May edition...



Drive-it-Day: Pat and Zara's frog on their drive: Dave Holman's 100 after the run: Clive Cocks and Simon Parker debate which way to go.



*The Le Strange Arms
Hotel in Old
Hunstanton hosted the
Daffodil Weekend and
members enjoyed the
afternoon sun on the
terrace: L-R Roger
Byford, Sue Cocks and
Clive Cocks*



JUNE

The committee was pleased to welcome our new secretary June Hebditch, Tony Withrington wrote on his trip to the Mille Miglia and a Gloster Meteor made a rare appearance in the magazine.



June, above: Andrew Hollick at the Barrington First Friday meet: Meteor.





*Westland,
Silverstone and Big
Healey on the Mille
Miglia*

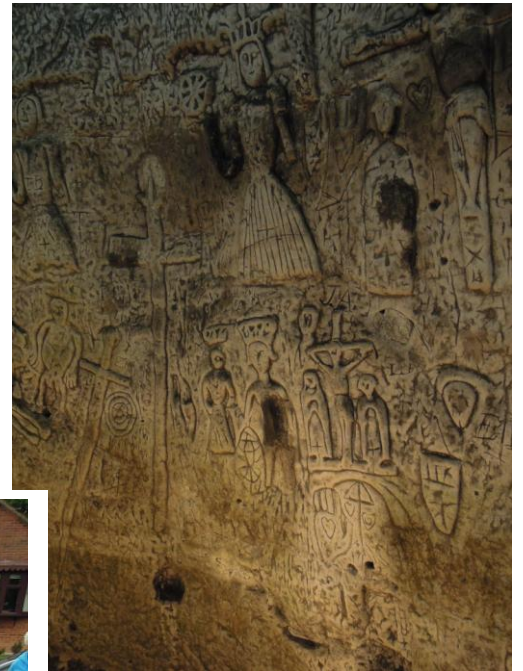


JULY

Dave Holman reported on June's events including a tour that took in Bicester Heritage site, the Broome Noggin' group's visit to Royston Cave and Gaydon whilst elsewhere the Letchworth Picnic was featured...



Line up of Warwick Healeys at Bicester Heritage: Ancient rock carvings at Royston Cave: Roger and Maggi Byford invited members back to their home for tea and sandwiches: L-R Dave Holman, Pam and Dave Haslam, Patrick Lousada.





*New members Chris and
Caroline Whittering at
Letchworth: Terry Sprosson
chats with Richard Mayes
and Pat and Zara Kimber
squeeze out of their Frog*



AUGUST

July's Big Event was the Summer Pool Party and New Members' Day at Angela Bonner's new house at Helions Bumpstead. The Kimbolton celebration of 60 years of the Mk1 3000 was also featured...



*Dave Holman wins the
Hollick Quiz cup: Tony
Withrington's 5 o'clock
Shadows entertained us...*





*Good turnout at the
Pool party: Angela
Bonner cuts the
Anniversary cake;
David Singer drives
the BBQ whilst
below Simon and
Yvonne Parker's
3000 celebrates the
anniversary in style
at Kimbolton*



SEPTEMBER

Hot weather in August made the flying day at Gransden a day to remember whilst a very wet Silverstone Classic somewhat dampened attendees enthusiasm. The Ely classic proved a popular event...



David Gunn and John Keener at Gransden: Mille Miglia Elliott at Silverstone: John Harper and John Keener give Angela Bonner advice on an electrical problem at Gransden





*Tony Withrington and Pam Davis shelter at Silverstone:
Ely was well attended:
Simon Parker and Yvonne enjoy a bit of light refreshment with Tony Withrington by the river*



OCTOBER

The touring Trophy competition came to a climax with Dave Holman knocking up over 2500 miles in September with visits to Cornwall, Warwick. EC members were successful winning trophies and the monthly Barrington classic gathering attracted record numbers...



David Barnsdall won the 'Best Car in Show' with his 100/6 at Hunstanton Kite Festival: Dave Holman's 100 at Portmerion and Kentwell Hall





*John Keener with his award
for best modified car at the
Welsh Weekend: Angela
Bonner and Keith Rudge
enjoyed late summer sun at
September's Barrington meet*



NOVEMBER

The November magazine reported on the AGM that was held in October at the Meridian Golf Club, near Cambridge. A number of new faces were welcomed and the 2019 trophies were presented, recognising those who went that extra mile in 2019.



*There was
good turnout
for the AGM
as ever:
Nigel
Kirkpatrick
with Tony
Withrington,
below.*



*Keith Loader shows
off his newly
restored 3000 at the
October Norfolk
Noggin', left.*





NEC Director, Maggi Byford, and Trophy Master, Andrew Hollick, present Tony Withrington with the Chairman's Shield at the AGM; Angela Bonner won the Why Me? Trophy for disasters beyond the call of duty! Brett Stead (L) stood down from the committee: Good to see some less familiar faces: Newland Andrews, Garry Stone and Steve Sargent



DECEMBER

The December edition previewed the 2020 events calendar and included Me and My car articles from Andrew Hollick and Paul Antcliff alongside Tony Withrington's review of the Goodwood Revival meeting. There was also a topical look at the Sprite's contribution to Le Mans 1966, in the month following the release of the film of that name.

The 30th Anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall also received mention.



*Andrew Hollick (above)
in his second Healey;
Paul Antcliff's 100/6 at
Thorpeness: Ex Morley
Brothers Healey leading
the pack at Goodwood.*



DD300 at Goodwood:
this is one of the most famous racing Healeys with a pedigree that goes back to Le Mans in 1962: Sprite but not as you know it, Jim.



Healey's David vs Ford's Goliath at 1966 Le Mans. Quirky fact that came from the Sunday Times relating to an escape across the East/West border in Berlin.



GREAT ESCAPES

May 5, 1963

Austrian Hans Meixner drives his future East German wife, Margarete Thureau, and mother-in-law at high speed under the barrier at Checkpoint Charlie in a modified Austin-Healey Sprite

Mother-in-law

Thureau

Meixner

Height of barrier: 37½in

Height of car: 35½in

Windscreen removed

Air let out of tyres to make the car lower

Bricks in the boot provide protection from gunfire





*Summer 2019
Silverstone was wet
whereas the
Harpenden Classics
on the Common event
was blessed with
scorching sun allowing
the Editor to don his
holiday shorts!*



Editor's note: The months referred to relate to the edition of Mutterings and not the month in which the event took place. This is to enable members to go back to the relevant edition via the website should they want to read more.

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Produced by the Eastern Centre of the Austin Healey Club. Comments and opinions expressed are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the Club or the Committee.