

October 2021

# Mutterings

THE NEWSLETTER of the EASTERN CENTRE  
of the AUSTIN HEALEY CLUB



*Dressed to the nines - Steve and Kathryn go to  
Goodwood*

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

## ROB'S RAMBLINGS

I have just returned from a week in my home town of Portsmouth where I have been exploring the Historic Dockyard and some of my other haunts including the Isle of Wight. I did keep my eyes out for Classic cars and this 1960s Rolls Royce caught my eye. The body is very Aston-ish from the rear.



We came across a wedding at Southsea Castle and the wedding car was a Citroën DS but otherwise lots of old ships but no old cars!

With normality re-establishing itself this month's magazine is full of event reports which has meant that I have had to keep one or two pieces over for next month. This does not mean that you are off the hook, however, keep the articles coming - the lean winter months, sadly, are nearly with us.

One event that I attended just before I went away was a classic picnic near St Ives, the Cambridgeshire one, and there I came across this Healey replica that you may recognise. It is a Haldane 100 and I have written an article on the history of Haldane that I will include next month. Suffice to say that it is a very nice recreation that goes so far but does not try to pretend that it is what it isn't!!



The AGM is looming and we need to make one or two changes to the committee that Dave will tell you about in his piece later in the magazine so please do come along to meet old friends, make new and hear about plans for a 'normal' 2022.

In conclusion I would like to wish Dave a speedy recovery from a bout of bad health that has meant that he can't drive for a while which for an enthusiastic Healey driver is the worst medicine to have to take!!

## TOURING TROPHY - 2020/21

The Touring Trophy runs from AGM to AGM (October to October).

The 'Mr Mercury' trophy (R) was presented to the AH Club by National Benzole and rededicated as the Touring Trophy some years ago.



Entrant	Date	Trip description	Trip	Total
Rob	25/9/2021	Nul points		186
Angela	25/9/2021	Round and about	261	1096
Steve Everest	25/9/2021	Pending		1387
Dave and Pam	25/9/2021	Out and about	258	2334
Dave and Sue	25/9/2021	Scotland and Derbyshire	1980	2920
Brett Stead	25/9/2021	Zimbabwe to Braughing	41	41

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## BACK AT LAST

I FINALLY have got my car on the road (I will fill you in with another article on that) so I had my maiden sojourn the day before yesterday, 3rd September 2021!! It was a series of test drives to fine tune the brakes and to check that there were no major leaks! I am pleased to inform you that it was very successful and I covered 40 miles with no mishaps. Just a longer list of things to do...! Re-bush front suspension and wheel balance a priority although there are lots of less critical things to keep me distracted from my real work!

Anyhow, after waiting nearly 3 months for my registration, I am now on the road, so I will hopefully get some 100M (mod) miles under the bonnet very soon!

Please will you include these details in the touring trophy. Car arrived with 50163 miles and now reads 50204. The 41 miles went by ever so easily! I could have driven for hours.

*Brett Stead*

## **CHAIRMAN'S CHAT from Dave Holman**

September was a slightly busier month on the Healey front, we had been invited to join the Association of Healey Owners [the club that specifically caters for the early Warwick Healeys] on their "Meet the Members Tour". James and I had joined them on their last adventure before the covid problem. That time we toured the South Coast, going down to Perranporth and then back up to Warwick, finishing in the Market square. This time my wife Sue came along for the fun as well as James so it was a mini family holiday. For this Tour it had been decided to head North with stops planned in York and Lindisfarne before heading up to Scotland. We had six cars with a Tickford, a Westland and an Elliott flying the flag for the Riley powered Healeys joined by a couple of Hundreds and a Sunbeam Alpine.

It was fairly frenetic with a different hotel every night, but there was time to meet with owners and cars we hadn't seen for a while down South and it was good to be able to put faces to names normally only contacted by telephone or email.

There are some really nice cars up there, including a Sports Convertible that had an Aston Martin DB2 engine fitted in place of the usual Alvis 3 litre and a very rare Healey Duncan that has been in the same ownership for many years. It was a wonderful trip covering over 1500 miles in 9 days. We ended up in Warwick again with permission to park in the Market Square. This was very convenient as the Donald Healey Exhibition is housed in the Museum situated at the head of the square. It is a well thought out exhibition covering many aspects of Donald's career, well worth a visit if you are in the area.

Joining this trip meant I missed out on some of the Eastern Centre events, which I understand all went well. It is reassuring to know that members are able to get out and exercise their cars a little more at the moment.

As always, keep an eye on the website and Mutterings for the latest information and as always if there is anything you would like to share with Eastern Centre members please let Rob Ransom [Mutterings] or Neil Turner [Website] know.

Happy Healeying,

**Dave.**

## NEW MEMBERS

New members in September as follows:

**Frank Richmond, Wheathampstead, Herts**

No car notified

**James Cannon, Rayleigh, Essex**

'66 Mk3 3000

The Committee welcomes all new members to the club and looks forward to meeting with you as normality resumes. New members are asked to let the editor have a brief 'Me and my car' article. Please include a recent photo of your car that can be used on the website.

***Tony Withrington***

*Membership Secretary*

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## CALLING ALL MEMBERS IN ESSEX /SOUTH SUFFOLK

Alan Pigney from South Essex is keen to meet local members interested in arranging drives and pub meets. If you are interested, please email Alan to get the ball rolling! [alanpigney@btinternet.com](mailto:alanpigney@btinternet.com)

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## MAGGI'S LADIES ZOOM

The meetings of this virtual chat night are held on the first Wednesday of the month.

The next one is *Wednesday October 6th at 19:00*



You do not have to arrive on time, and you can leave early if you wish.

Email [maggibyford@gmail.com](mailto:maggibyford@gmail.com)

## EASTERN CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2021

- **Until the spring of 2022. Healey: Cars for Speed and Glamour.** This comprehensive exhibition of the Healey company and its cars will be on all the ground floor of the Market Hall Museum in Warwick. Full details will be found on the National Healey website.
- **23<sup>rd</sup> October Club AGM**, Toft Meridian Golf Club. See separate information on this one, a lunch time meal with the meeting afterwards. Please make sure you advise Andrew Hollick of your intention to attend.

Not much left now of this strange summer of events so let's hope next year will be different. Stay safe, follow the guidelines and see you all soon.

Contact me by text or mobile on 07710 267356 or 01536 771679 for more information, or email [angelabonneruk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:angelabonneruk@yahoo.co.uk)

See you soon, take care,

*Angela*

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### FROM THE WEBMASTER

I am thinking of a Centre map page for the website. Just an idea to indicate the town or village our members live in as we are such a huge area. No full address just town/village. Everything is optional including whether members want to add their name or email. Please let me have your views on the idea to me before the AGM please at

[webmaster@ahc-eastern.co.uk](mailto:webmaster@ahc-eastern.co.uk)

Might be a nice way to bring things back to life after lockdown. For example, I was going to organise a drive to the AGM from the coast with pick up points along the way and with an outline map I could invite members along? Just an idea....

*Neil*

# THE GOODWOOD REVIVAL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 2021

## *Story and pictures by Steve Everest*

After an enforced break in 2020 caused by you all know what, the Goodwood Revival Meeting was back this year, and in cracking good form too!

Trying to find accommodation within a 50mile radius of the Goodwood Circuit is almost impossible unless you book from year to year. Bearing this in mind, Kath and I had arranged to stay with our Healey friends, Richard and Barbara Long, who live in Lindfield, West Sussex and about an hour's drive from Goodwood.

The Longs own a 1958 100/6 and the original plan was that we would drive down to Sussex in our 3000 and go to Goodwood in a 2-car 'convoy'. However, plans changed when the local West Sussex Alvis Club decided to make a day of it on Friday, the first day of the event. How does this affect us? Well, also located within 'Scuderia Long', they have a rather nice 1963 Alvis TD21. "A car with four seats and a roof" exclaimed Kathryn, "that'll do nicely". And there's me thinking she liked top-down motoring. We were going to be honorary members of the Alvis club for the day.

If you want to avoid long queues to get into the Revival, you've got to be there early. We set off in the Alvis around 7:00am and by 8:10am we were parked up in the pre-1966 car park and were making our way to the NAAFI Wagon for a breakfast of much needed bacon rolls and tea!

Friday is usually practice day, but you still get to see some great racing. There was also an excellent tribute to the late and great Sir Stirling Moss. This featured no less than 70 of the cars that he'd raced, rallied or driven during his all too short racing career.



There was a 100S Healey in the parade (RWD 323) but the outstanding car of the parade had to be the Mercedes-Benz 300SLR which Moss and his redoubtable navigator, Denis Jenkinson won the 1955 Mille Miglia at an average speed of 98mph. A feat that has never been beaten.

## *Glorious Goodwood continued....*

The Alvis members had taken up residence on the grass bank by Madgwick Corner, ideal for our picnic lunch prepared by Barbara. As Madgwick is the first bend, after the start, and it has a double apex, it can be a very interesting place to watch the racing.

*Opposite: Richard and Barbara Long with Kathryn enjoying the late afternoon sunshine.*



The Revival is an assault on the senses, with not just the fabulous cars, the people, nearly all whom dress for the occasion, the live music, dance, drive-in movies and air displays, but the whole very unique atmosphere that goes towards making the Goodwood Revival Meeting an unmissable event on your classic motoring calendar.

Right, clockwise:  
Minis at Madgwick,  
Marvellous TD21 was  
the transport of the  
day, Glamcabs  
Girlies.....





## THOSE WERE THE DAYS

I was born and grew up in Ilford and was looking through some archive photos the other day and found this photo of a 100/4 in Cranbrook road Ilford obviously early 50's by the amount of traffic. I feel it is probably a visiting car I don't think anybody living in Ilford at that time could afford a Healey.



### *Keith Rudge*

*Keith is pictured opposite with his recently completed 3000 at the September 'First Friday' meeting on Barrington Green.*



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## PATRICK AND PAM SPITFIRE FLIGHT ON YOUTUBE

The August edition of Mutterings featured Patrick Lousada and Pam Davis celebrating Patrick's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in style with flights in Spitfires from Duxford. The experience can be found on YouTube by following the link below.

<https://youtu.be/wuCF3WjfVGo>

## OWD DAVE PLUGS HIS CORE

When your core plug decides to weep due to some missing metal and in a previous repair somebody has used a filler harder than the hardest thing known to man to repair it, the solution is to take OWD around the corner to Chris Davis!! Not concours but who cares as long as it works.

*Chris burnt out several drill bits trying to sort this.*

*If you need any more info, suggest you ask Chris for a more detailed technical insight.*



**Dave Haslam**

## GAYDON AUSTIN HEALEY JOINT MEET GOODY BAGS AVAILABLE



The AH Spares Goodie bags are still available @ £5-00 each 400 were put together and about 80 remain. Individually they are £5-00 to include 48 page Souvenir Brochure, 8 Page 50th pamphlet on AH Spares History, a pen, a lanyard and a WHCC21 cling windscreen inside decal. Postage costs UK £2-30 Europe £3-50 USA £8-50 Australia Japan £9-30 I can arrange to ship 10 or 20 by courier 5Kg or 10Kg parcel is £42 or £75 contact [warwickhealeycc21@btinternet.com](mailto:warwickhealeycc21@btinternet.com)

## LITTLE GRANSDEN - MORE PHOTOS

Here is a selection of photographs taken by Caroline Benham and Tony Poulter at the Charity Classic Car and Flying day at Little Gransden airfield that capture the day: Classic Cars, aircraft and good company! What more could the enthusiast want?

If you attend an event please write a few words and send me a couple of photos - it helps me fill the pages of Mutterings and gives other members an idea of what the Club gets up to.



*Left: Aerobatic YAK entertained us: There was a good turnout of Healeys with a high proportion of 100's. Here you can see Tony and Caroline's red and white car with Angela Bonner's powder blue one behind.*





*The club stand was not quite touching distance from this Hurricane but nearly! Plenty of other motoring interest with this Dennis coach bringing back memories of trips to the seaside. John Harper's 100 nestles alongside a trio of red 3000s.*

