



HEALEY NEWS SOUTH-WESTERN

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End of the Season?... Not Quite.

Well it's officially the beginning of autumn today and things are almost done for another successful summer of Healeying. It's been a very busy season for the SW Centre this year, and although we've had Round 4 of the Autotest Championship, the fantastic Bredon Car Show and Ragley Hall since the last issue, there are still a few events left to attend before the cars are put to bed for the winter. More about these later...

Bank Holiday weekend kicked off with Round 4 of the Autotest Championship at Kemble airfield. Attendances are definitely creeping up as we go through the season, and in Round 4 we had 10 drivers all competing on the day. Several new faces turned up to try the sport for themselves, and it's definitely one of those things that you try once, and you're hooked. For those who haven't had a chance to come along, I would really encourage you to do so, even if it's only to spectate... mind you, once you see the fun we all have, you won't be able to just sit and watch! Round 5, the last of the year, is being held at Kemble on 24th October, so for your last chance this year to see what you're missing, contact Mes Edwards on 0776 442 9035 for the details. *Yeah I know... shameless plug for the series, but it really is good fun and it teaches car control in a very safe environment. Mes and the team need your support if this only bit of "motor sport" in the SW Centre is to continue! The committee have already voted to support the series in 2011 so we have at least one more year. Come along and support it if you can.*



The Centre was represented at the Bredon Classic Car Show by a team of 7 cars and a great day out was had by all. The weather was fantastic and a crowd of nearly 6000 were able to admire nearly 450 beautiful classics at the local village cricket club. The only piece of spare turf was the "square" itself... the rest of the pitch being completely covered with cars. For a show that is promoted in a very "low key" way, it is always very well supported. Alister Rayner won a well deserved 3rd place with his 100 and if you look very carefully you can actually see the trophy!!!! (In his left hand) A perfect replica of a "Blower Bentley" took the honours. It was less than 2 years old and cost £189,000 so I hope his trophy was a bit bigger than Alister's!

Ragley Hall was good fun, as guests of the BMW car club, and to our surprise they had created a special class just for Healeys. The cars were judged by the BMW judges whilst we all sheltered from the pouring rain in the café. Alister took his 3000 this time, and guess what... he won again. If you want any Autoglym, speak to Alister... he must have a garage full by now! Anyway it was really great to be looked after so hospitably by the BMW Car Club, and thanks must go to Jim Hutson (who also has a lovely BJ8) and his team for looking after us.

So what's left this year? Well we have Round 5 of the Autotest series as detailed above, and to round things off nicely in November we have the Isle Of Wight weekend, details of which featured in last month's Rev Counter. If you plan to attend, you had better get in quick as this is a very popular event with limited availability. It'll be first come, first served for sure! If you're not going to the IOW, then don't forget the Classic Car Show at the NEC on the same weekend (Nov 12th, 13th & 14th). Midlands centre will again be putting a stand together for the club, and as always they will be very pleased to see as many members as possible. Until next month....

Rob Hudson, Director SW Centre

AUSTIN HEALEY CLUB SOUTH-WEST CENTRE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON 16TH OCTOBER 2010

Following last month's announcement of the AGM, arrangements have been made to hold the Annual General Meeting at The Compass Inn at Tormarton (GL9 1JB). Our meeting room is booked from 17:00 and the meeting will commence promptly at 17:30.

There has been limited feedback following last month's announcement, so it has been decided that the proposed meal which was due to follow the meeting, will now be cancelled. The bar and restaurant will be open as normal after the meeting for those wishing to have a drink or partake of a meal. If you would like to eat in the restaurant, I suggest a call to book a table as they are usually very busy on Saturday evenings.



I wrote last month...

If you only attend one meeting during the year, the AGM is the one to attend. It is by far the most important meeting of the whole calendar, and it is the opportunity for you as Club members to have your say about how the South West Centre is run, and importantly who runs it.

Officers of the Club are elected every 12 months, and the election process culminates with voting for the various candidates at the meeting itself. If you want a say in who is elected, it is important that you attend and register your vote.

The full election process, and how you can take part in it, is available on the SW web site at <http://www.ahc-southwestern.co.uk/>

You can also stand for election to one of the Committee posts yourself, should you be so inclined. You will need a proposer and a seconder for your application, and the forms for this too can be found on the SW web site.

Remember... it's important.

International Healey Weekend 2011

As reported in last month's *Healey News South-Western* next year's International Healey Weekend (IHW) to celebrate the 50th birthday of the Austin Healey Club, is being held on the 1st, 2nd, & 3rd of July 2011 at The Chesford Grange Hotel, near Kenilworth, Warwickshire.

Preparations are well under-way and lots of great activities are being planned as we speak. These include a lunch on Friday 1st attended by several of the members who founded the club back in 1961, a planned drive on Saturday 2nd as part of the Thelma Segal Trophy event, lunch on Saturday at a place of interest for those who love classic cars, a dinner-dance on Saturday night and the National Concours event on Sunday 3rd. More detail to follow, as each component part is finalised, via the mailing list (see below about how to get on it!)

Places are already being booked by members from all over the UK. Several places have already been taken by members from Germany and Holland too, and this with little publicity! Places will be limited and once it's full, it'll be too late.

So, if you think you would like to be there, you need to register your interest NOW ! You won't be committing to anything at this stage, but you will be put on the mailing list for regular updates about what is being arranged for you. **DON'T DELAY – REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TODAY.**

Want to know how to register your interest? – Simply go to the club's National web site at <http://www.austin-healey-club.com/index.html> and click on the big green button... you'll see it.



A CHRISTMAS PRESENT IDEA...

The Club is taking a stand at the Bristol Classic Car Show again next year, and once again the organisers are offering us a good price on advance ticket sales, so why not get them now and give them as Christmas presents?...

...So this year we are putting advance tickets on sale NOW at a special club only reduced rate, a saving of £5.00 per ticket, so please take advantage of this for club members and friends who want to visit. Just go to www.bccsl.co.uk and follow the links to buy tickets. Use code "Club32".

Important - This reduced price deal is only available until the end of December, when sales will revert to normal for the VAT increase to be applied. It's important therefore to act NOW so as to avoid disappointment. *Remember what happened with the Silverstone Classic tickets!!!*

DATE FOR YOUR 2011 DIARY

The SW Centre has decided to hire Prescott Hill Climb in 2011 for members to "run the hill" if they feel so inclined. *No pun intended!* The hill is already booked and confirmed for **Sunday 31st July 2011**, so those of you who fancy a run or two up the world famous hill-climb need to get this date in your diaries NOW. For those who are a bit concerned... the event will not be competitive in any way, so you can take your precious Healey up the hill as quickly or as slowly as you like in complete safety... Yeah right!

Ron Major needs your help for a worthy cause...

One of the SW Centre's chosen charities is Fly2help. **fly2help** is a fast growing aviation charity operating in the UK, set up by a team of passionate aviators who are committed to helping others enjoy the inspiration and life enhancing privileges that being in the air can provide. Their main aim is to support families and individuals facing a wide range of trauma or tragedy who are often not already within another support network. As well as the charity's aviation based adventures, we in the SW Centre have been assisting recently by offering the chance to experience the thrill of riding in a Healey. In July a group of members from the SW Centre supported the charity at an event at Kemble Airfield in Gloucestershire. Ron Major was one of those individuals, and following on from his Healey exploits in support of **fly2help** he now intends to run 13 miles to raise funds for them. Ron writes...

Dear Healeys,

Earlier in the year, 5 members of the South West Centre attended an event, staged by the fly2help charity, who provide a special day out for children who are suffering with cancer, and their families.

We were able to add to the day with rides around the area in our cars.

I have entered in the Stroud Half Marathon to raise money to support the fly2help charity and I would be very grateful if you could support my endeavours by visiting the link below and make a donation.

Many thanks.

Ron Major

To give to Ron's appeal simply go to

<http://www.justgiving.com/RO N-MAJOR> and make a donation.

Further information on the **fly2help** charity can be found at <http://www.fly2help.org/>

Here we see Ron in his beautiful 100 at the Kemble event in July.



Visit to the Vintage & Classic Paint Shop

As you all know I had to cancel last month's proposed visit to The Vintage & Classic Paint Shop due to lack of support. One of the suggested reasons for the poor response was that a Wednesday evening was too difficult for people to make. Bearing this in mind, I have spoken to Simon at Vintage & Classic and agreed with him that he will organise a visit for us on one of the Saturday mornings in October. No date has been fixed yet, as I need to know if this weekend slot would be of more interest. So the ball, as they say, is firmly in your court! If anyone would be keen to attend the workshops at South Cerney, Gloucestershire, on a Saturday morning in October, get back to me at **Healey News South-Western** ASAP (details to your right!) and if I get enough takers, I'll organise something. Let me know if there are any Saturdays you can't make and I'll try to make it fit so as to accommodate as many interested members as possible.

Contact Healey News South-Western

Contact Healey News South-Western at Healey_News@ahc-southwestern.co.uk