

# BARNET CLASSIC CAR CLUB



## *Newsletter December* **2025**



**Hi to all BCCC members and supporters,**

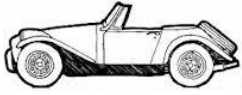
Another fine Autumn has now “bin and gone” and we find ourselves in the quiet winter months for our cars and club activities. It seems like only a few weeks ago I was scratching around for the 2024 end of term missive, but here we are well into the 2025 festive season, and some (well me) trying so hard to avoid that Petrol Station last minute pressie!!

Wrapping up this club year with our annual and delightful Xmas meeting and lunch at the Woodman Pub on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December I also follow suit, sharpening the quill for the last time this year with a smorgasbord of autumnal events memories and ramblings from the penultimate season.

Whilst some see the winter as bleak and miserable, it’s really a season of rest and beauty that lets us truly appreciate the spring when it comes around again.... Oh, and in the middle there’s all Xmas and New year festivities as well!!

So as the new season firmly settles in, here are some positive/mindful musings to embrace:





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## BCCC and events to remember from Autumn season 2025:

### Treasure Hunt September 13<sup>th</sup>

This year was our third annual treasure hunt , with a great turn out of some 17 teams taking part and 43 attending the Woodman for the meet up and lunch after!

The run route was a pleasant and fun drive around some of Hertfordshires beautiful countryside and villages, being basically the reverse route from last year! but with still more cunning clues to be solved and answers discovered—or not! Many cars were seen passing each other in opposite directions as teams doubled back to collect that missed and elusive answer!

The early autumn weather was a tad dubious at the start of the day but held off nicely until mid pm so only few brave souls attended in open top classics cars , the rest of the teams being in “moderns”.

The starting point chosen – The Rookery Café ,out towards Hatfield on the A1000 was buzzing already when we arrived with the early breakfasters.

Teas, coffees ,and breakfasts were eagerly consumed ,followed by a short briefing and the distribution of the feared questionnaires for the controlled timed start out.

The run lasted about 2 hours... for most! and happily there were no break downs or casualties from the participating teams and vehicles!

The finish point as before was our home base -the Woodman at Water End which, as always, provided the customary welcome and hospitality with a magnificent pre arranged hot food buffet, lots of tasty and enjoyable choices and plenty of it too!

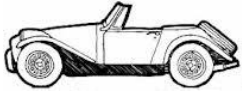
Following this veritable feast, and with all suitably replete, George and Howard (aka Tess and Claudia) took to the floor with a well collated on screen review of the clues /answers, explaining in detail where each post-box and every bridge that we should have counted were to be seen along our route.

Unexpected emergency road closures added to the fun drive , with the brain teasing questions and elusive answers, some of which were contested by participants, though we all knew the question-master's decisions were final – even when they had got it wrong! The final league countdown table of teams was presented to much groaning ,cheering , booing and tomato throwing , all in good humour of course!

The winning team picking up the priceless and coveted Trophy with a bottle of refreshing alcoholic beverage once again being “The Doogy Revvers” aka - Paul and Tasmin Doyle who proudly stood up to collect the prize for the second time , having taken the accolades on the first event!. They had come prepared with their lovely classic Morgan for the run out - and a modern just in case! Runners up- John and Sheila Rice, who competed under the mantle of the ‘Beep Beep Road Runners’ walked away clutching a spray bottle of car “make up “fluid, their well-earned prize to ensure they polish up their act for the next run!

A massive thanks to the Routemasters and quiz compilers Howard and George and their respective partners for pulling this hugely successful event out of the bag again ,with all the meticulous testing of the route numerous times for safety before finalising, and the important admin at the end marking the entries and collating the results with minimal bribery and corruption! This takes some considerable organisation as you can imagine so again thanks to the team from us all .





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Some of the Pirates on the Treasure Hunt



The fantastic Woodman Buffet being raided



Howard and George dishing out their dubious answers!







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The 2025 Winning Team

and the runner up!



The scores on the popstastic chart:

TEAM SCORE AND POSITION					
TEAM NAME	QUESTIONS	BRIDGES	P.O. BOXES	SCORE	POSITION
DOOGY REVVERS	58	8	10	76	1ST
BEEP BEEP ROAD RUNNERS	61	4	-2	63	2ND
SPITFIRE PILOT	54	0	0	54	3RD
TEAM T T	48	6	0	54	4TH
MG's	53	0	0	53	5TH
TEAM BISHOP	39	12	0	51	6TH
STAGGARD	49	0	0	49	7TH
DEMON SNAILS	48	0	0	48	8TH
NEVER GOT LOST	48	0	0	48	8TH
MUSTANG	47	0		47	10TH
TRIUMPH - JAGUAR	55	-8	0	47	10TH
MAULDS ADVENTURES	47	0	0	47	10TH
KOJAK	41	0	4	45	13TH
SMART DRIVER	46	0	-4	42	14TH
MODERN MARTINS	47	-4	-2	41	15TH
TWIN CARBS	42	-10	0	32	16TH
BENGAL CHARGERS	29	0	0	29	17TH

## Malcom Ricketts Lotus Open day 20<sup>TH</sup> Sept

Several of our members attended a fantastic Lotus cars display held once again at Malcolm Rickett's Workshops/ premises near Welwyn Garden City.

The workshops/garages contained several beautiful historic racing cars and a considerable display of trophies won over the years. There were some cars under restoration, and all attending were allowed to wander through the immaculate workshops and marvel at the classy and skilled engineering work in progress. Malcolm, although a little frail these days was in attendance and as friendly and enthusiastic as always. A fine BBQ and drinks were also provided with proceeds raised being donated to a local charity.





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A couple of lovely early 7,s



Cars in preparation

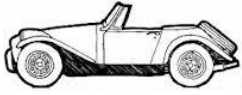


Malcolm (in lotus colours) chatting with the visitors and some of his trophies!



## Noahs Ark special visit 23/9/25

"Today's visit to the Noah's Ark Children's Hospice was a tale of two halves. The first half , smiles and laughter, as we were greeted and ably looked after by Faye, the Community Engagement Officer at Noah's Ark. Eleven members of the club attended with their classics, including "Wendy "the ambulance from Whitewebbs -thanks to Howard. The chat amongst club members and the Ark's staff ran freely and enjoyably, helped along with some awesome Honey cake, teas and coffee. Following on from a photo shoot behind a large donation cheque in all respects to the value of £4,020.05 (the club's contribution for the last year) most of our group were then offered and taken on a tour of the amazing facilities.



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The Ark provides care, education, guidance, stimulation and fun for children with life limiting conditions, as well as support for the wider family during very difficult times. With all this comes an abundance of love. All of us were touched as we were guided along corridors and peered into rooms catering for all the young people's needs, including the very special quiet contemplative room used when a young life is lost.

Thank you to all members of the club behind our support for the Noah's Ark Children's Hospice. May it continue."

We subsequently received an email from Faye from Noah's Ark :

"Hi Chris.

Thank you so much to everyone who came along, it was lovely to meet everyone, see some cars (!) and be able to show you all around. I just wanted to say two special thank you,s as well, to pass on to everyone today:

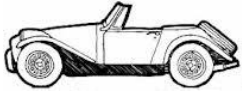
1. Rebecca wanted to say a big thank you to Emile and Chris Nightingale for taking the time with Alonso to answer all his questions and show him around all the cars, and for making him feel so welcome and validated. I think Emile also invited him along to an event this weekend, so I hope Alonso joins you – maybe you have a new member!
2. A few of your members also took the time to donate after the tour, and I really appreciate those of them who wished to do this. As I was saying to them earlier, over 80% of our income is raised through fundraising, and no matter how large or small, every donation makes a difference.

Thank you again for your visit, it was so lovely to meet everyone, and I know it put a smile on our staff and Alonso's face to see all the cars!

Speak soon and thank you so much again.

Faye"





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## Classic Boot Sale Kings Cross 27<sup>th</sup> Sept

This is a spring and autumn event held in central London and has been running for a number of years now.

Located in the redeveloped area just north of Kings Cross Station – Granary Square, Coal Drop yards and Lewis Cubitt Square, the backdrop to the show being a triumph of sympathetic restoration and collaborative and clever architectural design with the Grand Union Canal as its historic artery. The event is based around vintage and retro clothing and design with dozens of traders plying old and collectable items, some restyled and others individually made by artistic and independent traders. Music throughout the day reflecting the periods and genres on display and being enjoyed.



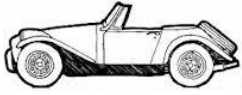
Several BCCC members attended on the Sunday of the two-day event and set off with a lovely day being forecast. The journey down was fine until we got to within 300m from the entrance as York Way was still closed following overnight works! So, a rapid google maps consultation, turn around and detour was necessary ...

Some great cars on show over the three display areas mixed in amongst the many stalls. However best of all were the people attending and their wonderful, classy period outfits, the brilliant music all day, the dancing and the tasty street food .

Derrick also won Car of the Show award presented to him by the event Organiser Wayne Hemmingway

### **Some of our cars on display and a royal imposter!**





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**A view from the routemaster top deck**



**A participant arriving in style!**



**BCCC Derrick wins yet another trophy!!**

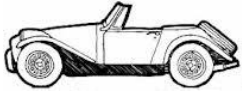


## Woman,s Rugby World Cup 2025

The 2025 Women's Rugby World Cup this year was the tenth edition of the Women's Rugby World Cup, the quadrennial world championship for national rugby union teams, organised by World Rugby.







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The competition was held across various stadiums between 22 August and 27 September 2025. The opening game took place at the Stadium of Light in Sunderland where the amazing singer Anne Marie headlined the opening ceremony. The opening match between England and the United States saw the highest attendance of any to that date in Women's Rugby World Cup history, with a crowd of 42,273.

At the gripping final game in Twickenham, in front of an enthusiastic and buzzing sellout audience of some 81800 , now setting the global record ! the amazing strong, competitive and worthy England team won the tournament/competition, beating Canada 33–13.

This was the second women's Rugby Union World Cup to be hosted by England, after the 2010 competition, and the fourth to be hosted in Great Britain. The tournament now being expanded from 12 to 16 teams. New Zealand had entered the tournament as defending champions following their victory against England in the 2021 Rugby World Cup final. They were eliminated in the semi-finals in an enthralling game by Canada, who became the first team to beat them at a World Cup in 11 years.

Yet again another classy top level sporting tournament by another inspiring British team !

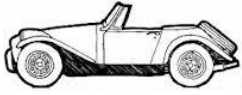
## **Ryder Cup Autumn 2025**

A bit of background history to this huge and popular event...

Samuel Ryder (1858 – 1936) was an English businessman, entrepreneur, golf enthusiast, and promoter. He originated the idea of selling garden seeds in "penny packets" and built a very successful business on that concept. Based in St Albans he ran the business from his terraced house in Folly Lane until he moved into much larger premises -The Old Seed Hall in nearby Holywell Hill, by then employing 100+ in a very successful operation. The Old Seed Hall is still in St Albans now as Café Rouge



At the age of around 50, Sam Ryder became an enthusiastic golfer and from 1923 to 1925 he, together with his brother James, started sponsoring a number of golf tournaments and matches mostly at his home club of Verulam near St Albans. In early 1926 the idea for a match between British and American professional golfers was proposed. Sam Ryder became involved stepping in and sponsoring the event. It had been his intention that this match would be the first Ryder Cup but it was decided that the match would not be an official contest. The first official event, for which Ryder donated a gold trophy, did not take place until 1927.



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The Trophy that was created and presented, was made by Mappin and Webb of London and cost around £300.00.

Scores on the doors to date being:

Wins  USA **27**  **16** EUROPE  Wins

## Special request Noahs Ark

In Late September we had a special request from Noah's Ark asking if we could possibly assist in fulfilling a young person's life dream of sitting in a Lamborghini Car. This challenge was taken up by Club members and especially by Chris Frost who undertook the co-ordination of this shout out. Feelers were cast out far and wide and it was not long before we had a choice of cars made available through a network of Lamborghini owners

On the day some stunning Lamborghinis attended, and it completely made this young person's day



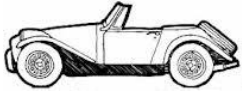
## L2B Vintage Car run 2/11/25

This annual event took place on Sunday 2/11/25. Our esteemed and veteran owner Howard Prior had entered the event again with his classy 1904 Cadillac "Clementine".

Before the Classic Sunday Brighton run, organised and sponsored by The RAC Club, there was a "St James Motoring Spectacle" event held on the Saturday from 10am till 3pm on the closed off Pall Mall. I attended luckily, from hearing about this on the Marconi radio wave receiving apparatus on Saturday am ( old school I know but still valid!) so out came the freedom pass and off I went down into London.

All along the street there was a magnificent collection of cars on display, from those participating in the event, to a large display of Lotus Esprits, including the famous James Bond underwater car, a fine collection of significant and historic Rallye Cars and a couple of formula 1 race cars thrown in. There was also an "old and new" Renault stand featuring the all-new Renault 4 and 5 alongside their 70, s counterparts!





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One of the benefits on the day is that participants have full use of facilities within the wonderful RAC Club on Pall Mall, so a fellow BCCC member George and myself “acquired” some temporary passes to access and use this amazing facility... which we obviously did!! Come 3pm all the cars have to start up, apart from the steam car present which was already smoking away nicely, and leave the Mall to prepare for the long run the next day. So, George and I waited to cheer the amazing machines along Pall Mall and off, including Howard and his family team. An amazing spectacle seeing all these lovely veterans driving in convoy through St James and up and along Piccadilly.

Howards team and “Clementine” completed the run on the Sunday with no mishaps in approx. 6 hours



An F1 monster

the steam machine

Alfa 8c straight 8



The RAC Austin 7



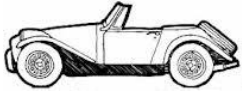
“Clementine”



H and L running off with the cup!



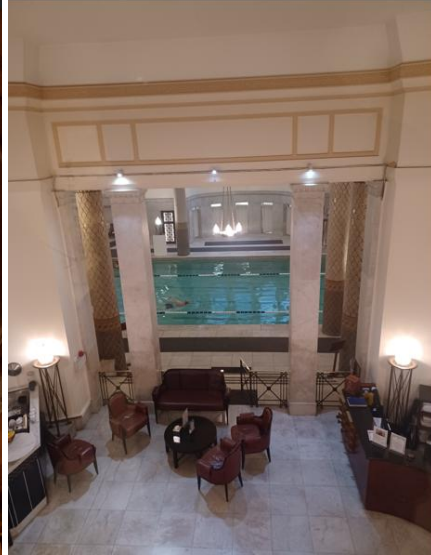




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## Scenes Inside the RAC Club



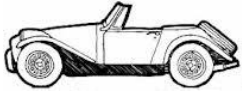
## The Annual Armistice Day 11/11/25 - remembers:

This annual and moving ceremony, held at the cenotaph includes a two-minute silence - one minute for those who fell during conflict and one minute for those who returned, forever changed, is one of those “stop and think of how lucky we are” moments of the year when perspectives realign and the precariousness of life is made all the more evident, for all to reflect on.....

“Armistice” is Latin for “to stand (still) arms”

The Armistice was the agreement to end the fighting of the First World War and begin peace negotiations. It began at 11am on 11 November 1918.





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For this very reason, at 11am every year on 11 November, we take a moment to commemorate. It is a day to remember the soldiers that died across the world between 1914 and 1918 - including those who died between Armistice and the end of the First World War, as well as honouring servicemen and women of every service and conflict from the first world war to more recent conflicts...

This moving and very beautiful poem I stumbled across was written by Neil Andrew for a competition in remembrance of all the animals that served without choice in War. It didn't get short listed, however it has over two million reads on Facebook and has been read out at numerous memorial services in UK, Canada, Australia and more, so please read and reflect:

I spoke to you in whispers  
As shells made the ground beneath us quake  
We both trembled in that crater  
A toxic muddy bloody lake

I spoke to you and pulled your ears  
To try and quell your fearful eye  
As bullets whizzed through the raindrops  
And we watched the men around us die

I spoke to you in stable tones  
A quiet tranquil voice  
At least I volunteered to fight  
You didn't get to make the choice

I spoke to you of old times  
Perhaps you went before the plough  
And pulled the haycart from the meadow  
Far from where we're dying now

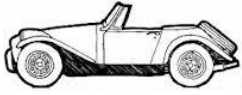
I spoke to you of grooming  
Of when the ploughman made you shine  
Not the shrapnel wounds and bleeding flanks  
Mane filled with mud and wire and grime

I spoke to you of courage  
As gas filled the Flanders air  
Watched you struggle in the mud  
Harness acting like a snare

I spoke to you of peaceful fields  
Grazing beneath a setting sun  
Time to rest your torn and tired body  
Your working day is done

I spoke to you of promises  
If from this maelstrom I survive  
By pen and prose and poetry  
I'll keep your sacrifice alive

I spoke to you of legacy  
For when this hellish time is through  
All those who hauled or charged or carried  
Will be regarded heroes too



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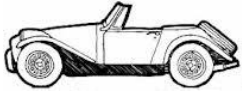


I spoke to you in dulcet tones  
Your eye told me you understood  
As I squeezed my trigger to bring you peace  
The only way I could

And I spoke to you in whispers.....







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To move respectfully on now and take a break with a light-hearted page filler 😊 ....

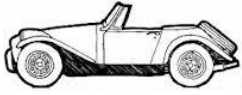
## The newly revealed Austin Morris People Carrier/SUV of the 60,s!

The family preparing for a weekend away break in the new car 😊



## Barnet Christmas Fayre 7/12/25





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Well, even being in hallowed grounds outside St Johns Church, the nice weather we asked for was not supplied, I suspect St J didn't get the email or wasn't in on the day!

So, from a wet and miserable start at around 8am we soldiered on and built up the BCCC Gazebo /dream ride display with an additional catering/shelter annex to the side. 10 vehicles arrived for the display and a nice collection it was too. WhiteWebbs Museum came out trumps with a couple of lovely commercials – a Crosse and Blackwell liveried Morris Commercial truck and a garage support Mini van!!

Meanwhile Derrick donned his Chefs hat and within minutes there was a waft of tempting smells emanating from within the Annex. Bacon Rolls and Veggie alternatives were in full production along with a constant kettle of hot water for the tea and coffee. So by 10/11am we were all feeling a lot happier about our situation!

Business was slow all day as the constant dreich weather prevailed, however despite all this our spirits were not dampened (well not too much) and we cheerfully continued.

The Santa Fiat was in great demand all day and provided some fun photo opportunities for the children passing by, and a few senior children as well!!

At 3pm we had our own "Mums Sing" Choir attend, a hardy troupe of around 12 opened up and sang their herts out with a fine collection of Christmas songs, so good was the singing the Church bells decided to join in towards the end of their set and the careful sound checks made by our fab roadies went out the window in a cacophony of backing peels from the St J's ringing team- too much mulled wine I suspect 😊 ! Overall takings for the day were down on previous years, but the effort put in, planning, and support from our committee and club members was amazing.

So once again a huge thanks to the team/volunteers, Derrick, Chris M, Chris F, Chris S, George, Simon, Richard, John, Peter, Phil, Clare, Howard, and Whitewebbs supporters who all stuck it out all day.

**The BCCC Team at set up**



**Barnet Pearly,s**



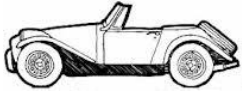
**The " BCCC" Choir in full voice**



**The Mayor awaiting his turn**







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Some fine BCCC members cars



Vehicles kindly supplied by Whitewebbs museum



## Autumn Club Social meet ups 2025.

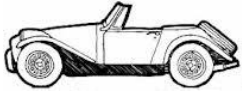
Oct 11<sup>th</sup> Prae Wood Arms St Albans

This was our second visit to this lovely pub and restaurant just north of St Albans, with a great day weatherwise the BCCC pop up museum arrived in style with approx. 30 members turning out and around 18 classics on show. As on our first visit here, excellent service from the pub with a good menu available for those feeling a bit peckish!

**A couple of fine Healeys being admired by BCCC aficionados**







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The beautifully built boatmobile!



The only existing New ERA mini



A brace of pre wars.....



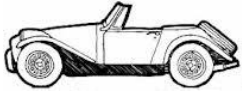
## Nov 8<sup>th</sup> – Woodman Waters End

Another good turn out of BCCC loyal members although classic car numbers were down.

A hilarious and fun in house game was arranged by Howard and George – being a bunch of feely bags containing totally random items of which we had to guess contents. Needless to say, some were decidedly tricky!

The final winner- Phil Steele waltzing away with the BCCC cellar bottle of wine, it will be vintage before long if it makes many more appearances 😊.





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Dec 13<sup>th</sup> – Woodman Water End BCCC Xmas lunch



Our final gathering of the year was a return to our base meeting point – The Woodman, where some 45-50 members and partners enjoyed a fabulous Xmas lunch beautifully prepared and delivered by the lovely Jana ( “god is gracious”) and her excellent and capable team.

The hosts really do look after us, with nothing too much, and we are always made to feel welcome.

“Probably our best attended Christmas Dinner so far. All the usual faces plus new. Excellent carvery provided and enjoyed by all after which Howard demonstrated his inability to toss and catch a coin whilst running a heads and tails game, the winner getting a free dinner!

The not quite red-carpet premiere of Chris Frost’s brilliantly produced film collage showing the club’s activities throughout 2025 was watched then swiftly followed by a well-supported raffle raising some £260.00 for the funds. **Watch the full film via our web site**, it is well worth watching, and better than most on Netflix ! link as below:

<https://barnetclassiccar.club/about/>

The three lucky Barnet Fayre Dream Ride winners were chosen using the now tried and tested Barnet Classic Car Club On-screen Spinning Wheel Picker, and they will be contacted to arrange a run in spring/summer next year.

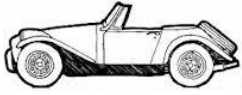
Derek Haggerty brought the afternoon to a close with a short summing up of the year which included the healthy number of events organised or attended enabling generous donations to Noah’s Ark Children’s Hospice. Then signing off with a slightly risqué story involving a late-night video channel, a club member and her magenta sports car. I think he got away with it!”

Finally, to end the festivities Father Christmas appeared for a moment! – an uncanny and spooky resemblance to our own BCCC Peter Snow I would say! Mr Claus surprised us all with some musical guitar and vocal renditions!

Speak to Marty our Merch and Artistes Manager for all future live bookings!!

## **Club Regalia**

We are having to make some supplier changes and so basic stock is now minimal whilst this gets resolved and new supplier on board, however the items as below will be available to order as usual , so please go ahead and kit yourself out!



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- **Caps-** fit all head sizes
- **Woolly hats** – as above
- **Polo Shirts-** a range of sizes available from normal to mahoosive
- **Fleeces** - a range of sizes as above
- **Windscreen stickers** – one size fits all
- **New item – T shirts now available**

So, if you need any item, please contact Marty who will happily relieve you of your finest English pounds...



## BCCC Committee

At our monthly meetings, we maintain discussions re the club future and direction, and the consensus continuing forward, and as now, is to keep matters as simple as possible supporting the friendly all welcoming ethos, but also ensuring we continue to enhance our visible profile by utilising social media platforms for information dissemination/exchange.

Eg : Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/groups/922544478743138/?ref=share\\_group\\_link](https://www.facebook.com/groups/922544478743138/?ref=share_group_link).

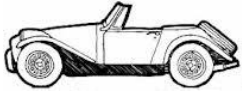
Don't forget our own Web site : <https://barnetclassiccar.club>

A lot of effort goes into organising even the simplest of meet ups and keeping the club momentum going. So, if you fancy putting and event/run together or a period on the committee, please just let us know 😊, all suggestions will be welcome and considered.

**Club Funds:** To keep our tradition for a “free at point of use” club we will still seek to raise any funds we may need through voluntary contributions at events, or sometimes via mandatory small contributions where necessary. This is on going and currently we have a healthy positive balance.

We have decided to maintain a bank balance of around £800 to cover any costs the club incurs and to ensure we can cover any unplanned costs that may arise. With the Xmas raffle etc this year we raised enough to fully cover all our costs for 2026, which is where want to be.





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Some sad news to report:

## Hugh Pryce Lewis

It is with great sadness that I write to advise the passing away in October of one of our esteemed and loved members - Hugh Lewis.

Huw (as he preferred) had been with the club since the early days and was a regular attendee at all the shows and meet ups we organise. He will be remembered by members for his complete encyclopaedic knowledge of all things engineering and the micro level of detail he would happily discuss as long as you liked was always fascinating. His two cars regularly displayed at our shows – both Wolseley's, a 1934 car, and 1932 Wolseley Hornet Special were magnificent machines and were driven almost daily!

An Engineer through and through, his life career being in Electrical Engineering. After completing his degree in Electrical Engineering, he worked for some time in R&D at Brush Transformers in Walthamstow subsequently moving to work as a field Engineer in power engineering with CEGB (National Grid) in Willesden where he remained until his retirement.

His family originated from Wales, and he was completely dedicated with all things Welsh speaking the language fluently and spending as much time as possible on the Gower ,although he lived locally in the family home in Southgate for all his life.

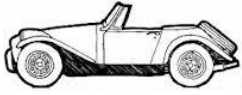
His Engineering skills knew no bounds, from restoration of longcase clocks, of which he had a few! to his love of Railways leading him into building a huge and very complex railway layout in his loft conversion. However even more astonishing, he and his best friend Richard acquired a couple of steam engines and restored them to full running order. One went to the Pontypool and Blaenavon railway and the other went to Mangapps farm, where at Christmas, Hugh would do what was known as 'The Mince Pie Run' – taking children on his steam train to see Father Christmas.

He also loved motorcycles and had some magnificent examples over the years

His many other and loved pastimes include walking and Sailing. When he was introduced to this some years ago, he gained his yacht-masters certification as a Skipper and subsequently bought and restored a sailing yacht "the good ship Cleo" which he absolutely loved, sailing this out of Bradwell on the Essex coast for many years .

Visits to Poland and all things related became another passion as a result of his long-standing friendship with ,and eventual life partner Eva. In 2014, when Hugh was a spritely 71, he married Eva. Meeting Eva changed Hugh for the best and they had some wonderful years together, visiting their friends on Hugh's motorbikes, travelling to Holland on the yacht for holidays and seeing Eva's family in Poland. Hugh became a big fan of all things Polish, especially loving the people, the food and the odd couple of local alcoholic beverages! Sadly, too soon, Eva developed cancer, leaving Hugh a widower in 2016.

We were invited to attend his funeral, held on 3/11/25 ,by his lovely God daughter Sophie, and so Derrick, Chris and I attended gladly representing all BCCC members and all who were close friends with him. His gentlemanly quiet manner, good humour and good grace will be missed by all at BCCC.



# BARNET CLASSIC CAR CLUB



## So looking back on 2025,

What a busy and exciting year for us, we have had a full-on year of BCCC activity. With well attended monthly social meet ups and regular and enjoyable special events and trips. The club has maintained its core ethos of friendliness comradery and inclusion.

The monthly meet ups especially are proving to be an essential core of club activity as they provide a regular opportunity for all to break from their normal life routines, come along , meet with others ,enjoy like-minded company and share, not just car related stuff and good humour ,but also maybe personal life issues and difficulties with friends in a safe and caring environment . This simple activity is a lifeline for some who may not otherwise have many opportunities to just get out and enjoy a few hours of “freedom” from their norms.

Another activity which seems to be gaining momentum is the increasing requests we get from the Care Home Sector to provide small car displays at their summer open days.

The benefit to all is huge - the home residents love seeing cars from their past often opening up and chatting freely with the owners about times and experiences that otherwise are lost to all, and conversely the car owners are completely enthralled with the amazing life stories of these important and worthy members of our society, so often dismissed and ignored as having nothing relevant to say or contribute.....wrong from every angle....

Finally, I would like to thank all in BCCC, from those that regularity turn up and give their time freely supporting the clubs' activities, and to all our club members and friends, everyone is important and without, the club simply would not exist ...

**To all, very best seasons greetings, enjoy the festive break and look forward to a great and prosperous new year for the Club and for all our members**

**James Beeton**

