



Classic Chat

The monthly e-magazine of Amigos de los Coches Clasicos

IN TWO PLACES AT ONCE!

Club holds monthly run and supports a charity on the same day.

Another first for our club on 19th February, when some members enjoyed our monthly run out, organised by David and Sue Fox, while others promoted the club at Bar Dolar, Vera Playa, where a charity event was being held.

A full report on the El Presidente's run will be found on page 3. But, while all that was going on, three members travelled to Vera for the monthly classic car meeting, organised by Club 950. This month's meeting coincided with a charity event to raise money for Leo, a small boy in need of an urgent operation.

The assembly of 14 cars, including the club's contingent, was admired by a good crowd who stayed on into the afternoon to hear a band and the outcome of a fund raising raffle, to which the club contributed. Stalls selling goods in support of Leo were well stocked.



Always enjoyable, this Sunday was especially worthwhile as we supported the charity and introduced ourselves to a new group of the public

TWO 'NEW' CARS JOIN THE RANKS

Two members splash out on cars from completely different eras!

Last month we had two cars joining the fleet. One, Sean and Doreen's Maza Eunox MX5 (below) and the other Peter and Karen's Austin 8.



Now, we all know Sean has been searching for his dream MX5, for some time and we look forward to hearing more about it soon. Meanwhile, 'Miss Jane Austin' introduces herself on page 8.

This month in Classic Chat

Name the car.
Page 2

Perishin' hoses.
Page 4

**Wonderful
'Wartie'.**
Page 6

**Learn about the
lovely Miss Jane
Austin.**
Page 8.

Amigos de los Coches Clasicos

Our Mission: To provide a club environment, which supports its members in the restoration, preservation and use of classic cars

Club News and Comment

Well, another busy time since the last **Classic Chat**, with lots going on and members buying new cars, all contained within.

Mostly, our runs out go off without incident, but there was some 'excitement' during March's monthly run out, when three of our members experienced technical problems. Happily, all made it to the restaurant for lunch, although a grua had to be called for one car to ensure a damage-free return home.

I mention it because of the way in which members rallied round with help, advice and giving moral support. Thanks to everyone who was able to help our fellow Amigos, in the best traditions of our club.

Those who came along to our monthly meeting, on 2nd March, will have heard the 'good news' about our grille badges; they were on their way. In fact as I write this, they have arrived!

We also heard about forthcoming events and had a talk about the need to check carefully non OEM replacement parts. Good turn out as usual.

Now, yours truly is looking forward to the Practical Classics Show at the NEC. It's not often I return to 'Blighty' but this year will find me going back and forth a little more. A good opportunity to fit in some car shows methinks.

A full report on my adventures next month. I have been warned, by she who controls Purchasing, to avoid the car auction.....I will go but with hands in pockets!

See you all soon.
Paul Gough

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Classic Chat

Editor: Paul Gough
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Last date for copy: 11th of each month.
Stop Press date: 12th of each month.
Target issue date: 14th / 15th of each month.
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NAME THE CAR

Can you identify this car? Answer on page 8



EL PRESIDENTE'S RUN – 19TH FEBRUARY

What's on in March – ACC

19th March

Classic car meeting
Bar Laguna, Vera Playa, 10.00am
(non club event) T.B.C - check
website blog.

21st March

Picnic-Cabo Cope- invitation to
join the Camposol car club. Look
out for emails.

EVENTS SPAIN & UK

SPAIN

Who knows?

UK

Practical Classics Restoration
Show. NEC Birmingham
31st March - 2nd April
www.necrestorationshow.com

Festival Steam and Transport
The Historic Dockyard, Chatham,
Medway.
16th – 17th April
<http://thedockyard.co.uk>

Donnington Historic Festival
28th – 30th April
www.doningtonhistorics.com

Fourteen cars assembled for the start of this run at the bar Las Vegas, on a very cloudy and miserable day. Club spirits, however, were high and we set off a few minutes late after waiting for the last crew.

We drove past the Hospital, and on to the Santa Maria road, where we reassembled before turning off toward Taberno.

The weather was not improving and after Taberno, towards Velez Rubio, the roads were fantastic with lots of almond blossom, the only trouble was we couldn't really see the view or the blossom because of the cloud and drizzle!

We pressed on and although we thought the we had lost a few cars and had to wait, it turned out there were a few necessary "calls of nature " needed en route.

We finally reached the coffee stop at Ganimedes in Velez Rubio where welcome refreshments were taken.

We then set off, after about an hour, on the return leg this time taking the mountain road towards Santa Maria de Nieva. Some spectacular views this time, as we climbed past the windmills and on up, with lots of blossom to see, but still chilly in the wind.

We carried on and just before Santa Maria we turned left and went through Urcal and on to los Laborales . After there we proceeded to cross the A7 and on to the restaurant Sierra Enmedia , at las Norias, where we enjoyed a good lunch with wine and great company.

Thanks all those who attended and hope you enjoyed it despite the weather.

Many thanks also to Alan and Margaret Foreman who acted as liaison between us and the restaurant, and of course , to 'tail end charlies', Peter & Karen.
Sue & David.



Photo: Peter & Karen Underdown



Photo: Noel Verleyen

ADVERTS*****ADVERTS*****ADVERTS



1977 MGBGT in Damask Red, 29,000 miles, electronic ignition, stainless steel exhaust. Spanish historic plates. Barry Dennis
Tel:951069209. Email: bazdent8075006@yahoo.co.uk
Price: 6,500 Euros ono.
(Member)



Cooling Fan. Twelve volt, 80 watt cooling fan kit. Diameter 12 inches and never fitted. £25 ono. Peter Underdown. Email:
goatshedgarage@yahoo.com
(Member)

Adverts shown are taken in good faith and no recommendation is made or implied by Amigos del los Coches Clasicos.

HOT or NOT?



The 1951 Studebaker Champion Regal Convertible (snappy, eh?) was designed by the Raymond Loewy Studio for Studebaker. Fitted with a straight six side valve engine of 2.8 litres, with a three speed 'box, it was the third of five generations of Champions. The 'spinner' grille feature was for the 1951 model year only. The hood was electrically operated.

Hot or **Not**? You tell us! Classic Chat says; **"HOT"** in a funny sort of way.

PERISHIN' HOSES

We have all experienced, I guess, flexible rubber fuel lines which fail prematurely, especially here. Barry Dennis has researched the problem and has found this link to a very interesting article. Thanks Barry.
<http://www.volksbolts.com/faq/fuelhose.htm>

'POP UP' EVENT WELL SUPPORTED

Good turnout for the visit to Albox Storage Solutions and Saturday morning, 25th February.

Fifteen folks got up early for the visit to Steve and Amanda's Albox Storage Solutions, which was our first 'company' visit this year.

After hearing about the services offered by the company, including a 'one stop shop' for people wishing to move house, either in Spain or to / from the UK, and their vehicle storage and transportation service, we were treated to a 'look round the back'!

First, we were able to look at a very special, 1955 Healey speedboat, one of only three which survive, and hear about its connections to the families of Healey, Donald Cambell and William Lyons. On show too, were a number of Steve's classic motor cycles, many of which were used regularly until recently.

A JBA Falcon sports car created much interest. This car has been rescued by Steve and following re-commissioning, will be for sale.

Finally, we were treated to a talk about Steve and Amanda's Triumph Stag, which is undergoing a full restoration.

Steve also mentioned that small car seat cover repairs can be undertaken.

After the visit, a mystery tour (as much to me as others) took us to La Cinta, Arboleas, Zurgena and then onto La Vida for a great slap up lunch.

Many thanks to Steve and Amanda for their hospitality.

Paul Gough



DATELINE.....Sunday 4th March
EVENT.....Sorbas Classic Car Show

WHAT HAPPEND.....

Seventy cars registered for the above event at Bar Distrito for Classic Car show (more 'car' than classic).

Cars mainly Renaults, Seats and 2CVs (from Club 2CV).

Five club members attended::Bill / Sylvie, Keith / Joyce, Chas / Judy, David, John and Dickie.

We provided 4 of the 6 British cars attending. Others being a great Bentley S1 and a series 2 Humber Hawk.

We joined a short run to an Almazara near Tabernas and a typical 3 course Spanish meal for about 150 people back in Sorbas.

We won a ham for the best Club entry. Possibly worth doing again next year.

Message ends.....
Chas Longhurst



The A to Z of classics.....with a difference

by Paul Gough.

W is for Wartburg 311 convertible.

As we make our way to the end of the alphabet, perhaps I can be forgiven for indulging myself with makes which inhabit these little used letters and seldom receive the attention deserved.

Take the Wartburg convertible. Its smooth flowing lines are a joy to the eye and when launched the 311 was full of extras unheard of in the UK, including a radio, lights in the engine bay and boot, undersealed body, armrests, ashtrays. The list goes on: full tool kit, interior coat hangers, padded sunvisors and more. All for £539.

The 311 was roomy, rugged and comfortable and pretty quick too, thanks to its DKW/Auto Union 3 cylinder two stroke engine. The likes of the Mini, Ford Anglia, Imp and Minor 1000 could be left in the dust in a 0 to 50mph sprint. In fact for a fairly heavy car of under 1000cc, it went like the clappers – I know, I've driven one! Oh, it had a four speed gearbox and front wheel drive with rack and pinion steering.

The 311 was designed by Hans Fleicher and was available, not only as a convertible but also a saloon, coupe, pickup and estate car. The range was produced from 1956 to 1965 and over 288,500 units left the factory.



Behind the Badge

In 1898 a two seater car was made by Automobilwerk Eisenach (AE). It was their first car and was named the Wartburgwagen.

The name Wartburg is taken from Wartburg Castle, which overlooks the town of Eisenach, in what was East Germany. The name disappeared in 1904, only to be resurrected in 1930 as a model of the first BMW sports car when that company acquired AE. After WW2, the plant lay in the Soviet zone and subsequent designs were based on those taken from Auto Union and previous influences from DKW.

VW had links with AE for the supply of engines, but following German reunification, Wartburg production ceased and in 1991 the factory was sold to Opel.





Wartburg 311 – inside appointments.



A 1966(circa) Wartburg 311 two door saloon

MAD AS MARCH HARES

Peter Underdown tells us all about March's run out.



Photo: Paul Gough



Photo: Keith Mottershed

On the 8th of March 29 intrepid Car Club Members met at Bar International for pre excursion coffees. At 11.30 it was time to go and, with a roar of engines, we all headed off taking a less used route through the backstreets of Albox and onto Alhambra, where we stopped for a couple of minutes so people could see the location of Alhambra Chapel where members will be displaying their cars on the 27th of May in aid of the Chapel's flower festival.

From there we drove up to the village of Taberno for the first coffee stop of the day at Bar Lentisco. As we sat on the terrace with our drinks, we began to realise that the day was really starting to warm up and some of the warmer clothes needed earlier in the day started to come off.

We then set off for a leisurely but brisk drive up through the Estancia Mountains, exploring a few of the lesser used but good roads. About half way through this leg, one of our members realised the benefit of the last car carrying a petrol can, (due we are told to a faulty petrol gauge) but this gave us all time to admire the views which ranged from mountain ranges to steep gorges and everywhere you looked there were almond trees, some covered with blossom and some just starting to leaf.

The roads are very winding and in some places quite steep, all designed to test the skills of the classic car driver (especially those without power steering). The last few kilometers of the journey were down through Los Cericos and onto the Saliente Road for a slow winding descent, down past the old Monastery and into the Saliente Village, where it was time for our last stop of the day at the restaurant, come service station, for a substantial 5 course meal setting us all up for our individual journeys home.

Due to the heat (it turned out to be the hottest day of the year so far) one of our members' cars developed a overheating problem and the Grua had to be called, but it must be said that a small but concerned group stayed with them until they could get safely home and no one just gets left behind.

MISS JANE AUSTIN WRITES:

Dear members

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as a new member of the Car Club who joined last month.

My name is Jane and I was born in 1941 into a large family all bigger than myself and of a famous mother called Ruby, as it was the early years of the war I was quickly adopted out to a new family who lived on a farm in the Yorkshire Dales, I worked hard during the war years on the meagre rations allowed and for a few years after until 1953 when it was decided that I wasn't as big and as strong as I needed to be so was replaced in my duties as main assistant to the house.

My master who must have appreciated my efforts in the hard times decided that some rehabilitation was necessary and I was treated to a full make over and given my own dry comfortable quarters to live in but still going out as a treat every now and again to county shows and Sunday jaunts in the Yorkshire countryside. Then one day in 1990 at the age of 49 due to the death of the master the mistress told me I had to leave and I was put back into service to a new master in Keighley Yorkshire, I could not believe my luck when I arrived at the old mill owners house up the drive past the gate house and to my new quarters in the well appointed undercroft of the big house.

Life here was warm and cosy but with not many outings, the new master was good to me and kept me comfortable until this year when tragedy struck again and the masters family decided it was time for me to leave.

Now at the age of 76 having spent the last 26 years living in the undercroft of the big house I have found a sponsor to fund my retirement to Spain the Aunt of my new master and mistress.

I have moved into a well appointed apartment which I shall be sharing with Jenifer Hillman and have been told that there will be many outings into the warm summer sunshine in Almeria and that I will get whatever I need for a comfortable and useful life.

I will look forward to meeting you all at the different club events.

Yours faithfully

Jane Austin



Name the Car – Rover P6BS

In 1965 Rover acquired the Alvis Motor Co., and intended the P6BS ('P6' as it was related to the Rover 2000, 'B' aluding to its Buick V8 engine, and 'S' for sports) to be marketed under that name.

Following the creation of BL in 1968, infighting killed it off: Jaguar opposed it because of their E Type and Triumph had the yet-to-be-launched Stag to worry about.

Only one prototype was made, which can be seen at Gaydon. The P6BS was mid-engined with SU carbs.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2017

DATE	DAY	EVENT	ORGANISED BY	TEL No	COMMENTS	MORE INFO
12 th January	Thursday	Club meeting	David Fox	663738498		Completed
18 th January	Wednesday	Monthly run out	Mike & Wendy Birtwistle	950615050	Lunch in Mojacar	Completed
2nd February	Thursday	Club meeting and AGM	David Fox	630740502		Completed
19 th February	Sunday	Monthly run out	David & Sue Fox	663738498	Velez Rubio area	Completed
2 nd March	Thursday	Club meeting	David Fox	630740502		Completed
8 th March	Wednesday	Monthly run out	Peter & Karen Underdown	950167156	Saliente area	Completed
6 th April	Thursday	Club meeting	David Fox	630740502		
27 th April	Tuesday	Monthly run out	Alan & Margaret Foreman	634319746	Pozo del Esparto	DATE CHANGE
4 th May	Thursday	Club meeting	David Fox	630740502		
10 th May	Wednesday	Monthly run out	Team Riley Duncan & John	610018818	Almanzora area	
27 th May	Saturday	Flower Show	Team Riley Duncan & John	610018818	Chapel at Alhambra	
1 st June	Thursday	Club meeting	David Fox	630740502		
TBA June		Weekend away	Stuart & Barbara Kerfoot	673067767	2 night away event. Almansa Gorge	More info soon
TBA June		Social Lunch	Peter & Karen Underdown	950167156		More info soon
6 th July	Thursday	Club meeting	David Fox	630740502		
13 th July	Thursday	Summertime Dinner	Paul & Mel Gough	694429029	Dinner at La Vida	Includes mini-run
3 rd August	Thursday	Club meeting	David Fox	630740502		
17 th August	Wednesday	Cool BBQ	Chas and Judy Longhurst	684215018		
7 th September	Thursday	Club meeting	David Fox	630740502		
20 th September	Wednesday	Monthly run out	Barry & Brenda Dennis	951069209	Taberno area	
5 th October	Thursday	Club meeting	David Fox	630740502		
21st October	Saturday	La Alfoquia Community Fair & Show	Paul Gough - liaison	694429029	Individual entries at Fair for classic car category	No club stand this year
2 nd November	Thursday	Club meeting	David Fox	630740502		
15 th November	Wednesday	Monthly run out	Bill Geldeard & Brian	666277294	Tahal	
13 th December	Wednesday	Xmas Lunch and run (No club meeting in December)	Will & Charli Gater	671171340		

NOTES Items in **bold** are changes from last month