



HEALEY NEWS SOUTH-WESTERN

Volume 1, Issue 1, Feb 2010

WELCOME TO HEALEY NEWS SOUTH-WESTERN

Healey News South-Western is a new newsletter for Austin Healey Club South-Western Centre Members... nothing fussy... just an attempt at bringing to everyone's attention things are happening, or things that are planned, which may be of particular interest to South-Western Centre members.

Although compiled and distributed by the Committee, the idea is that this publication be open to anyone in the South-West who wishes to publicise events they may be organising locally, or to provide the members with any form of useful information. It's brand new, and there is no set format, so if you have something to say, send it in and it'll be published... as long as it's printable of course!

We hope to publish something every month, and possibly more frequently, if anything that we think needs more urgent attention comes in. So let's have your contributions, whether they be for publication, or maybe just your thoughts on the idea of this newsletter, and how you would like it to develop... if at all. (Contact details below)

Rob Hudson, Director SW Centre

...URGENT...

A couple of dates for your diary...

Drive it Day... Drive-it day this year is on Sunday 25th April, and the Committee have reserved us some places on the event being held in the North of the patch at the famous Shelsley Walsh Hillclimb. The event route starts at Gloucester Docks, and follows a 2 – 3 hour tour culminating in arrival at Shelsley where participants can make a non-timed run up the hill. Entertainment included on site features a Jazz band, Pig Roast, and Refreshments. Entry per car is £85, and those interested need to complete the application form (attached with this newsletter) and get it, and a cheque, to Steve Trimble, Wych Hazel, Gloucester Road, Welland, Nr Malvern, Worcs, WR13 6LA. **by 22nd February!!!!**

Prescott Rotary Event... The Cheltenham Cleeve Vale Rotary Club are organising their usual Prescott Hillclimb event for Sunday 9th May. The Club has an area reserved in the Paddock, and already we have 16 cars booked in. Entry costs £46 per vehicle, and that includes 2 non-competitive runs up the hill. (Extra runs are available at £5 each). Numbers are limited to around 200, and places are going very quickly for this fantastic day out. **(STOP PRESS!! – I've just looked at the web-site and there are only 15 places left!!)** all the details can be found at the Rotary Club's web-site <http://www.cleevevale.org.uk/classiccar/>

Season Opener



This year's Season Opener is going to be held at Eastnor Castle, Nr Ledbury in Herefordshire on April 4th (Easter Sunday). After several years at Dyham Park, it is time for a change, and it is hoped that the move to Eastnor will attract some new cars to the first event of the season. The Castle is within range of the Severn Bridge, so it is hoped that those in the Bristol and surrounding area will still make the effort to attend. Lots of Easter related activities going on at the Castle on the day, so a big crowd is expected. We have been given the main courtyard to display our cars, so a good opportunity to meet the public. We need to be in place by 11:00am, so somewhere close by as a rendezvous point will be arranged. Contact Rob Hudson on 07988 649122 for details.

2010 Calendar of Events

The South-West Calendar of events will be published in Rev Counter shortly, but to get these dates to you quickly, please see below what is on the cards so far. Of course this is not a complete list, as events will be arranged and added as the year goes on I'm sure. Remember we need your local events highlighted in our calendar too, so get those details into us as soon as you can.

We won't be publishing all events from the other centres in *Healey News South-Western* so for these check-out the Action Planner in the back of your Rev Counter, but as was said earlier... we will include some which may be of interest to us in the South-West...

March

21st – Round 1 of the Healey South West Auto-Gymkhana Series (Like an Auto-test) at Kemble Airfield Gloucestershire. (see the article below)

April

4th – Season Opener at Eastnor Castle

5th – Coleford Carnival of Transport – Contact Rob Hudson **urgently** if you want to attend. (07988 649122)

18th – Corinium Run <http://www.cirencesterclub.com/corin.shtm>

25th – Drive it Day – Contact Steve Trimble **urgently** (07771 666849) if you want to attend the Shelsley event.

May

1st & 2nd – Bristol Classic Car Show

9th – Prescott Rotary Meeting

23rd – Round 2 of the Healey Auto-Gymkhana Series at Kemble Airfield.

29th & 30th – Le Vie en Bleu – Prescott. (Saturday – English Classics, Sunday – French Classics)

June

4th, 5th & 6th – MG Live at Silverstone (More details to follow once our plans are finalised) *Last year was great!*

27th – Round 3 of the Healey Auto Gymkhana Series at Kemble.

July

17th & 18th Pageant of Power at Cholmondeley (Northern Centre) *Last year was great too!*

August

15th - Round 4 of the Healey Auto-Gymkhana at Kemble

22nd – Exmoor Classic. (Watchet to Porlock) Contact Rob Hudson (07988 649122)

September

5th – Ragley Hall, Warwickshire. Invitation from the BMW Car Club, Contact Rob Hudson (07988 649122)

12th – South-West BBQ – Venue TBA. Contact Steve Jones (07723 806398)

October

16th – South-West Annual General Meeting (AGM) – Venue TBA

24th – Final round of the Healey Auto-Gymkhana series at Kemble.

November

12th, 13th & 14th – Classic Car Show – NEC

December

5th – Austin Healey Club National AGM – Stratford upon Avon.

Don't forget to let us know about your own local events that you would like published in *Healey News South-Western*. Simply send your details to healey_news@ahc-southwestern.co.uk



The South-West Centre has taken a stand at the forthcoming Bristol Classic Car Show which will be held at the Royal Bath & West showground on 1st and 2nd May. We'll have some nice cars on show and it'll be a chance to pick up some of those bits of regalia that you've long been promising yourselves. Come and see us on Stand B51 in the Edmund Rack Pavilion and say hello.

2010 AUTO-GYMKHANA SERIES

The Club's 2010 Auto-Gymkhana Series is due to kick-off on March 21st, with the first of 5 meetings which will be held throughout the year at Kemble Airfield in Gloucestershire.

The events are very similar to "Auto-tests", but are based on regularity, rather than all out speed and competition. Events are very exciting and test the driver's car handling skills in a safe airfield environment. Cars are run on an individual basis between cones, so no side-by-side competition to risk your classic.

The cost of each event is £15 per driver (so why not let your passenger/partner/wife have a go too?) or, if you fancy doing all 5 events, you can buy the lot in advance for £50.

As a special offer, why not try the first event, and if you get the bug, and want to sign-up for the rest, we'll knock the £5 off!!!!

If you are interested, contact Mes Edwards on 07764 429035 for details... but hurry, the season starts in a just a few weeks.

Got any Spare Bits?

Do you do your own maintenance and repairs on your Healey?... I know lots of us do. Several of the Committee members were talking about all the bits and pieces we have in our garages that we have "acquired" over years of Healey ownership, that we thought just might be useful one day. Like ours, I bet yours are just gathering dust, waiting for the rarest of opportunities when they might be needed. Well why don't we all get together and help each-other out. You may not need that prop shaft, or brake drum, but I bet there is somebody in the South-West desperate to find just that bit. It's called re-cycling you know!

If you want to help your fellow members, we are looking to compile a list of bits and pieces that you may want to either sell to another member, or possibly even just loan until a new replacement can be found elsewhere. (Sometimes it's about getting back on the road ASAP and repairing your own gearbox, diff, etc. at the end of the season *instead* of during it!)

So list your parts and contact Mes Edwards with the details. He is compiling a confidential list, and that'll be the way we do this... no details released across the patch, but if you have bits available, or you are in need of help, contact Mes to see if anyone in the South-West can help you out. Contact Mes on 07764 429035

IDEAS FOR FUTURE EDITIONS

An idea that has been put forward for inclusion in future editions of *Healey News South Western* is to include the publication of simple technical items for those members who are not under the bonnet every five minutes tinkering!!! There is a massive amount of knowledge out there which could be shared with the rest of us, so if you have any simple, or maybe not so simple!!! technical tips and bits of information you feel may benefit the membership, why not put together a little piece for the next edition.

Similarly, if you would like to know how to carry out a particular task on your car, why not write in and request some help.

Either way, please don't be shy. Not everyone knows the *ins* and *outs* of a Healey, and you can bet that the problem you are currently suffering from has been experienced by at least one of us in the past.

Contact Healey News South-Western

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