



Tony Raynes

XKCC Newsletter



December 2021

Tony Raynes

It is with sadness that I have to announce that we have lost one of our founder members. Tony Raynes, member number 10, was an active member of the club and regularly attended our NW regional meetings with Gill. They also participated in most of our club events and runs in the UK and also trips to Spain and France. In fact after lockdown restrictions were relaxed Tony and Gill drove to their holiday home in Marbella and back!

Also after purchasing a new Bentley in 2017 Tony was disappointed to find a few faults with the car. To compensate Tony for the inconvenience of having his car rectified he was loaned a car by his Bentley dealer. He was very pleased to show off his courtesy car when he turned up to a club visit to Cheshire Classic Cars. A brand new Rolls Royce! To further pacify Tony the dealer offered him a tour of the Bentley factory and lunch there. Tony asked if he could bring along some friends and arranged for a club visit there for 12 of us. When they realised who we were they dropped the lunch but we still had a very interesting tour of the factory.



Tony also very kindly invited me and John Carlin to a Bentley dealer's night where we met a Bentley Le Mans winner who gave us a few tips on the VR racing simulator.



Tony was also the first winner of the Tony Krispie award.

Andrew Spark represented the club at Tony's packed funeral where the Rabbi also mentioned his keen involvement in the XKCC.

Tony will be sorely missed by everyone who knew him and especially at our club meetings.

New members since October:

Michelle Groves, Berkshire: Jeremy Coates, Gtr. Manchester: James Barker, Keith Newton, Essex: John Nixon, Staffs: Gary Moorcroft, Hampshire: Mark Mason, Warrington: Alan Todd, Flintshire: David Barham, Surrey:

Region Reports

Cornwall & Devon XK Group

Firstly, I would like to welcome to my group John & Sarah Wilkinson, Jo Carter and Roy King.

This coming Sunday 5th December we are at Hotel Endsleigh for the Christmas lunch. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone and of course secret Santa is always a great tradition to finish the evening off.

On Friday, the 25th November Martin, Bettina, Peter, Margaret, Norm, Mandy, Gary & I had an appointment with the Cornwall Air Ambulance trust to hand over all the money raised with the group. Due to the Covid restrictions we could not get a larger car group & photo with the helicopter in the background which was a shame therefore we could only do it with three cars which was nice. It was very windy/ gale force and cold, it was hard to hold the big cheque presented £781 raised thank you to all that contributed and the XKCC for their £200 donated to the C & D region



Sunday 21st November at Lifton Jo and John & Sarah attended the first breakfast meeting, the members made them very welcoming, for Jo it was a little special driving her Dads XK, which she inherited. We had a scenic drive with 11 cars in convoy around some country lanes a bit narrow in places even had grass growing in the middle of the road (in my briefing I said its not that narrow no grass in the middle of the road - oh dear got it wrong it was noted, very funny to everyone) even went over a few narrow bridges before heading out onto the main coastal road, with beautiful sea views down to Widemouth bay for lunch at the Bay view Inn. The views across the bay we are stunning, beautiful blue sky, the food was excellent another great social outing with friends, the owner and staff were all very friendly. The Christmas decorations and arrangements were lovely and a good festive shop. In total around fifty miles. We have already booked to go back next May.





On 24th October we had the breakfast meeting at Lifton Strawberry Fields celebrating 4 years since I started the Cornwall & Devon XK group followed by a so-called scenic drive to the Dartmoor Lodge Ivybridge. The weather was so foggy the drive to Brentor, Mary Tavy and Princetown was unbelievable then the skies started to clear the nearer we got to the pub by the time we got out of the cars there was lovely blue sky. Once again it was a lovely roast with everyone at the Dartmoor lodge.

Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas & Happy New Year and looking forward to a busy year ahead with my xk friends

June xx

June has also put together a list of regional events for 2022. If interested in anything the Cornwall & Devon group are doing, please get in touch with June by email at either xkcccd@btinternet.com or jaguar.tiger50@outlook.com

East (Norfolk)

The East Region's breakfast meetings are held at The Swan Hilborough, Thetford, Norfolk

Contact Michael Simmons: Norfolk: xkceast@btinternet.com

Midlands

The Midlands regions are still holding regular meetings. We meet on the 3rd Saturday at 10am at Melbicks Garden Centre, Coleshill, B46 3HY. Contact Bob to be added to his mailing list.



Bob Owens: Midlands xkccmidlands@btinternet.com

North West

The NW region “Christmas at the Kilton” will be held on Sunday December 5th. Now fully booked.

Ron Wood: North West xkcc@btinternet.com

North Wales

Fabulous turnout for the North Wales Region Breakfast and Distillery tour. We had 15 cars (28 people) including 3 very welcome guests from the JEC Cheshire Region who joined us for the day. As usual the Beach Pavilion I did us proud with a quality breakfast, the car park was fair littered with Jags. We then adjourned a short distance to the Aber Falls Distillery where we were split in to 2 groups (having filled their car park) for a tour and tasting of the Whisky, Gin and Liqueurs made on site. Amazing how many of our members looked so at home at the bar!!!

As it was such a pleasant day a group of 7 cars then made an impromptu drive up through Snowdonia to Capel Curig and the excellent Siabod I where several had the ginormous scones they make.



All in all a really great day to round off our year and a massive thanks to all who have come along and supported Imelda and myself in getting the region going in North Wales.

We have, what we hope are, some exciting plans for 2022 which will start with our Not the Christmas Lunch on January 16th which will be a Hawaiian (or very loud) shirt/blouse event.

2022

Jan 16th – Not the Christmas Lunch – Oystercatcher, Rhosneigr, Anglesey – Hawaiian or Loud shirts please

Feb 20th TBA

Mar 20th Drive around Llanberis Pass

Apr 17th Drive to Plas Cadnant – Hidden Gardens, Now confirmed, group parking and introductory talk.

May 15th Drive to Bala – Region BBQ courtesy of John and Patricia Carlin

Jun 19th Drive to Portmeirion – Now Confirmed, group drive through the village, photo opportunity, guided tour and designated parking for our 1st anniversary picnic.

Jul 17th TBA

Aug 21st Motorsport Festival – Trac Mon – Club parking requested.

David Gosling: North Wales: xkccnwales@btinternet.com

South East

Our next planned get together is our 'Christmas Lunch' on Saturday January 22nd at The Red Lion and Cellar Room in Betchworth Surrey. I have booked our exclusive use of the very quirky Cellar for this function. Currently I have 29 booked.

Other dates for your diary include the JDC/JEC Swallow Jaguar centenary event at [BROOKLANDS](#) on 15th May, download the [BOOKING FORM](#) here and an old favourite Simply Jaguar at Beaulieu on 26th June, always a great day out [HERE](#) when I will endeavour to get dedicated club parking which was so successful this year.

Throughout the year we shall be having our regular monthly breakfast meets, possibly interspersed with lunches and a lot more besides and currently considering including the [SHERE HILL CLIMB](#) as competitors or spectators, and other venues that we have not visited before. As I've said before I welcome any feedback and suggestions as we are now nearing fifty members in the SE from as far afield as Essex, the Kent coast, south to Southampton and west to Dorset so expect venues to rotate around the region.

I think that's all for now. Take care of yourselves and I hope to see you soon.

David Hollander: South East xkccse@btinternet.com

*** If there is not a regional meeting close to you why not consider starting one. There will be other members near you who are just waiting for somewhere to meet up! Contact Ron Wood if you are interested.**

Regions Page : <https://www.xkcc.club/national>

Other Jaguar meetings.**Jaguar Breakfast Club**

Regular, very well attended meetings on the first Saturday of the month at the British Motor Museum, Gaydon, CV35 0BJ

Jaguar at the Fleet Air Arm Museum

Just an update on the JAFAA (Jaguar at the Fleet Air Arm) meetings.

It appears that the 'Swordfish cafe' at the FAA is going to remain closed until the middle of next year at the earliest therefore they are now meeting at the Sparkford Inn, Sparkford which is not far from the Haynes Motor Museum, Sparkford. They meet every fourth Saturday of the month at 9.30 for breakfast at 10ish and is open to all Jaguars.

It is not affiliated to any one club though all are members of one or more of the main Jaguar clubs. The December meeting will be on the 18th.

XKCC member Paul Tooth is one of the organisers along with Bill Marshall who ran the FAA until its closure. They usually have between 10 to 15 X100 and X150s attend plus others. Also XKCC member Graham Freeman is usually there every month so if anyone wants to come along they can ask for him, Paul or Bill.

It is also on social media.

Members Stories



Gareth & Denise Jones have now been accepted as Volunteers for the Wales Air Ambulance, and have agreed to write a regular article for the XKCC newsletter.

The Wales Air Ambulance Service launched on St. David's Day 1st March 2001. It is now one of the largest and most medically advanced Air Ambulance operations in Europe with 4 Helicopters. To keep the 4 Helicopters flying 24/7, we need to raise £8million pound every year. Current mission count since 2001: 40403 The Helicopters are based in: Caernarfon, Welshpool, Llanelli, Cardiff. The Cardiff Helicopter is the "Children's Wales Air Ambulance".





One of the first events for us to attend as volunteers on behalf of Wales Air Ambulance was the “North Wales Business Exhibition”, at Cambria College, Deeside.

PS: Gareth is also in discussion with them about a potential visit and tour of their base in Caernarvon. More details to follow.

MOT Failure!

My 1999 XK8 'Cassie' is a lovely car in the only colour for a Jaguar, BRG (colour combination, HGD/HDX). However, she is hopeless at passing exams. Namely, the annual MOT. This year I had a bet with my son prior to the MOT that she could not possibly fail as I have, over the five years that I have owned her had all the work required done including advisories and much more. Of course, she did fail but I would never have guessed the reason. Which was, that the distance between the first letter of the number plate (T) and the next digit (3) was 22mm and not 11mm as required by law.



This meant I have been driving with an illegal set of number plates for about 10 years (I also had the same set of plates on a previous 2001 reg car) and 10 previous MOT testers (plus almost non-existent traffic police) nor numerous speed (sorry, safety) cameras had picked this up.

When I pointed this out to the MOT garage they said that if I had been caught on camera with this plate and the car had passed the MOT they would be liable to lose their licence to carry out MOT tests.

My number plates were manufactured without instructions from me as to letter spacing although they show a personal number.

I can only conclude that all those daft number plates you see on modern cars are only still there because they do not yet need an MOT. However, I think it may be a warning to all us classic car enthusiasts.

I have decided that this is not Cassie's fault but the DVLA's records will show in perpetuity - 'Repair immediately (major defects)' and may affect any future purchaser's decision (not to mention a negotiation tactic).

I wonder if Cassie might pass her next exam, but can only hope.

Regards
Tony Hearn
Member 352

DVLA Number Plate Guide:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/955014/vehicle-registration-numbers-and-number-plates-inf104.pdf

Rear Suspension Repair (2007 XK)

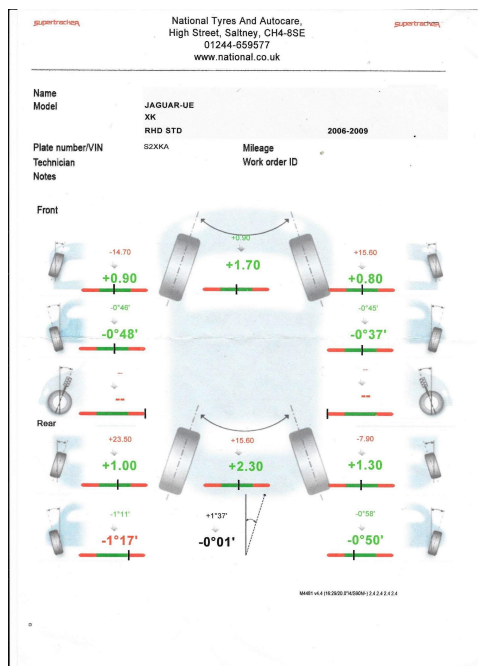
Following two advisories on my last MOT regarding two split rubber gaiters on my rear suspension I decided to change the parts myself as my car was SORN. I first checked with our Jaguar specialist, Mike Horner, if he did house calls before I started just in case and ordered the required parts from British Parts, from where we get a club discount.



The rubber gaiters had only split on one side but I decided to replace both sides, as is recommended.

The first nut I tried to remove had seized solid and despite soaking in WD40 for two days would not move. I therefore purchased a nut splitter from Machine Mart. I didn't realise they were made of chocolate and it broke off internally whilst halfway through the nut. Machine Mart replaced the broken item the next day but that one broke in the same place too! MM gave me a full refund. Fortunately I managed to get a couple of turns on the nut and managed to expose some thread and managed to get an electric saw in there to cut the bar. The other three nuts I needed to remove came off no trouble.

Replacing the roll bar link was easy enough but to replace the tracking arms I had to try and match the length required. Once the job was completed I drove to have the wheel alignment reset. I guessed I would be out but was surprised to find that instead of my steering wheel being at the quarter to three position it was now at ten to four!



As you can see from the attached final report the rear track should have been +1.0. My initial setting was +23.5 on the nearside and -7.9 on the offside!

Ron Wood

If you have done anything on your car then send me a write up with pictures for the next Newsletter.

Anti Tampering Proposals

Member Nick Wheeler has highlighted that the Dept for Transport is considering anti tampering legislation to prevent "customising" of vehicles. The MAG (Motorcycle Action Group) is opposing this and there is concern this legislation will also apply to cars. This could prevent all modifications and customising. See this link for further details.

<https://www.mag-uk.org/mag-still-opposes-anti-tampering-proposals-despite-latest-dft-clarification/>

Club Merchandise

If you would like to purchase any items please go to <https://www.xkcc.club/club-merchandise> and place your order. All profits go towards the club charities.

Events 2022

JEC 'Back to Blackpool' Centenary Tour

Next year is the 100th anniversary of the birth of Jaguar, as the Swallow Sidecar Company. There is a big JEC / JDHT organised event planned for 9 -11th September (TBC) in Blackpool. More information:

<https://shop.jaguarheritage.com/products/back-to-blackpool>

We have now increased our initial requirement for 30 up to 40 rooms at the Preston Marriott hotel for the weekend. We will also be organising an XKCC club dinner on Saturday 10th September 2022. There will also be a run out on the Sunday through the Forest of Bowland to a local attraction.

Please email if interested. xkcc@btinternet.com

Spain 2022

Andrew Spark is also organising a trip to Northern Spain next September. Details of the trip are on the Forum and club Facebook page.

If you would like more information contact Andrew at a.j.spark1208@gmail.com

Llanerchindda Farm

The club has booked two more South Wales weekend tours in July 2022 at Llanerchindda Farm. Now fully booked.

Email Communication

Due to my BT email system only allowing 50 addresses in each distribution list I have had to build up 7 distribution lists to communicate with the membership. I also have to send these out at ten minute intervals. Unfortunately some email systems think this is spam and may block an email I send you.

Can you mark my [xkcc@btinternet](mailto:xkcc@btinternet.com) address as a “Safe Sender” so it will always get through. Please see link below.

<https://www.getyouonline.co.uk/news/how-to-add-an-email-address-to-a-safe-sender-list>

XKCC Contacts

Club Chairman: Ron Wood xkcc@btinternet.com

Club Secretary: Peter Hodson xkccsec@btinternet.com

Club Treasurer: Grantham Fidler gfid@blueyonder.co.uk

Website / Forum: Peter Braybrooke xkccweb@btinternet.com

Club Forum

We now have 203 members registered. More and more information of planned events, and gossip, is going onto the Forum so sign up and keep up with all the latest information. If you haven't registered yet go to **FORUM**. <https://www.thexkcc.club/>

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Useful Links

New XK8 Wheels

https://news.sngbarratt.com/products/classic-and-modern-jaguar-wheels/?utm_source=mailchimp&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=week44_wheels&utm_content=news_hub_wheels

Beginners Guide to car detailing

<https://www.pistonheads.com/features/ph-features/beginners-guide-to-car-detailing--ph-explains/44961>

Picture of the Month



Have badge, will travel.

Ron Wood (Club Chairman)

Email: xkcc@btinternet.com