



XKCC Newsletter



October 2021

XKCC at Gaydon

New members since July:

Roger Shillitoe, Warwickshire: Ian Spencer, West Sussex: Simon Mahoney, West Malling: Ben Parratt, West Sussex: Michael Avery, Wiltshire, Peter Nadin, Cheshire: Jonathan Cole, Ramsgate: Stuart Watson, Neath: Keith Tranter, Northamptonshire: Barry Rogers, Herts: Steve Berry, West Yorkshire: Andrew Grist, Devon: Steve Taylor, Kent: Steve Jones, Dorset: Bev Drawbridge, Kent: John Balkwill, Cornwall: Stephen Liver, Lancashire: John Birchall, Wigan: Tony Chitty, Warwickshire: David Enyon, Gwynedd: Ian Bamford, Derbyshire: David Hill, Suffolk: Simon Thompson, Norfolk: jo Carter, Cornwall:

Events 2021

Following the relaxation of Covid restrictions the regions have taken full advantage of being able to get their cars out once more.

XK 25 /15 Celebration (Saturday 4th September)

To prepare for the event the club tent was set up at the British Motor Museum at Gaydon on the afternoon of Friday 3rd September by a few sturdy volunteers.

For the Friday evening various groups enjoyed a night out in Stratford upon Avon at various venues including a dinner / river cruise down the Avon.

The Saturday Jaguar Breakfast Club event started early with a few club members in club branded hi-vis jackets marshalling our members into our designated area in front of the museum. Unfortunately due to the volume of XKs arriving and another XK group setting up in the wrong area marshalling soon become a problem with non members being directed into our area. Whilst it was not a problem for us and we managed to park as many XKs with us as possible some non members were not happy not being able to park in their "own" area.



Due to this Tony Merrygold, Jaguar Daimler Heritage Trust collections manager, and Mike Horner, our club Jaguar specialist from Horner and Hudson's in Macclesfield, were unable to judge XKCC members cars. Tony Merrygold however did give us the JDHT trophy for Mike Horner to judge and present in the evening.

The Jaguar displays in the arena included Phil Knibbs in his XKR8 400 and Royston Morgan in his XK as the next chapter of the XK story. Gareth Jones had also contacted a previous owner of his XK8 who turned up to view his old car and due to his back story was also interviewed in the arena. This was John Grant the former executive Deputy Chairman of Jaguar.

Following a successful event, organised by Peter Simpson of the JBC, the club event tent was dismantled and everyone returned to the Crowne Plaza in Stratford for the club dinner.

The hotel had very kindly laid on a free drinks reception at short notice before the dinner but we managed to corral everyone in on their way past. Eventually everyone was seated, which itself was a bit chaotic, as extra members had decided to join us that afternoon. Thanks to everyone who managed to persuade Gail Muscella to join us but it did cost Luigi a new dress and some sexy underwear to persuade her.

At the end of the meal we were all treated to a slice of Sir William Lyon's Jaguar 100th birthday cake provided by the JDHT. Well the end of the sidecar anyway!



Following the meal Phil Knibbs organised the Stand up Bingo which raised £70. After I had made a short speech thanking everyone for their attendance, help and contributions over the weekend there was a special mention to those who are keeping the growing club running smoothly. There was also a special award to Steve Tullet for getting the South East region up and running. As Steve is a collector of certain object d'art he was given a signed picture of me cleaning my car which I know he and Marina will treasure.

Mike Horner then presented the engraved club tankards he had sponsored. Phil Knibbs won the best X100 and David Hollander the best X150. Phil Dyson won the JDHT glass plaque trophy for best overall for his excellent X100.



Bruce Elliot was hoping to win a trophy and had spent hours cleaning his XK both at home and at the hotel and was looking forward to the judging for the best cars. Unfortunately he kerbed a rear wheel which he said would have ***** up his chances. Although he did his best to bribe the judge sadly his car didn't win a prize and other more beautiful cars were successful. Lorraine last heard him on the phone to the Samaritans that night, and has since book him in for some counselling!

Following these presentations there was a raffle of the prizes brought in by members. There was also an extra draw for three special prizes again sponsored by Mike Horner. Then there was an auction of two books. A copy of Peter Simpson's "The Curved Road" and "You and Your XK8" by Nigel Thorley. All told we raised £576 for our club charities.

Thanks once again to everyone who made this a special weekend.

A video of the day is available at https://youtu.be/ZDWk-yap_Hc Pictures are also available to view on the club website at <https://www.xkcc.club/gaydon21>

Poldark Tour 10th – 13th September 2021

The tour was organised by June and Gary Maunder and John and Sue Balkwill and had been postponed from 2020. The group consisted of 23 XKs from both the JEC and XKCC. Unfortunately June and Gary's XK had a propshaft bearing failure on the way back from the Gaydon weekend but another member?? kindly took one of their XK8s off SORN for June and Gary to use for the tour.

For the welcome meeting at the Penmere Hotel in Falmouth on the Friday evening a costume themed dinner had been organised with a prize for the best lady and gentleman in Poldark costume had been organised. Everyone entered into the spirit of the night with tri-corn hats, shawls and full costume. Despite some serious competition I am pleased to say Marlane and I won prizes for our costumes. I think it was the wooden leg I had brought with me!



There was then an interesting, for the gentlemen anyway, Jaguar quiz organised by John. Instead of the usual questions he had amassed a number of Jaguar parts and we had to guess what they were! Grantham Fidler and I and David Fisher both scored 27 out of 40 but Grantham won it for us on the tie-breaker question. How many road miles from Land's End to John O' Groats?



The Saturday started early and June had divided us all into two groups to set off after a half hour interval. Very wise in the Cornish traffic. After a stop to look down on Falmouth docks we drove to the Gwennap Pit, where John Wesley used to preach. From there we drove out to Beacon Country house hotel for a coffee stop to admire the view before motoring on to Trecice country manor for lunch and a tour of the house and gardens. Then it was back to the Penmere Hotel in Falmouth to prepare for the evening meal. There was also an optional wine tasting before the meal.



On Sunday it was again up early, for me anyway and thanks to June for putting me in the second tour, for another briefing before setting off to Cornish Gold and a tour of Tolgus Mill. Then on for another coffee stop at Hells Mouth to look down on the seals on the beach. From there there was another scenic drive to Geevor Tin Mine for a very interesting guided tour above and below ground.

After lunch at the mine it was a drive to Botallack to admire the view looking over the remains of the mining industry and the site of the Crowns engine houses below the cliffs. Back again to the hotel for dinner and a raffle in aid of the Cornish Air Ambulance.



On the Monday morning we all set off for the King Harry ferry. This was established in 1888 and connects the St Mawes and Rose peninsular with Feock. This chain ferry carries 300,000 cars every year. Grantham and Kath nearly missed the boat but as the “captain” had only just started he turned back to let them board.

Following the short crossing we motored on to Charlestown, a Georgian “new port” built between 1790 and 1810 for the export of copper and China clay and was used as a filming location for Poldark, Hornblower and many more. In fact part of the harbour had been roped off for a Netflix film crew. Following some farewell photos everyone departed home after a superb weekend.

Thanks again to June, Gary, John and Sue for organising an excellent tour much enjoyed by everyone.

Region Reports

Cornwall & Devon XK Group

The C & D group had a garden party at Morwellham on the 29th August bank holiday to celebrate 25 years of the XKs. Saturday morning Norm & Mandy set up the photo booth and Peter, Margaret, Chris & Gary setup the Scalextric tracks. 12ft x 8ft and about 5 hours hard work to get it all working correctly. Margaret Norm and Mandy got to work on the balloon garland, it had 90-balloons in total with racing cars and chequered flags on, all to be blown up. The garland went around the marquee entrance into the Scalextric area which looked brilliant. The racing bunting and flags placed around the garden, all set up ready for the big day tomorrow. We had a lovely BBQ together to finish the evening off.

We had around 80 people attend, enjoying a picnic and BBQ amongst family and friends, it was brilliant social occasion. We raised £168 in the raffle for Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust.



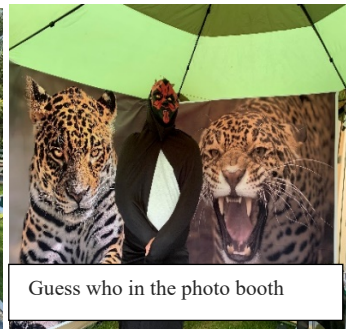
View from upstairs



Norm in the party spirit



Pergola area ready for tomorrow



Guess who in the photo booth



The following weekend 3rd& 4th September several of us went to join Ron and the rest of the XKCC members, staying at the Crown Plaza in Stratford for 2 nights and on the Saturday we went to Gaydon to celebrate the 25 years of the XKs which Peter Simpson organised at the British Motor Museum Gaydon. Peter it was an excellent day out, over 500 XKs on display and the range of colours was nice to see, well organised, lots to see and do and I appreciate how much work was involved to achieve that. We're look forward to your next one!

On the 10th to 13th September POLDARK tour staying at the Penmere Hotel Falmouth, the Friday night everyone dressed up in Poldark costumes it was great fun after the evening meal Lorraine judge the best dressed lady which was Ruth Fisher and Bruce judge the best dressed gentleman, which was Ron Wood, both receiving a gift.

Ron has covered Poldark, so it just leaves me to say it was a lot of hard work to achieve an excellent weekend which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. I personally want to thank John & Sue for all the hard work in contacting the venues and sorting out the routes which was very easy to follow and finding the locations. Peter & Margaret for the wine tasting it was excellent and enjoyed by all taking part. Margaret & Mandy for the raffle and we raised £303 for Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust. Norm for helping with the cars in the mornings and looking after Lorraine& Bruce on their travels around Cornwall. Bev & Julia for travelling back to Fraddon to collect the Poldark rally plates.

Watch this space as probably we will do something here in Cornwall & Devon in 2023

Upcoming events



Photo of the first XK drive on Dartmoor

24th October meeting at Lifton Strawberry fields at 10.30am for a breakfast meeting then a scenic drive across Dartmoor celebrating 4 years since I started the Cornwall & Devon XK group, this was the first ever drive we had done so it will be good to do it again and hopefully nice weather to see the views. Lunch at the Dartmoor Lodge Ashburton all welcome to attend.

21st November meeting at Lifton Strawberry fields

5th December Hotel Endsleigh Christmas lunch at 2pm

If interested in anything the Cornwall & Devon group are doing, please get in touch with June by email to either xkccd@btinternet.com or jaguar.tiger50@outlook.com

East (Norfolk)

(I'm delighted to say that the XKCC East has just had its first breakfast meeting. A big "Thank You" to Michael Simmons for arranging it and sticking with it when the previous 2 meetings had to be cancelled through lack of numbers.)

Admittedly we in Norfolk would have looked a bit silly without the support of Chris Barras who undertook a 2 hour drive from Wickford, Essex, and Beryl Howarth and George Day who also had a long drive from Harlow, Essex. I'm sure they will agree it was worth it and we all enjoyed it. I don't think any of us wanted to go home.



The breakfast was great and the camaraderie between us was amazing. Bruce and I are looking forward to the next meeting at the Hilborough Swan on 17th September – dinner this time, and Chris has sensibly booked a room at the Swan. On Michael's recommendation we had dinner there last week and it was excellent. They appear to be well known for their home made steak pie with loads of fresh vegetables and they didn't disappoint– we can't wait to go again. It would be great if more members could join us, although I suppose it's a difficult time of the year as people are on other Jaguar events, or on holiday, but if you do have the time to come to the meeting I know you won't be disappointed.

Lorraine Elliott

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

Contact Michael Simmons: Norfolk: xkceast@btinternet.com

Midlands

Continuing with the normal breakfast meet this month. Unfortunately Bob Pudge who was organising a trip to North Wales was taken ill with covid so this won't happen until next year now.

Bob Owens: Midlands xkccmidlands@btinternet.com

North West

The NW region continues to hold regular monthly meetings at the Kilton Inn and once again attended the Oulton Park Gold Cup meeting. Unfortunately MSV have changed the rules and have designated the event as a "classic" so only pre 2000 vehicles were entitled to the half price entrance fee.

The "Christmas at the Kilton" date has been changed to Saturday 3rd December. The meal will now be late afternoon. A number of members have also booked to stay overnight at the adjoining Casa Mere hotel. Unfortunately we have now filled our room allocation at the hotel. Menu choices will be sent out soon.

Ron Wood: North West xkcc@btinternet.com

North Wales

The region has enjoyed good runs in both August and September. After our breakfast on 15th August we drove down the Conwy Valley, stopping at the Welsh Food shop before driving over the Crimea Pass to Blanaeu Ffestiniog then on to the Lake and Cafe at Tanygrisiau for a picnic before finally stopping for a coffee at Porthmadog. September saw us meet as usual then head to the Moelfre RNLI station on Anglesey for a visit and talk where the club presented a generous donation, that was further topped up by the attendees, to the local Operations manager. Our run of good weather continued and allowed us a fabulous view as we enjoyed our last picnic of the year.



David Gosling: North Wales: xkccnwales@btinternet.com

South East

Since the last report the SE has remained active and added several new members who we welcome.

On 14th August Gavin's XK150 was on display in the town centre for the very well supported Collective Camberley Car Show having been treated for the occasion to a professional detail and polish and very nice it now looks too.

The 21st August saw us meet for breakfast at a new venue in Tunbridge Wells recommended by a (past!) member. Some twenty-five gathered and were treated to not only the cheapest breakfast we've ever had but by a long way the funniest as the Basil Fawlty like performance that ensued with amongst it all a shortage of tea pots and numerous duplicated or wrong breakfasts being brought out one by one to the wrong tables! I have to thank all that attended for seeing the funny side of this farce and not letting it dampen anyone's spirits! As a result of this new location in the eastern half of the region many sought to explore the area with a visit to nearby Penshurst Place and some then going on to the JEC Sunday event at Filching Manor and Motor Museum, East Sussex.

On Sunday 29th another dozen of us joined new member Ian Spencer at his monthly charity fundraiser open garage BrmmBrmmBrunch- Marques at Spencers'. Always an eclectic mix of new and old Jags and many more usual and the not so common cars rarely seen in the same place. This event is now to become a regular feature in our calendar and if you want a great sausage or bacon roll cooked by Ian's wife Ann and a coffee to follow for a small donation you will be very welcome, in any vehicle, especially if you have something else a little different hidden elsewhere in your garage!

September commenced of course with the Gaydon event. Seventeen members who were staying overnight on Friday enjoyed a really great meal together in the private room at the Vintners Restaurant in Stratford, highly recommended if you are in the area. Sunday saw twelve cars from the region parked up on display, unfortunately not all together with other club members as was the idea but unfortunately the best laid plans etc. More of this event and the club dinner I'm sure from Ron elsewhere.

Unfortunately, the numbers attending breakfast on 18th September were greatly reduced by the number of regulars who were at the Goodwood Revival. Those who did attend enjoyed the usual good breakfast back at Billy's on the Road and chat but in future I will probably move our breakfast meet when there is a clash with major events at Goodwood. For that very reason the next breakfast meet will be on 23rd October, venue to be confirmed and the next BrmmBrmm Brunch at Ian's is on Sunday 31st October.

On Thursday 26th September I went over the water to Essex and picked up my friend Joe who sadly was seriously injured when his X100 span out of control on the M25 on Boxing Day 2016. Aside from serious life changing injuries to Joe his beloved King Charles spaniel died in the accident. Joe was in intensive care a very long time and only discharged eight months later. I, by sheer fluke had picked up a copy of the Readers Digest and read about a small brain injury charity based in Ipswich where they had realised the benefit of pets to those afflicted with a head injury. I contacted them and subsequently took Joe there where he was approved as someone they felt they could help. They then await an appropriate rescue dog to come into the Blue Cross centre and Poppy, a cocker spaniel was selected a couple of weeks later. The dog is then taken on by the Brainy Dogs Charity and with the help of local prisoners who have been given dog handling skills the dogs are then trained to fulfil the needs of the individual. Joe and Poppy have become inseparable and Joe readily admits it is Poppy's needs for exercise and fresh air give him a purpose and reason to carry on. Having shared this story amongst the region it was agreed that our portion of the club's annual charity donation, £200, would be given to Brainy Dogs this year. So, to cut a long story short Joe and I added a little ourselves and we drove to Ipswich and presented the cheque to Sophie, the founder of the charity. Every little bit helps and the clubs donation was very much appreciated.



We now have some forty-six members in the region from areas as far apart as Essex, North London, Kent and East Sussex in the east through Surrey to the South Coast and west to Berkshire and Hampshire. For this reason, I am still looking for venues for breakfast around the region so that the drive to breakfast can be varied and other parts of the region possibly less known to some, can be explored. Currently Billy's on the Road and others in that area are probably almost geographically central and will continue to be used but if you know of somewhere that could cater for a breakfast, or lunch, and park some fifteen to twenty cars safely then please let me know. I am always happy to explore alternatives. Think that's all for now!

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>

The Jaguar XK scene in Holland and some number crunching

Hello from Holland!

Ron Wood asked me to write some words on the Dutch XK scene. Of course I am happy to oblige and could not resist to do some number crunching. Please beware I am a female XK owner and might have a different view on cars and numbers (wink).

According to the most recent available numbers of the Dutch DVLA (2019, source RDW) in total there are 25,652 Jaguar cars registered in Holland. This number includes all Jaguar models. The I-Pace is rather popular with 4,333 registrations, one year after its introduction in Holland. To set things in perspective, the total amount of cars in Holland at the time is 8.5 million (2019, source Statistics Netherlands). The chance you see a Jaguar on the Dutch roads is therefore little (0.30%) and if you do, it's likely an I-Pace (16.8%).

Obviously, we want to know how many XK's there are in Holland. In total there are 1,274 Jaguar XK(R)'s registered. To be more specific: 632 XK8's and 642 XKR's. Unfortunately, there are no numbers available on coupes and convertibles.

I do have to make a small disclaimer on the numbers anyway, as the registration of car models at the Dutch DVLA is not consistently. For instance there are 4,786 'miscellaneous' Jaguar models registered, which represent 18.6% of the total Jaguar cars. However, broadly speaking, it gives us an insight.

The chance you see a fellow XK on the Dutch roads is rather rare, according to the numbers. I can second this while driving 'Rupert', my '97 XK8 coupe on a daily basis. It is nice to experience people are interested in the model and I am always happy to answer the obvious questions about petrol use and road tax...

In December 2019, I started a private Facebook group for Dutch XK8-XKR owners, not car club related. To date we have 68 group members. You are very welcome to join. We do have plans to organise a meet-up, but due to obvious reasons it's postponed. Meanwhile, we share pictures and occasionally a story, mostly MOT related. I guess most of us are relieved we survive the annual MOT with no advisories... Most XK's are not driven as much as they should and we all know from experience not driving these beauties cause most problems. Comparing UK and Dutch owners, I sense Dutch owners do not tend to work on their car themselves, but leave this to the garage. Both Ronald and me like to spend some hours figuring out how our cars work and trying to solve issues ourselves as part of the car hobby. Whenever we lack the time or it's complicated we take our cars to a specialist.

As there aren't that many XK's on our roads, we wave or give one another the 'thumbs up'. Whenever talking to other owners, we all agree on the good looks and performance. Most owners have their XK for many years. 'If you know, you know' and that makes the XK scene in Holland a special one.

Hopefully other Dutch XK owners will join the XKCC. I keep spreading the word.

Wishing you all the best and looking forward meeting you in person,

Marisca and Ronald Urbanus

Club Merchandise

We have changed club supplier for our embroidered and printed items. There are also some new items that have been added. You can also now purchase club badges you can add to your own items.

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.



Sew-on Embroidered Badges



Engraved Tankard

Events 2022**JEC 'Back to Blackpool' Centenary Tour**

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

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

We are also thinking of organising an XKCC club dinner nearby on Saturday 10th September 2022. Please email if interested. xkcc@btinternet.com

Spain 2022

Andrew Spark is also organising a trip to Northern Spain next year. Details of the trip, although the dates have not been confirmed, 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. Limited places available.

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 192 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

Norman Dewis' mad dash to Geneva 1961: <https://youtu.be/Y9vCrXSzicc> <https://youtu.be/Y9vCrXSzicc>

Jaguar Heritage Trust Useful Links. (Have a look we get a link!) <https://www.jaguarheritage.com/useful-links/>

Jaguar Watches from SNG Barratt

https://www.sngbarratt.com/English/#/UK/FindParts/Collection/139?utm_source=mailchimp&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=week_35&utm_content=jaguar_watches&saveBranch=UK

Picture of the Month



June Maunder and Lorraine Elliott's First Car Washing Business wasn't a great success!

Ron Wood (Club Chairman)

Email: xkcc@btinternet.com