



I connected

Publication of the Mopar Muscle Association UK

£3.50/Free to Members

Issue 70

In issue 70...

EuroNats 2013



and...

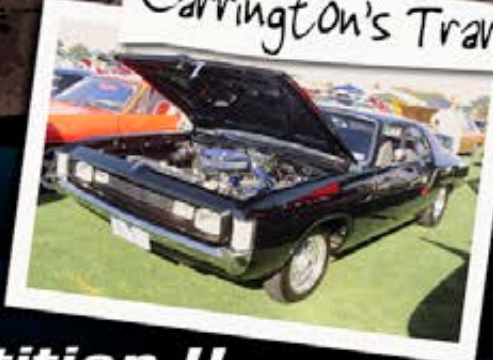
NASCAR speedfest at Brands Hatch



Mopars in HDR



Carrington's Travels



plus...

**a competition !!
...and much more**

Santa Pod 2013

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Contributors not mentioned in articles - Connected Logo + Cover Design: Sean Henstridge.
MMA Logo: Tristain Reidford



Welcome to Issue 70 of 'Connected'.

Summers gone now but the Moparnats will stick in the memory banks for a while. Another great feast of racing, talking, show 'n' shining, music and cruising. We've got the winners list here plus some great pics from the Nats by E.J. Adams plus my HDR ones in this issue, but we're always up for some more. So if you have some nice shots and want to do a write up of your Nats experience then give it a go and email me.

Thanks to Alison for sending in details of the special deal for MMA members going to the Lancaster Insurance Classic Car Show at Birmingham NEC on 15-17 November. MMA Members benefit from reduced price weekend show tickets and your Club benefits too; receiving a £1 commission back from any Member pre-booking quoting the Club offer code. See the advert on page 5 for more details.

Thanks also to Kev Carrington for his photos and write up of what looked like an amazing collection of Mopars at Geelong, Victoria. And to Alan Letts for his photos and

write up from when he took his Plymouth to the NASCAR speedfest meeting at Brands Hatch in June. It looks like there was a big turn out of American cars, with plenty of Mopars turned out for a display in their own section and several hundred doing parade laps around the circuit.

Plus there's an update on the Allard Chrysler dragster.

I was interested to read a piece in October's Classic American titled "Is Dodge brand nearing the end of the road?" claiming industry insiders expect a decision to be made and that the new 'pony' car may be called Barracuda and go to the SRT stable (like the Viper). If there's any further news on this rumour we'll keep you updated.

Time to go rustle some Autumn leaves.

Safe journeys,
Simon Fann
(Gas for GOSH)
Editor



CHAIRMAN



New Blood – It's the Key to the Future of the MMA

I was checking out the MMA forum over the past few days, Duncan Watts had posted a thread about "cars your dad had" and immediately everyone dragged up memories of everything from Austin Sevens (yeah, really, no influence from me!) to Vauxhall Victors, steam engines and heaven knows what in a huge nostalgia fest.

Andy thereby hangs a tale, because at the same time Ade Worman popped into the office and we enjoyed a bit of a nostalgia fest too and came to the conclusion that there is a generation of car enthusiasts that would have seen American cars around, particularly if they lived in one of the big towns or cities, or for that matter, close to an American air base and used to read Hot Rod Magazine or Car craft, back in the day.

Most of those guys and (and a few girls) are between 40 and 70 now and they remember when you could pick up some fairly serious American muscle for hundreds rather than thousands of pounds. Since then, several generations have grown up knowing nothing about the years of Super Stock and A/FX cars, even fewer will have heard of Mister Norm, while names like Ed Iskenderian, Ronnie Sox and Racer Brown would be lost on the vast majority of young car enthusiasts.

That's why after six years, it's time for me to step down as Chairman, so we can get some new blood with fresh ideas to take the MMA into the future with some real dynamism and isn't heading towards getting his bus pass, like the current incumbent!

I'm running the NEC Classic Car Show this year and plan to hang up my boots by Christmas, so we are now on the lookout for a new Chairman to start in the new year.

Being Chairman of the MMA is not an onerous task and the committee is always open to new ideas, so don't be shy, put your name forward!

Or come to that, put someone else forward who you think would do a great job as Chairman...there are some cracking members out there and some that don't have a huge restoration project on or the stress of running their own business, so step right up and drop me or Matt Hollingsworth a line, or give us a ring, our details are in the back of Connected and we can give you the low down on what the role consists of.

• All you need is enthusiasm, a bit of common sense (amazing I've got away with it so long!) a bit of space to store the Club marquee and boxes of MMA stuff and be available at as many events as you can manage, the two big ones being the Mopar Euronats and the NEC Classic Car show, but there's always help available, you won't be left on your own.

• Go on, do it now, email me on chairman@moparuk.com or Matt on vehicleregister@moparuk.com and let's get the MMA into overdrive!

• Just at the time of going to press, I am absolutely delighted to see a new wing car arrive on the shores, rather than leaving it, in the shape of MMA member Elliott Norris's Plymouth Road Runner Superbird 440+6. I'm sure Elliot won't mind me including a picture for those among you that are not regular visitors to the forum.

• So it looks like there is a new generation of enthusiasts out there wanting to preserve Chrysler's muscle car heritage here in the UK...so step right up so I can step down and get car building again!

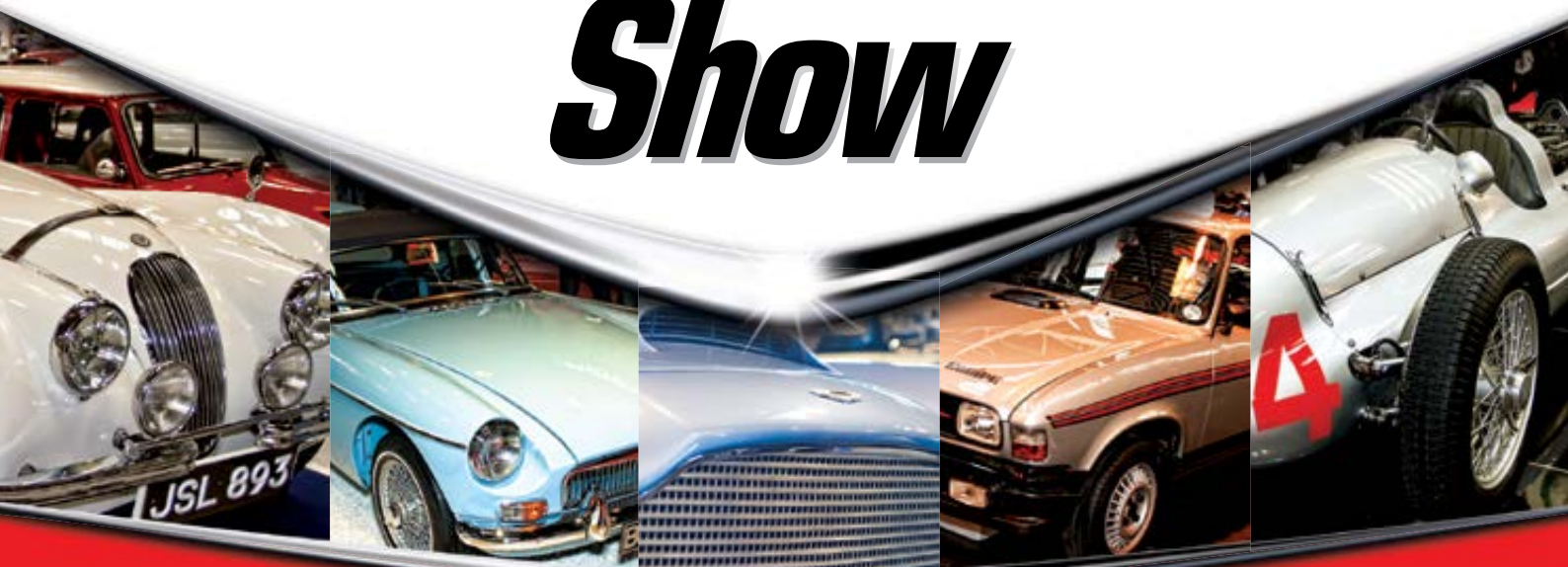
• Toodle pip!
• Ivor



Exclusive Club Ticket Offer!

The NEC, Birmingham 15 16 17 November

Lancaster Insurance **Classic Motor Show**



Enjoy Over 1500 Stunning Classic Cars

Cars for Sale | Live Stage | Auction | Restoration Theatre | Autojumble | 100s of Show Stands | Dream Rides

• **Club Single £16.50** Quote code 2013SC**

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Club offers apply to Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 November 2013

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*Calls cost 10p per minute plus network extras. All bookings are subject to a single transaction fee. All information correct at time of publishing. See website for all information. Tickets include showguide to the value of £7.50 **Club Single ticket offer limited to 2 tickets per member. Club Family ticket admits 2 adults and up to 3 children (5-16yrs) and is limited to one Family Ticket member. Club single tickets save £5.00 off the Sat/Sun door price Club Family tickets save up to £39.50 off the Sat/Sun door price compared to buying individually! Offer applies to advance bookings only. Hand in your ticket stub or voucher to your club at the show and your club will also benefit from a commission.***When you buy a ticket to the Lancaster Insurance Classic Motor Show.

JUNIOR PAGE



Words and photos Josh Fann

This time I've got a quick update on my racing and then a competition. I am part of the Engineering Club at Penair School, Cornwall and we compete in the Greenpower Formula 24 for 12-16 year olds. We design and build cars that have to be scrutinised before competing in a 4 hour race.

On Sunday 22nd September we went to Castle Combe race circuit for the Renishaw sponsored Western Heat. In previous Junior Pages I have written about driving our car but this time I was in the pits, where no adults are allowed during the race. Our pit times in the previous race were not great – we have to change driver at least four times and batteries twice.

Because of our poor times last time out we spent the morning drilling again and again with each of the five drivers. It really paid off because for virtually the whole race we were running 4th out of 44 cars..then after the third place team had to pit we held on to grab third spot by 28 seconds after 4 hours.

So preparation really paid off. Although we were pleased to get the third place trophy and medals, what made it really special was that we won the Renishaw award for Best Engineered car. In the morning before the race two Renishaw judges went round all the cars and crews and asked lots of questions about design, electrics, aero dynamics, telemetry etc.

When it came to the awards after the race we were delighted they presented us with the Best Engineered car award because our students were the best at answering their questions to show that our car was not good just because of adult involvement. Obviously we need our teachers' help but we are all involved in the design and maintenance of the car and we could demonstrate that. The Renishaw guy told everyone that a teenager who was part of this Formula 24 programme has just been taken on by Red Bull F1. So that's some motivation. All in all a great day...and it means we have earned 4th place on the front row of grid of the 80 cars in the national final at Goodwood in October. I'll let you know how it goes.

Competition

We haven't had a competition for a while so if it's raining or you've got some time on your hands then read the clues, work out these anagrams and pm the answers to Gas for GOSH on the MMA forum or email to my Dad at the editor's email address by the end of November.

The prize is a DVD titled "Muscle Cars: Power to the People". It's a good collection of features with some interesting Mopar and other muscle. The winner will

be announced on the forum on December 1st. If lots of people get them all correct then a name will be pulled out of a hat.

Example...CLUE: Hazardous car

LE GREEN ALE: Answer: General Lee

1. CLUE: High impact Mopar colour
LAZY CRUMP
2. CLUE: Mopar A body model
IDE GET GRAND SWORD
3. CLUE: Street racing film
BLOWN PACKET A LOT
4. CLUE: Mopar Euronats 2013 Award winner
MAP IN SWEET
5. CLUE: Helps keep you stable
BOO SIR RANT
6. CLUE: Famous Mopar race driver
HID TYPE R CART
7. CLUE: Go the distance
MR REAL QUIET
8. CLUE: Furious character
ONE PRAM RACE







Carrington's Travels Chyslers by the Bay

17th Annual Chyslers by the Bay
Geelong, Victoria, Australia 9th March 2013

G'Day folks,

The show featured this month is the 'Chyslers by the Bay' event held in Geelong, Victoria, Australia. This was what they class as a 'Gold Coin entrance' event with all proceeds going to charity (a Gold coin being \$1).

There are some really tasty Mopars in Oz and approx 200 turned up for this event. There was also a good balance of American / Australian and some great trade stands (though parts over there are typically twice the price of the UK). The weather was superb (as it always seems to be).

What I have noticed is that the quality and finish of some of the daily drivers is exceptional, and a lot of time and money is spent on engine detailing. The folks over here really do love their 4 doors, and they look so cool I can understand why!

Being a Mopar fan, I was in heaven at this show and some of my favourites include the Yellow Roadrunner with the unusual intake set up, the Black Valiant Charger with flawless paint, and the Sassy Grass Green Challenger. (My Duster will be this colour one day)

See Ya, Kev Carrington













NASCAR Comes To Brands Hatch

Boogity, Boogity, Boogity, Let's Go Racing Boys.

It was back at the end of last year that my buddy Adam Ford sent me the entry for this first ever NASCAR race at Brands Hatch.

Whilst it wasn't the Sprint Cup regulars from the USA, it was the European version that would be putting on two races over a weekend in June.

The idea was to turn Brands into Daytona for the weekend, and part of that was to entice plenty of American car owners to attend, by offering free entry if you arrived in an American vehicle.

So, we booked in last December, and finally the great June day dawned – freezing cold and overcast with a threat of rain. Nevertheless, with my buddy Nick Stratta and his son, from Ireland over in his 90's Cadillac off we all set at crack of dawn.

The instructions said you could only gain your free entry between 7.30 -9.00. So when we rolled up to Brands around 7.45 the queue was already a long one as everyone tried to bun fight their way through two gates.

After the Cadillac had started to boil up in the traffic, we

• were in, and parked up in the Mopars section with other
• MMA members, most of whom I think had arrived Saturday.

• After a coffee and bacon roll warmer it was time to get
• ready for race one of the NASCAR races. The European
• version has some differences to the US versions, namely
• they have composite panels, rather than steel, and their
• V8's make around 450 bhp, versus the 900 cranked out
• over the pond.

• Anyway, the grid formed up, driver introductions were
• done, and then Elvis in full Las Vegas gear sang the star
• spangled banner. For a cold Brands Hatch it was a good
• effort. The races themselves were pretty good with a grid
• of about 20 cars doing their best to dice around the 1.2
• mile indy circuit.

• In between races we walked around the pit garages and
• checked out two genuine NASCAR racers. Due to give
• demonstration runs were the #24 of Jeff Gordon, and
• the #9 Dodge Charger of Kasey Kahne. These were old
• spec cars from a few years ago, but good to see close up
• nevertheless. The #9 Dodge has since been offered on E
• Bay for £40K, including trailer; very tempting, but I'm not
• sure where you'd be able to use it.

• During lunch break these two racers were joined by Don in
• his #43 Superbird for demonstration laps, and what a sight
• and sound they all made.

Finally the on track stuff was over and it was our turn. The last event of the day being parade laps for all of the American cars that wanted to participate. We'd hung around all day, and now at 5.45 we'd get to drive the track.

Estimates ranged from 600 – 1,000 American cars present, I don't know how accurate that was, but there were plenty for sure. The Mustang owners club filled the South bank alone. It seemed like most of the owners were out on track. Now, in the instructions it told us to keep the speed down, no holding back and doing burn outs etc. Did we? Well I'll leave it to your imagination, and the pictures tell their own story.

- Funniest site for me was the chap who'd gone out the pit gate and dumped his Corvette (I think) straight into the gravel at Paddock Hill Bend. The marshals left him sitting in his car as the rest of us filed by, looking and thinking "what a"

- So, we all formed up on the grid, and the three lines of cars stretched about half way around the track. Lights went green, and we were off, great stuff. I'll bet it's the first time they've had a Dodge Daytona, Plymouth Superbird & a Plymouth GTX all on the same piece of track together.

- There's talk of repeating the event next year, top tip is to sign up early, & if the sun shines it'll be a good one again.











Santa Pod 2013

Words and photos Earl Adams

Twenty Thirteen has been a special year, it was the 20th anniversary of the Mopar Euro Nationals meet at Santa Pod, and it was my first time trackside with my camera. I was able to capture some fantastic images from this vantage point. I must say a special thank you to my friend and editor of Connected Magazine Simon Fann and James from Santa Pod for making my late request for a press pass happen...Thank you!

This was not my first time at Santa Pod for the Euro Nat's and as usual, it did not disappoint. There was plenty of awesome American Muscle on display, both on and off the track. I am an American, so seeing all these fine examples of American craftsmanship and design from the 1950's, 1960's and 1970's is always a real treat. However, this year was the first time I attended as a professional photographer. In March of 2014, I started my own photography business as a self-employed photographer and called it Earl Adams Photography.

As a photographer, to this point, I have concentrated on Landscapes. I do love to take large, beautiful landscapes; however, I also just love using my camera. Cars, especially ones with loads of character, are great fun to capture images of as they look fantastic filling the frame and most have plenty of small details. A perfect example of these details is in one of the images accompanying this article, the externally mounted water and oil gauges on a beautifully cared for blue Challenger. For me, these details are what make these cars so special.

• My time trackside was a new and exciting experience for me. I had a great time and captured some special images. • At this point let me say something about my camera, I • use a Nikon D4 and it is capable of taking up to 11 frames • per second. It is the perfect tool for the job of capturing • images of cars launching off the start line. I captured some • great launches; one that stands out for me is the image • of a black 1950's Ford Popular with its front wheels in the • air as it launched. This image has several elements that • I like. First is the position of the Ford Popular, wheels up • giving it everything, second is the sharp focus on the front • of the Ford, this is essential as anything else would have



relegated this image to the reject bin, and finally the subtle motion blur throughout the rest of the image. The motion blur is a result of a technic called panning. Panning is moving the camera with the subject (the car) while taking images. If your shutter speed is set low enough (my shutter speed for this image was 1/160sec) you will get a clear image of the subject while the panning movement blurs the surrounding background. This technique helps to give a sense of motion to what is a frozen moment in time.

This year my youngest son Elijah came with me to see all the cars. Elijah is a big fan of what he calls "Cool Cars" and a weekend at Santa Pod fits the bill perfectly. Elijah is ten and loved every minute of the weekend's activities. I came with friends so while I was trackside capturing images, Elijah was in the stands watching the racing and watching his Dad at work. My friends were surprised that Elijah did not get bored during the day, as I said he loves cars! He did struggle to stay awake for some of the evening activities, but he did manage a few songs by the band The Karma Hart before he decided he had enough. I managed to get some great images of the band in action.

I have selected these 21 images of the many hundred I capture during the weekend at Santa Pod, if you are interested in seeing all the images I captured, or purchasing one than follow this link and have a browse. <http://www.earladamsp photography.com/#!santa-pod-2013/c24mw> I had a great time during the Mopar Euro Nat's at Santa Pod this year and look forward to next year's event.





2013 MOPAR EURONATS WINNERS

BEST IN SHOW

1971 PLYMOUTH HEMI CUDA - CHRIS VENN

BEST RESTIFIED

1970 CAMARO - PAUL EDWARDS

WINGED WARRIORS TROPHY

1970 PLYMOUTH SUPERBIRD RECREATION -
DAVE BILLADEAU

PARTICIPANTS CHOICE

1969 ½ DODGE SUPERBEE 440 SIX PACK A12 -
PETE WISEMAN

MOST ORIGINAL MOPAR

1970 DODGE CHALLENGER R/T - STEVE KNIGHT

BEST MODERN MUSCLE

2012 DODGE CHALLENGER 392 HEMI SRT8 - GUY WALKER

MOST FAVOURITE MOPAR

1971 PLYMOUTH BARRACUDA GRAND COUPE -
RAPHAEL COLONBANI (FRANCE)

HALL OF FAME IDUCTEE - GEORGE CHILES

TOP FIVE

1962 PLYMOUTH BELVEDERE - GEORGE CHILES
1957 DESOTO FIREDOME SPORTSMAN - SIMON JAGGER
1969 DODGE DART 340 SWINGER - JON LEONARD
1970 DODGE CORONET R/T - ADAM NATHAN
1968 DODGE CHARGER R/T - MICHAEL REHER (GERMANY)

KENS DINER BEST CRUISE CAR 1969 DODGE CHARGER –
ROGER BANNISTER

BURN OUT CONTEST WINNER

1970 DODGE CHARGER – SUPERFRED (Netherlands)

BEST FORD

1986 FORD F 150 LARIAT – GEORGE INGRAM

BEST MUSTANG

1970 BOSS 302 – MARTIN WALTERS

BEST GM

1971 PONTIAC TRANS AM - COLIN SHEPERD

BEST HOT ROD

1947 FORD ANGLIA - GRAHAM SCRIVA

CLASSIC AMERICAN HEAT OF THE YEAR

1969 DODGE CHARGER R/T SE - ROGER KEYES

MMA AWARD - PETE WISEMAN

MMA-PAUL WORROW TROPHY - ANDY ROBINSON









LUCAS OIL ALLARD CHRYSLER DRAGSTER



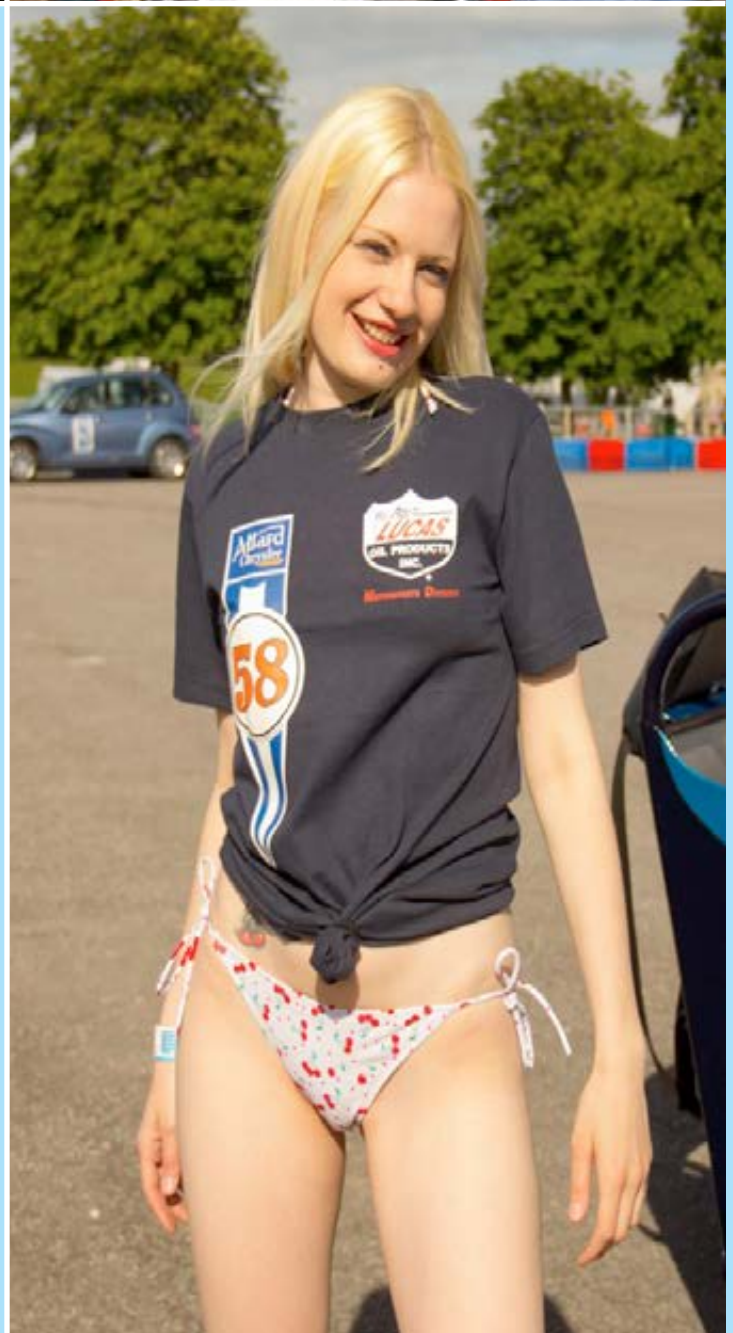
T-SHIRT STOCK NOW REPLENISHED

After an initial rush that put them out of stock on certain sizes, the Allard Chrysler Action Group (ACAG) is pleased to say that new stocks of the limited edition Lucas Oil Allard Chrysler T-shirts have arrived from the USA and the exclusive ACAG Number 58 logo applied along with each shirt's unique number. We have no Medium or XXL sizes yet but L and XL are available again. We also have a very limited number of XXXL long sleeve shirts. These are out of black rather than navy blue. All shirts are priced at £15.00 plus postage and packing. Place your order with: brian@allardchrysler.org. Various payment methods are available. Follow this link for details of the shirts and other products. <http://drceurope.co.uk/acag/allyarcade>

WINTER WORK

Chairman of the ACAG, Brian Taylor, is also looking to firm up the ACAG team ready to work on the car this winter and attend shows. He says, "Although the summer still appears to be hanging on I have been thinking about the work required during the winter on the dragster. I have gone out to our sponsors and supporters to check whether they might need the car during the winter at shows and once we get this information we can get an idea of a convenient time to carry out the work. Doug Hill at Beaulieu has said that we can use the museum workshop to carry out the work during weekends".

"The tasks I imagine us attacking are some kind of annual service (the content to be discussed and agreed with the museum); some of the cockpit gauges are not working and I would like to rectify this; if we are to parade the car under its own power we will need to replace a welded half-shaft; we also need to agree whether a 5 lever clutch would make the power transfer easier for parading and whether it would still retain its 'original' appearance. We might also need to consider temporary clutch blankets etc. for added safety".



“There are bound to be other jobs that crop up along the way. Once the team is in place we will arrange a meeting at Beaulieu to discuss these jobs, the practicalities and the parts/costs/outsourcing required. Our funds look quite healthy at the moment but we need to retain some to contribute to the trailer the museum is purchasing in the spring”.

“I’m now waiting for existing team members to confirm their availability for the next stage of the restoration; particularly as we will now be working at a different venue – the Beaulieu workshops. Although I want to retain as many of the existing team as possible I don’t want to take anything for granted because I know several have other time consuming interests and many have already given 5 years commitment. That’s why I’m seeking more volunteers to spread the work load. Maybe other drag racing teams or hot rodding groups based in the South or South West would like to be involved. Contact me at brian@allardchrysler.org if you would like to join us. We don’t work every weekend. Just ‘as-and-when’ necessary and convenient. And volunteers don’t need to attend all work-in days”.

Brian Taylor – Chairman
Allard Chrysler Action Group brian@allardchrysler.org
www.allardchrysler.org
Tel 01395 579733



Allard Chrysler

ACTION GROUP



Down Time

HDR photography PART 2 – words and photos Simon Fann

Down Time...car related ideas for what to do when the strip is shut down, you're waiting for a part to arrive or you've just got some time on your hands to chill!

In issue 69 I wrote a piece about High Dynamic Range photography and warned you I might try some at the Mopar Euronats.

As a reminder the idea of HDR is that a number of photographs of the same image are fused together via a programme which highlights and maps different tones.

Typically you take an overexposed image, an underexposed image and a best exposed image and kindly ask a computer to overlay them. Most of the work is done in choosing the lens and filter to compose the shot.

Combining a fish eye lens, coloured or graduated filters can produce some interesting effects with highlighted tones or painterly finish. Elsewhere in this issue we have some stunning photos of the Euronats....here's the alternative version!











CONTACTS



General information:

info@moparuk.com

The MMA Committee

Chairman - Ivor Hawkins

Office - 01908 562828

Home - 01296 730462

Mobile - 07736 633640

E-mail - chairman@moparuk.com

4 St Paul's Court, Stony Stratford

Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire

MK11 1LJ

Public Relations - Press enquiries

Derek Carter

Tel 020 8765 1381

E-mail - pr@moparuk.com

Connected Editor - Simon Fann

Mobile 07815 313905

editor@moparuk.com

Website Administration

Martin Walker

webadmin@moparuk.com

Membership Secretary / Treasurer

Mandie Hollingsworth

Tel 01462 814051

membership@moparuk.com

treasurer@moparuk.com

Vehicle Register - Matt

Hollingsworth

Tel 01462 814051

vehicleregister@moparuk.com

Honorary President and Valuations

Officer Tony Oksien

137 Borough Rd, Petersfield, Hants GU32 3LP

Tel 01730 268375

tonymopar@fsmail.net

Websites:

MMA - www.moparuk.com

Mopar Euronationals - www.mopareuronats.co.uk

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• Any changes to Area Rep details or meeting venues, please notify info@moparuk.com or pr@moparuk.com

Area Reps

Essex:

Trevor Dorrington

Tel: 01268 777269

Email: mopar@tesco.net

Herts & Beds:

Matt & Mandie Hollingsworth

(contact details on left)

Lincolnshire (South):

Steve Dixon

Tel: 01205 369 470

Middlesex/West London:

Pete Barton

Tel: 01895 442 455

North East:

Nigel Fleck

Tel: 07773 808 737

Email: nige1965@hotmail.co.uk

South London/Surrey:

Derek Carter

(contact details on left)

Sussex (East/West):

Adam Ford

Tel: 01273 512 079

(eves/weekends) Mob: 07702 530 501

Email: scatpack@dsl.pipex.com

West Midlands:

Guy Papworth

Tel: 01788 522 049

Westcountry (BA, BS, GL, SN & TA postcodes):

Chris Witor

Tel: 01749 678 152 (9 to 5) or 01749 670

529 (7-9pm), Mobile: 07974 606 229

Email: chris@chriswitor.com

EVENTS



Cruises & Regular Meets:

KENT: Cobtree Manor Park, Forstal Road, Ayelsford Nr Maidstone Kent ME20 7AG. It's 5 mins from M20 Junction 6 (Bluebell Hill). **10.30am second Sunday of the month.**

LINCOLNSHIRE SOUTH: Witham/Blues Road House Club/ Bar/Restaurant, at Langrick Bridge, Boston, Lincs where all American car/hotrod petrolheads are welcome. See Witham/Blues website for full details. **Every Tuesday night right through the year.**

MIDDLESEX/WEST LONDON: Ace Café, North Circular, London NW10. **Last Sat of every month, 5.00pm onwards, then cruising to Chelsea Bridge at 7.30pm.**

SOUTH LONDON/SURREY: Krispy Kreme, Shannon Corner, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 4NA, for doughnuts, coffee and a good time. Contact Derek for more info: 07724 752512. **3rd Sunday of every month, from 9.00am** until the last one goes home. Also The Chelsea Cruise, **last Saturday of the month**, Chelsea Bridge from 7-30pm, better in the summer months, once again contact Derek for more info.

SUSSEX: The Berwick Inn, Station Road, Berwick, East Sussex BN26 6SZ, **first Sunday of the month from 12 noon.**

- **WEST MIDLANDS:** The Paddock, Crick Rd (A428), **2nd Tuesday of the month.** (Run in conjunction with Mad Fish car club)
- **HERTS & BEDS:** The Three Horseshoes, Hooks Cross; on the A602, just south of Stevenage. **Second Wednesday of every month at 8pm.**
- **GREATER MANCHESTER:** The Nags Head, off the A556, just 200 yards before Junction 7 of the M56, **1st Wednesday of the month, around 7:30pm.**
- **DORSET:** Viewpoint, Seaview Road/Ashley Road, Parkstone, Poole, **every Sunday afternoon** weather permitting.
- **ESSEX:** Dick Turpin Pub, A127, Basildon. 7pm **last Wednesday every month.**
- **American Auto Mags North West** at the Hollow Tree pub, Tarporley Road (A49), Stretton, Warrington, Cheshire, WA4 4LX (M56 J10). There are more details here ... www.americanautomags.com . The meeting is on the 1st Wednesday of the month, every month PLUS 3rd Wednesday of the month April to October / BST.
- The remaining 2013 dates therefore are:
 - November 6th
 - December 4th



MMA SHOP

Photos by Steve Edwards. Model Sian Gower.

OPEN



Recently your committee has restocked the shop with some new merchandise.

Prices:

MMA Mug	£4
Blue Hoodie	£18
Grey T-Shirt	£10
Black Cap	£10
Blue CD Case	£5
Shopping Bag	£4
Gym Drawstring Bag	£5

Please contact Ivor for sizes and availability - see contacts page.

