



Jaguar Drivers Club of Natal

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Newsletter: August 2011

From the desk of the editor

Hi Jag enthusiasts!

It has been a long time since we have sent out one of these newsletters. Our goal for this year is to restore the Jag club to its original beauty – to reflect the effort and hard work that has gone into the restorations of our cars. Re the AGM you would have noticed that a decision was taken to open the club to all jag enthusiasts – whether they are jag owners or not. In other words we are trying to encourage a wider range of car enthusiasts to join the club. The club can only survive with an influx of new blood as we are not getting any younger.

Membership

To date we have 8 paid up members. Please remember to send your proof of payment to Lyne in order for us to keep our records up to date. Included in this, we are sending out a new membership form, which we would like all members to fill in – whether you are an old member or new – so that we can update our records and also create a comprehensive record of members' cars.

Member's Contribution

Our Patron Mr Fielding came across this article in his garage. He thought it would make an interesting read.

THE AMATEUR CAR RESTORER

Have you ever noticed at a Club outing or any other gathering of motoring enthusiasts that in addition to the actual participants there is always an equal number of interested bystanders who wander around the assembled cars kicking tyres and holding forth to their respective wives, girlfriends, companions etc that "Yes, I had one of those you know. I sold it for R100. Imagine what it would be worth now".

99% of these ex-classic owners were probably ordinary people with ordinary jobs buying ordinary cars at a price on the upper fringe of what they could afford, maybe a Jaguar (if he was lucky), or a Morris Minor. Now ask yourself why they sold their cars? In all probability it was because it had stood outside in all extremes of weather and been run into the ground until the only sensible thing to do with it was to sell it to someone less well off than themselves again at a price just more than he can afford, who would, in turn, expect further miracles from the car.

When this procedure has run its natural course and all that is left is a pile of junk, ask again, "Imagine what it would be worth now?" Fortunately, occasionally along comes a different kind of person who takes the wreck by its tailpipe and gives it his time, skill and hard-earned money to a project that in the early stages looks like a lost cause. Then miracle of miracles, there emerges like a phoenix from the flames, a pristine example of "how it was". It becomes someone's pride and joy, the family pet (almost). It is treated with reverence and suddenly enjoys the retirement that can only be bettered by an ex-State President or similar dignitary.

It is rolled out into the light of day maybe a handful of times a year to be pampered, polished and admired, not only by the doting enthusiast but by the uncaring but nostalgic romantic whose imagination immediately starts to run away with him and he says, "Yes, I had one of those you know. I sold it for R100. Imagine what it would be worth now." I'll tell you what it would be worth – nothing !!

Let's say thank you to the amateur restorer. He not only restores old cars but also restores faded memories.

Author unknown.

Spares for sale

We received the following email from Roger Davis in Plettenberg bay

Greetings from Plettenberg Bay.

A good friend of mine purchased a 420 Jaguar as well as another 420 for spares and intended to rebuild the 420. Unfortunately he is not a forceful person and has been let down at every turn to get the car finished and for the last few years the car has been languishing in a field near the Plettenberg Bay airport.

He realises that the car is now too far down the road to think about rebuilding, except at great expense and would now like to try and recoup some of the money that he has lost on the debacle.

If anyone may be interested in some of the parts, I wonder if they could contact him. His name is David Marnham and his email address is marnham@xnets.co.za

Many thanks.

Roger Davis. Plettenberg Bay.

Members Cars

Bruce Krebs has sold his E-Type and at last Jack Clough is a Jaguar owner again. He has recently purchased a 420.

Good on you Jack

E-type register

Forthcoming events

Bonnets Up at the VCC on Sunday 31 July 2011.

Scottburgh car Show – August the 7th at Scottburgh Country Club

And finally – Some good news to end on. After a long battle with illness, at last John King is on the road to recovery. Our thoughts and prayers are with him in the hopes that the road to recovery is a short journey.

Please continue to send us your comments, complaints, queries and suggestions

We look forward to hearing from you shortly

Kind Regards

Steve