

Sevenoaks and District Motor Club Ltd.

PRESIDENT: J Symes

VICE PRESIDENT: V Elford



ACORN MAGAZINE December 2008



The Editor, Committee and Club do not necessarily agree with items and opinions expressed within ACORN magazine

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PLEASE NOTE: COPY DATE FOR JANUARY 09 ACORN WILL BE 18TH DECEMBER

You can e-mail copy to dawn.travers@ntlworld.com

I will also accept copy on disc or CD-Rom; on paper (typed or handwritten) or by 'phone for juicy gossip.

Wednesday 17th December 2008

Seasonal Noggin & Natter at The Bell, Kemsing starts from 8.30pm



COMPETITION CALENDAR 2008 / 2009 FORTHCOMING EVENTS



DATE	EVENT	ORGANISING CLUB / Contact	LOCATION	Status	Open To / Champ Round
7th December	12 Car Rally	Eastbourne & Ram MC (Weald MC): Contact Tim Smith for details Tel: 01424 22662 Email: ermccontact@aol.com	TBC	CS	
11th December	Scatter Rally	Sevenoaks & DMC (Weald MC): Organiser Ian Crocker Tel: 01892 546006 Email: ian@seight.com	The Bell, Kemsing, 7.30pm for 8pm start	CS	
13th December	East Sussex 100 Rally	Eastbourne & Ram MC: Contact Tim Smith Tel: 01424 22662 Email: ermccontact@aol.com Regs can be downloaded from the club's website: www.eastbourneandrammc.co.uk/page6.htm	Start and finish at The Bear Inn/Motel, Burwash, East Sussex MR 199/675247.	CS	
4th January	12 Car Regularity Run	Blackpalfrey MC (Weald MC): Contact Andy Gibson Tel: 01227 792740 Email: champco@tiscali.co.uk or see www.blackpalfrey.co.uk for more details	TBC	CS	
9th January 2009	12 Car Rally	Croydon DMC (Weald MC): Contact Peter Turner Tel & Fax: 01883 623465 Mobile: 07778 857160 Email: aptdesign@btinternet.com	TBC	CS	
15th January	Scatter Rally	Weald MC (Maidstone & MKCC): Contact Tom Solomon for more details.	TBC	CS	
24th January 2009	20/20 Rally	Weald MC (Sevenoaks DMC): Contact Chin for entries or to offer marshalling help.	TBC	CS	
31st January	2008 Annual Awards Dinner	Sevenoaks & DMC: Contact Andy Elcomb for ticket and menu information. Tel: 01622 884856 or email: andyelcomb@yahoo.com	Hadlow Manor Hotel, Hadlow, Nr Tonbridge, Kent	Social	
1st February	12 Car Regularity Run	Blackpalfrey MC (Weald MC): Details and entry-forms on www.blackpalfrey.co.uk or from Andy Gibson 01227 792740 or email: champco@tiscali.co.uk	TBC	CS	
18th February	Social Night	Sevenoaks & DMC: Competitor's Forum	The Bell, Kemsing from 8.30pm	Social	
19th February	Scatter Rally	Sevenoaks & DMC (Weald MC): Contact Ian Crocker Tel: 01892 546006 Email: ian@seight.com	TBC	CS	
February	20/20 Rally	Weald MC (Bognor Regis MC): TBC	TBC	CS	
27th/28th February	Sunseeker	Southern Car Club / Croydon DMC: Marshals needed.	Bournemouth	CS	
March	20/20 Rally	Weald MC (Bexley MC): TBC	TBC	CS	

For further information contact :-

Competition Secretary: Ian Crocker 01892 546006 email: ian@seight.com

Speed League contact : David Balderson, 01689 601661 email: balderson@ntlworld.com

Monthly Mug for October

After reading about **Claire Kemp's** achievements last month when she won the 2008 RAFMSA Karting Championship, with race wins and lap records at the last round at Lydd circuit, it was decided to award a very well deserved October mug to Claire. It is also good to see another lady driver out there showing those men a thing or two! Well done Claire and we hope you have a good 2009 season.



Dawn Travers

Scatter Season 2008-09

Dates of the forthcoming scatter rallies to be organised by 7Oaks & DMC and Maidstone & MKCC for Weald MC.

Thursday 11th December 2008	SDMC
Organiser Ian Crocker Start from The Bell, Kemsing	
Thursday 15th January 2009	MMKMC
Contact Tom Solomon	
Thursday 19th February 2009	SDMC
Thursday 19th March 2008	MMKMC
Thursday 2nd April 2008	SDMC

Please check the Acorn main event calendar for organisers and start venues each month. Regs available to download from

www.sevenoaksmotorclub.com

12 Car Season 2008-09

Dates of the forthcoming 12 Car rallies to be organised by 7Oaks & DMC, B18, Croydon DMC and Census MC for Weald MC.

Friday 5th December 2008	B18MC
Organiser Roger McKensie	
Friday 9th January 2009	CDMC
Friday 13th February 2009	B18MC
Friday 13th March 2009	7Oaks
Friday 10th April 2009	CENSUS

Main organisers for each of the organising Weald clubs will be:

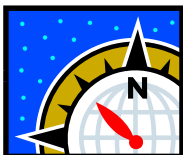
Entries for the Croydon promoted events to:
Peter Turner, daytime telephone/fax: 01883 623465
Mobile: 07778 857160
Email: apt.design@btinternet.com

Entries for the Sevenoaks promoted events to:
Chin. Tel— Home: 01732 823132
Work: 020 8691 6221.
Email: chin@btinternet.com

Entries for the Borough 18 promoted events to:
Roger McKenzie, Tel: 01732 884312.
Email: rmckenzie@playleandpartners.co.uk

Entries for the Central Sussex (CENSUS) promoted event to:
Matt Fowle, Tel Home: 01273 551145
Work: 01273 416331
Email: matt@mdfowle.freeseve.co.uk

Regs and entry form available to download from www.sevenoaksmotorclub.com



Club Social Calendar 2008

What's On?

Wednesday 17th December

Seasonal Noggin & Natter at The Bell, Kemsing.



Wednesday 21st January 2009

January Quiz
Format and Quizmaster TBC
The Bell, Kemsing from 8.30pm



Plus we'd like to organise a Bowling Night probably in Maidstone. Again details to be confirmed.

Saturday 31st January 2009

2008 Annual Awards Dinner
Hadlow Manor Hotel, Hadlow, Nr Tonbridge, Kent



Wednesday 18th February 2009

Competitor's Forum—A perfect night for coming along to find out about the coming season's events, Crystal Palace and how to get involved in the club. The Bell Kemsing from 8.30pm.

February 2009—one night between 16th 21st February Scalectrix Night rescheduled. Watch this space

If anyone has any ideas about how to fill the forthcoming social nights, please let a committee member know.

Chelmsford 12 Car - 28th November 2008

Here are the results from last night's Chelmsford MC's recent 12 Car, run by **Matt Ender** and **Suze Bisping** and open to Weald Clubs.

Just myself, **Daren Hall** and **Kevin Ablitt** represented 7Oaks for points.

Daren and I slipped up on the last section and missed a loop with a code board otherwise it could have been a bit better but no matter, still fun.

1st o/a and 1st Semi Expert	0F 17M - Chris Parmenter, Andy Merchant
2nd o/a and 1st Novice	0F 25M - Eddie Call, Adrian Bragg
3rd o/a and 2nd Novice	1F 7M - Dave Thompson, Jarrod Thompson
4th o/a and 1st Expert	1F 12M - Ed Scott, Ben Scott [furthest cleanest rule applied]
5th o/a and 2nd Expert	1F 12M - Andy Elcomb, Daren Hall
6th o/a and 3rd Novice	1F 17M - Rich Baker, Mike Thomas
7th o/a and 3rd Expert	3F 36M - Tony Vanderheide, Neal Allsopp
8th o/a and 1st Beginner	4F 14M - Keith Lane, Irene Lewsey
9th o/a and 2nd Beginner	4F 27M - Kevin Ablitt , John Hodgson
10th o/a and 2nd Semi Expert	7F 23M - Trevor Suckling, Chris Long
11th o/a and 4th Novice	7F 40M - Matthew Ockendon, Kevin Smith

Andy Elcomb

East Sussex 100 Rally

13th December 2008

Eastborne & Ram MC are organising a 100-mile 12-car regularity rally, on Saturday 13th December. The event will start and finish at the Bear Inn/ Burwash Motel, Burwash, East Sussex. MR 199/675247.

Regs and entry form are available from

Tim Smith 01424 22662

Email: ermccontact@aol.com

or can be downloaded from the club's website:

www.eastbourneandrammc.co.uk/page6.htm



From Pease Pottage it Started... 7Oaks 12-Car 14th Nov 08.

For those into rallying, you'll understand the above title as it's an unashamed pun on From Harrogate it Started which is the classic tale of the 1971 RAC Rally.

Ok, so last Friday's 7Oaks 12-Car rally wasn't quite up to old RAC Rally standards, but what it did have in common was a great variety of stages (read lanes), conditions (read dry and fast or muddy / wet-leafy), competitors (read novice & expert) and cars (read Subaru estate to Marina...).

This was my first 12-car driving event for ages – usually I'm running course closing and collecting up the code boards – but was looking forward to seeing how the diesel Arosa handled lanes that I wasn't at all familiar with.

Ably organised by first-time clerk of the course Phil Fawcett, eleven crews ventured forth to battle with the elements (read grannies in Rovers and 40mph speed limits) on a very benign evening which will have pleased the marshals I'm sure.

The first section covered some easy roads around Handcross with the navigation consisting of map symbols to find and follow. The still-sharp eyes of navigator Daren Hall (you wait mate, time's ticking!) made short work of these and with the 6.5 miles of relatively straight roads meant the Arosa as car 7 had no problem with time, but somewhere along that route the previous No.6 novice crew of Lee & Clare in a Pug 106 disappeared although they were seen again later that evening.

The second, similar length, section's navigation caused a bit of head scratching though as there was a mistake on the handout around Balcombe and even if you were able to guess the right road, you were then left with two options as to the right direction. Fortunately we made the control on time by the skin of our teeth but I think others weren't so lucky and dropped some minutes. Certainly Dave & Mick Town in car 5 did, as we saw them coming the other way as we approached Balcombe and we knew we were going to be tight on time, so that was two cars we were ahead of!

The third section was a long one at over 16 miles with the navigation defined by crossing gridlines but as the roads were mostly quite straight and long they were easily covered without having to push on.

The fourth section was shorter again at 7.5 miles between Wych Cross and Ardingly but suddenly the nature of the roads changed dramatically. There were some wonderful twiddly, hilly and slippery lanes in the woods with even a couple of minor fords thrown in too. Daren had managed to plot the route with the map references supplied ok, but we still had no time to cruise here.

One particularly tight slot right proved that the Arosa's handbrake worked perfectly and we popped round the corner without a struggle.

The final section was another long one at 11 miles but we took some time working out how to solve the navigation. There were a load of numbers that didn't correspond to map references, spot heights or gridlines but they were set against compass points. Then

we twigged that the numbers ran from 1 to 26 and it became clear – we had to leave the grid squares in the direction line that each number was located in, ie no.1 was West (left), 2 was South (down) and so on.

It was fortunate that it was a long section so we had time to catch up and we thought we were going to be ok for time – until after Cuckfield and approaching Bolney we caught up with the smoky Marina as car 10, which must have cut route to get in front of us. That in itself wouldn't have been a problem as they were travelling at a good speed, but as we turned off the road to go on a narrow-laned loop around Wykehurst Park next to the A23, there was an extremely slow Mercedes Estate in front of them.

The Merc trundled on oblivious to the two cars close behind but there was no way to pass and so we just had to sit back and endure...

Fortunately he pulled over into a house entrance in due course and we were off again. Even more fortunately, as we soon approached a T junction, which Daren had called "left", the Marina started to go right and we were through and away properly.

Time was getting tight now so there was no chance to relax and then we caught up another car following an old Land Rover (which was as slow, if not worse, than the Merc) as we came up to the A272 which we had to cross.

Hoping to see some indication from the cars in front, we were dismayed to realise that both were going to go straight over into the lane opposite as well as us and if they did then we might well drop some time into the last control.

So, trusting that the Land Rover would only cross when the road was clear, as soon as it moved we pulled out with some alacrity (ahem!) and crossed the road at the same time, beating the Landie into the lane and scuttled off to find Phil and Chin manning the final control where we handed in our clean sheet and then off to the pub in Bolney for a well earned libation.

Back at the pub we found that all crews had returned safely (of course, as expected) and there were various tales to be told. Previous event winners **Clive Cooke / Kevin Ablitt** had a quick chat with the local police as they looked lost (Clive that is, but then again...) but they didn't spot the duff headlight in Clive's venerable Passat.

Suze Bisping & Matt Endean were shaking down their 1000cc Micra prior to trying to kill it on the upcoming Preston Rally and came 4th for their troubles – a good result for self-confessed "mapreader pathetic" Matt!

For us though, what was particularly ironic was that we needn't have done that last frustrating loop round Wykehurst Park after all as there wasn't a codeboard on it....

However it turned out that we were the only clean sheet with the next placed crew on 2 minutes. We certainly enjoyed it and hope that everyone else did too.

Thanks again to Phil, Chin and the rest of the marshalling gang.

Looking forward to the next one on 5th December, run by Borough 18 from Wrotham. Hope to see you all there!

Andy Elcomb

To All Speed Competitors

Please find below details from the Speed Coordinator's meeting regarding the class structures for 2009 etc. If you have any issues please give me a call.

Regards
Karen Webber

Key Points

2) Class Structures

The new MSA class structures were discussed and it was felt that changes to Regional Associations were as follows: Class A0 would have a reduced capacity limit of up to 1400cc. Class B1, B2 and B3 would now exclude four wheel drive cars. Class B4 would be a new class specifically for four wheel drive road-going saloon and sports cars. Class C4 to E11 now becomes Class C5 to E12. The new class names C5 and C6 classified as 'open cars' running on 1B tyres are required to have roll cages as per MSA requirements. It was also felt that the re-introduction of the Formula Ford class would be run if sufficient entries/interest. It was noted that the MSA want to introduce the wording 'Specialist Production'.

3) Eligibility

Key issues discussed were the wrong cars entering the wrong class. It was agreed that everyone needs to police this area more carefully in 2009 and continue to re-classify accordingly at scrutineering. It would appear new drivers are building cars first and then reading the various regulations later, only to be re-classified, mostly into class nine commonly known as 'the dumping ground'.

4) Timing

More time-keepers need to be appointed in the South East, although this does not appear to be a problem elsewhere. The ASEMC would do all it could to publicise and communicate this important issue to other member club's. The visual of competition numbers and background squares etc need to be tightened up for 2009. Competing cars 'must' comply with MSA rules to ensure the time-keeper does not have to struggle to see which number the car is running. A suggested 'purge' to take place at the first meeting of the year. Incorrect timing struts are also causing difficulties and it was agreed that everyone needs to tighten this up.

Membership Renewals

It is that time of year again and the membership renewals will be winging their way to you all shortly. Please check through the details and update any changes as necessary, especially any changes or amendments to email addresses we hold for you.

Andy Elcomb
Membership Secretary



TRK Twaddle

I've managed to get a few more tables up to date starting with the Trog Trophy for those stalwarts who actually run our events:

TROG TROPHY	POINTS
Stacey Thompson	920
"Chin"	875
Philip Fawcett	625
Andy Elcomb	360
Suze Bisping	320
Chris Scudder	290
Karen Webber	200
Clive Cooke	160
Steve Pattinson	140
Colin Shipway	140
Dawn Travers	110
Christine Balderson	80
Colin Billings	80
Peter Wilks	80
Nigel Mead	80
Stephen Stringer	80
Ian Crocker	80
John Kemp	80
Rosemary Mead	20

The Chalky White Trophy is almost up to date and stands as follows:

Member	Points
Chin	22
Philip Fawcett	18
Rosemary Mead	12
Andy Elcomb	11
Clive Cooke	10
Kerry Simmonds	10
Stacey Thompson	9
Nigel Mead	9
Colin Shipway	7
Chris Scudder	7
Steve Hatton	6
Roy Dawson	4
Gee Dawson	4
Chris Judge	4
Chris Dennis	4
Darren Clayden	3
Jason Andrews	3
Leonard Calver	3
Judy Cooke	2
Stephen M Thompson	2
Viv Elcomb	2
Jim Giddings	2
Roger Sawyers	2
Steve Stringer	2
Dawn Travers	2
S Albrow	1
Julie Clayden	1
Andy Kilby	1
Rob Waters	1
Mark Biddle	1
Iain Gibson	1
Patrick Bridger	1

Now, with only the December Scatter event yet to come these tables indicate whether or not you've qualified for the Rose & Crown table based trophies. If you think I've missed out anything please let me know as soon as possible.

The Rose & Crown table stays as it was last month as I don't have the results for the last 12-car yet. There is one change as I'd mistakenly included **Matt Oliver** in the results for both the Nat A and Nat B Cadwell which I have now corrected – sorry Matt.

The events which I have so far are as follows, please let me have any additions before Christmas so that I stand a chance of including them in the tables – anyone doing anything between Christmas and the New Year had better let me have the results immediately.

Date	Name
01-Apr-08	CMC EACS Endurance Rally
26-May-08	Millbrook Clubmans Rally
11-Jan-08	CDMC 12-car
20-Jan-08	CMC Brockley Gymkhana
02-Feb-08	Southdown Stages
09-Feb-08	Wyedean Rally
15-Feb-08	SDMC 12-car
16-Feb-08	London Irish Emerald Stages
21-Feb-08	SDMC Scatter
02-Mar-08	Tour of Epynt
14-Mar-08	B18MC 12-car
20-Mar-08	MMKMC Scatter
24-Mar-08	Chieftan Sprint
29-Mar-08	TWMC Lydden Sprint
30-Mar-08	CMC Javelin's Jymkhana
03-Apr-08	SDMC April Scatter
06-Apr-08	SDMC North Weald
12-Apr-08	Horiba d'Isis Rally
20-Apr-08	Mini Tempest
20-Apr-08	Mini Tempest Rally
25-Apr-08	CMC April Blossom 12-car
26-Apr-08	Wiscombe Hillclimb
03-May-08	BARC Curborough
04-May-08	Debden
04-May-08	SDMC Weald Car Trial
07-May-08	MMKMC Evening Autotest
08-May-08	SDMC Evening Autotest
10-May-08	Monte Minor 2020 rally
14-May-08	MMKMC Evening Autotest
18-May-08	Four Counties Rally
24-May-08	Saxmax Race
25-May-08	Saxmax Race
31-May-08	Severn Valley Stages
07-Jun-08	Abingdon Sprint
08-Jun-08	Abingdon Carnival Rally
14-Jun-08	Neil Benfield Champ. Sprint
15-Jun-08	Mid Summer Caerwent Rally
25-Jun-08	CMC Scatter
25-Jun-08	MMKMC A/test
28-Jun-08	Ton Hire Sprint
03-Jul-08	Evening Autotest
05-Jul-08	Longleat Hillclimb
12-Jul-08	Mira Sprint
12-Jul-08	Azimghur Stages
17-Jul-08	Evening autotest
19-Jul-08	Llandow Sprint
20-Jul-08	ERMC Regularity
20-Jul-08	Llys y Fran
26-Jul-08	Fat Albert Stages
27-Jul-08	SDMC Autosolo
02-Aug-08	Harry Flatters Rally
03-Aug-08	Summer Autotest Final
06-Aug-08	MMKMC A/test
16-Aug-08	Wugging Stages
16-Aug-08	London Irish Lydden Sprint
27-Aug-08	MMKMC A/test
31-Aug-08	North Weald Aug

13-Sep-08	Cadwell Sprint Nat B
13-Sep-08	Cadwell Sprint Nat A Sprint
21-Sep-08	Anniversary Stages
27-Sep-08	Saxmax
28-Sep-08	Saxmax
26-Oct-08	MMKMC Tyrwhitt Drake Car Trial
08-Nov-08	Forth Bridges Rally
20-Nov-08	MMKMC Scatter
28-Nov-08	CMC Nov 12-car

As you can see there's a lot of events in that list which makes me very proud of you lot out there having a go.

Our friend Andy Coshan has modified the software I use to do some of these calculations to include the 1400 cc trophy which we are reintroducing this year. This is for the best performance on our events (i.e. those which qualify for the Rose & Crown Trophy) in a four seat saloon car up to 1400cc. The Trophy is actually called the 1200 Cup because back when it was introduced the natural break was at 1200cc (1147cc Triumphs, 1098cc BMC, 1097 Fords etc.) but what's in a name? The hard bit is adding the data to the events that are already loaded to the software and knowing which car people are using on some events which aren't clear in the results (must have a word with the organisers!)

The Tyrrell-Flemming Non-Speed Trophy has changed a little with several more events being included but the overall lead of **Lorraine Chappell** is unassailable.

Member	Points
Lorraine Chappell	1779
Iain Gibson	937
Andrew Gibson	791
Daren Hall	279
Matt Endean	270
Richard Lee	244
Chin Chinnery	192
Andy Elcomb	185
Nigel Mummery	152
Allan Sayers	150
Paul Stocker	150
Kevin Ablitt	135
Nick Clark	119
Suze Bisping	102
Richard "Archie" Pelling	102
Clive Cooke	100
Jay Grossmith	86
David Balderson	60
Chris Judge	60
Glyn Williams	56
Andy Kilby	51
Nigel Mead	43
Rosemary Mead	35
Graham Child	33
Adam Ratcliffe	30
Tarna Ablitt	27
Vivien Elcomb	20
Duncan May	10
Emlyn Hurford-Jones	10
Gareth Hurford-Jones	10
Ted Holloway	10
James Smith	10

Even I moved up a lot as a result of our performance in Scotland.

There's a lot of work left to do to calculate all the other trophies, some being harder than others, but as I

don't indulge in Christmas shopping I don't have that as a hindrance.

Well Merry Christmas to all of you and I hope to see lots of you at the Bell for our last meeting of the year. Watch our website in the new year as I'll try to get all these tables on there before the awards presentation on January 31st at the Hadlow Manor – you have booked your tickets, haven't you!

Chin

ACSMC Car Trial Championship

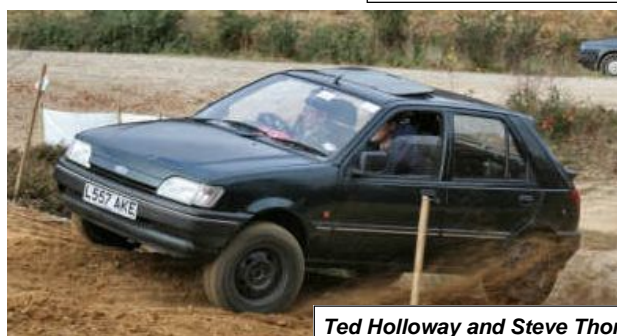
Sevenoaks member **Jay Grossmith** continued his excellent season of car trials by winning his class in the Association of Central Southern Motor Clubs Car Trial Championship. Driving his familiar white MG Metro, he actually 'equalled' the overall winner's score on points, but failed to take top honours only due to Michael Weeks driving his MG Midget to more class wins than Jay. So very well done to him. Other Sevenoaks members results included **Chris Judge** and **Craig Broadway** who finished 3rd and 7th in class 2 respectively. Details of the ACSMC 2009 Car Trials Championship are already available from their Championship Co-ordinator Colin Reid at reid-fudge@btconnect.com.

Jay also deserves further congratulations on also finishing 11th overall in this year's MSA British Car Trial Championship (formally PCT). Jay took in 9 of the 12 rounds and travelled up and down the country driving his self prepared Metro, the same car he did our autotest championship in. Apart from myself, I believe he is the only other Sevenoaks member to do British Championship rounds, and boy are they tough! To so nearly get into the top ten at his first attempt is fantastic, particularly when you look at all the opposition he faced. If any other Sevenoaks member fancies having a go next year, then look at the MSA web-site: www.msa-cartrial.org.uk.

Chris Judge



Jay Grossmith at Hungry Hill —
Courtesy of FDMC at
www.farnboroughdmc.org.uk



Ted Holloway and Steve Thompson at Hungry Hill - www.farnboroughdmc.org.uk



**Sevenoaks & District Motor Club
2008 Awards Annual Dinner
Saturday 31st January 2009
In the Hadlow Suite,
Hadlow Manor Hotel, Goose Green, Hadlow.**

Once again, by popular demand we will be returning to the Hadlow Manor on Saturday 31st January 2009 to celebrate the achievements (good and otherwise!) of our club members in 2008.

The awards presentation will follow a three course meal, with vegetarian and special dietary options in the Hadlow Suite (the ballroom). There will also be a bar and other seating areas.

All welcome – why not invite your friends and family to a good night out with great food.

You can look forward to good company and good old-fashioned conversation with your fellow club members.

On receipt of your booking I will send a choice of menu together with your tickets and map.

Please ensure you let me know your choice of meal before the 17th January.

Tickets £25.00 each

7.00pm for 7.30pm, carriages at 12.00pm

Dress: Smart casual.

For those that wish to stay overnight, accommodation is B&B – around £80.00 for two, around £55.00 single but please book accommodation direct with the hotel on 01732 851442.

Ticket applications should be sent to:

Vivien Elcomb, The Cottage, Deans Hill, Bredgar, Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8BB
(01622 884856) (vivelcomb@yahoo.co.uk)

Please make cheques payable to Sevenoaks & District Motor Club

Name.....

Address.....

Telephone.....

Vegetarian or special dietary requirements.....

I would like..... tickets and to be seated with.....