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Dear All,

Without doubt we have been enjoying excellent driving weather for our SPs, the only downside is the need to water the garden plants for a few hours each day – not a great calamity in itself.

However, now, the clouds are a gathering, as we head into the Autumnal season and recently whilst sitting outside on the terrace for an early morning coffee, I looked heavenwards, its dancing landscape reminded much of my teenage years of the hit song by Joni Mitchell – *Both sides now*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1dXoh12er88&list=RD1dXoh12er88&start_radio=1

How dated our dress sense seems back in the sixties - fashions change as we do ourselves

This month hopefully we will still see further action with SPs at Kop Hill **12th -13th September**
<https://kophillclimb.org.uk/> If coming get transferred to the DLOC stand.

There are still tickets available for Goodwood Revival meeting where no doubt SPs will abound in the car parks **18th - 20th September** <https://www.goodwood.com/motorsport/goodwood-revival/>

The current market is still awash with SPs even so, many are now finding new owners and they are most keen to have been able to get aboard as values generally of classic cars have drifted lower.

Currently amongst the plethora of cars coming to auction on the 12th of this month through <https://www.historics.co.uk/> are the following 2 SPs.

<https://www.historics.co.uk/auction/lot/lot-1960-daimler-sp250-dart/?lot=20204&so=0&st=&sto=0&au=108&ef=&et=&ic=False&sd=0&pp=96&pn=1&g=1>



These two have been in the same enthusiastic ownership for many years, where much care and indeed monies have been lavished to keep them in fine fettle. The white SP has featured in a number of magazines.



Whereas, the green SP was owned previously by Brian Hills the doyen SP specialist back in the 1980s and 90s. Note the scalloped rear bench that allows the drivers' seat to be set further back that permitted Brian more comfort. Brian worked on both SPs for many years and again note the under-bonnet air flow modifications and also the position of the brake servo – this I copied, as to me it was a more logical and accessible location and with shorter pipe runs.

<https://www.historics.co.uk/auction/lot/lot-1963-daimler-sp250-dart-cspec/?lot=20205&so=0&st=&sto=0&au=108&ef=&et=&ic=False&sd=0&pp=96&pn=1&g=1>

On a number of occasions, I would make a slight detour on the way home in my SP, having picked my up son from university and call in and chat with Brian. He had a most interesting workshop complete with a small aluminium smelter to make parts for the SP. It always easy to spot a 'Hills' SP by the coolant pipework – no rubber hoses!



Well, if the SPs don't tickle your fancy, then what about this 1960 Daimler 4x4. it's in the same sale, and an ideal shopping 'trolley' moreover, it's guaranteed to give you that 'Billy no Mates' parking space at the local supermarket.

A must have for the wife?

<https://www.historics.co.uk/auction/lot/lot-155---1960-daimler-ferret-scout-car-4x4-mk-ii-model-b/?lot=20221&so=0&st=Daimler&sto=0&au=108&cf=&et=&ic=False&sd=0&pp=96&pn=1&g=1>

Whilst just this last weekend Iconic Auctions at Silestone had up for sale also two SPs: _

<https://www.iconicauctioneers.com/1964-daimler-sp250-rec17340-1-silverston-0826?pn=1&el=37363&pp=100>

sold - £31,500

<https://www.iconicauctioneers.com/1964-daimler-sp250-rec17337-1-silverston-0826?pn=1&el=37536&pp=100>

sold £19,125

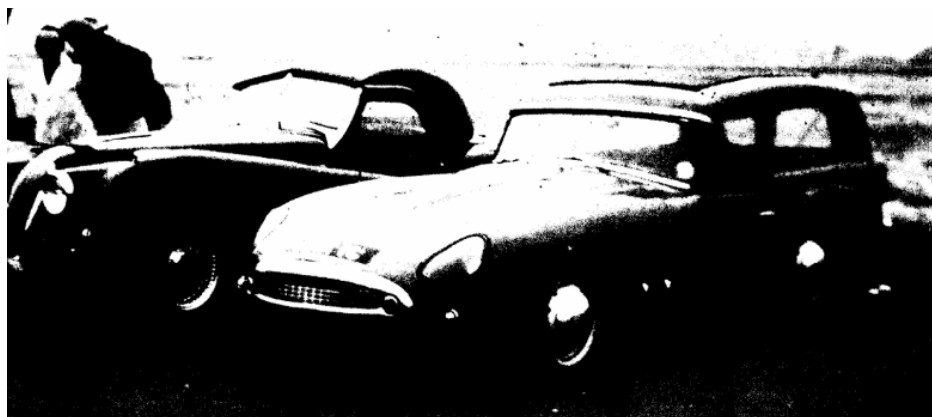
When owned by Claude Kearley this outstanding SP collect 96 concours Trophies: -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=svEbvfyA6DQ> skip the ads..



We are working up the display for this years' NEC Classic Car Show and have as usual booked a stand. This is being held on the 13th – 15th Nov. We are stand 380 in Hall 3 and are opposite the DLOC stand itself. The discount code is CCTDLOCN6 to save a few pounds.

I mentioned, in my last newsletter, that somewhere in the depth of my files I



had a picture of Allan Lupton's *The Thing*, it's seen here track side at Silverstone where Allan applied his handicappers' trade. I apologise for the sad reproduction of this colour photograph. One can just make out the 'Webasto sun roof'. There is a central rib running up the bonnet somewhat similar to an E-type Jaguar and also note the two chrome catches behind the front wheel, these allowed the bonnet to tilt forward, again in the fashion of the E-type, and yet again

the closed in head lamps another E-type feature. Last I heard of the rear body section it was being used as a garden cold frame!and the car itself now an SP in its original guise

ARK 1C.

It's a vicious circle with escalating car insurance costs and here is the rub as to why it costs so much. Apparently, it's down to the EV sector where so many cars are written off due to minor damage, such as a scraped bumper or a dented panel. The average cost of repairing a car has risen 50% in the five years from 2019 to 2024 and insurance companies are writing off more vehicles especially EVs with advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS)

The vicious circle; the qualified engineers who are able to sign off the ADAS recalibration system cannot get insurance indemnity/liability cover as the insurance industry is not prepared to write a blank cheque for that protection so, EVs are written off as a cheaper alternative. It's the battery related concerns which frightens the industry. Never mind there is still plenty of the replacement junk flowing in from China. This is to the detriment of the European and American car industries, added to which the government gives a 100% tax write off for EVs if bought new, so it self-propels the inbound flow from the far east.

Next year's SP250 day is to be held at the Shuttleworth Collection in Bedfordshire. on **Saturday 24th July 2027**. <https://www.shuttleworth.org/visit/before-you-visit/car-clubs> Further details will be published in the Driving Member and I'll keep blasting you with reminders in this newsletter.

For Sale. Front Bumper: an original radio with speaker; an assortment of Ace wheel discs and 'flower pots'

Still Wanted urgently - 2 sets of seat runners for Freddie Rayner contact details in pasSPort

- And a rear bumper for a local member that had his car rear-ended

Fog and pass lamp brackets – have now been re-manufactured see . <https://www.robertgrinter.co.uk/>

And finally

The Essex SP group at the annual BBQ, grass was burned not so the burgers and bangers



Yours sincerely

Laurence & Ann

Thought for the day: Understeer is when you see the tree you hit, oversteer is when you only hear it.
(now I understand: I just couldn't see the wood for the trees before – LCJ)