



East Sussex Saab

A Branch of the SAAB Owners Club of GB Ltd.

Branch Newsletter

January/February 2005

Issue 12

Dear Member,

Welcome to the January/February Newsletter.

This is the first newsletter of 2005, so for some members this is my first chance to wish you a Happy New Year!

Can I draw your attention to our future meeting dates on page 3. We now have two regular meeting venues, and have all meeting dates for the rest of the year listed.

Full details of what was agreed at our AGM can be found on page 2.

As most of you will probably know, Frosts in Shoreham have effectively taken over the new car franchise from Ballamys. Their details are now in the Dealer Listing section on page 2.

Kind Regards,

Toby Field
Branch Secretary



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Welcome
Branch Contacts
Contributions
- 2 Meeting Report
Dealer Listing
Branch Merchandise
- 3 Future Meeting Dates
Latest News
- 4 Meeting Report
Latest News
Competition Winner

BRANCH CONTACTS:

Chairman:

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chairman@eastsussexsaab.co.uk

Secretary:

Toby Field

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secretary@eastsussexsaab.co.uk

Treasurer:

Richard Dickins

Tel: 01825 766566

treasurer@eastsussexsaab.co.uk

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

The branch newsletter is designed to cater for members at a local level. If you would like to contribute any content to the newsletter, then you are more than welcome. Deadlines are set in advance so you know how long you have to get content ready for a particular issue. Upcoming deadlines are listed below.

March/April Issue - Friday 11th March 2005

May/June Issue - Friday 13th May 2005

July/August Issue - Friday 15th July 2005

We prefer content, including images, to be in electronic format, but a hard copy can be sent to our postal address below. Scanned images should have a resolution of 300dpi for acceptable clarity.

Branch address: 78 Foxglove Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN23 8BX - Email: info@eastsussexsaab.co.uk



OCTOBER MEETING REPORT

Date: 10th October 2004 (Sunday)
Venue: Coopers, Stone Cross
Time: 1pm-3pm

Annual General Meeting Update

Our AGM was held at Coopers as we were due for a family meeting and there is both an indoor and outdoor play area for children.

The meeting was designed for us to discuss the achievements of our branch over the first 12 months of operation and come up with ideas of what we want to accomplish over the next 12 months.

Three posts were up for election. They were that of Branch Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. All three previous members, Mike Hope, Toby Field and Richard Dickins were re-elected by those present.

The branch accounts were a good starting point for how we intended to make changes. The total expenditure for 2003/4 was almost £225. These costs were met in full by the branch secretary. It was decided that branch must increase its income to meet past and future costs.

The predicted costs for 2004/5 are just over £100. To make sure that the branch can cover its costs for the next 12 months, it was agreed by all members present that future meetings will be charged for. A charge of £1 will therefore be payable at all future branch meets, by both members and non-members. N.B. Since the AGM we have received our grant from the SOC for 2003/4, which was £115.50.

Discussions also took place on dates and locations of future meetings. It was decided to change the meeting date to the 2nd Wednesday of every month. We agreed that the location of future meetings would rotate between the Green Man in Ringmer and the Horseshoe Inn in Windmill Hill (details on page 3). It was also agreed that family meetings would be in addition to our regular meetings, to be scheduled during the warmer months.



Dealer Listing

MAIN DEALERS

Frosts Saab
69-75 Brighton Road
Shoreham-by-Sea
West Sussex. BN43 6RT
Tel: 01273 461411
www.frostssaab.com

Turners Hill Garage Ltd
Turners Hill
Crawley
West Sussex. RH10 4NP
Tel: 01342 716322
www.saab.uk.com

INDEPENDENTS

Ballamys Shoreham Ltd
120 High Street
Shoreham-by-Sea
West Sussex. BN43 5DB
Tel: 01273 452456
www.ballamyssaab.co.uk

Bourne Motors
1-2 Cornfield Lane
Eastbourne
East Sussex. BN21 4NE
Tel: 01323 727011
www.bournemotorssussex.co.uk

Mann Woodland
2 St. Johns Road
Hove
East Sussex. BN3 2FB
Tel: 01273 771807
www.mannwoodland.com

SAABFLIGHT
Mill Lane Garage
Mill Lane
Hellingly
Hailsham
East Sussex. BN27 4HD
Tel: 01323 449908
www.saabflight.co.uk

SAABTECH
11 Harold Mews
St. Leonards on Sea
East Sussex. TN38 0EA
Tel: 01424 439391
www.saabtech.co.uk

Branch Merchandise

At East Sussex Saab, we now have a range of merchandise. As you can see from the pictures to the right, it includes items such as T-shirts, Mugs and Hats.

	1-14	15+
White T-Shirt (2XL-4XL add £1.75)	£7.75	£5.00
Mug	£6.00	£3.90
Large Mug	£6.50	£4.25
Women's T-Shirt (2XL add £1.75)	£7.75	£5.00
Baseball Cap	£7.75	£5.00
Infant/Toddler T-Shirt (6 mths-4yrs)	£4.75	£3.00
Wall Clock	£6.00	£4.00
Sweatshirt.....	£12.00	£7.50

As you can see from the prices above, if a single item is ordered in multiples of 15+ then we up to 35% discount on the prices above.

All prices exclude P&P which is charged at £4.00 for the first item, and £2.50 for every additional item. The postage costs are the same on bulk orders.

If you would like to order any of these items, please see the branch secretary at any of our meetings, or visit our website.

PLEASE NOTE: All orders must be paid for in advance. You can pay by credit card or VISA Delta debit card via our website, but this does not include bulk orders. If you wish to purchase as part of a bulk order, this cannot be done online. If you purchase as part of a bulk order, you cannot have the items delivered to an address of your choice and must be collected from a branch meeting or branch secretary. Orders take approximately 3 weeks. All orders are charged at cost and no commission is made by the branch.



FUTURE MEETING DATES

Date: 9th February 2005 (Wednesday)
Venue: Horseshoe Inn, Windmill Hill
Time: 8pm-10pm

Details: Our February meeting of East Sussex Saab will be held at the Horseshoe Inn, Windmill Hill Nr Herstmonceux.

We will be meeting in the main bar as the function room is being used on the evening.

Directions: The Horseshoe Inn is situated on the A271 between Hailsham and Bexhill.

Address: Horseshoe Inn, Windmill Hill, Hailsham, BN27 4RU

Telephone: 01323 833265

February Meeting Map



LATEST NEWS

Saab puts drivers in the picture

Saab is helping drivers to stay focused on the road by developing a safety system that monitors eye and head movements, and sounds a warning buzzer if the driver's attention strays long enough to risk causing an accident.

At 55mph, a car travels 80 feet in under a second, so the consequences of an attention lapse, no matter how innocent or brief, can be hugely serious.

The Swedish company, which is known for pursuing safety far beyond the requirements of legislation, is about to break out of the old road safety mould by basing the pioneering new system on what the driver actually does, rather than what the driver SHOULD be doing.

Installed in the car will be two miniature infra-red cameras which will monitor the driver's head and eye movement. As soon as the driver's gaze moves away from what Saab calls the primary attention zone - The central part of the windscreen in front of the driver - a timer will start. If the driver's head and eyes do not return to the primary attention zone within about two seconds, a buzzer will sound. If there is no response, there will be brake pulses delivered through the car's ESP system.

The system is already sophisticated enough to detect when the driver is checking a rear view mirror or turning a corner - and will allow more time before sounding the buzzer. The software is also speed sensitive and can distinguish between different conditions in city driving and faster highways.

Infra-red imaging has been chosen as it gives a clear image, regardless of lighting conditions. The 9-3 sport saloon development car has two cameras fitted - one at the base of the A pillar and the other in the centre of the fascia.

Date: 9th March 2005 (Wednesday)
Venue: Green Man, Ringmer
Time: 8pm-10pm

Details: Our March meeting of East Sussex Saab will be held at the Green Man in Ringmer.

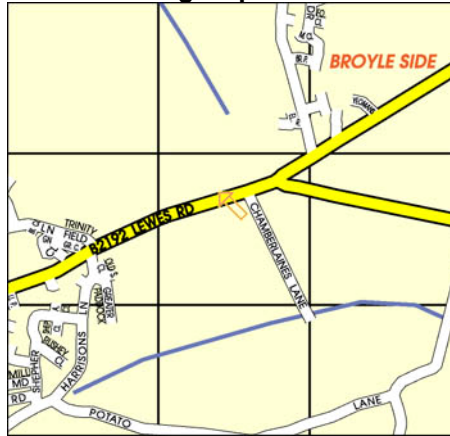
We will be meeting in the main bar and there is a quiz taking place if we want to participate.

Directions: The Green Man is situated on the B2192 Lewes Road to the east of Ringmer.

Address:
 Green Man
 Lewes Rd
 Ringmer
 Lewes. BN8 5NA

Telephone: 01273 812422

March Meeting Map



FUTURE MEETING DATES AT A GLANCE

April

13th – Horseshoe Inn, Windmill Hill
 8pm-10pm

May

11th – Green Man, Ringmer
 8pm-10pm

June

8th – Horseshoe Inn, Windmill Hill
 8pm-10pm

July

13th – Green Man, Ringmer
 8pm-10pm

August

10th – Horseshoe Inn, Windmill Hill
 8pm-10pm

September

14th – Green Man, Ringmer
 8pm-10pm

October

12th – Horseshoe Inn, Windmill Hill
 8pm-10pm

November

9th – Green Man, Ringmer
 8pm-10pm

December

14th – Horseshoe Inn, Windmill Hill
 8pm-10pm

If you would like to attend either of the meetings above, could you please confirm your attendance by telephone, email or in writing? Contact details are on Page 1.



JANUARY MEETING REPORT

Date: 12th January 2005 (Wednesday)
Venue: Green Man, Ringmer
Time: 8pm-10pm

Our first meeting of 2005 saw East Sussex Saab attend the Green Man in Ringmer, one of our new regular venues, for the first time. The management were very accommodating and although they don't have a separate function room, they are more than happy for us to use their restaurant area as it is very quiet on Wednesday evenings. The pub also hosts a quiz night on Wednesdays so it may be worth us putting a team or two together to see if we have what it takes to win (*of course we do!*).

LATEST NEWS

GM has big plans for small Cadillac

General Motors has decided to build a new small Cadillac car aimed at European drivers in its Swedish Saab factory, in a move likely to lessen fears that the plant could be closed.

GM has been considering whether to go ahead with the car since the summer but has now given it the green light, with volumes estimated by one insider at 30,000 to 50,000 cars a year.

The vehicle, expected to start production by the end of the year, will be shown in a near-final version at the Geneva motor show in March. It shares its structure with the Saab 9-3, meaning it can be built on the same production line with relatively little investment.

A senior GM executive said the company had little idea of the likely sales of the car.

However, even at a lower level of sales, the production will be a big boost for Saab's Trollhättan factory, which is fighting to retain production of the Saab 9-3, its biggest selling model. GM has forced Trollhättan to compete with Adam Opel's Rüsselsheim plant in Germany for production of the next-generation 9-3 and the Opel/Vauxhall Vectra mid-sized saloon, which will share common underpinnings.

Trade unions have warned that if Sweden loses the decision - due next month - the factory is likely to close when the current 9-3 production ends in 2007, although the company denies this. The concern was underlined last year when Göran Persson, Sweden's prime minister, visited Zurich, site of GM's European headquarters, to lobby for the factory. Sweden has promised a SKr2bn (\$290m) aid package for the region surrounding the factory if GM moves Vectra production there.

For the full story and other latest news visit our website at www.eastsussexsaab.co.uk.



The evening was, as usual, based around discussing Saabs, both past present and future, but the discussions were added to by some new attendees. We had three new faces attend, one of which was a member, although he was just visiting from Weston-super-Mare!

One of our members, Rob Watts, has been researching an evening karting event. The costs aren't that cheap, but if you want further details, please get in touch or watch this space.



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COMPETITION WINNER



At our December meeting Chairman, Mike Hope, awarded member, Chris Trick with his prize for winning the Autoglym competition. Chris was the first person drawn out of the hat. For those of you who want to know what the correct answer was, please see below.

Q. In what year was Autoglym founded? **A.** 1965