

The Standard

STANDARD ATHLETIC CLUB NEWSLETTER

Letter from the Chairman

January 2010

Dear Members,

First of all, on behalf of the Management Committee, I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year.

In this January edition of The Standard, you will find a letter of thanks from the organizers of the Classic Car Day which was a great success, as well as a copy of the recently posted communiqué from the safety and renovation project team.

The choice of company to assist the team in carrying out the works is imminent and then we will be able to complete the drawing-up of specifications and request and receive offers from suppliers. When there is a clear planning for the works we will bring you up to date.

Please do not forget to post your subscriptions by the end of the month. The SAC needs its members and their support more than ever during the works' period and we hope that this will not disrupt your enjoyment of the Club to too great an extent.

Our thanks go out to all of you have contributed voluntarily to club life over the last year and we invite any and all members to come forward and help us throughout 2010. There are always things to do and any help is appreciated.

I am personally surprised to see that there are no cruciverbists in the Club, as we have not received any entries for the 100 € crossword prize. As a New Year present, we will award the prize to the entry received containing the least number of errors. Get Solving!

All the Best for 2010.

David Colson



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Safety and renovation project update

21st January, 2010

1. Consensus

Over the past two years the launching of the works in the Club has been delayed due, in part, to a passionate debate concerning the Club's ERP status, the DACAM, and the accessibility laws. The main priority of the Management Committee has been compliance with the French regulations and we have tried consistently to go forward in a sensible and rational way, whilst also trying to take into account the broad spectrum of opinions within the Club. This is why the SARP committee was set up.

SARP has finally managed to clarify a number of thorny issues, meaning we can afford to abide by French legislation and ensure the safety of our members:

- We are not an ERP 5. We have been an ERP 4 since 1990 and were reclassified in 2009 as an ERP 3 (which we mean to fight).
- The accessibility/handicap* laws (obligatory by 1.1.2015) apply to all ERP's.
- The works and the controls we have to carry out as an ERP 3 or 4 are practically identical, so we can start the works immediately.
- We should be able to afford the works by phasing them over a number of years.

* Handicap means any person with limited accessibility (a mother with a pushchair, a person with a broken leg, or who has difficulty getting up the stairs)

2. Inspection

We will soon have a long overdue inspection by the "Commission de sécurité". Following a preliminary visit, the Mairie de Meudon has now written to us listing the works that we

need to do urgently to comply with ERP legislation.

These include:

1. Upgrading the boiler room to comply with fire safety regulations.
2. Upgrading our electrical installations (fuse boxes, wiring, switches, plugs etc.) as identified in a report by the Bureau Veritas. For those who do not know Veritas, they are an independent control company who audit premises for security and other purposes. Their audit reports are generally accepted by the French authorities.
3. Having our electrical and gas installations controlled by Veritas after the works have been completed.
4. Installing a fire alarm system in the Clubhouse.

To help us with this programme the SARP decided to use the services of a Works supervisor ("MOE"). The SARP committee has made good progress towards selecting a partner, having interviewed 5 potential candidates, with further meetings scheduled. We plan to make our final choice before the end of January. We must start the urgent works immediately. Afterwards we will define a programme of less urgent work, some of which is nevertheless obligatory.

We have also placed the order to replace our electrical transformer, the deadline for which is 30th June 2010. The new installation is scheduled to be installed in the last week of April.

We will keep you informed as to when and how the works will go forward throughout 2010.

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3. Budget

For the moment we only have estimates for the work involved but feel confident that careful phasing will enable us to comply with all the relevant rules and regulations by the end of 2010, improve the general look of the Club over the next few years, and be able to take account of the requirements for handicapped access by December 31st 2014.

New
9-11yr olds
football
team



We need players to complete the new SAC football team 9-11 yr olds. with coach: Didier
Training every Wednesday afternoon from 2pm to 3.30pm, training and matches every Saturday afternoon from 3pm to 4.30pm. **A league will be set up to play against local teams.**
The official opening date for this team is September 2010 but don't hesitate to come on **Saturday 6th February, 2.30pm** for an initial, friendly match against a local team.

SAC Ladies' tennis team

Congratulations to Marie de Tilly's SAC ladies' team
Finalists in 2009 'Les Raquettes' FFT Ladies' Tournament

Last spring, Marie de Tilly's SAC ladies' team qualified in the Kick-Off round of the '92 Department'. The team then worked hard all summer to get themselves ready for the 'Inter-Ligue' round in Honfleur. The SAC ladies' team not only played supremely well, but ended up winning the North-Western Region tournament in Honfleur, on October 22-23. This meant that the SAC ladies had now qualified and were all set to participate in the National Finals in Macôn, in Burgundy on November 17-19. At this stage of the competition, these SAC finalists took up 7th position. This put them in front of the 'Champagne' team, and just behind the Paris team from the 'Tir aux Pigeons' Club (Winners of the 'Les Raquettes' 2009).

Captain Marie de Tilly (singles), and players Titiane Salleyron (singles), and Valérie Pezé and Susie Labalette (doubles), and Nathalie Vicarini and Anne Varin were so proud of the wonderful team spirit that they had all worked so hard to create. While, at the start, the players did not know each other very well; they were given the opportunity to work together as a team and, throughout the tournament, were given great encouragement by the FFT organizers. All the players regret that now, as finalists, they are not able to participate in this wonderful competition again. A new team needs to be found, why not give it a try?

A special thanks to Sally Cangardel for getting the team so motivated, and entering us in the first place.

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Dear Jonathan,

Although I thanked you on the day and subsequently by telephone for your warm welcome and organizational efforts, I did promise to express our appreciation by letter on behalf of our club. I am sorry that I have taken so scandalously long to do so. It is not a valid excuse, but I am sure that you must be familiar with the problems of trying to juggle the demands of family life, earning one's living and running a club (not to mention the time needed for running old cars!).

All our members who participated in our visit to the Standard Athletic Club site were absolutely enchanted by the event. They were amazed by your little private world, of which none of them had ever suspected the existence and were impressed by your facilities and the charming atmosphere of your club. We ate well, enjoyed the sunshine, appreciated the contribution of our friends Moët & Chandon and made the acquaintance of the Austin-Healey owners. We could not have asked for more and are grateful to you and your colleagues for the initiative and the impeccable organization.

As I told you, we enjoyed ourselves so much that we are keen to arrange another visit to your site. Every year in the spring, we organize a club picnic. Recently it has become slightly more sophisticated with the adoption of a competition centred round a chosen theme. In 2009 we held our picnic at the historic aircraft collection at La Ferté-Alais. We got 10 aircraft out of the museum and parked our cars around them, thus providing some good photo opportunities. Naturally the theme was aviation and some of our members went to considerable lengths to play the game to the full. To give you a better idea of the event, I enclose a copy of the issue of our magazine containing the report and pictures.

We should very much like to hold our picnic in 2010 at Meudon. The date which we would prefer would be Sunday April 25th. We have in the past held joint picnics with car clubs of other marques, with varying success. The MG, Triumph, Aston Martin and Facel Vega clubs all cooperated very well in successive years, but the Rolls-Royce/Bentley club, invited this year to La Ferté-Alais, failed to show up at all. As we got on well with the Austin-Healey club and its president in September, we suggest asking them to participate in our next picnic.

I hope that you will be in favour of this proposal and that the suggested date will suit you. If so, we can discuss the detailed arrangements a little nearer the time.

Thank you again for admitting us to your charmed circle and I look forward to seeing you again.

Yours sincerely
F.J.D.C. board member

Up-and-Coming
Events
Classic Car Day 2010