

## Spring Beaulieu May 2018 - from Peter Watts

Well, what a lovely weekend we had at the Spring Beaulieu Autojumble this year - wall to wall sunshine for the entire event. Unfortunately, there was also a wedding and a football game going on at the same time, so I suppose we should apologise to the new Duke and Duchess of Sussex, and to the FA, for reducing their attendance figures! However, Secretary Nigel and Emma had invitations to the wedding, and were somewhere in the grounds of Windsor Castle, although we didn't spot their 'Hello ASCO' sign when we watched the highlights on Saturday evening. Despite the incentive of avoiding watching a wedding or a football match, punters were somewhat thin on the ground, but this did make for a much less hectic weekend and didn't



do us any harm. We took about £500 in sales of club spares, nearly £115 for Regalia, and I made about £100 for parts that came with the 1.5 Litre Sports Saloon I bought recently.

This contrasted somewhat with the experience of many of the stall holders, who were complaining about lack of sales; unsurprisingly, really, considering some of the prices.



Conical Redex dispensers were priced at £50 to £85 each; petrol cans at £50 each, or more; a chromed Singer 'hand holding a flaming torch' bonnet mascot was £200; a large enamelled 'Singer Service - A Rootes Product' sign, admittedly in very nice condition, was a breathtaking £595 (the seller said she was open to offers, but was unimpressed with the £20 I suggested); and 8 empty oil bottles in a crate were marked up at an eye-watering £795!

However, there were some items for sale at more reasonable prices, and I bought a repro enamelled sign of the 1920s Shell 'Leading Line' for £20, a repro cast iron Shell garage direction pointer for £15, a Lucas ignition/lighting switch of the type originally fitted to my pre-war Roadster (the lack of which was a major factor in me deciding to re-design the dashboard of my car when I restored it in the 1970s) for £55, a starting handle that fits





the Roadster and the 1934 1.5 Litre Sports Saloon for £5 (somewhat galling, as I paid 20 times that amount for a new one for the 1.5 Litre soon after I bought the car!), a Lockheed brake bleeding tube in its original tin for £7 (this was included in the tool kits of some cars, including the 1949 Austin Sheerline I am restoring) and a Roadster/10

cylinder head complete with valve gear in just about perfect condition, as far as I can see, for £200, as well as various tools, oil and materials. We were also given a black-enamelled Singer radiator badge complete with the two studs and nuts on the back, which I think is from a Singer 10. I have it in my possession and



it is for sale for £15 for club funds, if anyone would like it. It is useable as it is, but the enamel is slightly damaged in places. As usual, Rory took photographs of any Singer-related items we saw, and some these will, undoubtedly, also appear in the magazine.

Once again, John Horne dealt with the entry forms, Rory and Marilyn Angus, with their assistants - daughter, Kate, and grandchildren, Shannon and Joe, expertly masterminded the club stand and ensured that a continuous supply of tea, coffee, cake and egg & bacon rolls was on hand for helpers and club members, and Rory's 1957 Series 1 Gazelle provided a point of interest for passers-by and brought them on to the stand. Bill Tull was unable to attend this year for medical reasons, but arranged for club



spares to be at the stand. Thanks also to Simon Bishop and Sara Watts for giving up their time to help out and make the event a success. If you have read accounts of other Beaulieu autojumbles, you might recognise these names. However, the stand helpers are not members of some closed clique - if you fancy helping out at future events, please get in touch with one of us and make yourself known. Peter.