

MEMBERS' HOBBIES

A new section on members hobbies, starting with The Guv'nor, Mark Gregory



By **Mark Gregory**

Editor

I thought I would kick start a new article section within the magazine where we could portray some of our members' hobbies. I'm sure many of you enjoy some interesting hobbies out there so why not contribute an article for future GROWLER issues. Here is my hobby...

I'M SURE many of you find different ways of relaxing or escaping from everyday working life, well for me, in what spare time I do get these days, I very much enjoy drawing and painting. Having been interested in art since a very young lad (yes, all that time ago I know), I have learnt to draw pretty much any kind of subject

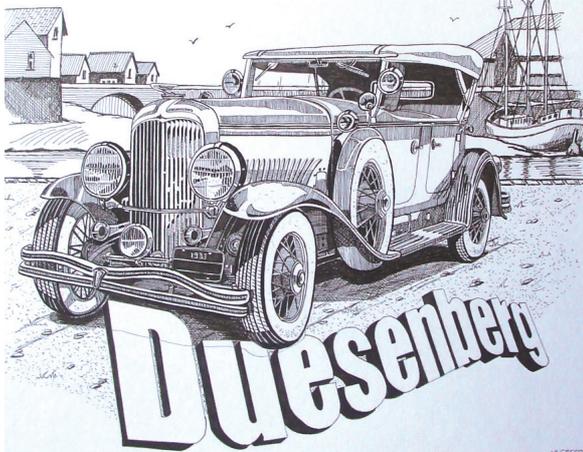


Happy customers: Members Barry Wood with his XKR picture and Paul Scott, right, with his Morris Oxford picture

from landscapes to seascapes, but my passion has always been to specialise in automotive art which has been inspired by renowned car artists such as Tom Fritz and Alan Fearnley.

Combining my all time love of cars in general along with what I've fortunately had as a natural talent for drawing I hope to have developed a style which portrays a vivid image of motoring nostalgia albeit I admit I'm still learning and experimenting.

I love to draw anything really having



How to relax with

simply self taught myself over the years, however I do love to specialise in capturing the beauty of cars from the 1920-30s period. To date I've undertaken a few commissions from modern day cars, classic cars, exotic cars, hot rods, muscle cars, motorsport, performance cars and motor bikes.

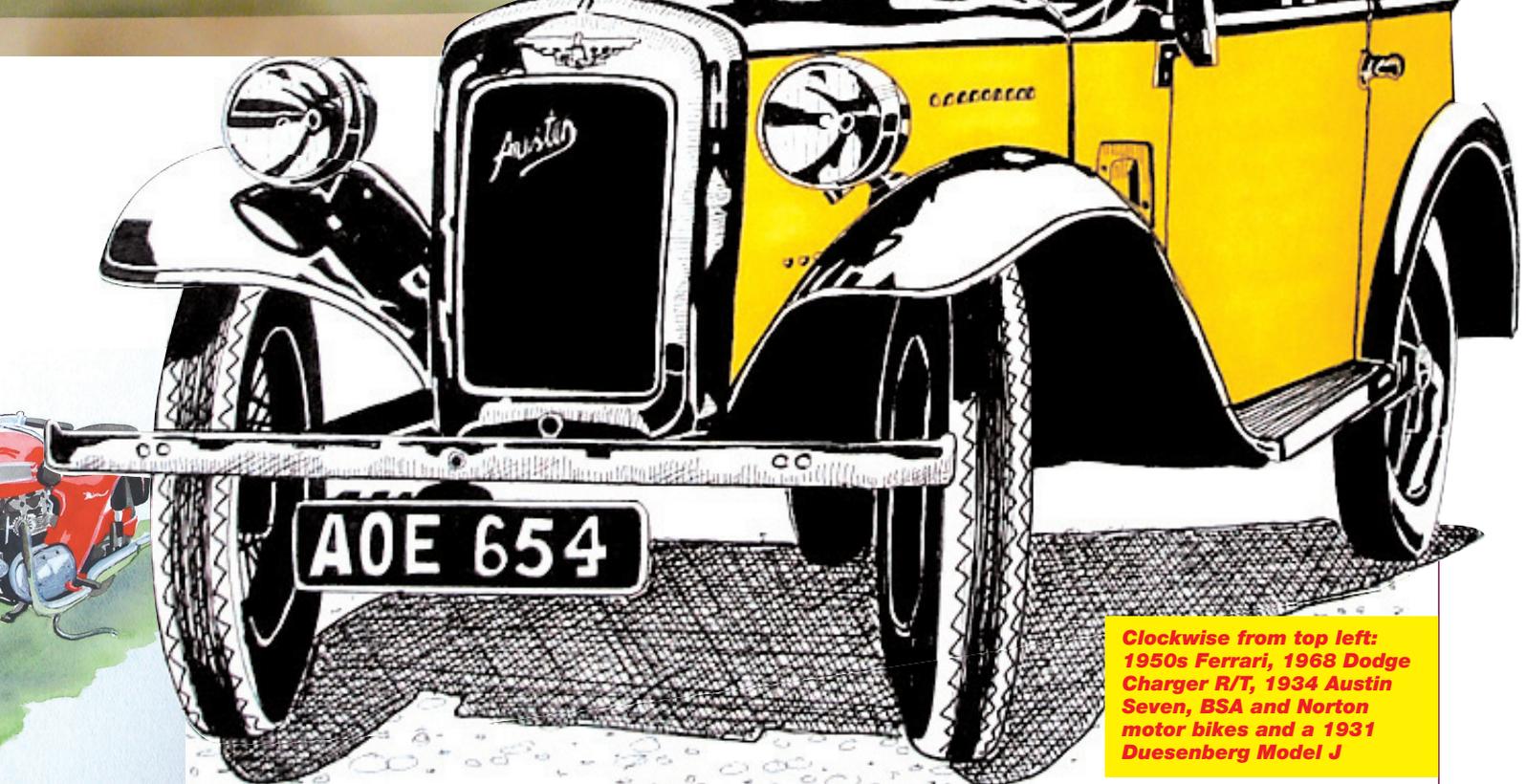
Mostly drawn using first a pencil (for guide lines) and then finished off in drawing pen, pictures can vary in size from

A4 to A2. In some instances I have also experimented with watercolour media which helps bring the pictures to life, this is however a whole new learning curve.

My latest example is shown above, a



Studio: Mark tends to hide from Karen here but not always that successfully!



**Clockwise from top left:
1950s Ferrari, 1968 Dodge
Charger R/T, 1934 Austin
Seven, BSA and Norton
motor bikes and a 1931
Duesenberg Model J**

Without a care in the world

1931 Duesenberg Model J which I think is one of the most beautiful cars ever made and I'm currently working my way through a compilation drawing of various Hot Rods (my other passion). I have also done more recently some commissions for members within the club of their XKs which you can also see here on this page.

To try and enjoy my passion further I have now converted our garden summerhouse into an art studio for myself

and my youngest son Jack who is also interested in art. Albeit not yet finished (as need to install lighting and electricity) it will eventually be a lovely place to relax during the summer months ahead and to get some serious artwork done over the coming year.

Always looking to widen my portfolio and to earn a little extra cash I would be very happy to offer members the chance of purchasing a totally unique drawing of

their car (or any other request) taken directly from any photographs provided. The drawings are all delivered mounted and ready framed. So if you are looking for a special gift, then maybe this could be the answer, simply contact me at mark.gregory@xkec.co.uk for further details.

On a final note, I can honestly say if you haven't tried art, give it a go, it certainly does help bring those stress levels down.