



ROLLS-ROYCE ENTHUSIASTS' CLUB

NORTH EASTERN SECTION



**NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER
2015**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The *Noggin and Natter evenings* on the first Wednesday of each month are now taking place at the **Crathorne Arms, Crathorne, TS15 0BA**, just off the A19 near Yarm. A busy pub, but within easy reach of most of us. Bar food is available for those who want it. It is a very select gathering at present, so why not come along and swell the numbers!

The third Wednesday evening meetings involve much lively talk and laughter at **The Old Mill, Metal Bridge, Coxhoe, DH6 5NX**.

A hardcore of attendees has developed, but new faces are always welcome. These meetings are definitely not men only! Just turn up at about 7.30pm, there is no need to book. Order food and drink at the bar and ask where we are - they usually know!

Events for 2015

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Sat. 14 November | NEC Classic Car Show - JC |
| Wed. 18 November | The Old Mill, Metal Bridge, Coxhoe, 7.30pm. |
| Wed. 16 December | The Old Mill, Metal Bridge, Coxhoe, 7.30pm Christmas dinner - RM |

Events for 2016

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Saturday 9 January | Invitation to JDC Area 11 Christmas Dinner - G&SM |
| Sunday 17 January | AGM, Allerton Court Hotel, Northallerton - RM |
| Sunday 22 May | Stokesley picnic - RM |
| Fri/Sun 24/26 June | National Rally at Burghley House. |
| Sunday 3 July (tbc) | MGOC Rally at Tynedale RUFC, Corbridge. |
| Sunday 17 July (probably) | NECPWA Rally at Newby Hall. |
| Sat/Sun 6/7 August | North of England Rally at Harewood House - JC |
| Sun 21 August (possibly) | Raby Castle Classic Car show |
| Sunday 25 Sept (probably) | NECPWA Beamish Rally at Beamish Museum - BS |
| Sat 19 Nov (maybe) | NEC Classic Car Show - JC |
| Wed 14 or 21 December | Christmas Event at The Old Mill, Coxhoe - Secretary. |

Events for 2017

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| 15 January | AGM at the Allerton Court Hotel - Secretary. |
|-------------------|--|

ADVERTISING RATES

| | | |
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| Yearly: | full page | £75.00 |
| | half page | £50.00 |

Members' private advertisements - maximum space $\frac{1}{4}$ page

| | | | | |
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Front photo:

Bernie Surtees sent me this photo just to prove that he had a Car of the Marque, so I assume that it is his! Looks good too.



ROLLS-ROYCE ENTHUSIASTS' CLUB



The last flight of the Vulcan bomber, XH558, took it over RAF Leeming. This photo, courtesy of Paul Frankie, was taken a few years ago, but still over RAF Leeming.

NORTH EASTERN SECTION NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2015

Roger's Ramblings

'Ghost', 'Phantom', 'Wraith', all famous model names from the past, names which Rolls-Royce are now re-using.

My Phantom is now 81 years old. It provides perfectly usable and reliable transport in modern driving conditions, although, as with all things mechanical, it occasionally requires a spare part, these are all readily available.

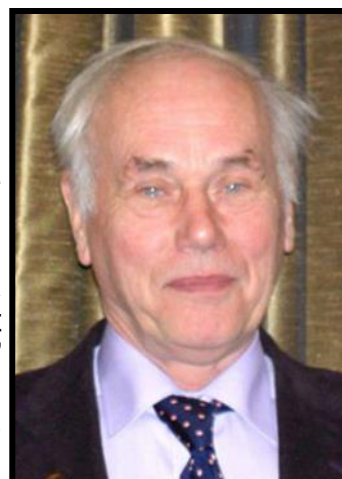
Imagine the situation 80 years hence; "Can you supply a cylinder head gasket for my Phantom, please?" "Would that be for an old Phantom or the new one?" "The new one." "Sorry Sir, the old ones we can supply, the new ones with V.I.N. chassis numbers were obsolete 50 years ago!" (Probably a lot longer than that! - Ed)

I do not think Rolls-Royce (BMW) or Bentley (VW) understand their heritage, and are devaluing the marque by re-using 'Ghost', 'Phantom' and 'Wraith'.

I look forward to our dinner on 16 December.

Safe motoring.

Roger Hall



Contact Point Comments

I have had a mixed bag of experiences since last putting pen to paper.

Inclement weather waterlogged the Stanhope show site on Saturday 12 September, such that it was necessary to tow horseboxes off the site and it was agreed that it might not be the best of ideas to turn up with classic cars on the Sunday. More positive experiences followed from a visit to meet bo-



Continued on page 5



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vine beauties at an automated dairy farm, the NECPWA event at the fantastic Beamish Museum, and finally an end of season drive and meal, organised by Martin and Jackie, on Sunday 11 October; all written up by others elsewhere in this Newsletter.

The end of season event was the last organised by the Section where one might expect to take to the road in a car of the marque as winter approaches. My initial thoughts looking back over the season are of considerable satisfaction that 42 households had sufficient interest in, and support for, the Section and the programme of events organised by your Committee to pay a membership fee. However, that satisfaction has been tempered by a realisation that the best turn out of Section cars of the marque was just seven on two separate occasions at events organised by others.

Whilst always recognising that some members and/or family members have been ill and some have sold or are looking to sell their cars, a reasonable conclusion to draw can only be that the Section events programme does not sufficiently tickle the fancy of members to attract them, and their cars, out to play. Accordingly, I did request proposals from members for inclusion in the programme for the 2016 season in a previous Newsletter, which brought only a very limited response.

Nevertheless, your Committee has drafted an outline programme for 2016, set out elsewhere in this Newsletter, for early consideration by members and any comments or contributions that you might have would be welcomed by either myself, or Martin.

The end of season event for cars of the marque is not the last event on the calendar as shown by the future events scheduled. I would like to draw your attention to the Christmas event. The menu and booking form are elsewhere in this Newsletter and a significant members' discount is available for what has in previous years been a popular well supported event.

I believe that I made it absolutely crystal clear in an earlier Newsletter that the membership fee was not introduced as a fundraising exercise, and that the plan was that members' benefits would be greater than the fee. I believe this has been delivered as member benefit discounts on events over the year, and including the Christmas event, for a member attending all of them is £18.00 – significantly in excess of the £10.00 membership fee, always recognising that those paying £15.00 for the Newsletter to be posted to them, are also contributing to the cost of stationery, envelopes and postage. The other side to that coin is that members' benefits will not have been received by those members who have not supported the discounted events. An unintended consequence of this is likely to be the benefit to club funds of a surplus from overall membership fees less benefits.

The Section AGM for 2014/15 is to be held on 17 January 2016 as described elsewhere in this Newsletter. The Section was in a difficult place last year finding it necessary to hold an EGM before the AGM, and to assist in moving forward I found myself with the role of both Secretary and Treasurer to the Section. I do not think that it is reasonable for one individual to hold two executive officer roles for the same club at the same time, and indicated in an earlier Newsletter that I intended – and continue to intend - to stand down from the role of Secretary at the forthcoming AGM. I am willing to continue as Treasurer, if that is accepted at the AGM.

I think that it is, perhaps, worth noting that some Sections – admittedly larger than this Section – also have a Membership Secretary. I raised this point in an earlier Newsletter seeking such an appointment to reduce the workload of the Secretary, but nobody stepped forward to take on what would not be an unduly burdensome role.

I would be happy to talk about either of the two roles of Membership Secretary and

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Secretary to any member interested in either or both roles.

Finally, Martin Vinson was Secretary to this Section over many years, in at least two separate stints of office, and I finish by paying tribute to Martin by saying an enormous thank you for the support and assistance that I have received from him over the year in my role as Secretary which has ensured that the role has been discharged by me without too many clangers being dropped.

Rod

Newsletter Editor's comments

Bernie has come up trumps again with two long and interesting reports. More from other committee members, and section members would be very welcome.

This newsletter sees the start of the run up to the AGM, next January, so there are all sorts of forms to be filled in and sent back to Rod. All the deadline dates are set out clearly below. This AGM is going to be another important landmark occasion for the section. At least one committee member is standing down, and we shall also need to find a new secretary.

The booking form for the AGM does not give a menu, but having spoken with someone at the Allerton Court Hotel, I understand that they are happy to provide menus for us on our arrival so that we can make our choices for starters and deserts before the meeting starts. The main course being a carvery, though there is usually a vegetarian option.

Martin

Barry Brighton

I am sorry to have to report that Barry Brighton died at the beginning of this month. Barry had been a staunch member and supporter of the Club for many years, and of the section, following his move from Scotland. He and Norma were regular attendees at section events and weekends. They were missed following his resignation from the Club, owing to ill health, and our thoughts are with Norma at this difficult time.

Martin

Where we have been:-

Dairy Farm, Danby Wiske - Sunday 20 September

Nine members, with two cars of the marque, enjoyed Yorkshire Farmhouse hospitality at its finest.

At 11.00am prompt we gathered round the Garbutt's kitchen table for tea/coffee, home made muffins and cake.

The purpose of the visit was to see the robot milking machines and the farming system on their dairy farm.

James' explanation of the operation was brilliant and the questions non-stop. The response so often; "I never knew that". A lesson and eye-opener for us all.

The financial problems of the dairy farms are well known. Talking to James and his father about this they explained that their planning was for a seven year cycle;

The seasonal weather pattern to be repeated once every seven years;

The productive life of a cow - seven years;

A tractor - seven years;



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Their long term planning formulated over two seven year cycles, so 14 years (or three parliaments, or 12 ministers of agriculture.) All fascinating stuff.
We adjourned for a late carvery lunch to the Allerton Court hotel, with lively and interesting chatter.

Roger

Beamish Open Air Museum - Sunday 27 September



I arrived in good time to secure our pitch and despite the misty start the sun soon dried the dew and later in the day continued to shine, which highlighted the great presentation of our cars.

As you can see seven club cars lined up on the bank overlooking the main throng (a few hundred) of other makes. The club that took up position near us was a 25+ contingent of members of the Mercedes-Benz Club most being 'Youngtimers' from the 80's and 90's.

Two Shadows owned by RREC members were also present at the show, but they chose to park in the body of the rally.

The spectators took great interest in our varied selection of models being most respectful and were asking numerous questions.

We all appeared to take advantage of the great Beamish experience. I managed to spend cash on Fish and Chips, bakery products and can confirm I was not the only committee member to sample the Sun Inn ale. In absolute moderation naturally only for testing purposes.

We all dispersed late in the afternoon after viewing many fine cars but no trophies on this occasion.

Best regards

Bernie

(The section flag or banner would have looked good, or do NECPWA not allow them? Ed)

End of season meet - Sunday 11 October

There were ten of us in the end, seemingly a small number, but more than compensated for by the amount of noise we all made! Mainsgill Farmshop was busy, it being a Sunday approaching lunchtime. Nevertheless the ladies, at least, had a good look round the first floor shopping area, and there was mention of a return visit when more time was available.

The drive, of about 35 miles, seemed to go down well, no-one got lost, and everyone arrived for lunch at the Chequers Inn at Dalton on Tees, although it did take a little longer than I had expected, and I was beginning to panic slightly! However, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, and the landlord virtually had to throw us out as we were the last to leave. The chef was particularly keen on Geoff and Sheila's Mark II Jaguar and kept hinting that a ride would be appreciated! A select, but noisy party, though numbers were way down on the start of season lunch. Perhaps we were too far south, although Rod and Dylis travelled all the way from Newcastle. Maybe someone else would like to take on the start/end of season lunches next year though.

Martin

Where we are going:

NEC Classic Car Show - Saturday 14 November

Jim Clark is arranging our annual visit to this event, but this year it is to be on a Saturday instead of a Sunday as coach companies are more sympathetic to travel on a Saturday. The deadline for booking is long gone, but if you have not booked and would like to go, telephone Jim and perhaps he can fit you in.

Christmas Dinner, The Old Mill, Coxhoe, DH6 5NX.

Wednesday 16 December, 7.30pm for 8.00pm

The Section Christmas Event has been booked at The Old Mill, Metal Bridge, Coxhoe, DH6 5NX on Wednesday, 16 December 2015 at 7.30pm for 8.00pm.

This is the same location as last year, and the same location and date in December that would otherwise be the monthly club meet for a noggin and natter.

MENU STARTERS

Thick Farmhouse Winter Vegetable Soup, served with a Crusty Roll
Smoked Salmon & Beetroot Gravadlax Terrine with a Cucumber & Rocket Salad
Crispy Coated Brie Wedges, Salad & Cranberry Relish

MAINS

Traditional Roast Turkey served with all the Trimmings
Garlic & Rosemary Studded Topside of Beef, Served in its own Gravy
Fresh Salmon Fillet in a Chilli, Lime & Ginger cream sauce, Topped with Watercress
Slow Roasted Gammon Joint, with a Rich Peach Jus
{V} Selection from Main Menu - see website

DESSERTS

Traditional Christmas pudding with Brandy Sauce
Chefs Homemade Winter Berry Cheesecake
Gingerbread Ice Cream, Served in a Crispy Tuile Basket

Mince Pie
Tea or Coffee

COST PER HEAD : £23.00 LESS : MEMBER BENEFIT : £11.00 PER HOUSEHOLD

PLEASE COMPLETE THE BOOKING FORM (see page 19) TO ATTEND AND RETURN TO
ROD MACLEOD, SECRETARY, BY 30 NOVEMBER 2015 WITH PAYMENT.

Jaguar Drivers' Club Area 11 Annual Dinner Headlam Hall - Saturday 9 January 2016

We have been invited by Geoff and Sheila Mansfield to join them and the members of Area 11 JDC for their annual Dinner. We have members who are members of both clubs, and there is usually a contingent from the Teesside Yesteryear Club, so there will be people there you know! There is a booking form at the end of the newsletter, so if you are interested send it off pdq.

Future Events - 2016

Your Committee undertook to begin to plan the programme of events for 2016 at an early stage this year. The Contact Point Comments article in the last two Newsletters has requested expressions of interest from Members in activities they would like to see shape the programme for 2016.

The response to those requests was limited with JMV making a general proposal to visit stately homes and places of that ilk and having picnics, or using local facilities to eat either on-site or elsewhere, and this suggestion has perhaps translated into the proposal to visit Thorp Perrow at G below.

The second proposal received related to Auckland Castle and is included at A below.

This report covers the outcome of the discussions of your Committee on this matter at their meeting on 14 September to start this planning process.

EVENTS AGREED FOR INCLUSION IN THE PROGRAMME.

- 1 : RREC National Rally on 24 to 26 June 2016 at Burghley House.
- 2 : Christmas Event on Wednesday, 21 December 2016, at the Old Mill, Coxhoe.
Lead : Secretary.
- 3 : AGM on Sunday 15 January at the Allerton Court Hotel. Lead : Secretary.
- 4 : MGOC Rally, date tbc, but probably 3 July, at Tynedale RUFC, Corbridge.
Lead : JMV
- 5 : NECPWA Rally, date tbc, but probably 17 July, at Newby Hall.
- 6 : RREC North of England Rally date 6/7 August 2016 at Harewood House. Lead : JC
- 7 : NECPWA Beamish Rally, date tbc, but probably 25 September, at Beamish Museum. Lead : BS
- 8 : NEC Classic Car Show date tbc in November 2016 in Birmingham. Lead : JC.

EVENTS DEFERRED FROM 2015.

A road run along minor roads to finish at the Wensleydale Cheese Factory was proposed but not supported in 2015 and again did not attract much support because of a fairly recent previous visit.

A counter proposal did find favour and that was:

- 9 : A road run to Simonstone Hall near Hawes for a meal, date tbc. Lead : JC.

This event would, subject to timings, perhaps allow those interested to visit the Cheese Factory.

YORKSHIRE SECTION.

JMV spoke with Ken Cowdell of the Yorkshire Section at the Harewood House rally to discuss the feasibility of closer co-operation between the two Sections to share programmes and try to avoid clashes.

Your Committee agreed to support this initiative and also support a proposal for a picnic event made as a consequence of a Yorkshire Section member buying a property in Stokesley.

10. Joint picnic event with Yorkshire Section 22 May 2016 in Stokesley. Lead RM ?

OTHER PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION.

A : Auckland Castle Classic Car Show date tbc in August 2016 in Bishop Auckland. Lead BS

B : Raby Castle, date tbc – a commercial show with G and S Mansfield leading for the Jaguar Drivers' Club.

C : Kilburn, date tbc spring 2016. Lead : RH.

D : BBQ, date tbc summer 2016 at the house of AF. Lead : AF.

E : Tan Hill Road Run and meal, date tbc summer 2016. Lead : ?

F : Road run/ Tanhill Railway visit with meal at Aston Martin works pub, Beamish. Date tbc. Lead : ?

G : Thorp Perrow Arboretum visit date tbc Summer? 2016. Lead : ?

H : North Yorkshire Railway visit – Joint visit with Yorkshire Section? Details date and time tbc. Lead : ?

I : Stanhope Show date tbc September 2016. Lead : RM.

This programme of events does not specifically provide for the established road-run and meal events that this Section starts and finishes the season with, which have in recent years been successfully organised by JMV.

The options therefore appear to be to add those two events to the programme or alternatively adopt events for either or both already shown in the programme above of which 9 , E and F might be suitable.

Section Members are invited to consider the programme and any alternative contributions, or comments would be welcomed by your Secretary, Rod MacLeod.

Rod.

Section AGM - Sunday 17 January

RULES FOR SECTIONS - AGM TIMETABLE

The RREC Board agreed "Rules for Sections" earlier this year and these set out the regulatory framework within which each Section is required to conduct business.

The Committee Meeting on 8/06/15 agreed that the AGM for 2014/15 would be held on 17 January 2016 at The Allerton Court Hotel, Northallerton at 10.45am for 11.15am.

Notice requirements set out in the Rules for Sections as a consequence of that decision are as follows:

A : 42 DAYS NOTICE TO ALL SECTION MEMBERS OF AGM DATE, VENUE AND TIME MEANS NOTIFICATION BY 6 DECEMBER 2015.

This requirement is met by the inclusion of this item in this Newsletter together with:

1 : A form for the nomination of Committee Members returnable to the Secretary no later than 28 days before the date of the AGM which means by 20 December 2015.

2 : A request for all motions duly proposed and seconded by North Eastern Section Members for discussion and/or determination returnable to the Secretary no later than 28 days before the date of the AGM which means by 20 DECEMBER 2015.

B : 21 DAYS NOTICE TO ALL SECTION MEMBERS OF AGM DATE, VENUE AND TIME AGAIN TOGETHER WITH THE AGENDA AND SUPPORTING PAPERS MEANS NOTIFICATION BY 27 December 2015.

Supporting Papers consist of:

1 : Details of those Members of the Committee, including Officers, eligible and seeking re-election.

2 : Names and details of nominations received on the forms referred to at A1 above.

3 : Details of proxy voting arrangements with the appropriate form.

4 : Any motions for discussion or determination received on the forms referred to at A2 above,

C : 7 DAYS BEFORE THE DATE OF THE AGM, THE SECRETARY MUST RECEIVE ALL PROXY VOTING FORMS WHICH MEANS BY 10 JANUARY 2016.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2015/16.

The Rules for Sections relating to the AGM require that formal notice is issued to Section Members of those Committee Members including Officers eligible and seeking re-election 21 days before the date of the AGM, which for this Section for the 2014/15 AGM means by 27th December 2015.

This means that this information could have been deferred for inclusion in the next Newsletter, however, the Rules for Sections also require that nomination forms be issued to Section Members 42 days before the AGM and a nomination form is therefore included in this Newsletter.

Current Members of the Committee eligible and seeking re-election are deemed to be nominated and therefore completed nomination forms are not required for those individuals. However, it follows from the issue of the nomination form that it would be appropriate for their details to be made known at this stage.

Current Committee Members eligible and seeking re-election are as follows;

Roger Hall; currently Chairman

Derek Moss; currently Vice-Chairman.

Rod MacLeod; currently Secretary and Treasurer.

Jim Clark; currently Committee Member

Allan Fishburn; currently Committee Member

Tony Henfrey; currently Committee Member

Tony Minta; currently Committee Member

Bernie Surtees; currently Committee Member.

The Rules for Sections limit the number of Committee Members to 10 which would suggest that going forward into 2016 there are vacancies for only two more Committee Members. However, in the event of properly completed nominations forms coming forward for more than two individuals for 2016 at the AGM, then an election will

take place to fill all ten posts available on the Committee from the pool of both existing and proposed candidates.

Those elected to the Committee then determine which of them will discharge the Officer roles of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

ROD MACLEOD

SECRETARY

Reflections of a committee member, by Bernie Surtees.

I have been thinking about my first year as a local committee member. My personal report card probably reads "could do better". However, mental note for a New Year resolution: "try harder and come up with some new ideas"

I have had a great year attending the major RREC events/shows this year. At every event other members were most hospitable, and I enjoyed meeting so many friendly marque enthusiasts. A very big thank you to all volunteers who make it happen. I have already reported on the AGM and conference at Hunt house. A great opportunity and learning experience.

The first car show was the International meeting near Folkestone, actually held on the race course of the same name. An interesting venue that is suffering due to financial problems which caused a lack of electrical hook-ups in the camping area. Quiet generators during social hours meant that no-one had a problem. Interestingly the local trains (50yards away) make the most noise, but the euro tunnel trains shake the ground.

A great display of club cars, many that I have never seen north of Watford :-). two air displays, one BMF hurricane and a member bringing his friends in for a flyby, then after landing and parking up at the end of the car line-up.

The 'Spitfire' cafe reminiscently presented like a wartime Lyons corner house served excellent modern toasted sandwiches together with other period delights.

I enjoyed the trade village, and I was quickly desperate for a lottery win to take up P&A Wood's kind offer of only six figures for their '34 Phantom II. I bought more car polish and wax; will I never learn that it needs enthusiasm and elbow grease. The garage is full already as none so far have turned out to be a magic potion.

I attended the event especially to be present and take advantage of the first SZ register get-together and to meet the names in the 'Spirit' magazine. A great bunch of guys who had encouraged a numerous attendance of cars from the near continent. I was pleased to meet the register's magazine creator and I would heartily suggest a read (free online if you have not yet signed up for the free hard copy available after membership registration).

Only a seven hour, 380 mile, journey each way, but most edifying nevertheless. Recommended, no North Eastern section members though.

The Annual Rally was at the new venue of Burghley House. You have seen the reports. My view: "magnificent cars, setting and trade village, although needing work on catering and camping facilities". The new catering company had not embraced real ale and champagne (they are reverting to Rockingham caterers for 2016 I understand - aah!). I intend to lobby for electric hook-up or generator use and perhaps a shower van especially for the real canvas campers, of which there were a reasonable number. (cf caravan club events at less ££) Power to the portable toilet block was disconnected at 7.00am on Monday morning, which was a big 'ouch' for the later risers.

That said, the camaraderie, not to mention the quorum of club directors on occasion in attendance at the campsite hospitality table, which was first class.

After a glass or two of wine I was however trumped in the "I will show you mine if

you show me yours" competition! My early ghost klaxon bought on a whim as the first piece of an ambitious "one piece at a time" (think Johnny Cash) build fantasy, was a poor second to a fully articulated, internally manipulated flesh coloured 1:1 sized hand - Rolls-Royce for the fitting of. Just magic. Well recommended. Lots of North Eastern section members, even entertained Derek Moss to tea in the camper. North of England Rally, Harewood House: A great day out. Starting with a very competent parking attendant :-) (probably a true Bentley boy). A great show of cars, good brass band, great setting, but needs more trade presence, and at least a real coffee vendor near to the display area. Recommended and not 380 miles away from home. A reasonable number of North Eastern Section members.

Next up; Christmas dinner and a girding of loins ready for the 2016 season. Lots of North Eastern section members please.

Best regards.

Bernie

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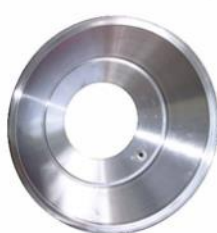
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