

# THE VINTAGE SPORTS-CAR CLUB LTD

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V.A.T. Reg. No. 199 7654 84 (STD Code 0635)



May 3rd, 1993

Dear Dick,

Thank you very much for your letter and the registration number of my brother's Balilla - BXU 106, which I had completely forgotten. How interesting to hear it is in Italy and in very good condition. The London Scottish chap Monica Whincop bought the car from was called Marcus Hunter, who used to run a 12/40 Lea-Francis when I first got to know him at a Territorial Army camp near Beaulieu in 1939. After the war he was farming in Cheshire and I used to see him when we were up there for Oulton Park but unfortunately he died when he was not all that old. I remember my brother regretted selling the Balilla, but Marcus kept pestering him!

Of the names you mentioned, M. Tenbosch is most familiar to me, but probably because I remember it in connection with racing and can't tell you any more. I remember that a Shapley used to race a Bugatti, and, again no more.

F.H.L. Searle rang a bell as his name occurred in a recent Bulletin, which I have now tracked down. If you look in Bulletin No 194 in the article by Michael Collier, page 34 onwards, you will find that H.F.L. Searle (who must be the F.H.L. Searle you mentioned) was Collier's co-driver in an Aston Martin in the 1937 Donington 12 Hours race. He had a glamorous wife, I see! Michael Collier is still a member and is in the Members' List I think if you want to contact him, but unless you are very lucky I would imagine he has probably lost touch with Searle. In the copy of "The Motor Sport Book of Donington" I have Collier's co-driver is given as "F.H. Scarf", which I am sure is wrong. They finished 13th out of 24 finishers.

My apologies, Dick, for being so long in sending you this with the race reports you wanted.

P.S. Many thanks for the cheque

Yours, Peter DTA