



BACKFIRE

www.northwestcasualclassics.com
www.nwcc-backfire.blogspot.com

March 2008

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Chairman's Word

Aloha!!! to all members. Well I finally chaired my first Club Meeting this last month and from a pretty good turnout I think everything went OK. Many thanks to Ivan in particular, for organising the FEELY BAG competition, (I used to have a girlfriend like that Ha! Ha!). Well my friends, we are in the throes of applying for the coming seasons' shows which means a busy time for our "Queenie" Maria who I know you all appreciate for her efforts as Events Organiser. Rob Smith our Treasurer says we are comfortably in "the black" regarding funds but a few members have still not paid their subs so get your fingers out please.

Anyway, its' only 14 days to my holiday in New Zealand, I fly out on the 25th March and don't return until the 17th April, so I'm afraid once again your services Russ as Vice Chairman will be required to chair the April meeting (Ta! very much) also I will let you know about my holiday saga in May (how thrilling !!! Ha!).

Best of luck to you all

John Wayne G
Your Friendly Neighborhood
Chairman.



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Next Meeting April 8th
Deadline for inclusion in next issue April 1st.

DISCLAIMER

Any views or opinions expressed in the NWCC newsletter do not necessarily represent those of the club, its officers or committee members. No responsibility can be accepted for inaccurate or misleading information within this newsletter, but every effort will be made to verify, wherever practical, beforehand.

Please note: The third party liability insurance which the club has taken out only covers members when attending events which have been booked through the club. For other events attended individually, please make sure you are covered by your own insurance.

BITS & PIECES

Use Brasso for removing scratches from Perspex and also for buffing up polyurethane varnish on dashboards.

Fuel starvation going uphill can be caused by a failing fuel pump. This can be confirmed if the car will not go up in first, but will in reverse. No difference will be noticed in Beardmore taxis !!!!!!!!!!!

Fuel Additives: Practical Classics Best Buy is Castrol Valvemaster Plus at £9.99 for 250 ml

INTERESTING INFO

Classic car owners in Germany “have vays of vinning ze argument” over environmental legislation with the German Government. Clean Air rulings had already restricted access into the main cities, and this was set to be expanded out through the country as zones (Umweltzones to be precise)

However action by the classic car clubs has forced the government into a rethink as any vehicle with less than Euro1 emissions rating for petrol powered vehicles, and Euro 2 for diesel would have been banned. This would have effectively outlawed any vehicle prior to the beginning of the 1990’s

It is rumoured that yanks would have been banned all together, not because of the emission figures, but its just that they hate the yanks. (only kidding before you send in the Shermans Big John!!)

DID YOU KNOW?

In Germany they have coloured stickers depending on how “green” your car is. Green for petrol cars with closed loop controlled emissions or catalytic converters, and less clean get amber and red respectively. Cars without cats will be banned

We all know which sticker a Cadillac would get !!

Classic cars are exempt but only if it is in good and original condition. (Trabants please do not apply) A car becomes a classic at 30 years old.

TIPS OF THE TRADE

When greasing steering or suspension component, jack them up to take the load off them. That way you can get more grease in.

Russ Hadfield

Talking of Germany, did you know that the literal translation of Triumph Acclaim is “Zieg Heil”.



Lymm on Boxing Day

For our second trip to Lymm in 2007, I think we were all hoping for an improvement in the weather. We weren't disappointed as, although it was cold, it remained dry.

Last year we visited Cotebrook House on the way to give some of the residents and staff a look at the cars. Some of them are really interested in classics and love to come out and look around them. One or two even having a sit inside some of the cars.

From our assembly point on the Tesco car park, we convoyed to Cotebrook House and squeezed into their car park for half-an-hour while the residents and staff came out to see us. From there we continued on to the Jolly Thresher.

We were a little later than previous years and couldn't get into the car park and had to park in the road. There did seem to be more modern cars in there this year than there usually is and more classics parked out on the road.

We had a good look around at the other vehicles and watched the arrival of some of the attending steam traction engines, very spectacular, before moving on to the Old No.3 for a hot meal to thaw out.

A great way to relieve the excesses of Christmas. If you haven't yet been to Lymm on Boxing Day, why not try to make it this year? You won't be disappointed. Just make sure you're well wrapped up.

Pictures
below by
Steve Marran



CLUB EVENTS 2008

19 th & 20 th April Drive it Day	2 nd Aug Hebden Bridge
26 th & 27 th April Martin Mere	3 rd Aug Woodvale
18 th May Spring Road Run	16 th & 17 th Aug Tatton Park
31 st May & 1 st June Tatton Park	23 rd -25 th Aug Oulton Park
28 th June Penketh Carnival	31 st Aug Rotary – Sutton Fields
13 th July Fiddler's Ferry	7 th Sept Cholmondley Castle
24 th July Eve Whipping Stocks	13 th & 14 th Sept. Wirral F. of T.
27 th July Audlem F. of T.	27 th & 28 th Sept. Widnes

CLUB DISCOUNTS



Orford Green, Warrington

ANDREW PAGE

Lilford Street, Warrington. Ask for Simon

Alpha1Autos

U2 Priestly Street, Warrington. Discount card required

Please remember to take your club membership card with you in order to claim your discount

MEETING THE MMOC (SEFTON BRANCH)

by Dave Espley

Maria McPartland, Ivan Pritchard and myself took a trip out to the outskirts of Southport on Wednesday 20th February to get to know the MMOC/Sefton branch people a bit more. This was the club that Peter Gannicliffe was a member of and, until recently, Jim and Maria McPartland. We met at a cosy, olde worlde type pub (The Blue Bell) and Maria presented an overhead projection show to bring the club up date on what type of club we are and our history. We all felt this has cemented relations somewhat and should put us in good stead for doing a joint run in June to commemorate Peter Gannicliffe and his involvement with the two clubs. Thanks to the people for hosting a pleasant evening and we look forward to meeting more of them on June 15th. More elaborate details to be announced.

This is to alert all FBHVC subscriber clubs and their officers to a new posting on our web site <http://www.fbhvc.co.uk/news/index.htm>

This gives outline details of a special insurance deal to make it possible to get younger drivers on comprehensive cover for the Drive It Day at just £10.50 - do please include this information in any publication being sent to your members before mid April. We are sorry that this relates only to cars and light commercial vehicles, but the deal was on the basis that the owner would be present in the vehicle to advise on any unfamiliar controls - something that was deemed impractical on a motor-cycle.

I can only apologise for the late notification - we started work on this idea in No-

vember last year but clearance didn't arrive until, 5 March.

CLUB MEAL

Again this year, The Sportsman at Penketh was voted to be the venue for our annual meal. A good sized room to get us all in, good food and a pleasant atmosphere all went towards de-



deciding the result.

Dave Espley, in his new role as social secretary, went to the pub to arrange the details and book the time. He found new licensees had taken the pub since our last visit, and they



were more than happy to accommodate us. However (makes a change from a big but (?)), there



were some conditions.

First, because they had built a good Sunday meal trade, they would prefer us to come on a

The waiter did a cracking job Saturday. Second, we needed to book our choices of meal in

advance.

We booked into the pub from twelve noon and had a great afternoon. At one point it seemed that the service had slowed down a little, but we found out later that one of their ovens had blown up, so, considering that, they coped extremely well. Steve Marran even winning a free pudding from Dave for being the last to be served.

RUSS'S RANTS

NWCC's grumpy old sod gets it off his chest

Motoring Scams

There have been some big motor-ing scams highlighted in the past, but when it comes to them being legally done, it can only be the DVLA.

Did you know there has been a 54% increase in the number of driver's details being passed on to private firms. This has risen from 868,386 in 2002-03 to a whopping 1,343,903 in 2006-07.

For £2.50 per vehicle, private companies can obtain drivers' details providing they have "reasonable cause" for tracing owners. These include companies like car clammers.

If that's not bad enough, Auto Express has informed it's motorphilic readers that the DVLA is now going to start charging for taxing your vehicle online. This is on the back of hundred's of local Post Offices being closed down due to loss of business and increasing losses

Robbin' Sods !!!!!!!!!!

Rocketing Fuel Prices

Motorists quite rightly have been getting naffed off with continuing price rises at the pumps. Now lets look at the figures:-

In 2008, we have reached \$100 per barrel (£50 at current exchange rates). A few years ago it was \$75 a barrel with an exchange rate of about \$1.50 = £1.00 – so £50 a barrel again. So we see highly inflated price rises, even though the overall price of fuel has not changed. Add to that, we regularly see BP, Shell and Esso making record profits.

Bring back Robin Hood !!!!!!!!!!

Tyre Treads

The National Tyre Distributors Association is battling to raise the minimum tread depth from 1.6 mm to 3.0 mm. It says the move would increase safety in the wet.

What it didn't say was that its members would screw even more money out of the already overburdened motorists !!

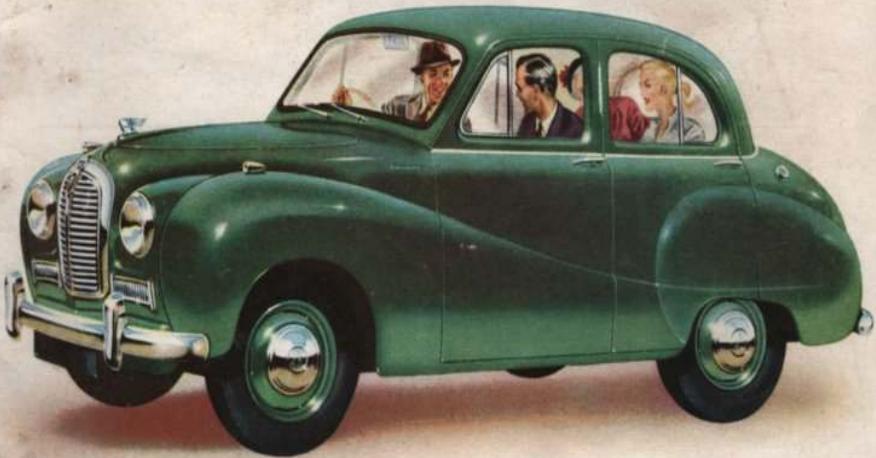
Green Cycle Zones

When you haven't managed to jump the red light and had to stop at the lights, have you come across the green boxes with the picture of a bicycle in it? What the hell are they for? Have you ever seen a cyclist in them? Maybe they should be used as a cyclist target zone, and you get 100 points for every one you take out within the green box.

What a total waste of tax payers money !!!

CLASSIC ADS

The new Austin A40 SOMERSET



World-wide and Handsome

Austin makes world news—with this exciting, handsome new saloon . . . the A40 Somerset.

NEW REFINEMENTS include—large, deep curved windscreen and rear window—steering-column gear control—wide, rear-opening doors with safety locks at rear—luxurious leather covered

foam rubber seating—more room all round.

PERFORMANCE PLUS STAMINA from the famous, record-breaking, 4-cylinder, overhead valve A40 engine, with new combustion chamber design for extra top gear performance.

The Somerset is at your local dealer's NOW.

A U S T I N — you can depend on it !