



BACKFIRE

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

June 2008

Chairman's Word

Aloha!!! Members,

Well!!, who was it said that the Sun only shines on the righteous? All I can think is that somebody must have lit the right candles and done a dozen "Hail Marys" to give us the recent great weather. What a fantastic turn out and show day for Cholmondley. Thanks to you all for a wonderful time. Then to top this off came the Mystery Tour on the following Sunday. Many thanks go to Steve and Jill for their efforts in putting it together,(even though there were a few roads that the Caddy only just fit down Ha! Ha!). But what a great fun outing topped off with a meal at the Butcher's.

The end of May saw a weekend at Tatton Park. I hope that you arrived early, otherwise, you will have been burning liquid gold in a queue at over £5 a gallon. My thanks to you all for a turnout of 33 members at our last meeting, and to Dave for his quiz. All our heartiest congratulations to Brian and Audrey for their Wedding Day at the Town Hall, (I bet the Rover looked a million dollars, but not as lovely as the Bride).

Well done to you all
Your Friendly Neighbourhood Chairman
John Wayne Greatbanks

COMMITTEE

Chairman

John Greatbanks
01925 837970

Vice-Chairman

Russ Hadfield
0161 7760639

Treasurer

Rob Smith
01925 723243

Events

Maria McPartand
01925 245499
maria.mcpartland
@tiscali.co.uk

Social Secretary

Dave Espley
01925 724006

Newsletter

Steve Tanser
2 Rowan Close
Great Sankey
Warrington
WA5 3BH
01925 727120
steve.tanser@sky.com

Web Site

Mike Bennett
mike@patcomsys.com



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Next Meeting July 8th
Deadline for inclusion in next issue July 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

The majority of the cars we own and drive are fitted with a coil and a distributor containing contact breaker points, condenser, weights and springs for centrifugal advance, and often a vacuum advance system too. This system was developed over decades as the most efficient and cost-effective way of providing a reliable spark at each spark plug at the right time: it was perfected by Charles Kettering for Delco in 1908 and was first available on the 1910 Cadillac.

Shell Petrol Stations from Russ Hadfield

The big oil giant is apparently planning to open a range of “Classic Retro” looking petrol stations with a so call “Art Deco” appearance, thus recreating the images of the Fifties/Sixties.

The project is called the “Magic of Motoring” and the first garage is to appear in Newport Pagnall by the end of the year.

No wonder they call it the “Magic of Motoring”, with the current high fuel prices they can look at their bank balances and say “Magic!!” . Its no big surprise that they can afford to introduce a new image – all at our expense.

Just to let you know – I have been in touch with the Rotary show organisers and they have agreed to drop the price to £2.50 and we can have a club stand.

Maria

To: maria mepartland
Subject: Martin Mere 2008

Maria

Sorry you couldn't make Martin Mere. I would like you to convey my thanks to your club members who did turn out in spite of the weather.

It really made my day to see the enthusiasm and enjoyment shown by the people who turned up, and if the fates (and Martin Mere) allow, I'll be organising the event next year.

I've got the booking form for Fiddlers Ferry, and I'll post it off tonight

I'll see you then or sooner

Regards

Peter

From Rob Smith

Before you buy your next car have a look at the web site below, where you can check road tax by make and model, it's quite frightening!!!! I can see values of cars pre 01/03/2001 being stronger than later models

<http://www.parkers.co.uk/cars/road%2Dtax/>

We have been approached to put on a small show/ display of vehicles in Warrington Town Centre as part of the Market festival. This would 2nd- 5th July. Obviously some of you will be working – I have suggested the Saturday 5th would be a better day. I am awaiting further details.

But could you let me know if you are interested, in theory, so I can gauge the numbers. More details as soon as I get them. Maria

Lovely Weather for Ducks by Steve Tanser



Having missed Sandbach because I didn't feel it was a good idea to stand around in the bad weather because of my ongoing illness, we were really looking forward to Martin Mere as our first outing of the year. However, any thoughts of a day in the sunshine faded as we joined others waiting at the meeting point in Somerfield's car park in Penketh. The rain was steadily drizzling as we waited for others to arrive and by the time we were away it was a little heavier. With Dave leading in the VDP, we had eight cars in convoy. We meandered our

way through St. Helens, then along the Rainford bypass and through Ormskirk into Burscough. As the rain had increased during the journey, I wasn't looking forward to parking in a field but was pleased to see, as we arrived, that we were parking in a hard surface car park. Another two members made their own way there to make ten club cars attending.

As we were all wondering what to do next, as the rain was now quite heavy, the organiser, Peter (see letter in Bits & Pieces), came around to welcome us and handed Dave some passes for us. These entitled us to free entry into Martin Mere for the day. All we had to do was present them at the entrance where they would be exchanged for receipts. Then throughout the day we could come out to the cars whenever we wanted and just show the receipt to get back in, great. So we, *en masse*, headed for the cafe for well needed refreshments.

After a look around the craft fare we noticed the rain had stopped so, outside we went for a walk around. The area is made up of a number of lakes and ponds with lots of different species of water birds. There are many paths around the water so you can have a short walk or be adventurous and take in the whole area at once. One area is given over to beavers, though they must be pretty shy as we couldn't spot any on the day.

We returned to the cars for a sandwich and got chatting to other classic enthusiasts but, alas, the rain returned about three o'clock so we decided to call it a day. Just in time as it happens as the heavens opened on the way home. Martin Mere is a lovely place to visit for the day, but you do need decent weather especially with an entrance fee of £8.50 each. Probably better to wait for next year and pray for sun.

CLUB EVENTS 2008

15th June P. Gannicliffe Mem.

8th July Barry Molyneaux night

12th July Penketh Carnival

13th July Fiddler's Ferry

24th July Eve Whipping Stocks

27th July Audlem F. of T.

2nd Aug Hebden Bridge

3rd Aug Woodvale

16th & 17th Aug Tatton Park

23rd-25th Aug Oulton Park

31st Aug Rotary – Sutton Fields

7th Sept Cholmondley Castle

13th Sept. Wirral F. of T.

14th Sept Daresbury Labs

27th & 28th 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

LEADED FUELS UPDATE

from Chris Lee

Bayford & Co Ltd brought leaded petrol back to the UK market in 2000, primarily to service the needs of the classic car owner. As the only government-approved supplier of leaded fuel in the UK, following the decision of the major oil companies to withdraw the product, Bayford remains committed to do all it can to make leaded fuel as widely available as possible.

Recent press speculation suggesting that Bayford is no longer willing to supply leaded fuels is incorrect. Bayford, winner of numerous awards from the classic car industry for its efforts, including the Penrite Award for its Managing Director, Jonathan Turner, and the Classic & Sportscar Award for "Product of the Year", takes its role in fulfilling this declining yet important demand very seriously.

Bayford does, however, face difficulties in securing product and recently outlined its frustrations in a letter to its retailers, which presented the full picture of the situation. Its long-term blending partner has decided that the volumes

through the tank are no longer sufficient and the search for an alternative supplier - which complies with the stringent health and safety criteria for leaded product - now extends across the world. Several possible options are being considered.

Never one to give up, Bayford's Managing Director, Jonathan Turner - an enthusiastic supporter and collector of veteran, vintage and classic cars - is continuing the search for a satisfactory solution.

Turner said: "Working alongside the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs and Lord Montague, we have had a consistent fight over the years with the government to keep this product available.

"Despite having to pay an extortionate rate of duty on leaded and the consistently declining volumes, we are working hard with all concerned to continue to make leaded fuel available.

Despite all the frustrations, our retailers have been fantastic. This subject is very close to my heart and we are determined to do all we can for our customers and all the classic car clubs and enthusiasts across the country."

Russ's Rants

Brake noise

I was reading Practical Classics a few months ago, and was amused by a "Reader's" letter for advice.

The reader stated that his rear brakes were squealing, and he had heard of a copper based grease that might help. Nothing wrong with that, except his letter went on to say, what is the grease, what part of the brake shoes should it be applied, and does it go on the leading or trailing shoe.

The Practical Classic editor, probably after wetting himself with laughter, calmly advised the reader that it was indeed copper grease and that it should be applied to the shoe edges/back plate, and not the pads themselves.

Strewth !! with plonkers like that maintaining their cars make sure your car insurance is up to date and fully comp. As cover has now spread to include road rage and other items not previously available, we should all check that it covers dipstick damage!!

Next time you brake hard and stop short of the car in front, look in your rear view mirror and start sweating in case this bloke is in the car behind.

EU rules and Regulations

We've all seen strange and wonderful rulings coming out of Brussels, what with straight cucumbers and Eccles cakes that can only come from Eccles etc, it comes as no surprise then that they have come up with another 'gud un'

Apparently "The Driving Times and Rest Period Directives", which came into force last April by all accounts, means that bus

drivers cannot drive for more than 31 miles without a 45 hour (yes hours) rest within the same week. Longer trips require the bus to stop and a replacement driver to be found.

One company who runs small buses between Newquay and Plymouth (round trip of 54 miles) has now split the route into three sections. It runs from Newquay to St Columb Major (7 miles), then change bus to get to Liskeard (27 miles), change again, and finally on to Plymouth (another 20 miles)

What a load of bo**ocks !! It s about time the morons in Brussels had a rest period – a permanent one!!

Government Backing of Classics

Practical Classics had a chat with the Government's Minister for Transport (Jim Fitzpatrick MP) He stated that it takes around 60 modern vehicles to produce the same level of air pollution as one classic vehicle.

When challenged on this point, he did relent to say that well maintained classics could help minimise their effects and that as the classic vehicle numbers on the UK roads were relatively small, their overall effect would not make a significant contribution to the total environmental impact of road transport.

Good for him !! I'm sure he said this just as he was rushing off to get in his 4 litre Daimler to go to his next appointment.
Disclaimer

All rants are tongue in cheek and should be taken with a pinch of salt.

The writer doesn't take anything seriously and if any offence is taken then you should get a life!!

CLASSIC ADS

GRACE . . . SPACE . . . PACE



In many lands in many languages the world's press has paid generous tribute to the Jaguar. Let their words on the Mark VII Saloon speak for themselves. "Indescribable beauty . . ." remarkably modern, yet in impeccable good taste.¹ Its roomy body seats six in comfort.² Four large suit-cases, four golf bags and other personal effects can be accommodated in the luggage boot with the lid closed.³ With its famous XK120 engine, it can do a hundred plus miles an hour.⁴ Britain's most outstanding car—and the fastest.^{5,6}"

1. LE MATIN, PARIS 2. LE MONDE, PARIS 3. THE QUEEN 4. DAILY TELEGRAPH 5. NEW YORKER 6. DAILY HERALD

JAGUAR

Powered by the world-famous XK120 engine