

BACKFIRE

www.northwestcasualclassics.com

May 2011

COMMITTEE

Chairman

Steve Marran
01925 270429 Before
07725979968 8pm
Sm362@blueyonder.co.uk

Vice-Chairman

Russ Hadfield
01925 354709
Russandjackie@
talktalk.net

Treasurer

Rob Smith
01925 723243
Ro80rob@
googlemail.com

Events

Paul Gannicliffe
01925 724929
p.gannicliffe@
googlemail.com

Social/Events

Paul Birchall
07722734594 After noon
budgie968@gmail.com

Newsletter

Steve Tanser
01925 727120
steve.tanser@sky.com

Web Site

Mike Bennett
Mike@
northwestcasualclassic.
com

Ferry Show

Sue & Barrie Thomas
0161 3366983
suethomas1@talktalk.net

Chairman's Word

Hi everyone.

I want to start by thanking Steve & Jill Tanser for creating such a good start to the season with a hastily arranged road run. Those of us that went were treated to a nice run around the Cheshire countryside, as well as a visit to the Lady Hayes craft centre.

The run finished at a nice pub for dinner, with a local couple picking their favourite car. A wine decanter purchased earlier in the day was awarded to the winner. Steve also ran a competition to calculate mileage with a bottle of wine as a prize. Not bad eh????

For those of you that don't go on the "runs" then you really miss out on a decent route with good scenery, picturesque villages, nice "pit stops" and the chance to win a nice little prize at the end of the day. SO GET YOUR NAME DOWN FOR THE NEXT ONE NOW !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Bank holiday Monday saw us at Culcheth community day alongside the "Side valve owners club" with one of our committee featured in this weeks "Warrington Guardian" under the heading of Russell Hadfield with his Unbeam alpine (not my spelling mistake). Definitely a place to go next year.

The season really began with the Cholmondely Castle show on Sunday, of which more later.

Got to go now, as typing gives me a headache,(see how much I suffer for this club)....Steve M.



CONTENTS

PAGE No

1. Chairman's Notes
3. Bits & Pieces
4. Ethanol Fuel
5. Club Events
6. Drive it Day
8. Backside

Next Meeting 14th June

CLUB DISCOUNTS



Car Parts, equipment and consumables. www.cesuk.com
or tel: 01244 377 118. Quote account no. NWC003



Orford Green, Warrington

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

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,

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

For club polo/sweat shirts contact Kosi Kare and ask for Mel. Tell her your a member of NWCC and choose which design you want. Standard club colours are blue or white but you can have the club logo on any colour, eg: to match your car. Contact Kosi Kare on 01942 323868.

For other products you can shop online at www.kosikare.co.uk/.

While we were enjoying ourselves on the Drive it Day road run a classic car enthusiast died. On that weekend Stuart Bullas, three times Austin-Healey hillclimb champion, was crushed underneath a car while carrying out maintenance.

He was only discovered when friends visited his premises.

A post-mortem revealed he died of traumatic asphyxiation, or crush asphyxia. The Health and Safety Executive are conducting an investigation.

This accident stresses the importance of making sure you are safe when working on your car. Always make sure the car is securely supported and only use a jack for raising the car, not for support.

If you're planning a holiday at Butlin's this year, be sure you don't fall foul of the Dodgems safety regulations.

Bumping is banned at the Minehead, Bogna Regis and Skegness sites and all cars must follow each other in one direction. You can only overtake if there is enough room and if you bump you will be subject to a driving ban.

According to an AA survey fifty-nine percent of motorists are willing to reduce there motorway speed for the sake of economy; yeah right.

Top Tip

The following tip was handed to me recently by a club member. I apologise to that member because I've forgotten who it was. Anyway, if you've been glue down carpet in your classic and you find you have accidentally got some glue on it, try using a little light machine oil on a rag.

ETHANOL FUEL ADDITIVE

If you use petrol for your family car, classic car, boat, motorcycle, Quad, lawnmower, strimmer, rotavator, chainsaw, generator, pump or any other type of equipment that has a petrol engine, you need to know about Ethanol in your fuel.

What is Ethanol?

Ethanol, also called ethyl alcohol, pure alcohol, grain alcohol, or drinking alcohol, is a volatile, flammable, colourless liquid. Best known as the type of alcohol found in alcoholic beverages, it is also used in thermometers, as a solvent and as an alcohol fuel. In common usage, it is often referred to simply as alcohol or spirits.

Where does it come from?

Ethanol is sustainable and domestically produced from renewable resources such as corn, grains and potatoes.

Why add Ethanol to Petrol?

Ethanol is good for our agricultural economy and helps us reduce our dependency on foreign petroleum products. On the "green" side they are aimed at improving air quality and reducing air pollution from fuel emissions.

What proportion of the fuel is Ethanol?

Permitted ethanol content in petrol is 5% which is to rise to 10% in 2013.

However we are led to believe super-market fuels may already have as much as 10% ethanol blended in. We hear a 15% mix is on its way in the USA.

While this is good for the domestic farmer and our environment, Ethanol can cause serious problems to your engine and fuel system. Generally vehicles built after 1996 have been designed with Biofuels in mind, but earlier cars and engines with carburettors are going to need help. What types of problems have been encountered?

1) Water accumulation in the fuel tank

- ethanol absorbs water from the air. The water condenses in the fuel tank and will pull the ethanol out of suspension with the petrol. This is bad news because it strips the octane out of the petrol, leaving you with a layer of octane-poor fuel on top and a water-ethanol layer mixture on the bottom. If this gets sucked into the combustion chamber, you will have poor starting and very rough running with potentially engine damage.

2) Deposit build up - Ethanol when mixed with water readily forms Gums in the fuel system much quicker than fuel without Ethanol. These Gums coat fuel system components including filters, carburettors, injectors, throttle plates and will then form varnish and carbon deposits in the intake, on valves, and in the combustion chamber.

3) Lower fuel mileage, Decreased performance and acceleration. Ethanol contains less chemical energy

Club Events 2011

Tatton Park - 04-05/06/2011

Road Run - 19/06/2011

Warrington T.C. - 9/07/2011

Fiddlers Ferry - 10/07/2011

Boddelwydden - 24/07/2011

Audlem - 31/07/2011

Woodvale - 6-7/08/2011

Tatton Park - 20-21/08/2011

Ormskirk Festival - 28 /08/2011

Cholmondely - 04/09/2011

Widnes - Late September

than petrol does, and this means less mileage for the driver. 3-5% drops in mileage are expected.

4) Corrosion of internal engine components - Water contamination may cause fuel system corrosion and severe deterioration.

5) Contaminants in fuel system – water, degraded rubber, plastic, fibreglass and rust may get drawn in.

6) It could encourage microbial growth in fuel. Ethanol being organic and hygroscopic may allow the growth of fungus.

7) Short shelf life - as short as 90 days

8) Corrodes plastic and rubber - Ethanol is a strong, aggressive solvent and will cause problems with rubber hoses, o-rings, seals, and gaskets.

These problems are worse during extended storage when significant deterioration could take place. Hoses may delaminate, o-rings soften and break down, and fuel system components

made from certain types of plastics could either soften or become hard and brittle, eventually failing. Fuel system components made from brass, copper, and aluminium may oxidize. The dissolved plastics and resins now in the fuel could end up in blocked fuel filters or gummy deposits.

9) Melts Fibreglass - bikes and boats with fibreglass fuel tanks can have structural failure as the Ethanol will break down and pick-up some of the materials the tanks are made from.

Again this material, dissolved from the tank, can be carried through the fuel system and can cause damage to carburettors, fuel injectors and can actually get into the combustion chambers.

Did you know that the MG Maestro Turbo was claimed to be 0.3 seconds quicker from 0-60 mph than an entry level Ferrari Mondial.

Drive it Day

Last year we had a bit of a squeeze getting in to the Ferry Inn car park for the start because of people leaving their cars from the Glastonferry event the day before. We only just got into the Ferry Hotel car park at our destination too. This year the run had to be changed because of other events taking place.

When we were going over the run we found that a cycling event around the Eastham area meant that we couldn't book in for lunch as it was going to be extremely busy. We had to think of an alternative finish venue and re-route to suit. As we were changing the end, we thought we may as well change the start as well, so we were given permission to start in the car park of our club night location.

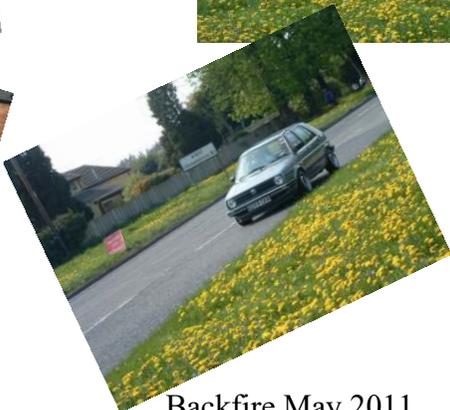
Our start was on time at 9.30 with only eight cars, half last year's number. Could it be the cost of petrol? Once again we found ourselves in the middle of a cycle race on the way to our first stop at the Lady Heyes Centre. This centre seems to have improved each time we visit. They have recently extended and redecorated the cafe making it a really nice place to visit in its own right.

Off again, after breakfast/coffee and a walk around, onto the second half of the run. Most of the route was unchanged from last year but we had to change the end part to bring us to the new destination of the Old Hall Farm pub near to Cheshire Oaks.

While we were taking photos and chatting, Steve Marran was talking to some customers who seemed to be interested in our cars. He asked them to chose their favourite and Steve presented Paul Birchall with a cut glass decanter he had bought at Lady Heyes for his Triumph Vitesse. We then had a competition to guess the total mileage of the run. Paul Bruton was presented with a bottle of wine for being the nearest; only 0.7mls out.

The day was completed with a nice relaxed sit out in the sun while we finished our drinks and talked about cars (what else?).





Backside

