

BACKFIRE

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November 2009

Chairman's Word

Aloha!!! to all Members,

Well, the time has arrived to get out those spanners and screwdrivers and fix all the jobs you promised to do at the end of the show season, mind you, get weaving cos it goes dark about 4-30pm, I hate these short Winter days don't you?.

Anyway!!, a bit of news regarding a social evening early in the New Year. As most of you know I have been a member of The Burtonwood Heritage Association for many years, trying to keep the memories together of when the Yanks came over in 1943 and built and serviced Aircraft at the Aerodrome for WW11 and conflicts afterwards therefore as we do a couple of times every year we are holding a 1940's Valentines Dance at Gullivers World on Saturday 13th February 2010, we ask everyone to Dress to Impress either Military (Army, Navy or Airforce), or Civilian, but come as you are if you like, these are really great evenings with G.I JIVE playing all the best tunes from the decade and the price also includes a Hot Pot Supper and fully licensed bar, the price is £10 each inclusive for a fantastic night so please enter your name and how many in you're party on the list on the table. I will collect all monies at the AGM meeting in December and issue tickets. If you pay by cheque please make it out to THE BURTONWOOD ASSOCIATION. Come on!!, get yourselves in gear for a wonderful night of memories.

From The Fighting Seabees and The Memphis Belle

All my Very Best Wishes

You're Friendly Neighbourhood Chairman

John Wayne G.

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 8th December is A.G.M.
Deadline for inclusion in next issue Dec. 1st**

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, 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

Transport Museums Crisis

One disturbing result of the re-session is that local councils are starting to make life difficult for transport museums. The museums are often housed in council owned property and some of these councils are demanding large increases of rent, or else they are giving notice that the museum must close.

Aston Manor Road Transport Museum in Birmingham faces a £60,000 per year rent, raised from £43,000 or they can buy the premises for £900,000.

Nottingham's Heritage Museum is

facing closure to save the Labour council £40,000 a year.

Parts Interchangeability

Have you ever wondered if a part you have for one car will fit another? Well, you can find out by going to www.practicalclassics.co.uk and click on the PIG GUIDE on the left. You can even download a guide for free so you can print it out.

CLUB EVENT

**Lymm Steam Gathering
(pub crawl)
Boxing Day 26th December**

Your Club Needs.....



As you may be aware, Dave Espley wishes to stand down as organiser of our Fiddler's Ferry Show. After six successful years he now feels he would like to pass it on to someone else. He has created a comprehensive guide which can be followed, step by step, to set up the show.

To prove how easy it is he used the guide to organise this year's show.

Also stepping down at the end of the year is Maria McPartland as Events Coordinator.

As I think you'll agree, Maria has done a fantastic job of getting us all to the shows during the last couple of years. Although this is quite a busy job, like Dave, Maria can give guidance and advice where necessary in the early days so you won't be dropped in at the deep end.

Here's a thought! Two members, working together to coordinate events and set up the Ferry Show.

If you think you could fill either of these important roles, please have a word with either Dave or Maria.

Cholmondeley Castle show 6th September 2009.



Punch lad (and Lass).



past Beeston and into the beautiful grounds of Chumley, (Warrington spelling).

The Lawns had suffered badly in places due to the heavy vehicle movements from the Pageant of Power event a few weeks ago; leading to a small headache for the organiser, Andrew Greenwood. The boy done good and was seen whizzing around like a Demon in his People carrier, making last minute decisions on who and



A record turnout of 22 club vehicles for this, our last big show of the year, made me proud as

We had a large gathering on Morrisons' Car park 0830hrs which led to an impressive Convoy up the A49

due to the heavy vehicle movements from the Pageant of Power event a few weeks ago; leading to a small headache for the organiser, Andrew Greenwood. The boy done good and was seen whizzing around like a Demon in his People carrier, making last minute decisions on who and



what goes where. We got a great spot and before you could say Jack whotsiz name we had

the Gazebo up and were munching breakfast. Thanks to John Pankhurst and Barbara for sorting the Sausage and Bacon extravaganza.

I forgot to mention in the Tatton report that Jilly and Paul G. did the grub.



Thanks and well done to all. Also we have made money on the food and that is noted by Rob Smith and

goes into Petty cash for now for Sundries. How do you like your Sundries cooked then?

We picked up some awards in the Show, namely.... John Allen got a second (runner up) in his class for his magnificent Triumph Tr Sportscar, which by the way, is up for sale. Jenny Hughes did the same with her cute but very tidy Mini City Special. Er that's the one that's a bit Pink isn't it?

The day seemed to rush by and just as the rain arrived we were packed away and on the road.

Ray and Lil came to grief when the Fuel Pump went belly up on the MGRV8, but as a few of us stopped to ask if they needed help we found out the A.A. was being summoned. They did get home ok about 1.5 hrs later.

Report by Dave (almost got a memory) Espley.

Club Run and Show at Prospect Pub Runcorn 9th August 2009.

An experimental outing was put together by Dave Espley and a friend of his (Mark) who runs an old pub Weston village Runcorn. The pub is on the topmost part of "Old Runcorn" and has uninterrupted views over the Mersey, past Hale Lighthouse (if you ignore the very large and imposing ICI Chemical factory down the Hill).

A bunch of about half a dozen stalwarts set out from our Clubhouse on the Sunday morning at 0930 hrs for a leisurely drive including Grapenhall Village, a stop at Lymm, followed by our arrival at the Prospect Pub around 1100hrs. Mark had kindly reserved the whole Car park for us to avoid "ordinary" vehicles breaking up our little Show.

It was never meant to be an extravaganza but turned out to be very relaxing and the weather was better than warm, and yes, actually dry throughout.

The plan was for the pub amateur footy team to take us on at Darts, Dommies and Pool to raise a bit of dosh to support the team.

Things didn't develop that far due to them having a Game on the day thus getting back a little

late.

No worries, we just had a few Shandies, even a light lunch, except for Billy who downed a Roast Lamb meal for starters. Poor lad obviously not eating well at home.

Some valuable lessons were learnt around allowing close access to the public to our cars. I naively let 2 youngsters climb in to the VDP and hey presto the Auto selector was neatly pulled out of Park into Neutral and the old girl rolled back 3 feet into the gauze bushes.

Thanks Billy for halting its progress by chocking a front wheel with a new shiny boot.

Silly Dave should have left handbrake on and kept kids better supervised (handcuffed).

On a lighter note, Jim Jordan took the prize (bottle of Wine) for Landlady's choice with his lovely Zodiac; then a presentation was made to Jim and wife Sue for their 23rd wedding anniversary. Nice one guys.

We decamped at 1530hrs greatly refreshed and took in a Toby Carvery at Widnes on the way home. Next year we may endeavour to make it more official and I feel sure it could be a lot more fun and attract more of us and the public.

Thanks to all who turned up from Dave Espley and Mark Ramsden.

A man riding his Harley was riding along a California beach when suddenly the sky clouded above his head and, in a booming voice, the Lord said,

'Because you have tried to be faithful to me in all ways, I will grant you one wish.

The biker pulled over and said,

'Build a bridge to Hawaii so I can ride over anytime I want.'

The Lord said,

'Your request is materialistic, think of the enormous challenges for that kind of undertaking; the supports required reaching the bottom of the Pacific and the concrete and steel it would take! It will nearly exhaust several natural resources. I can do it, but it is hard for me to justify your desire for worldly things. Take a little more

time and think of something that could possibly help mankind.'

The biker thought about it for a long time. Finally, he said,

'Lord, I wish that I and all men could understand women; I want to know how she feels inside, what she's thinking when she gives me the silent treatment, why she cries, what she means when she says nothing's wrong, and how I can make a woman truly happy.'

The Lord replied,

'Do you want two lanes or four on that bridge?'

Thanks to Chris Lee

Widnes in Pictures



Congratulations to all the kids who were born in the 1920's, 30's 40's, 50's, 60's and 70's !!

First, we survived being born to mothers who smoked and/or drank while they carried us and lived in houses made of asbestos.

They took aspirin, ate blue cheese, tuna from a can, and didn't get tested for diabetes or cervical cancer. Then after that trauma, our baby cribs were covered with bright coloured lead-based paints. We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, doors or cabinets and when we rode our bikes, we had no helmets or shoes, not to mention, the risks we took hitchhiking.

As children, we would ride in cars with no seat belts or air bags. Riding in the back of a pickup on a warm day was always a special treat. We drank water from the garden hose and not from a bottle. Take away food was limited to fish and chips, no pizza shops, mcdonalds, kfc, subway or red rooster.

Even though all the shops closed at 6.00pm and didn't open on the weekends, somehow we didn't starve to death! We shared one soft drink with four friends, from one bottle and no one actually died from this. We could collect old drink bottles and cash them in at the corner store and buy fruit tingles and some crackers to blow up frogs with. We ate cupcakes, white bread and real butter and drank soft drinks with sugar in it, but we weren't overweight because.....

We were always outside playing!! We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the streetlights came on. No one was able to reach us all day. And we were o.k.

We would spend hours building our go-carts out of scraps and then ride down the hill, only to find out we forgot the brakes. We built tree houses and cubby houses and played in creek beds with matchbox cars. We did not have playstations, nintendo's, x-boxes, no video games at all, no 99 channels on cable, no video tape movies, no surround sound, no mobile phones, no personal computers, no internet or

internet chat rooms.....we had friends and we went outside and found them! We fell out of trees, got cut, broke bones and teeth and there were no lawsuits from these accidents.

Only girls had pierced ears! We ate worms and mud pies made from dirt, and the worms did not live in us forever. You could only buy easter eggs and hot cross buns at easter time.....no really! We were given bb guns and sling shots for our 10th birthdays, We drank milk laced with strontium 90 from cows that had eaten grass covered in nuclear fallout from the atomic testing at maralinga in 1956.

We rode bikes or walked to a friend's house and knocked on the door or rang the bell, or just yelled for them! Mum didn't have to go to work to help dad make ends meet!

Footy had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't had to learn to deal with disappointment. Imagine that!! Our teachers used to belt us with big sticks and leather staps and bully's *always* ruled the playground at school. The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke the law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law!

Our parents got married *before* they had children and didn't invent stupid names for their kids like 'kiora' and 'blade' (ed. Nothing wrong with blade (named in honour of champion ruckman brendan lade))

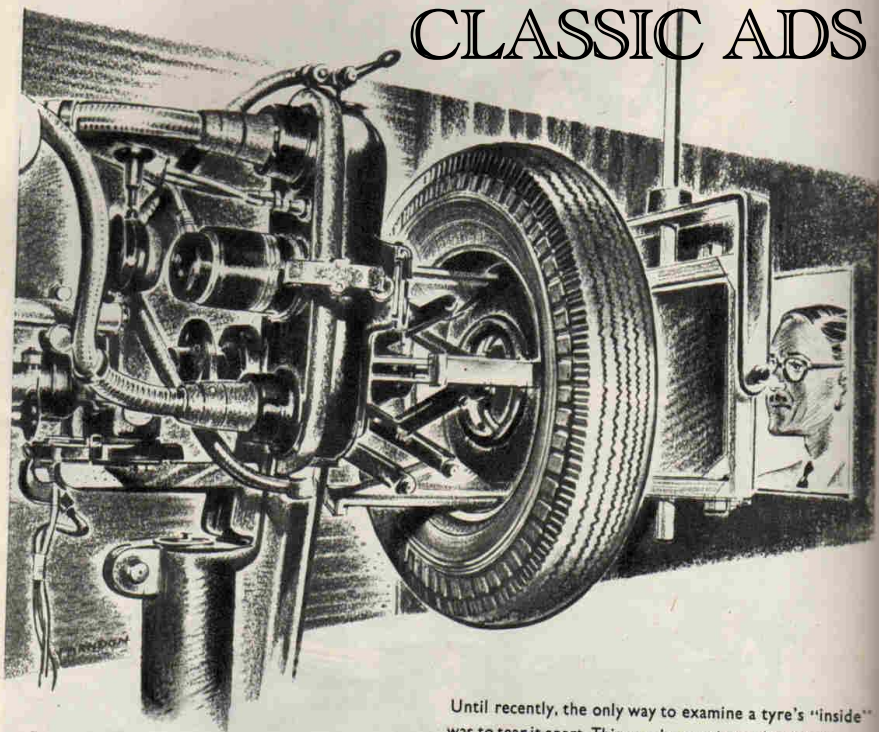
This generation has produced some of the best risk-takers, problem solvers and inventors ever! The past 70 years have been an explosion of innovation and new ideas. We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned how to deal with it all!

And you are one of them!

Congratulations!

Kind of makes you want to run through the house with scissors, doesn't it?!

Thanks to Steve Marran



THE INSIDE STORY

Until recently, the only way to examine a tyre's "inside" was to tear it apart. This was destructive and not always reliable. Dunlop research workers have therefore harnessed ultrasonic waves and X-rays into the service of the tyre examiner. These show him quickly and accurately what his own eyes cannot see, the inside structure of a tyre. X-ray examination now means as much to the tyre-scientist as it does to the surgeon. The method used at Fort Dunlop provides a clear and detailed picture of the structure without any need to damage the tyre. Studying these pictures is a valuable addition to normal inspection. Where a permanent record is needed, or for research, the picture is photographed. For direct inspection it can be thrown on a fluorescent screen, as shown above. X-ray viewing, another advance made possible by the Dunlop Research Centre's work, is typical of many tests introduced by Dunlop to secure and safeguard the high quality of your tyres.

DUNLOP RESEARCH

helps to give the world the Master Tyre

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