



**North West
Casual Classics**

BACKFIRE

www.northwestcasualclassics.com

November 2013



**John Wayne Greatbanks
Memorial Night**



Car Security



Next Meeting
10th December

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.

Chairman's Chatter



Hi All,

Sorry I missed the last meeting but Anne and I drove down to the Cotswolds for some much needed R and R. Those of you who pay attention to my ramblings and are lucky enough to have avoided the onset of senility, will recall the theft of my SS radiator grille. I have spent a lot of time this year chasing tips, ads and false leads. Now, after our trip to the Midlands I now have a replacement!! It is not the exact part but with a bit of fettling it will be as near as I can get. At least I can put the car back together!

A couple of weeks ago a few of us from NWCC went on our final outing of the year to Audlem. It was a lovely ride out, six classic cars made it to this small Cheshire town. We dined at the Lord Combermere Hotel, had a great meal and lots of laughs. I hope next year we can do this again and more of you will join us.

The penultimate event was at The Childe of Hale, then again great company, loads of transport and good grub! To top all that more money was raised for charity! David Simister from Classic Car Weekly turned up to report all for his Newspaper. He took some great photos but it has to be said his captions were a little inaccurate,

apparently yours truly is the 'Founder Member' of NWCC!!! and in another periodical the Widnes Weekly World, I am Ian Trimble! The picture of Ian was in fact on page 46 with the Halloween Masks.

I suppose many of you will be spending the winter months spannering, some with running repairs some with major projects and I wish you well with them all.

With next month being the AGM its time to think about next year. If you want to put your name down for a committee post now is the time, it's open to everyone so don't be shy. Thanks to all members of NWCC for showing your cars, helping, laughing, raising some charity money and generally having a good time.

Cheers Nigel.

Bits 'n 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/.

For more information of this charity to raise living standards of children in third world countries see Sue Thomas or go to www.marysmeals.org



AGM

It's that time of year again! The AGM is looming on the horizon. For the benefit of new members, at the December meeting, we will be dissolving the current committee and voting in a new one. All positions are up for grabs and can have nominations put forward for them. Although some of the committee members will be happy to carry on, anyone can stand against them if they wish.

Make you vote count towards the committee you want, or put your name forward to help run your club.

Car Security

Last month we looked at the various ways of tracking your car. Of course, the drawback with this is that the vehicle has actually been stolen; and who knows what kind of damage they did taking it. Perhaps another option might be to stop them taking it in the first place.

The simplest method is the old trick of removing the rotor arm whenever the car is parked. Few thieves will be walking around with a pocket full of forty year old rotor arms. Just remember where you've put it and be careful not to lose it.

Added to this you could also disconnect the battery, either by unfastening the earth clamp (not the live because of the risk of sparks), or by using a battery isolator. This is a much easier and safer way as you just remove the central key and take it with you, as you would with the rotor arm.



With a little more work the same effect can be achieved but more discretely. My father used to cut the live wire to the ignition switch, wire in a toggle switch and then hide it behind the dash. I've seen two other methods based on this. One is to wire in one of the old style, floor dip switches and fix it to the floor under the carpet. When exiting the car you can just click it off with your foot without anyone noticing. The second is to wire an audio jack socket into the ignition wire; the plug is kept on the key ring and has to be inserted in the socket before the engine will start.

Various makes of alarm/immobilisers are on the market today ranging from the simple, economical d.i.y. systems to the more complicated which require professional installation. Prices usually reflect the difference and complexity in these types of security.

Of course, the above methods only prevent the engine from starting; the car could still be towed or winched onto the back of a truck, provided the alarms could be bypassed. Other

Club Events

26th Dec - Lymm Steam

2014

18th Jan - Club Meal

options are to prevent the vehicle from actually being moved.

A very visual method is a wheel clamp similar to the one I have on the club trailer. The



square on the front of the clamp digs in to any surface irregularities should the vehicle be moved.

There are many different ver-

sions of this on the market, so you should find something to fit your classic. Another device is a steering wheel clamp. There are many designs available but most of these are made with modern cars in mind. The one illustrated,

for instance, won't fit my Humber because of the horn ring.



Does anyone remember the crook lock from years ago? For the benefit of younger members who may

not have seen one of these, the crook lock doesn't lock up a crook (now there's a gap in the market) it prevented theft of the vehicle

by hooking around the steering wheel and clutch pedal. A similar device I used to use years ago slid over the central hand-brake lever and clamped onto the gear-lever. I think these two are still available



if you search, but you may be able to find them at an autojumble or on eBay.



All of these methods secure the car itself but, if you only have driveway parking, have you ever thought

about securing the exterior of your home. If your drive is at the side of your house a good stout pair of lockable gates would prevent easy removal of a vehicle; and if you make them six feet high it will also prevent anyone seeing into the back where the car is. If this isn't possible there are removable posts, with their sockets concreted into the ground, which can be positioned in front of the vehicle to prevent movement. Movement sensitive security lights could also be fitted on the walls of the building. Do you have the house alarmed? Does it also include the garage where you park your classic? If not, why not?

It's clear there is a wide choice of vehicle security available from the cheaper d.i.y. to the more expensive, professionally installed systems. I suppose the best way would be a combination of two, or more, of the methods we have looked at. Perhaps, now that the winter layup time is fast approaching, it might be time to think about some method of preventing the thieves from depriving you of your pride and joy.



John Wayne Greatbanks Memorial

Pictures by Steve Marran





Backside

