



**North West
Casual Classics**

BACKFIRE

www.northwestcasualclassics.com

www.facebook.com/nwcasualclassics

December 2014



11/10/14 - jpbhawaii.com



CLUB DISCOUNTS

Next Meeting
13th Jan



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

December and another AGM. I hope you have enjoyed our clubs 19th year as much as I have. Your committee has worked hard to keep the good ship NWCC on course. My thanks go to them all for doing a fantastic job. As you know all the officers' places are available at this time, so if you would like to offer your services please see me before the voting starts. Our committee has grown over this year, not too big but more help makes it easier.



My search for a Riley is at an end. I have bought an Austin 16! Why the change? Well it just turned up when I chanced upon it on Car and Classic a few days ago. It was in Altrincham, Sage Green, in fantastic order and with loads of history. The previous owner had it 35 years and had undertaken a restoration many moons ago. Also, he had traced all the owners. The first being Sir William B R Morren CBE MVO who was the Chief Constable of Edinburgh 1944-55! The car has not been used in a while so there is a bit to do.

The Club trailer is at our house having a bit of TLC. It was my plan to move the axle forward to make it balance better and not be as nose heavy but that's not possible. I have fitted a pair of uprated Indespension units with a 750 kilo rating (600k is usual for us) and it now rides beautifully. Also, the sides have been letting in water so I have sealed the side panels. The drop down back has been replaced with a solid item also sealed so it should be watertight too. An idea I had to make a fixed top for the trailer to secure all our kit is still taxing the little grey cells and every plan I have so far has its downsides. If you have an idea to this end come and tell me please.

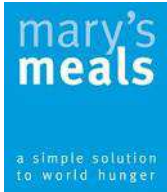
As you know 2015 will be North West Casual Classics 20th year, Eileen and Alan have been working hard to organize a 'shindig' to mark the occasion. Please get your tickets so they will know how many to cater for. This event is open for members and friends alike so please make it a success. (Saturday 31st January) Its not cast in stone when the Club is 20 so if you would like to suggest any other way we could mark the occasion please speak up. (Steve Morran's Naked Pub Crawl is postponed until warmer weather!) Also, this years ' How many times can I dislocate my shoulder?' competition was won outright by Phil Stott! Well done Phil, Take care mate.

On our January Club night we are hosting a Carole Nash Evening with Fuzz Townsend of DIY SOS fame. Then again, this is open to non-members and we are hoping some of our friends from other local clubs will be here. (Tues 13th Jan)

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all of you and yours a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year

Cheers, Nigel

Bits 'n Pieces



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 again; the annual club AGM. The committee will be dissolved and the members for next year will be voted in.

As always, all positions are open, so if you think you have something to bring to the running of your club, and would like to get involved, please let us know of your interest.

Following the recent Club night where the Deputy Chairman declared himself a practitioner of both heighthism and fatism the Chairman faced a prolonged grilling by members.

Following the grilling the Chairman stated that he wished it to be known that he had never supported pieism and that, as anyone who had met him would testify, he treats all pies equally. However under intensive questioning he admitted he had never tried to grill pies although now he had two grills he may try grilling them in the future..

Thanks to Chris Lee



Watching a repeat of Back To The Future II recently I realised that they traveled from 1985 to 2015. There were flying cars and hover boards and its only next year. I can hardly wait!

The committee would like to wish all members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Events

Walton Gardens

Dec 26th - Lymm Steam ?

2015

Jan 1st - Briars Hall

Jan 13th - Special Club Night

Jan 31st - Anniversary Social Night

Mar 1st - St Helens Museum

April 26th - Drive-It-Day

June 13th - Hale Carnival

June 28th - Lymm Transport Day

July 19/20th – Speke Hall

Sept 6th - United Utilities



LED Lights

A recent article in the FBHVC Newsletter on LED lighting got me thinking. The article was specifically related to MG RV8s but the principles apply to all cars and have particular reference to Classics.

There is a growing trend to fit LED indicator, sidelamp and brake lights because of their increased brightness and claimed reliability together with low power consumption. What's not to like?

As always there is a fly in the ointment in this case a legal conundrum. It lies in the Road Vehicle Lighting Regulations 1989 which are the current enforceable law for vehicle lighting in the UK. LED, and HiD, lights are not mentioned as a 'permitted lighting type' and therefore not legally allowed. Basically the only type of lighting permitted are traditional filament type bulbs.

That being said both LED and HiD are covered by type approval under European type approval. As European law trumps British law this means cars so approved and equipped are legal on British roads. So for new vehicles which are 'type approved' the lamps are perfectly legal provided the type approval specifically mentions either LED or HiD. There is some grey here as two variations of the same model may have type approval with traditional bulbs or LED/HiD. i.e. base model with traditional bulbs and top line model with HiD. Confusing!

Anyway back to classics it is certain that your classic will not have 'type approval' so we are back to the Road Vehicle Lighting Regs. Within the several schedules to these regulations are various cut off dates after which the regulations apply. Cars manufactured after these dates must be fitted with 'E' marked bulbs. To further add to the confusion these cut off dates are based on the type of bulb so the following dates apply:

Front Side Lamps - 1st January 1972

Rear Side Lamps - 1st January 1974

Brake Lamps - 1st February 1974

Indicators, Headlamps, Front fog lamps, reversing lamps and number plate lamps - 1st April 1986

Rear Fog lamps have no cut off date so always need to be E marked

(Note most (all) LED conversions are not E marked so cannot be used on the highway that is why the packaging says for off road use only.)

Technically cars produced prior to the approval dates could use LED but be careful and take advice as it is a bit of a minefield.

Thanks to Chris Lee

Bubble Car Museum

Langrick near Boston

Lincolnshire

Recently we met up with a few fellow Commerfans for a weekends camping at the Bubble Car Museum. The journey there was marred by some awful weather and on arrival the campsite, situated behind the museum, was awash and turning to slippery mud. Luckily the sun shone for the rest of the weekend and we were able to dry out and enjoy ourselves.

It's a small site and pitches at only £7 per van per night but another £4 if you need electric which made it a very cheap stay.

The reason for the trip was of course the museum, now I didn't know what to expect but was very pleasantly surprised with the exhibits and general layout of the place. You entered through the tearoom which served a variety of homemade cakes, sandwiches and other tasty treats, and a small gift shop selling nostalgic and crafty type stuff. After a delay caused by the need to sample the said treats we paid our £3 entrance fee and entered a large building packed with micro cars, period displays of 50's and 60's paraphernalia, scooters and motorbikes. The museum is on two stories and there is loads of unusual stuff to see and a great way to spend a couple of hours walking round and realising that you probable once owned (maybe still have) a fair few of the items on display, but not sadly the cars in my case.

So if you are ever in Lincolnshire and have an afternoon free this place is highly recommended.

Thanks to John Pankhurst



Backside

