

OWEN MOTORING CLUB

CLASSIC VEHICLE GROUP

FOR ALL CLASSIC VEHICLE ENTHUSIASTS

WWW.OWENMOTORINGCLUB.CO.UK

Polish it THEN use it !!



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Considering the current situation, I will start by wishing you all a Safe New Year and welcome to my seventh year of producing this newsletter on behalf of the classic section of Owen Motoring Club. I already have two crossings out on my brand-new 2021-year planner with one of them being the 'Scramble' at the former RAF Bicester airfield which had been increased to a two-day event and was due to take place over the weekend of 9th & 10th January. This has now been put back to 24th & 25th April because of the current 'lockdown' restrictions. Fingers crossed this can then go ahead but personally I cannot see anything happening until the late summer, I hope I am wrong!

An interesting and slightly worrying article appeared over Christmas in 'Classic Car Weekly' about criminals who are now using hidden cameras to spy on classic car owners and their cars in order to build up a profile of their habits so that they can pick the right moment to steal historic and classic vehicles. These cameras are camouflaged, all weather, battery powered devices (which are widely available via the internet) and are usually hid in bushes or tied to trees for a period after following a car home. These cameras are then retrieved by the thieves later to observe the footage before stealing their target vehicle. This information has been issued by Dr. Ken German, formerly of the Metropolitan Police's stolen vehicle squad, and is now crime consultant for the 'International Association of Auto Theft Investigators' (IAATI).

Goodwood are hoping their two popular events can go ahead and have issued the following.

"We were so disappointed you couldn't join us at our motorsport events last year and we'd like to thank you again for rolling over your 2020 tickets. We're now able to announce our 2021 dates and are looking forward to welcoming you back to enjoy all the thrills and drama this year!"

Festival of Speed: 8 - 11 July 2021

Goodwood Revival: 17 - 19 September 2021

The Historic Marathon Rally Group issued the following statement last week concerning their planned Gaydon April show.

"Due to the rapidly evolving COVID-19 situation and today's re-imposition of a National lockdown the HMRG committee feel that yet again we have to postpone our World Cup Rally reunion until April 2022. We consider that April 2021 is still too close for vaccination to have been rolled out



to enough people and international travel is likely to still be very limited, further restricting potential visitor numbers. On a brighter note, we are planning to have another rally car event in July / August 2021 at The British Motor Museum at Gaydon where we can promote who we are and what we do. This will most likely be as part of another event already being held. No dates have been confirmed, but we will keep you informed as soon as we know anything."



As mentioned in the final newsletter of 2020 BRM is celebrating its 70th Anniversary by constructing three new 16-cylinder race cars, the iconic and awe-inspiring Type 15 Mk1 BRM V16 which is considered to be the finest sounding race car in the history of the sport.

More information on this exciting project and the history of BRM can be found by clicking www.britishracingmotors.co.uk where you can also subscribe to an email newsletter to keep you informed of all future developments.

Finally, I received an email request from our friends at the Aldridge Transport Museum (AMRTM) in Shenstone Drive. Martin Fisher, one of the directors, sent me the following e-mail just before Christmas.

"At the Museum, we keep being asked about whether we can allow people to try driving some of our buses, often retired bus employees. We wouldn't consider letting anyone drive on a public road, for both legal and safety reasons, but there are occasions when we think it would be safe on private land, insurance etc. permitting. We can't think of anywhere suitable, but I wondered whether, with your Motoring Club's experience, anybody had any practical suggestions?"

If anybody has any suggestions then please reply to me and I will gladly pass them on, if somewhere suitable can be found it might make for a good club day out in the future maybe whilst also raising much needed funds for this great museum.