



Member of the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs

newsletter

Classic Cars Excused from MoT Testing

On 21 May the Roads Minister, Mike Penning, announced that, effective 18 Nov 12, classic cars manufactured before 1960 are exempted from the MoT test. He said, "Owners of classic cars and motorbikes tend to be enthusiasts who maintain their vehicles well – they don't need to be told to look after them, they're out there in all weathers check-

ing the condition of the engine, tyres and bodywork." Evidence shows that the initial MoT test failure rate declines after the vehicle is 13 years old.

Classic and historic vehicles are often very well maintained and have a much lower accident and MoT failure rate than newer vehicles. Pre-1960 licensed vehicles make up about 0.6% of

the total number of licensed vehicles in Great Britain, but are involved in just 0.03% of road casualties and accidents. Owners of affected vehicles will still be able to take exempt vehicles for an MoT test on a voluntary basis. *Let us know your thoughts so we can pass them on to the FBHVC.*

What's Coming Up

- **Corsham Fete – Saturday 16 June.** Contact **Brian Cox** 01249 715 641
- ⇒ **25th Anniversary Dinner – Friday 29 June.** We are expecting 70 for dinner at the Royal Agricultural College. Bring you classic (car) for display - the classic motoring press will be there taking photos.
- ◇ **Classic & Sports Car Action Day, Castle Combe – Saturday 30 June.** FCCC interest has waned in recent years. Clubs are given display space for 12 but the Secretary has received little interest to date. Maybe a half-dozen? See www.castlecombecircuit.co.uk
- **The Atwell Wilson Museum's Annual Classic Vehicle Show - Saturday/Sunday 7/8 July.** The Secretary has the details and entry form, kindly provided by **Graham Young**.
- **West Oxon Steam & Vintage Show—Sat-Sun 21-22 July.** <http://westoxonsteam.co.uk/>
- ⇒ **Bovingdon Tank Museum - 25 July.** See next page.
- ⇒ **FCCC Display & BBQ at Hunters Care Home – 28 July.** It's just on the edge of Cirencester. The folks love to see us. Its also the **FCCC Memorial Trophy Concourse**. Please arrive by 1:30 pm. Contact **Malcolm Cutler** 01285 712 173
- ◇ **Stroud Vintage Transport & Engine Club, South Cerney – Fri-Sun 3-5 August.** Some members received entry forms directly from the event organisers while others got a copy from our Secretary. Originally all forms were to go back to the organisers but some went to the Secretary. However, Barry must now submit a complete list of FCCC members who will be attending in order to reserve display space. So far, only **Cole, Cooper, Cutler, Gardner, Goodfield** and **Howard** have handed in entry forms within the Club but some may(?) have gone directly back to the organisers. So, besides the above six, if you have responded to the organisers or are planning to go, please tell Barry soonest -
 - ⇒ Which days you will be attending
 - ⇒ Which car you will bring
 - * Barry is guessing attendance from Apperley, Bennett, M. Cox, Freeth, Halliday, Hingston, Young. *(Let him know so he can put some of the Voodoo dolls back in the cupboard)*
- **Cowley Classic Car Show - Sunday 12 August.** Malcolm Fearn (non-Club) 01865 862 776
- ⇒ **Aunt Sally – Wednesday 15 August.** Contact **David Chambers** 01608 658 603
- ◇ **Thrupton Motor Circuit - Saturday/Sunday 18/19 August.** It's a race weekend. This is the CSMA Club's Big Weekend event (<http://www.csmaclub.co.uk/getinvolved/specialevents/bigweekend>) and they have invited us to participate in the classic car display in the main arena. If we go as a Club Run, we will have free entry for our Classic Car, driver and passenger, and use of the CSMA's hospitality suite. And paddock entry is included! We can make a decision later as to which day the majority prefers. **Barry Cooper** needs to know by **20 June** who wants to make up a run.
- ◇ **Best of British Show - Bank Holiday Weekend - 26/27 August.** Kemble (Cotswold Airport). Nine entry forms have been received (**Bennett, Cole, Cooper, Cutler, Ford, Gardner, Tebby, Halliday, Hingston**) with three more pending. Information on the event is at <http://www.bestofbritishshow.co.uk/> . Time is running out quickly so get in touch with **Barry Cooper** 01285 851 821 soonest.

The priorities for response are:

◇ Thrupton - by 20 June

◇ Stroud Vintage Transport

◇ Best of British Show

The Newsletter gives priority to Club events, then activities we propose to attend as a group and lastly, everything else. This is indicated respectively by an arrow, a diamond and a dot. There is a plethora of other things out there and we'll try to fit in what we can. If you are aware of something good, let us know.

Remember to check the Club Website and the latest issue of FC3 for a forecast of events. If you have a question, call Barry Cooper, Club Secretary 01285 851 821. If he is not coordinating the event, he will know who is.

Lastly, Coventry (15 July) and Old Warden (5 August) are "no goes" for us.

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Churchill Vintage & Class Car Show - 10 June

“One of the best ever”, we heard people say. The 2012 Churchill Vintage & Classic Show



presented **525 classic cars and motorcycles** from a century of motoring. It would have been a challenge to count up the huge range and variety. Each was immaculate and exuded a clear pride of ownership. Thanks to “friends-in-high-places” (our very own **David Chambers**), the 27 car contingent from FCCC occupied the key terrain around the magnificent water fountain.

The Show had the aura of a country village fair with just the

right touch of casual and friendly, underpinned by some very well done organisation and management. The strong public attendance added to the vibrant throng of motoring enthusiasts. Well done Dave! You even got the weather sorted just right.

More photos in the Summer Issue of FC3.



Hands up anyone who has never, ever “been there, done that”



The Country Pub Run - 27 May

The day dawned bright and sunny for another of **Barry Cooper’s** mystery tours, this time starting at the **Chedworth Farm Shop**. Twenty-one of the usual motley crowd turned up and fortified by coffee and cake, we set off through 19 miles of country lanes in the general direction of Winchcombe. After meeting a few kamikaze locals en-route we found ourselves at the **Hobnails Inn** Little Washbourne for a most sumptuous carvery, enjoyed by

everyone, albeit with a few members missing en-route!! After much cogitation and deliberating on a range of subjects our members attended the superb open gardens of Kemerton in aid of the Red Cross. In blazing sunshine and after being sustained by tea and even more cake we all went our separate ways reflecting on yet another of 'Barry's Belters'. Happy Days - Spiderman .

- Rob Bevan



Bovingdon Tank Museum - 25 July

Bunny is arranging a coach trip to the Museum which records the nearly 100 year history of Royal Tank Regiment & Royal Armoured Corps at Bovingdon. On display are over 150 vehicles with some of the most significant tanks from many countries. They range from the initial development of the tank at the Somme through to those currently used in Afghanistan. We will see the only working WW1 tank and a German Tiger from WW2. There are many feature displays of individuals of significance including T.E. Lawrence, as well as displays of engineering interest.

We have chosen a date when we will be able to see WW2 tanks in action in the display arena and when we can experience rides in a tracked vehicle (a modified tank) at a small charge.

This is a joint visit with the **Hankerton History Group** and the **Cirencester Science and Technology Society**. For lunch, there is a restaurant at the museum. The admission charges will be the group rate of £8.00 per adult and £6.00 per OAP - a saving on normal charges. **Do not send entrance money to Bunny at this stage.**



**WELCOME TO THE
BIGGEST
DAY OUT
IN HISTORY**



The Coach will leave **Beeches car park in Cirencester at 8.30am** where there is plenty of all day parking. We would expect to return by 6.00pm. **Please send your cheque for £24.00 per person** payable to B.I. Lees-Smith at 1.Follyfield, Hankerton, Malmsbury, Wiltshire SN16 9LA. as soon as possible to book your place on the coach.

More information at www.tankmuseum.org



About Our Newsletter

We would like this to be the last monthly Newsletter that goes out to everyone in hard copy. From next month we want to send it out by e-mail, post it on the Club website, and for those without the internet, by Royal Mail in hard copy. **Once again, we must stress that the quarterly FC3 magazine will be sent to all members as a hard copy.**

This throws up three groups for Newsletter distribution:

- ◆ Hard copy only (about a third of us without e-mail)
- ◆ E-mail only
- ◆ E-mail and hard copy

The recent Club survey indicated that 52 of our 78 members (not including spouses and partners) use the Internet. Moreover, “most” of the 52 would be happy to receive the Newsletter by e-mail only. What we don’t have is a sharp focus on the potential split between the ones who want it only on e-mail and those who would also wish to receive a hard copy as well as the electronic version. As well, we are not sure that we have a completely accurate tally of who is on the internet. Some of you may have e-mail and we just don’t know. Now its time to get it our numbers right.

At the bottom of the page is a short response we’d like to receive from you. This should tell us what we need to know to send out the Newsletter. It also confirms e-mail addresses.

For those without e-mail, please cut this off and mail it to:

**The Editor
Fairford Classic Car Club
c/o Strawberry Cottage
Strawberry Lane
Meysey Hampton, Glos.
GL7 5HL**

For those with e-mail, you may either mail in the cut-off below or, e-mail the editor and indicate your choice. The address is -

pdbarton@sky.com

Please feel free to add any comments or suggestions regarding the Newsletter.



NAME: _____

E-MAIL: _____

I wish to receive my Newsletter by ::

Tick one box only

post:

e-mail:

e-mail and post:

So what’s it all about? *We could* make some noise about living electronically in the 21st century though being “classic” sort of people, not many of us are full-on into *i-pad*, Twitter, Facebook and the like. What it really is about is saving money and efficiently passing information in a format this is acceptable to all members.

Cost

Second Class postage is now 50p for up to 100gm so 78 monthly newsletters gets us close to £500 a year when you add in envelopes and address labels. While we have a fair stock of stamps, bought at the old prices, those will run out eventually. Besides, the more stamps we can divert to the hard copy of **FC3** magazine, which will always be mailed to everyone, the longer our stamp stock will last.

If everyone of the 52 took the Newsletter only by e-mail, we would save over £300 each year which could be spent in other ways. For example, more colour in the magazine may be an option. Even by changing to e-mail for two-thirds of our Internet users, would save £200. Of course, some may still want to receive the Newsletter by post and that is understandable. **The choice is yours.** In the first instance though, we want to establish those to whom we can send the Newsletter only through e-mail starting next month.

Please note — the hard copy Newsletter will always be printed in black and white to save on printing costs. The e-mail and web versions will appear in full colour.

Communication

An added advantage of using e-mail is that as soon as a Newsletter is completed, those on e-mail will get it straight away. That will be quite helpful, especially for short notice responses needed for Club events (like we have this month). Albeit we won’t reach everybody this quickly but two-thirds of the Club is a good proportion. It will also be sent to the printers electronically.

Please write any additional comments on the back