

CONGLETON BEARTOWN CLASSIC CAR CLUB

January 2020 Newsletter

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE

With Christmas now gone and the New Year not following far behind we can look ahead to lighter nights, longer days, and decisions about the shows we wish to attend. So keep a close eye on the club website or better still try Facebook, the 2020 events list will be posted on both sites.

DECEMBER MEETING

The chair opened the meeting to a well-attended evening yet again. He informed us that there was very little happening this month. However he gave the members present the last chance to place their Christmas lunch orders for the 8th December.

CHRISTMAS CHARITY COLLECTION

The annual charity collection will take place in our usual place in the town of CONGLETON on 14th December 09:00 - 12:00.

THANKS GIVEN

The Chair went on to thank Olivia and Dawn, two of our newer members, for setting up the club's Facebook page. Members can use it to keep more abreast of things happening or not happening within the club from last minute event cancellations, to items not received in time to make the Newsletter and too late for the next. This is an excellent idea to keep members fully informed and up to date. Check it out **Guys and Gals** it's easy to join if you are a member of Facebook just search for Congleton Beartown Classic Car Club and click join. Equally it's not too difficult to become a Facebook user, especially if you already have an email address **Job done**.

Thanks were also given to Julie (that's me, but I guess you have worked that one out. Ha-ha.), for taking on the Newsletter and putting a lighter touch to it and was better than his staid, dull boring ones (his words not mine.) I thank you all for the appreciation shown for my efforts writing the Newsletter and I hope I can continue to produce a presentable Newsletter that is lighthearted, easy to read and covers the more important parts of the club alongside the fun side for the foreseeable future.

RAFFLE & AUCTION/SALE.

The good old raffle raised £57, whilst an auction of a pre-owned heavy duty sander and a sale of wood turned items raised £20.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL.

The time has come around to renew our Membership which is a bargain at £15 for a year. Not only can you get entrance to shows at Tatton Park, lots of other local shows are on our events list, AND you also get the opportunity to attend the annual BBQ held in September Renewal packs will be handed out at the January 6th meeting so get ready to fill in the form and pay your dues.

EVENTS.

19th January, 2020.

HOTPOT SOCIAL Bull's Head, Smallwood 12 noon- ON.

FLASH NEWS

During the meeting it was reported that one of our elder members had taken a fall and fractured her hip and was presently in Leighton Hospital. A card was signed by all present to send on to Betty. We wish you well & hope you recover quickly and are back with us all in the Club soon.

Hibernate your classic for winter with these pointers.

Winter is coming, as they say, and getting your beloved car ready for hibernation should be at the top of your to-do list. Winterization preferences are highly subjective, and while there are no hard-and-fast truths, there are some best practices to help you prepare for the dark months.

For starters, wash the car. Water stains or debris left on the car can permanently damage the paint. Make sure to clean the wheels and undersides of the bumpers to get rid of mud, grease and tar. Give the car a good waxing and treat any interior leather with a good conditioner.

Even though you're storing it in a garage in (ideally) semi-stable temperatures, a weatherproof car cover will keep dust, unexpected spills, bird/bat droppings and accidental scratches off the paint.

Consider a coolant flush, so that your anti-freeze is up to snuff if the temperatures get severe. (Remember the anti-oxidants in anti-freeze do not stay effective forever and can cause sludging etc. Antifreeze should be renewed every two/three years.) While you're at it, change the oil. It's one less thing you'll have to do on that first nice driving day.

While winter storage isn't overly lengthy, it's important to add a fuel stabilizer to the tank to prevent the fuel from separating and gumming up your fuel system. The fuel stabilizer will prevent the petrol from deteriorating for up to 12 months. If available, it won't hurt to fill up with ethanol-free fuel, some super /premium grades are still ethanol-free.

A connected, unattended battery will eventually lose its charge. Your best and safest bet is to remove the battery completely and store it in a warm, safe place.

Don't set the parking brake when you leave a car in storage; brake pads could fuse to the hubs/discs after extended contact. Instead, throw a chock or two behind the wheels to prevent the car from rolling. In a similar vein, for vehicles with manual transmission, regularly operate the clutch to minimise the risk of the clutch plate fusing with the pressure plate / flywheel.

When it comes to tyres, flat spots can occur if the car is stationary for too long, particularly in colder temperatures and especially with high-performance or low-profile tyres. Consider placing the car on jack stands at all four corners. Place the stands beneath the suspension to keep it loaded, otherwise suspension components such as gas shocks could be compromised.

Fresh Cab or scented dryer sheets placed inside work wonders and leave the car smelling fresh. If moisture is a concern, lay desiccant bags in the footwells and boot.

Finally, maintain your insurance. You might be tempted to cancel your policy during storage, but it could be a major loss if a fire starts, snow collapses your roof or a theft occurs.