News Bulletin



April 2020

Dear Members,

Coronavirus

The NHAEG is strictly following UK Government advice throughout the ongoing COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic and all events planned throughout the Spring and Summer, have now been cancelled or postponed to later in the year. This includes scenic runs, attending static shows, and third party programmes.

As this is a rapidly changing situation the Club Committee will post updated information as it becomes available.

Please stay safe yourself and if you are able, please spare a thought for others, particularly our senior Members, friends, family and neighbours that you may be able to communicate with through social media during the impending isolation that will inevitably affect us all in the weeks to come.

The government has announced a 6-month suspension on MOT tests.

If your modern car is due an MOT test, you won't have to book a test for 6 months. The delayed testing will be in place for 12 months.

This will allow people to carry out essential tasks during the coronavirus pandemic, like shopping for necessities or travelling to work if they can't work from home.

The exemption will apply to cars, motorbikes and vans.

Allowing this temporary exemption from vehicle testing will enable vital services such as deliveries to continue, frontline workers to get to work, and people to get essential food and medicine. Safety is key, which is why garages will remain open for essential repair work.

You still need to ensure your car is safe to drive. If you're not sure when your MOT is due, take a look at https://www.gov.uk/check-mot-status

Events that you may have missed last month

Scams and Conmen

We had an entertaining evening at the March club night with guest speaker Simon Williams, who gave a talk on conmen of the past and present, the scams they pulled, street cons, computer cons and how to avoid them. He was ably assisted by his lovely assistant Jean E and demonstrated the 3 card trick, cover the spot and which envelope has the £10 note?

Future Events

Photographic Competition

As briefly mentioned at the last Club Night it's proposed to stage a photographic competition for NHAEG Club members, to run between now and the end of September 2020. Judging will be by members present at the October Club Night. The categories are: People / Animals / Automotive (i.e.Vehicle-related) / Landscapes (i.e.Scenery)

CASHLESS PARKING

In the future, when life returns to normal, you may notice that many carparks now have cashless parking at stations and major shopping centres.

New research conducted by the Mail On Sunday has found that around a third of parking meters are now cash free. That means drivers must pay with a debit or credit card or via a telephone hotline or mobile phone app.

How does cashless parking work?

Instead of putting coins into a meter, you pay for parking with a debit or credit card or use a mobile phone app. For some car parking, you ring a telephone hotline although this can be time consuming.

There are Smartphone Apps such as PayByPhone, RingGo and ParkMobile which you download and input your payment and car details. Then it's simply a case of opening the app when you want to park, inputting the location number displayed on a sign and clicking pay. It's easy, as long as you're comfortable with the technology.

What's the downside?

Not every driver is comfortable with paying for things using a mobile phone app. Some people – as is their right – would prefer to pay with cash. Drivers who've been fined for not being able to pay at cashless parking meters are being urged to contest the penalty especially when they do not own a Smartphone.

Another downside is that there isn't just one app. Although PayByPhone and RingGo cover around four fifths of the UK's cashless parking locations, not every local authority or private car

park uses them. Go to a strange town and you may have to download a new app. Before you know, it's entirely feasible you'll end up with a handful of parking apps on your phone.

In addition, there can be added costs to paying by app. Some app services charge users an 'administration' or 'convenience' fee every time they park with the app. There are also handy text reminders to tell you when your parking time is about to expire. And you can get a text summary of where, when and how much your parking was. But these services also cost extra, typically about 30p each. It can add as much as 20 per cent to the cost of parking.

What are the benefits of cashless parking?

The primary benefit is there should be no more hunting for the right change. And it should do away with the inevitable cursing when you have to pay £2 to park because you don't have the coins to pay the correct £1.40.

Drivers can also extend their parking through the app where it's legal to do so meaning no running outside to 'feed the meter'.

If parking meters don't have to accept cash it means they can't get jammed up or full with coins, a frequent cause of malfunctions. So more reliable parking meters should result. Using parking apps should also help prevent drivers inputting incorrect registration details (substituting the letter O for a zero is a common error). And if you do, the parking operator will be able to see exactly what you've done. If you've made an honest mistake, there's a good chance you'll be let off any resulting fine.

Quiz: What do you know about breaking down?

None of us leaves home in the morning wanting to break down. Sadly, thousands of us will. But how much do you actually know about <u>breaking down</u>? Take our quiz to find out what you know – or otherwise – about conking out at the roadside.

Take our quiz on breaking down below:

#1 You suffer a puncture on a normal motorway. What should you do?

- a) Indicate left, pull onto the hard shoulder and call for help
- b) Pull over and change your wheel
- c) Keep going slowly until the next exit

#2 What's the advice if your car breaks down in the active lane of a smart motorway?

- a) Abandon your car for the hard shoulder
- b) Push your car to safety
- c) Put your hazard lights on and stay in your car, seatbelt on, until help arrives

#3 What do the marker posts beside motorways indicate?

- a) How far away the next services is
- b) The direction and distance to the nearest emergency phone
- c) The length of the road

#4 If you break down on a motorway, where on the hard shoulder should you stop?

- a) As far to the left as you can
- b) It doesn't matter, the hard shoulder is safe

c) As near to the live carriageway so your car can protect you from the traffic

#5 You're driving along at 60mph and your car suddenly loses power. You should...

- a) keep going until you slowly grind to a halt
- b) put your hazard lights on and hope for the best
- c) indicate left and use your momentum to help you to the side of the road

#6 When should you put out a warning triangle?

- a) Whenever your break down
- b) If you break down on any road other than a motorway
- c) Only when it's safe to do so and not on motorway hard shoulders

#7 When your car is broken down at the roadside you should turn the steering...

- a) to the right
- b) to the left
- c) to the centre

#8 If you break down on a motorway where should you wait for help?

- a) On the other side of the barrier as far away from your car as you can safely be
- b) Sitting beside the motorway crash barrier
- c) In your car with the hazard lights on

#9 An orange dashboard warning light comes on as you're driving along. You should...

- a) stop as soon as it's safe to do so or head for a motorway exit/services
- b) stop immediately
- c) ignore it and it'll go away

#10 How far apart are the safe emergency refuge areas on smart motorways?

- a) Up to every three miles
- b) Up to every 1.5 miles
- c) Every half a mile







Our cleaning lady just called and told us she will be working from home and will send us instructions on what to do.

OTHER EVENTS 2020

Organisers	2020 Expected Dates	Events & locations	Contacts			
MG and British Marques Day	postponed	Brooklands	https://www.brooklandsmuseum.com/whats-on/MG- and-British-Marques-Day			
Nuffield Place	14 th June	Henley on Thames	Jim.hanworth@hotmail.co.uk Jim Richardson			
Practical Classics	7-9 th Aug	NEC, Birmingham	Classic Car & Restoration Show			
British Motor Show	20 th -23 rd Aug	Farnborough exhibition centre	http://thebritishmotorshow.live/			
International Auto jumble	5-6th Sept	Beaulieu	https://www.beaulieu.co.uk/events/			
Thorneycroft Society	Sunday 13 th Sept	Thornycroft Society Basingstoke Festival of Transport	Trevor Mulford www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/page.php?PgID=734167&ClubID=1523			
Hart Rotary club	Sat 19 th Sept	Hartley Witney	Trevor Mulford			

Answers

1)a	2)c	3)b	4)a	5)c	6)c	7)b	8)a	9)a	10)b

NHAEG committee