



WETHERBY CLASSIC CAR CLUB

Web Site: <http://www.wetherbyclassiccarclub.org.uk>

July to September 2020



I went for my evening walk yesterday, on the way back as I passed Mike and Libby's house I was hailed by the inhabitants as you can see they were under lock & key!!

I suggested to them a rescue party would be sent if we could publish the photo in the News Letter to which they readily agreed, Joan.

**Meetings are held at the Bridge Inn, Walshford, North Yorkshire LS22 5HS
Phone:01937 580115 On 2nd Tuesday each month 8.00pm, presentations at 8.30
Special price Carvery available from 7.00 pm for members and visitors**

Wetherby Classic Car Club Activity Programme

All the events we had planned for the rest of 2020 are now cancelled or in danger of cancellation. It is not possible to predict when we can resume our normal activities. As the situation changes, with Government advice and / or hotel etc; openings we will have to add or delete activities at short notice.

As soon as an event can be planned, or has to be cancelled, we will e-mail members, with a phone call to those who do not have e-mail, with details. The usual list of events in the magazine has been removed for the time being.

Christmas Dinner at the Bridge et al.

Joan, Gillian and Margaret have discussed the options, and developed a new plan as follows:- The Christmas dinner, the February theme party night and the Club Silver Anniversary celebration will be combined into a single event on Tuesday 9th February 2021. The theme will be 'Silver' and members are asked to wear or otherwise indicate a silver connection. The Windmill at Linton was the venue for the very first WCCC meeting on 1st August, 1996. The Windmill is now open, and, within the regulations, can accommodate tables of 8 for a meal. There will be an informal get-together for WCCC members at 7.00 pm on 1st August 2020 with one or more tables of eight. Please let Joan know if you would like to join the long-term members [6 have already registered] so that she can arrange the booking. Telephone 07759258798, e-mail joan.woodhall@ntlworld.com .

Classic Car Runs

Details of a proposed run on 11th August set out below. If this event is a success, we will try to arrange similar runs in September and October.

Bridge Hotel Regular Meetings

As soon as the hotel is able to accommodate us, we will resume our regular second Tuesday meetings. The social distancing and party size limits in the Covid Regulations at present make it look unlikely that the Bridge will be able to re-open for some time.

For the time being Nigel and Heather have not postponed or cancelled the September and October speakers:-

8th September. Talk. 'The restoration of the gardens at Goldsborough Hall', by Mrs Clair Oglesby.

13th October. Talk. 'Formula 1's 10 British Champions - from Hawthorn to Hamilton', by Mr. Graham Read.

November should be the traditional Beetle drive, and December the Christmas dinner.

WCCC and Coronavirus / Covid 19

The virus has stopped almost all classic car activity. The Knavesmire show has now been cancelled, the last remaining show of the season. We do not know when we will be able to have a regular monthly meeting. Our club barbecue, due on September 19th, will not be possible with social distancing meaning the Collingham Sports Club bar has restricted access.

However, we may be able to have a **classic car run** [but come in the Eurobox if the classic is not available] in **August** if we follow the lockdown rules. The scenario would be something on the lines of:-

11.00 am Meet at the Ings / Swimming Pool Car Park by the river in Wetherby. There is plenty of room on the Ings to have a coffee from a flask whilst maintaining distance. There are toilets in the sports club, but as I write that is still closed. There are public toilets in the Shambles and both Morrisons and Aldi have toilets in the town. Observe social distancing of 2 metres from other members.

11.30 Set off on a route, possibly driving north and east of the A1 towards Topcliffe, then south to the west of the A1 finishing at Ripley.

12.30 approx. Arrive at Ripley car park. If the overflow car park is available we can set up our own picnic area observing social distancing of 2 metres from other members.

Nigel and Heather have checked the area and report as follows allowing us some afternoon activity:-

The main car park is open with notices up to say open from 9.00 am to 6.00 pm , the overflow car park was NOT open. The toilets are open. We arrived about 10.15 am and there was plenty of space and we left about 12.15 and there was still space but not necessarily together. May be different of course on another day. There were people about but not at all crowded. I would suggest meeting mid week and preferably in the morning.

We had a walk to Clint which was lovely. I checked other facilities in the village. The castle is open but by pre booking only, the café is open both outside and inside with greatly reduced number of tables, the old castle gift shop ,which closed last December, is now a take away for drinks and snacks, the village store is open as well as the ice cream parlour and the butchers , which is now under new ownership but as excellent as always, we get our meat etc. delivered from them and the church is open but with restrictions on numbers and opening times. The craft shop is open as is the new gin place called Tipples !!

Suggested date Tuesday August 11th i.e. our normal monthly meeting date. Please let me know if you would like us to arrange this event so that we can proceed [or not!]. Bob

Chairman's Rant

The restrictions we have all faced due to Covid are being relaxed little by little, I just hope that the British people follow the rules and avoid a second wave, We have had 13 weeks without leaving the house, followed by a couple of weeks with trips out in the Eurobox to isolated places we know for a picnic without other people around. I am very sorry to miss the Otley Extravaganza, the Middlemiss pork pies are worth the trip by themselves.

Actually we have quite enjoyed spending time together. The smaller shops in Wetherby, including Johnsons greengrocery, Tarbetts fishmonger and Sykes House Farm butchers have all delivered to us regularly. Tesco delivered groceries, Aldi delivered wine, Sainsburys and Ocado both placed us on their priority list.



The classics are in good form, the MG has a new MOT, the Alfa will have a new exhaust and an MOT next week, so we are ready

for any activity. Watching the classic auctions, prices seem to be on the rise for most cars, which is good news for us as we hope to sell the Alfa soon.

A poem by Pam Eyres, sent in by David and Caroline

I have a little Satnav,
It sits there in my car
A Satnav is a driver's friend,
it tells you where you are.
I have a little Satnav,
I've had it all my life
It's better than the normal ones,
My Satnav is my wife.
It gives me full instructions,
Especially how to drive
"It's sixty miles an hour", it says,
"You're doing sixty five".
It tells me when to stop and start,
And when to use the brake
And tells me that it's never ever,
Safe to overtake.
It tells me when a light is red,
And when it goes to green
It seems to know instinctively,
Just when to intervene.
It lists the vehicles just in front,
And all those to the rear
And taking this into account,
It specifies my gear.
I'm sure no other driver,
Has so helpful a device
For when we leave and lock the car,
It still gives its advice.
It fills me up with counselling,
Each journey's pretty fraught
So why don't I exchange it,
And get a quieter sort?
Ah well, you see, it cleans the house,
Makes sure I'm properly fed
It washes all my shirts and things,
And keeps me warm in bed!
Despite all these advantages,
And my tendency to scoff,
I only wish that now and then,
I could turn the bugger off.



Can we have these statues taken down next please as they offend everyone



Are you unknowingly breaking the law whilst driving?

[With thanks to Admiral Insurance]



Whether it's obeying speed limits, holding valid [car insurance](#) or refraining from using a mobile phone while driving, most of us know the basic rules of the road. However, some motorists are breaking laws without even realising it, risking fines, penalty points and even their licence. We've looked at some of the lesser-known driving laws that you might not know, hopefully helping you avoid accidentally getting into hot water yourself.

1) Warning flashes

How many times have you been flashed by an oncoming car, seemingly for no reason, then further down the road you come across a mobile speed trap?

The bad news is that flashing your headlights to warn other motorists is against the law. Under Section 89 of the Police Act 1996 it's deemed "wilfully obstructing a constable in the execution of his/her duty" and could land you with a £1,000 fine. As the Highway Code states: "Only flash your headlights to let other road users know that you are there. Do not flash your headlights to convey any other message or intimidate other road users."

2) Splashing a pedestrian

Driving through a puddle and soaking a pedestrian could land you with three penalty points on your licence and a fine. Under section three of the Road Traffic Act 1988, it's an offence to drive "without reasonable consideration for other persons", and this includes any instance of "driving through a puddle causing pedestrians to be splashed".

The maximum punishment is a fine of £5,000 in instances where driving "amounts to a clear act of incompetence, selfishness, impatience or aggressiveness". However, you're more likely to be issued with a £100 fixed penalty notice and three penalty points if you're caught.

3) Hogging the middle lane

There are few habits more irritating, inconsiderate and dangerous on a motorway than a middle lane hogger, and Rule 264 of the Highway Code clearly states: “You should always drive in the left-hand lane when the road ahead is clear. If you are overtaking a number of slow-moving vehicles, you should return to the left-hand lane as soon as you are safely past.” If you’re caught unnecessarily sitting in the middle lane, you could be handed an on-the-spot fine of £100 and three penalty points for careless driving. If your case goes to court, the maximum penalty is £5,000 and up to nine points on a licence.

4) Visibility issues

Have you ever tried to save time on a winter's morning by not completely clearing the snow from your car or the frost off the windscreen? Rule 229 of the Highway Code says that before you set off “you must be able to see, so clear all snow and ice from all your windows.” You must also make sure your mirrors are clear and the windows are demisted thoroughly, and all snow that might fall off into the path of other road users must be removed. If you're caught breaking this rule, you could be hit with a £60 fine and three penalty points

5) Anti-social behaviour

It's advisable to keep a lid on your anger at all times, but swearing and making rude gestures behind the wheel could land you a penalty for “disorderly conduct” under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. You could be fined up to 75% of your weekly wage (capped at £1,000) for committing such an offence. Alternatively, you could be fined for "not being in full control of a vehicle" (because you've taken your hands off the wheel). This offence could result in a maximum fine of £1,000 and three penalty points.

6) Unrestrained pets

Many dogs are treated like members of the family – not just at home, but in the car too. However, Rule 57 of the Highway Code states that animals should be restrained “so they cannot distract you while you are driving or injure you, or themselves, if you stop quickly”. If you're stopped by the police and they think your dog is a distraction, it's possible that you could be charged with driving without due care and attention, fined as much as £2,500 and given nine penalty points. Invest in a seat belt harness, dog cage or dog guard to make sure your pet travels safely.

7) Paying at a drive-through

If you're caught paying for food at a drive-through using a mobile payment system such as Apple Pay or Google Pay, you could attract an on-the-spot fine of £200 and up to six penalty points. This fine can however be increased up to £1,000 if your case goes to court. Worse still, for drivers who only passed their test in the last two years, getting six points means you'll be disqualified from driving. If your engine is off, your handbrake is applied and you're parked, you can use a mobile to pay for your fast food, but you're breaking the law if your car's engine is switched on.

8) Eating and drinking

It's not illegal to eat or drink while driving. However, if you get distracted while snacking behind the wheel, the police could prosecute you for careless driving if they feel you're not in proper control of your vehicle – an offence which carries an on-the-spot fine of £100 and three penalty points.

9) Beeping your horn

Did you know that can get into trouble for using your car's horn, unless it's to warn other motorists of your presence? Rule 112 of the Highway Code explains: "Never sound your horn aggressively. You must not use your horn while stationary on the road, or when driving in a built-up area between the hours of 11.30pm and 7am, except when another road user poses a danger." If you are caught beeping your horn in stationary traffic you could be fined anything from £30 to £1,000.

10) Using headphones

In the UK, it isn't specifically illegal to drive while wearing headphones (unlike in France and Canada), but if the police believe you're distracted or not in full control of your vehicle, you could be stopped and punished. This is because headphones can block out traffic sounds, level crossing signals, emergency sirens and even noise made by pedestrians or cyclists, making you a potential hazard for other road users.

Careless driving carries a £100 on-the-spot fine and three penalty points on your licence. In more serious cases, or those that are contested in court, the charge can attract a maximum £5,000 fine, up to nine penalty points and even a driving ban.

11) Dirty number plates

A dirty car is one thing but failing to clean your number plates so they can't be read by police officers and Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras is illegal. If dirt obscures

your number plate, you're going against Section 43 of the Vehicle Excise and Registration Act of 1994 and you could face a £1,000 fine.

12) Driving too slowly

It's all too common for drivers to get caught speeding, but did you know that you can also be penalised for careless driving if you are stopped by the police for going too slowly?

Driving at a speed that's deemed low enough to endanger other road users (usually on motorways and other fast-moving A roads) could result in an on-the-spot fine of £100 and three points. This could increase to nine points and £5,000 fine if your case goes to court.

13) Using a phone as a sat nav

It's not against the law to use your smartphone as a satellite navigation device while driving if it's securely mounted in a position that doesn't obstruct your vision and you don't operate the touchscreen while driving. If you're caught breaking the rules, you could be fined £200 and have your licence endorsed with up to six penalty points.

Highway Code

If you need to brush up on any of the rules mentioned in this article, you can find the entire Highway Code on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

Important notice for all members

If you have your name down to attend an organized event and find you are unable to attend. please **only** notify the organizer. Messages via a third party unfortunately are not being passed on before the event.

