



Dear SP Owner,

8<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## **March Newsletter**

With the Covid 19 pandemic gripping the world, we are not too sure if the Restoration Show will go ahead, as many such gatherings are being curtailed to prevent the rate of disease spreading. However, the organisers are very hopeful, as they have a number of preventative measures.

With much of China shutting down due to the pandemic, disruption in the car industry abounds, especially battery manufacturing. China is by far the largest supplier of lithium and cobalt, the major rare earth elements in the process of modern battery technology.

It seems finally common sense is prevailing over the use of electric vehicles.....

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-7968085/Eco-edict-new-cars-electric-15-years-doomed-backfire-says-JOHN-NAISH.html>

We don't have the infrastructure to support such a move let alone within 15 years! And now .....

What is more damaging to our historic vehicles is the government's latest headlong rush into the introduction of E10 fuels:-

<https://www.goodwood.com/grr/road/news/2020/3/will-my-car-run-on-e10-fuel-why-the-new-fuel-might-damage-your-car/>

Will this not only 'kill' our hobby but also create massive unemployment in the classic car movement, from maintenance to tyres and even tourism, as we hold many historical races throughout the country. Again, the minority voices govern our hobby. However, will they give up their passports, not on your life, nor even their driving licenses? They slogan 'Do as I protest, not do as I want'

Anyway, given all the current gloom and doom let us make hay whilst we can. Stephen Best of Peter Best Insurance has invited us to a free Classic Car display at Braxted Park out towards Tiptree, Essex. If you wish to attend on 26<sup>th</sup> April, log in to the link, however, if you wish to have a late breakfast or lunch then you need to pre-order.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-peter-best-drive-it-day-2020-tickets-73952362507?aff=PBISEMAIL>

Fancy doing 300MPH? Sit back, load the link below, skip the ads, and let the Bugatti do the rest. This to me is what research and development is about, testing the limits of mechanical science and in a petrol engine.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZOwPXY2Lj-Y>

And here below we take a ride in a Daimler..... of the German variety .....

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9mW95oMNqE&feature=youtu.be>

Again, below, hear it scream as the supercharger is engaged, such an eye spitting noise – wonderful. One could not do this with an EV!

<https://www.facebook.com/mercedesbenzmuseum/videos/376812543035719/>

Sad news the closure of an Old English name. My favourite was always the Dominator. Whenever I see one my mind floats back to the local youth club in the village when on a weekly basis a local 'ton up' boy with his girlfriend riding pillion arriving.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ryb8qoIdWM&feature=youtu.be>

Back to basics with Jay Leno and his SP: <https://www.popularmechanics.com/cars/a8671/salvaging-a-classic-jay-lenos-1962-daimler-sp250-roadster/>

JDHT needs a set of early over-riders for XHP. They were able to borrow a set for last year's Classic Car Show. These are the North American version, so can any American owner help? If you visit the JDHT website you will be able to purchase the SP brochure their commissioned for the show. <https://shop.jaguarheritage.com/collections/technical-publications/products/daimler-sp250-brochure-60th-anniversary-limited-edition-reprint> cost is £25 plus P&P.

The 17<sup>th</sup> edition of pasSPort is at the printers, and hopefully it will be sent out very shortly. Thank you to all those that have helped fund this edition.

**For sale** out in Spain an early RHD SP250. It has been pampered by Bill Dickinson. Health forces Bill to give up driving.

**Another SP** in Ireland in super condition – I can provide details.

*And finally.....from MATT in The Daily Telegraph comes the following ...*



*Yours sincerely,*

..... been there, done it

**Laurence and Ann**

Thought for the day:- It matters not to me if my glass is half full or half empty, what matters most is that I have a glass!