

Chairman's Letter To Members:



A challenge for all of us

What is confronting us is a challenge to us all; including the community we live in, workplaces, families and friends - so not only in the Panther Car Club. But as they say, united we stand and united we will get through this period. Our hearts and thoughts go out to the people who have been affected by this unprecedented event and we all appreciate around the world front line workers working to contain this coronavirus. Your Committee is monitoring the situation and will try and keep everyone informed of any change in the PCC and Classic Car event calendar, especially when some of the isolation rules are lifted and we can get our Panthers on the Road and once again meet up.

This is probably the message I least expected to write, but with the UK and Europe escalating actions to slow the spread of the coronavirus, we, personally and as a club have a duty of care to each other and need to play our part in looking after ourselves, our family, friends and members. You may believe that you are fit and healthy and at low risk, but the same may not be true of anyone that you come into contact with. Moreover, we don't know who has the virus, and symptoms can take a couple of weeks to emerge, so you could find yourself in contact with someone who is unaware they have it. Due to this all Area meets and Classic Car events home and abroad have been cancelled including Essen which announced a postponement until the 24th -28th June. This is looking unlikely with the new updates on the virus in Germany and the Hannover Messe in June cancelled already we will keep you all updated. Drive it Day on the 26th April has been cancelled. However, enthusiasts of historic vehicles are still encouraged to participate on 26 April 2020 in the mass sharing, via social media, of images and memories of themselves and their families out and about in their historic vehicles during a previous year's Drive it Day. Use your chosen social media platform to share images and stories of memorable trips with your

historic vehicles or indeed, what you might be working on within the 'self-isolation' of your garage or shed. VE 75 celebrations, which I am sure some would have been taking part in, have been postponed. The Derbyshire, Spain & Italy tours are postponed until 2021.

Regarding the Silverstone Classic in July, the latest news and update states that it is expected to go ahead, and the special ticket package has been extended until the end of April.

More importantly it is hoped that, by September, the isolation rules will have eased and our Club Grand Gathering on 4th - 6th September can go ahead. Details are in the magazine and we will endeavour to keep you updated if anything changes, but we sincerely hope we can all get together and celebrate the club's 40th Anniversary.

Your Committee is working hard to keep everything running in the club and Andy G, against all odds, has agreed with our printers that the magazine can be printed and sent out as their last print before they close due to the virus. With all the time on peoples (washed!) hands during isolation, now is the time to put pen to paper and write an article for the magazine. I know by the amount of emails and enquiries I have received, that a lot of you are working on your cars. Why not tell us what you are doing.

Please remember we can still communicate and be active through our Website , Forum, Facebook , text, email and something we do not do enough of these days is chat to one another . As with all of the committee I am happy to help with any enquires you may have and If I can't answer I will pass on to those who can. I have plenty of regalia in stock although personalised embroidered items may be a problem but I do have some items available.

This is an unprecedented time in the history of not only our club but Worldwide, impacting on every aspect of our lives, both personally and professionally. Our Panthers are our Passion, but not the main game. The main game for all of us remains ensuring the safety of everyone - families, friends and the wider community. This remains a complicated and evolving situation that reminds us that we are all part of a broader society with a responsibility to look out for one another.

Thank you all for your continuing support of our wonderful Club.

Keep Safe

Val Bridges

Chairman

Panther Car Club