

FEDERATION UPDATE - JAN 2020

I will concentrate on two main activities, legislation and heritage. We cover more of course, please see the Newsletters¹ for the other functions.

LEGISLATION

Bob Owen has stepped down from the Legislation role after some 6 very intensive years. He and I became Directors at the same time and he has done a great job.

At the time of writing we have no direct replacement and our chairman will lead on legislation for the time being.

Fortunately, with the election causing a period of “purdah” nothing much has been happening!

We continue to respond to local initiatives re clean air & low emission zones, the latest is Bath.

In Scotland, where there is a proposal to establish several bans, including one covering the whole of Edinburgh and its suburbs, efforts have been aimed at getting a general exemption for Historic Vehicles into the primary legislation, so that it applies regardless to any zone established. This has not been successful, and like other interest groups, it seems that each and every zone will need to be considered individually.

In England, the various zones have made mixed progress. The two most advanced – Birmingham and Leeds – have both been deferred over software development and changes in the proposed funding of the charging system. Progress is not likely until the end of 2020. Other councils have made proposals, including Greater Manchester but these will, it seems have shared software development issues.

There have been efforts to introduce E10 petrol to the forecourt. At this stage, we understand that the only UK refinery for the alcohol additive has closed and the environmental costs of shipping alcohol additives from other parts of the world negates any environmental benefit (if it exists, remember this started as a subsidy for US farmers!) and fuels on the forecourt remain unchanged. No doubt this will emerge again as a potential issue, so it will be kept under review.

We did have an individual from one member club asking about a carbon offsetting policy. Our response was we do not have one as our research indicates we do such a small annual mileage, that the amount of carbon produced is

¹ <https://www.fbhvc.co.uk/newsletter-archive>

insignificant. He also indicated he had joined a carbon offsetting scheme. His car – an Austin 7!

The All Party Parliamentary Historic Vehicle Group continues to be chaired by Sir Greg Knight, though with Kelvin Hopkins standing down, the Vice-Chair is now Mark Tami, who has been the Labour Member of Parliament for Alyn and Deeside since 2001, though his 2019 majority was down to 213!

The APPHVG will continue to support the use of historic and classic motor vehicles on the road.

HERITAGE

Drive it Day is on 26th April this year.

Future dates are

2021 - 25th April

[2022 - 24th April](#)

2023 - 23rd April

[2024 - 21st April](#)

DiD continues to be a great success thanks to all the efforts of our member clubs, including of course the MSCC.

My report at the AGM at the end of last year, focused on Heritage being the key to the survival of our movement in the 21st Century.

The V&A have an interesting & relevant exhibition on until April.² “The car is the most important design object of the 20th Century in that it’s effected so much change,” says exhibition co-curator Brendan Cormier. “But sometimes you’re too close to something to have a proper look. This exhibition steps back for an objective glance at the car.” You also get a dash of Paykan!

Climate change is something we are all being made aware of, with for example Greta Thunberg and David Attenborough covering both ends of the age range and the facts looking to support global warming, so we are in for increasing challenges.

² <https://www.driving.co.uk/news/interview/cars-accelerating-modern-world-qa-curator-new-va-exhibition/>

At least there are no diesel Morgans!

Our latest research report showing some 21 million people see historic vehicles as an important element of UK Heritage. By associating our movement with other heritage organisations and activities we aim to strengthen this perception.

In this light, we have produced a brochure with the National Trust to jointly promote the benefits of mobile heritage.

NT membership is moving towards 6 million (ask lifetime member Brian Downing) and all the other metrics are big! They are celebrating the 125th year since Octavia Hill, Sir Robert Hunter and Canon Hardwicke Rawnsley founded the National Trust – all believed in the profound effects of access to nature, to beauty and to history.

To help combat climate change, the NT plan to be carbon neutral by 2030. They will achieve this by continuing to switch to renewable energy sources, reducing emissions from farmed and let estate and managing the supply chain to tighter carbon targets. Of the 250,000 hectares of land owned, approximately 10 per cent is woodland. This will be increased to 17 per cent over the next decade. That means planting and establishing 20 million trees in 10 years.

In practice it seems the NT are a loose organisation – think National Committee and Morgan sections – but many, many times larger! They are slow to respond and we have needed to speak with the Director General Hilary McGrady a couple of times to help progress the brochure initiative.

Given all the above, I think it can be understood that I had some difficulty when a MSCC member approached us re his concerns about speed bumps at NT properties. It seems he beached his Morgan on one, which is most unfortunate but seems about on par with getting on the Ferry. I spoke to our chairman about this, regrettably, the FBHVC feel they cannot push this but suggest it is handled at local level.

We have also been involved in a Heritage Alliance project³ to identify how parts of the £96 billion⁴ Media sector is underpinned by Heritage. Examples from our sector included films like Genevieve, The Fast Lady, Goldfinger, Quadrophenia and TV series like Ashes to Ashes (“Fire up the Quattro”). If anyone is involved with the media sector could they let me know, preferably with pictures/clips it would help us build a library. Yep, seen Hamsters new Morgan clip – lucky boy!

³ https://www.theheritagealliance.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/InspiringCreativity_THAreport.pdf

⁴ <https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/uk/Documents/technology-media-telecommunications/deloitte-uk-media-metrics-2017.pdf>

We have made contact with UNESCO UK re participating in one or more of their programmes. Partly based on the fact that FIVA⁵ have achieved NGO status with UNESCO's HQ in Paris.

Like the NT, UNESCO is a loose organisation but on a global scale, with individual countries signing up to some parts and others, like the current US administration, staging walkouts.

Lastly, I am pleased to report that Tim Jarrett, of Jarrett & Lam fame, is as of last week a FBHVC board member responsible for IT with a dash of social media.

Sadly, the poor fellow is still focussed on Frazer-Nash's and Bristols!

⁵ <https://fiva.org/en/unesco-and-fiva/>