

Federation of Manx Historic Vehicle Clubs

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Secretary: Steve Woodward stephen_woodward@yahoo.com

BULLETIN – November 2013

The Federation meeting and AGM was held on 11th November with eleven delegates attending.

Election of Chairman and Secretary

At the first Committee meeting following the 2013 AGM, the positions of Chairman and Secretary were nominated. Norman Roper and Steve Woodward were re-elected as Chairman and Secretary respectively for the 2013/14 year. Agreement was unanimous and both were thanked for their efforts over the last year.

The Federation's submission to the DoI

The main topic for debate centred around a further letter which had recently been received from Mr Cretny with the information that the Department were to recommend to Tynwald 'reinstatement of the 25 year rule with a certain amount of discount for those vehicles' and 'a discount on cherished number fees for age related numbers on appropriate vehicles'.

The meeting agreed that this was a very positive outcome from our previous submissions, and we would await with interest the level of the 'discounts'. In the meantime our Secretary will write to Mr Cretny thanking him for this initiative and seeking some indication of the likely level of discount.

Concerns over escalating prices for 'package holidays' for 2014 Manx GP/Classic TT

Concerns were raised over the projected costs for the 2014 Manx GP/Classic TT boat/hotel packages for 2014 where boat costs appear to have been held at 2013 levels but hotels appear to be taking advantage of the success of the event with significantly increased costs.

VAT Position on Vehicles Sold to UK

Following changes to VAT rules in July, it is evident that there is confusion resulting in some dealers in the UK saying that it is more difficult to import vehicles from IOM to UK. There is concern that this could damage the value of vehicles in the IOM. Since the meeting our Secretary has carried out some research both with local car dealers and the UK HM Revenue and Customs website. All indications are that there is no VAT 'demarcation' between IOM and UK, and in fact the HMRC website defines its interpretation of the UK, for VAT purposes, to include the IOM. The changes to the VAT rules in July do however refer to the Channel Islands being excluded from the UK for VAT purposes and this is possibly where the confusion is arising.

Ethanol

There continue to be reports of older engines being damaged by ethanol in petrol. There is no ethanol in IOM petrol and we understand the local fuel companies are against its introduction. However, it continues to be a potential problem for vehicles taken to the UK and abroad.

Festival of Jurby

It was reported at last month's meeting that the Festival of Jurby would become a motorcycle only event in 2014. However the meeting was informed that there may be a 'four wheeled' show organised on the same day in the area of the Jurby Transport Museum, and access from the Festival will be made available.

Number Plates

The legality of number plates was raised in relation to the use of white on black plates, and the requirement for hyphens in the layout of plates. It was confirmed that local producers of plates had been circulated with information on the legislation in this area relating to the use of hyphens. There was some doubt whether this was actually correct and the Federation will check on this.