



Newsletter

DECEMBER 2020



**Our Chairman William Peoples,
with Santa and his little helper**
www.eaovc.co.uk

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Front Cover Photo

EAOVC Chairman, Santa and his little elf helper

Message from the Chairman

Welcome to all our East Antrim Old Vehicle Club Members. May I send you all season's greetings and my sincere thanks for your support and understanding in these most difficult of times. Your safety is of the utmost importance to us, so please be assured that as soon as it is safe to do so and in accordance with the government regulations, your committee is ready to present a programme of excellent EAOVC events planned for your enjoyment in 2021.

William Peoples (Chairman)



Hello fellow EAOVC Members,

Well what an awful year 2020 has been, as we near the end of this crazy, unusual year full of pain, misery, despair and sadly for some, great loss. We begin to approach the Christmas holiday season not knowing what the future has in store. We are adapting as best we can to the unprecedented situation that we find ourselves in. It is a time when we reflect on what is truly important and the well-being of our families, friends, colleagues and communities is foremost in our minds.

Our hearts have been lifted at the great work selflessly being carried out by our wonderful NHS staff and supporting workers. The dedication and determination of our scientists as they tirelessly searched for a vaccine to stop this virus and the amazing generosity and sacrifice we have witnessed by our fellow humans in helping others less fortunate than themselves. To all those people we pay tribute and thanks and we hope that when this is all over we will not forget and will have gained a greater kindness ourselves. Maybe some good lessons will have been learned and the world will become a better place.

I do not want to be all doom and gloom and I look forward to a better future for us all, so I have tried to make this newsletter as upbeat as I can and hopefully give you interesting articles to read and some fun jokes to make you giggle.

As you know the EAOVC relies on your subscriptions to pay the normal running expenses that keep the wheels turning. This year a bold decision was taken that all paid up members for year 2020 would be carried forward to 2021. This is possible due to careful management of the clubs finances and member's involvement and understanding, so a big thank you to everyone concerned.

Our chosen Charity for 2020 now becomes our chosen charity for 2021 Autism N.I. and any money received in 2020 for Autism has been carried forward to 2021.

A warm welcome to our latest new EAOVC members: David Mackey and Thomas Hamilton. I am confident that once this terrible virus is a thing of the past our normal service will be resumed and we will all be able to enjoy the wonderful experience of belonging to this great classic car club. With its wonderful group of friendly people all sharing a common interest in all things classic car related and great enjoyable organized events, plus the regular member meetings enjoying good conversations and a nice cup of tea or coffee our club must be one of the best clubs around.

Just a little reminder: EAOVC regalia i.e. Royal blue Jackets, Fleeces, Polo shirts, Baseball and Beanie hats are available from our Committee member David Totten. Contact: 07970 574430 to view the items check the EAOVC website.

As we now have our own EAOVC trailer we are looking for any spare tools or equipment, if anyone has any that they are not using or they no longer require, please let us know and we can store them in the trailer for club use.

Also if you have a story to share, or any valuable club ideas you want exploring let me know and as long as they are not **insulting, rude or inappropriate** I will be pleased to include them in the next newsletter.

May I now take this opportunity of wishing each and every EAOVC member and their families a Happy, Healthy and peaceful Christmas, followed by a wonderful enjoyable and exciting New Year

Please take care and stay safe *Olivia*

Do you know the name of this EAOVC member in the centre?



A fun prize is waiting for the first person to name him to Olivia



THE EAST ANTRIM OLD VEHICLE CLUB TRAILER

The above 4 wheel covered in towing trailer was purchased on behalf of the EAOVC for the purpose of storing and carrying paraphernalia belonging to the club e.g., Tools, flags, leaflets, jackets, sweatshirts for sale, etc., (even occasional refreshments when required on site). This ensures that everything required for events etc., will always be easily at hand. The trailer (with the EAOVC logo on as a form of advertising) belongs to the club and is kept safely locked away for the strict use of club business only. Club members wishing to legitimately use it, can do so providing the trailer is towed by vehicles legally able and insured to tow it.

TRUE RACING CHAMPIONS



WAYNE BOYD CENTRE WITH THE UNITED AUTO SPORTS TEAM

I was pleased to learn that one of our EAOVC members Raymond Boyd has a very talented Son in the motor sport industry and I was delighted to be able to track Wayne Boyd down and have a very interesting chat with him.

Wayne, who was keen on go-carting from an early age, began his racing career with go-carts at the age of eleven. Raymond himself a keen motor biker at the time was very supportive and took Wayne to every race and watched him successfully compete and win a few championships.

At the age of sixteen Wayne began driving Formula Ford cars and in 2007 he went on to win the Northern Ireland championship at Kirkiston

Wayne continued successfully racing on many tracks in the UK and went on to win the British Championship in 2008.

Wayne, part of the United Auto Sports team, with nerves of steel, completed and won this year the 2020 European Le-Mans Series LMP3 Championship. This entailed 5 gruelling rounds driving a LIGIER SPORTCAR with a powerful Nissan engine capable of speeds of 180 miles an hour

Wayne continues to prepare for another series of racing in 2021, while he shares the running of their family business, Town and Country Cars, Newtownabbey with his Father Raymond - a truly remarkable partnership.

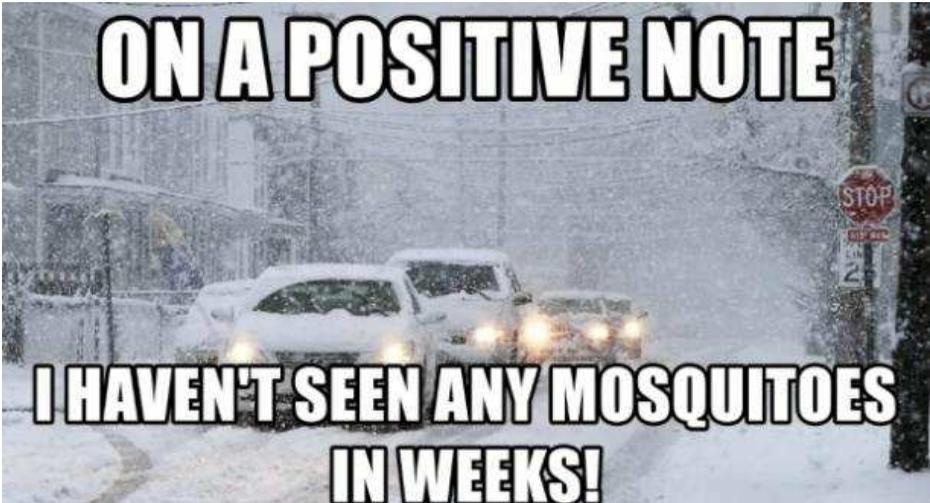


Wayne Boyd – Circuit: Spa in Belgium- LIGIER with Nissan Engine

A photograph of a dark-colored car completely encased in a large, snow-laden tree branch that has fallen over it. The scene is set in a residential area with other trees and a sidewalk visible in the background.

THAT MOMENT

when your job is the only place that didn't shut down

A photograph of a white car driving on a snow-covered street. The car's headlights are on, and the snow is falling or blowing around it. A stop sign and a street sign are visible on the right side of the road.

ON A POSITIVE NOTE

**I HAVEN'T SEEN ANY MOSQUITOES
IN WEEKS!**

Travelling in heavy snow and ice

Severe weather can present different challenges both for keeping the travel networks open and for those navigating through the difficult conditions.

Here we provide advice from the experts at [Highways England](#), [RAC](#), and the [Institute of Advanced Motorists](#). The most important thing to remember before setting off on any journey is to check the weather forecast and plan ahead. When snow or icy roads are forecast you should adjust your driving to suit the conditions and take extra care. You can also look for clues on road conditions such as ice on the pavement or on your windscreen.

Before snow or ice

Make necessary preparations before you set off

- If you have to make a journey when snow is forecast, make sure you have warm clothes, food, water, boots, a torch and spade, and let someone know when you expect to arrive and your route. Try to wait until the roads have been gritted before travelling
- Put grit or cat litter on paths and driveways to lessen the risk of slipping on compacted snow
- Check on vulnerable neighbours

During snow or ice

Avoid travel if possible Make necessary preparations before you set off

- Clear your windscreen of snow, frost or condensation. The Highway Code stipulates you must be able to see out of every glass panel in your vehicle
- Clear any snow off the roof of the vehicle before you drive away, otherwise you may cause snow to fall on your windscreen hampering your vision

- If you must drive check the Highway Code for advice on driving in ice and snowy weather. A summary of the advice is: Take care around gritters. Don't be tempted to overtake. Slow down - it can take 10 times longer to stop in snowy or icy conditions, so allow extra room. Use the highest gear possible to avoid wheel spin. Manoeuvre gently and avoid harsh braking and acceleration. If you start to skid, gently ease off the accelerator and avoid braking. If braking is necessary, pump the brakes don't slam them on. If you get stuck, stay with your car and tie something brightly coloured to your aerial
- If you go outside wear several layers of clothing and keep dry to prevent loss of body heat. Watch out for signs of hypothermia - uncontrollable shivering, slow/slurred speech, memory lapse and drowsiness and frostbite - loss of feeling in and pale appearance of fingers, toes, nose and ear lobes. Keep moving your arms and legs to help the blood circulate
- Be aware of black ice. It isn't always visible and so can be an even greater hazard for both motorists and pedestrians. Black ice may be formed when rain or drizzle fall on a road surface which is at a temperature below zero

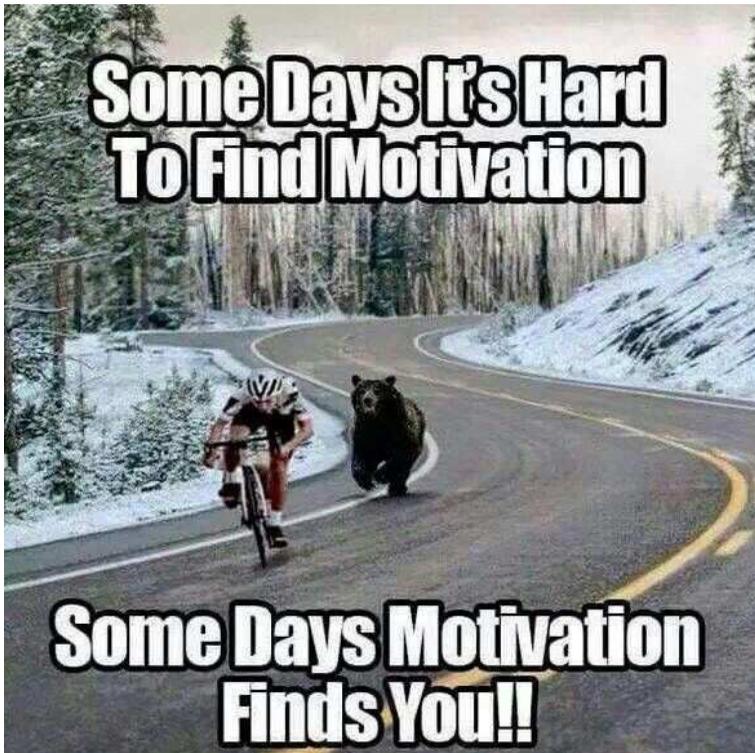
Be aware

Look out for winter service vehicles spreading salt or using snow ploughs. They have flashing amber beacons and travel at slower speeds - around 40 mph. Stay well back.

After snow or ice

- Be careful when walking or driving on compacted snow - it may have turned to ice
- Take care when shovelling snow. Cold air makes it harder to work and breathe, which adds some extra strain on the body and can be the cause of heart attacks in the vulnerable
- If your journey is not necessary just stay at home.

Courtesy of: [Highways England](#), [RAC](#), and the [Institute of Advanced Motorists](#)



FOND MEMORIES OF AN ACTION VEHICLE CO-ORDINATORS WORK IN THE T.V. FILM AND T.V. PRODUCTION INDUSTRY N.I.

One of the highlights of 2012 was a six-part television comedy called "Blandings," based on a series of books by P.G. Woodhouse, centered on a wealthy dysfunctional 1920's family, totally eccentric and almost comic book style. I drew the short straw as the Action Vehicle Co-ordinator. As well as working on "Line of Duty," a contemporary police drama for television, the workload was excessive to say the least. One of the other guys in the company was drafted in to lighten the load. He eventually took responsibility for the police drama which left me time to source enough 1920's cars to keep the production company happy – definitely no mean feat and not for the faint hearted. Together the other co-coordinator and I were able to beg, borrow or steal enough vehicles to get both productions moving.

Although there were not many vehicles in the 1920's production, the type and standard required was extremely high and important to the overall atmosphere. It took weeks of telephone conversations, assurances to car owners that their cars would not be ill-treated and that they would be well looked after. Eventually I had a list put together and had it approved by the Art Director. Just when I thought that all was sorted, one of the owners decided a few days before shooting that he no longer wanted his car to be used, that was fine and did happen but it left me with a huge problem - where do you find a 1920's Rolls Royce in just a few days. By pure luck I was in conversation with a young local lad a few hours after the bad news, he laughed and reminded me that a local businessman, whom I had known for almost thirty years, had three 1920's Rolls Royce's. I made a quick phone call and later that evening was standing looking at three of the most impressive cars that I have ever seen and the owner and his wife were keen to see their cars in the TV production.

The production was being filmed at Crom Castle in County Fermanagh, a beautiful castle that was a two and a half hour drive from home. Although I was able to spend most of the time with the crew in a local hotel a few miles from the set it was not always either practical or possible. I covered many miles and long hours throughout the six weeks of filming, collecting and returning cars and motorcycles. Sometimes leaving the set late at night to come home to collect or return a vehicle and then return with a different vehicle for call at seven

o'clock the following morning, quite often a two hundred and fifty mile round trip. That said, it was an enjoyable and rewarding experience and probably the highlight of my short years in the film industry.

I cannot move on without mentioning the remarkable vehicles that I was privileged to be able to use. A really beautiful Austin was used as a taxi; the owner was dressed as the driver and had a great day out. 1920's Rolls Royce's were used as both action vehicles and for background dressing shots. My neighborly local owner's car was to be used over a few days. The production company arranged a hotel for the owner and his wife. He was asked to teach the "chauffeur," a well-known local actor and TV presenter, to drive the car, along with Jessica Hynes who surprised everyone by driving the car at breakneck speed around the castle and screeched to a halt right on cue. It is a well known fact that many actors neither own nor have passed a driving test. Quite a few of the actors who were driving the cars had to have driving lessons and on more than one occasion I must admit to being just a bit stressed, as cars with the value of a small housing development were driven by people with less than an hour's tuition. I must mention that Jennifer Saunders was surprisingly knowledgeable and comfortable around the cars, not surprising that her ever day car just happened to be an impressive Porsche.

The main car in the production was a 1926 Vauxhall owned by someone whom I had known for some years. An amazing car that I felt honored to have been able to use. One of four cars left and the only totally original and unmolested car of its type left in the world. I had the use of the car for six weeks; we used it extensively and "crashed" it six times. We had kind permission from the owner and thankfully the car was not hurt in any way. I found this so stressful that I vowed that I would not do it again.

As car anoraks will know well cars of that era were not as simple to drive as the Euro boxes that we have today. The Vauxhall's accelerator was between the clutch and the brake and the main brake was on a large lever outside the car just like the old stage coaches that John Wayne used to play with. David Walliams played a devious waiter whose mode of transport was a beautiful motor bike. No stunt men so Mr Walliams, as it happens, had never ridden a motor bike. He was tutored and took to it like a duck to water. After filming was finished, my wife and I were given the honor of taking the Rolls Royce

with the owner and his wife for a spin around the estate. We met the Earl of Erne, the estate owner, and his wife who were out for an evening stroll; we stopped and chatted about the car and its history. His Lordship was a friendly, no airs or graces, older gentleman and a car enthusiast. He regularly visited the set to see and chat about the cars that we were using on the day.

The TV series was eventually aired and did quite well and a second series was commissioned. Unfortunately another company got the business, and I did not get the chance to spend more time with the beautiful cars. One of the most memorable film jobs, superb surroundings and where else would you get to play with such handsome toys?

BY: STANLEY BATES - EAOVC MEMBER

Courtesy and thanks to the Celebrities mentioned



William Peoples (*Trainee Santa*) with Santa and his little elf helper.



EAOVC Chairman William Peoples, happy to oblige and help Santa deliver gifts for charity - pre: Christmas. There was no snow and Santa could not use his sleigh and reindeers, so our Chairman kindly obliged by driving Santa around in his beautiful 1975 blue Ford Granada (shown in the background).



And Finally

***In the next issue of the Newsletter we explore the T.V. FILM and
T.V. PRODUCTION INDUSTRY FURTHER***



TO ALL OF THE EAST ANTRIM OLD VEHICLE CLUB MEMBERS

PLEASE STAY STRONG, STAY SAFE, TAKE CARE AND CHEER UP. THINGS WILL GET BETTER AND WE WILL ALL MEET AGAIN. WISHING YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR AND LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL IN 2021

EAST ANTRIM OLD VEHICLE CLUB

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