



SPRING 2010

FREE ENGINE-BAY
MAGNET THING INCLUDED
WITH THIS ISSUE!



IT'S BEEN A COLD FEW MONTHS - BUT WE'RE NOT GOING TO LET A LITTLE THING LIKE SNOW GET IN OUR WAY!







WIDE TRACK NEWS ISSUE 67

£2.50 (Free to Pontiac Owners Club Members)

### CONTENTS

P4 Reginal Focus - Hertfordhsire

P5 Reginal Focus - Thames Valley

P6 Kent Christmas Meet Review

P7 Knight Rider Festival 2009 Review

P8 Feature - Burt Reynolds Edition 3rd Gen

P10 Broadlands Show Review

P11 Forum Photo Competition

P12 Regional Meets & Upcoming Events

P13 Members News & Cars for Sale

P14 Book Review & our Sponsors

P16 Competition

### DON'T FORGET THE CLUB WEBSITE AND INTERNET FORUM: WWW.POC-UK.ORG

The best place to stay in touch with other members, get technical advice and find out the latest about club events and meets. You can also have your car featured in the Members' Gallery on the club website. Just email some photos of the car and a short description of your vehicle's features to our Webmaster: webmaster@poc-uk.org

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## WANTED

Reps for the following areas:

**HAMPSHIRE WEST MIDLANDS** NORFOLK **CHESTER** 



If you are interested in becoming a rep please contact Neil Mancini via email at: repliason@poc-uk.org

POC regional reps represent the club at local and national events. Full support from the Committee in promoting the club, which includes your own exclusive regional area on the online forum.

## CHAIRMAN'S INANE RAMBLINGS

ello Folks! First of all I hope that you all had a great Christmas and a happy new year.

I would like to thank John Graddon our Kent rep for arranging a fantastic Christmas outing at the new Smith & Western in Tunbridge Wells. It was a great day with loads of food, drinks and coloured cowboy hats, a special birthday surprise for Chuff, and yes, Uncle Sam our Surrey rep got lost on the way there!

I'm confident that 2010 will be just as successful as 2009 has been. We had a special membership offer running in December 2009, and I am pleased to say we picked up around 20 new members.

It looks like 2010 is going to be very busy, I hope that you will all get a chance to pop down and see us at one of the many shows this year across the country. The season kicked in to action with a meet down at Port Solent in Portsmouth arranged by Hampshire reps Paul & Mel Drew.

I hope you all enjoyed Novembers copy of Wide Track news, I know I did, it was a great edition.

Many thanks to James, Myra, MarkJ and MarkM for

putting the mag together at such short notice. Also thanks to you the members for your support with articles and news.

Adrian Flux will be sponsoring the POC once again for 2010 so a big thanks to them also. We hope to have the Flux girls pop in to see us at one of our shows this year.

Richard {Alias Rocky} from American Technique will also be returning to sponsor us for 2010, and as always AutoPontiac are behind us 100%. If you are local to any of our sponsors please try them out before going anywhere else.



Well, all I can say at this early stage in the year, is please do come out and support us at your local meets and official shows, it's always a great day out and it's always good to meet you all.

Many thanks,

Steve "Cowboy" Fullam

### **EDITORIAL**

i all, well it's the countdown to another exciting year of shows and meets for the POC, despite the doom and gloom merchants saying it was the end of the world economically the club scene has been as active as ever. Proof that Poncho owners are made of tougher stuff!

A big thanks to everyone who has submitted articles for the magazine, and if you are tempted to submit details of your own car jump on the keyboard (so long as you haven't bought one off Lutonmatt) and tell us a bit about yourself and your car. We aren't looking for War and Peace but we're really interested to see how our members are keeping a

bit of Pontiac heritage on the road. Just e-mail your story with some pics to the editor.

I also wanted to say a big thanks to the Marks



again who have helped out in getting the magazine brought together, well done guys!

Anyway, I'm off to start praying to the rain gods to say "bugger off" this year and get my shorts out of mothballs. Jolly good.

James "Banker" Armstrong

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership Fees

#### **Enrolment and First Year:**

£25.00 (PayPal payment £26.00)

#### **Annual Renewal:**

£20.00 (PayPal payment £21.00)

#### **Cheque payable to:**

Pontiac Owners Club UK Please post to: Sarah Sykes Membership Secretary 199 Eglinton Road, Plumstead, London, SE18 3SN

### **CLUB SPONSORS**

Promote your business to over 400 Pontiac Owners and enthusiasts.

We offer great exposure on our Website, the Online Forum and our Wide Track News magazine and Club Events. We have Gold, Silver and Bronze sponsorship and advertising packages to suit your budget.

Please contact our Publicity Manager Jan Larsson at publicity@poc-uk.org

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## REGIONAL FOCUS HERTFORDSHIRE

## END TO A GREAT 1ST YEAR, THE BEGINNING OF THE 2ND

stumbled upon possibly the most friendly forum I have visited yet. The POC eagerly welcomed me into its arms and gave me so much info and advice on my rolling project I was very impressed!

fter purchasing my 89 GTA I 'Lutonmatt' about when and where along - Bob Chalk, Jim, Tom and my meet in the new year would be!

> After some deliberation I found a venue, checked the forum diary for a regular free date and choose every 3rd Saturday, 11am till 1pm

Jill, and Ken and Juanita.



Getting to know some members online and chatting about various subjects I made the easy decision to become a member of the club and a good decision it was too!

After my first club meet at the Ace Café in 2008 (which was a fantastic meet with the car park chockablock and the surrounding streets full of American and custom motors), I wanted to become a little more involved with the club.

At this point in history, Hertfordshire didn't exist and no local meets were to be found. So after a question to Steve 'cowboy' Fullam (online via the forum, late on in 2008) about a Herts rep - I found I was it! Ha Ha.

I was some what stressed about what I had taken on and had let myself in for, when no sooner than I had started I was already getting I would really like to thank those

at the Red Lion Pub, Digswell Hill, Welwyn. The first date being in March and the final in September. For the first meet I arrived at the Pub before 11am and settled back expecting an hour of solitude and quiet.

How wrong I was! All I can say is many thanks to all those that have attended the meet over the last year and I hope it will continue to prove my early expectation wrong and be just as popular!

Andy Kay was very much involved with the successes of the meets bringing several members from the London and local areas to the meets all year with his Grand Prix, two TTAs, 2nd and 3rd Gen Trans Ams, Pick-ups and a very pretty white Camaro.

hassle from the leGend that is members for bringing their cars

The meet also got massive support from the A602s a fantastic Hot Rod club based in Stevenage. I got to know these with a great friend of mine Virgil and they have supported the meet ever since with a fab array of Rods and huge knowledge of mechanics. These guys know how to build, customise and run and race! They have a massive fountain of hints tips and know-how!

I would also like to thank all those individual members and non members that have come along to the pub including Richard 'Rocky' and his Dad of American Technique and to Richard for pushing the meet to those that he knows and those that visit his workshop (will talk about that next time...).

I hope that the meet will be as big a success this year as it was last and again would like to thank all those that took the time to make it happen.

I am also looking forward to seeing Richards mean low machine, "Demonguy's" excellent Camaro and a host of other new machines.

So come along and be a part of it and I'll buy you a coffee and give you a Herts fridge magnet! I apologise to all those I haven't mentioned I will endeavour to do so I future pieces. See you in March!

**Grant "Plumberone" Patterson** 

## REP UPDATE

appy new year everyone. I hope you are all getting your cars ready for the show season. There is a lot planned for this show season and I hope as many of you as possible will attend the various shows and meets across the country. Without you all the club just simply would not be in the great position it is in now.

I would like you all to pay attention to your local area reps. If you do not know who your local area rep is then it is in the magazine or you will find it in our club forum www.poc-uk.org. They all do a Neil Mancini, Area Rep Liaison

fantastic job especially in areas where there are not many members. It is in these areas especially where your support is vital. So if you know of a meet going on, and are able to attend then please do so. Also if you have any ideas of your own then please do not hesitate to contact your area rep who will be only too happy to discuss any suggestions you may have.

I would like to thank everyone for their continued support of the club. Happy and safe driving.

## REGIONAL FOCUS THAMES VALLEY

would like to start by introducing myself, my name is Craig Small (aka Monarog) and I am a relatively new member to the club and also to the UK. After my first year being a part of the Pontiac Owners Club (UK) I thought that I would like to encourage some fun events in the Thames Valley region, as we were a little guiet last year, and to that end I have now been drafted into service as an area representative. I was born in Melbourne, Australia and have owned a number of 60's and 70's Holden Monaros and also a couple of Trans Ams while also being a member of the affiliated car clubs. My favorite memories of my time as a member of these clubs mostly relate to days spent out driving the cars whether that be in convoy down the Great Ocean Road or on a skidpan/ track.

Thus, when Tim (Tims-Am, my geographical advisor) and I were discussing plans for the warmer months (its not summer, just less wintery!), we decided that we might like to include some cruises and short trips so that members can get out and enjoy their cars in the way GM intended - behind the wheel! These events may include just gathering in a location and heading to an official POC event together but we would also like to include some new ideas and would love to get some feedback on them or any new ideas from you.

If you would like to discuss these new ideas or propose something original then please visit the POC forum and place your comments in the Thames Valley regional section and hopefully together we can plan for a really exciting year in 2010!

New Ideas (also to be posted on the forum in more detail):

- Ace Cafe cruise followed by cruise up to Billing June 18 - 20
- Cotswolds Cruise
- Chilterns Cruise
- Cruise to a Pub with optional overnight stay
- Trip to a local Motor Museum:

Brooklands, Surrey (www.brooklandsmuseum.com) Beaulieu, Hampshire (www.beaulieu.co.uk)

Other places to visit, or misc ideas:

- Askett
- Treasure Hunt
- Bicester Shopping Trip
- Guildford Cruise

Bearing in mind we would like to try and arrange at least one gathering each month we will likely have to select a few of these to plan further so please post your comments on the forum and hopefully we can arrange something that appeals to you.

**Car update:** I have recently changed my ride from my lovely 1978 Y88 SE Trans Am (aka Roy) to my current vehicle, a black on black 1981 Turbo Trans Am. The car is very solid and has nice paint and interior though there are a number of areas I would like to work on hopefully before the summer. For a start the car does not have any decals which just will not do and it also needs a little body work and some mechanical tidying. The car drives really well and although the turbo was removed by a previous owner it is still surprisingly OK on performance. I always wanted a Black T-Top car and I seemed to have picked this one up for a steal, hopefully I will see you at an event soon and you can see for yourself.

### Craig "Monaroq" Small



### **NEW MEMBERS**

Mark Jones - 1956 Catalina 3.2 Gary Frankland - 1985 Trans Am 305 Neil Richardson - 1970 Formula 400 R I Grierson - 1992 Firebird 3.4 Sean Murnaghan - 1966 Le Mans 400 David Wayland - 1978 Trans Am SE 5.7 Martin Williams - 1977 Trans Am 400 Duncan Holland - 1994 Trans Am 5.7 Chris Hamilton - No car as yet! Margita Strapoua George Gray - 1981 Turbo Trans Am 4.9 Gary Faulkner - 1977 Formula 400 Tim Marotto - 1980 Turbo Trans Am 301 Philip McCusker - 1970 Firebird 350 Michael Clipson - 1996 Trans Am 350 Eddie Hyslop Steven Smith - 1978 Trans Am 400

John Cliffe - 1966 Star Chief Executive 389

David Stiles - 1979 Trans Am 400 Wayne Clark - 1967 Firebird 400 Roy Howard - 1995 Trans Am 350 Peter Richardson - 1984 Fierro (RHD) 2.5 James Parker - 1995 Chevy Camaro Z28 350 Michael Wills - 1967 Firebird 400 Ivan Gillingham - 1971 Firebird 455 Bruce Chennell - 1985 Trans Am 305 Mark Roast - 1978 Trans Am 400 Mark Stambrow - 1971 GTO judge 400 Martin Jenkins - 1971 GTO judge 400 Jonathan Kellner - 1979 Trans Am 403 Toby Chandler - 1983 Trans Am 305 Kevin Breedon - 1979 Trans Am 403 Glen Power - 1991 Trans Am 350 Vincent Rank - 1969 Firebird 400 Conv. Frank Parslow - 1994 Trans Am 5.7 RHD Toni Watkins-Burton - 1995 Trans Am 5.7 Stuart Young - 1969 Firebird 400 Sarah Bunker - 1974 Firebird 400

Paul Smith - 1973 Formula SD455 Thomas Trevitt - 1986 Trans Am 305 Dan Bolton - 1953 Cheiftan Catalina 264 Mark Merrydew - 1980 Trans Am 400 Ian Doris - 1987 Trans Am GTA 350 Melody Lloyd Brian Davis - 1978 Firebird 350 Simon Charlton - 1988 GTA 5.7 Jon Stephen House - 1999 Trans 350 Gaz Tovey - 1993 Trans Am 350 Tony Buckle - 1971 Esprit 400 Jacob Levene - 1987 Firebird 5.7 Ronald Hanney -Alex Henebury - 1973 Formula 455 David Brown - 1985 Trans Am 350 Andy Feltham - 1967 Firebird 400 Ian Le Page - 1970 Formula 400 Sameer Munjal - 1985 Trans Am 305 Mark Walkey - 1966 Starcheif Executive 389 Ian Beasley - 1984 Trans Am

## SMITH & WESTERN, TUNBRIDGE







It was my first event to organise since taking over the reigns from the previous Kent rep Mark J. The 13th December came and it was dry in the morning, so I thought that should bring the members out as a deposit had been paid for the meal and I didn't want to be out of pocket!

I arrived earlyish (no thanks to the satnav) and Matt was already there waiting and freezing in his new car that doesn't have a heater... then the rain came! Eventually, the rest of the party came in dribs and drabs - apart from Chuff who was stuck on the M20 going nowhere! A big thank you to the welsh continGency who came along but couldn't afford to eat (I did offer).



Sam, on the other hand left the same time as everyone else but managed to drive the wrong way on the M25 making a grand entrance a lot later, which is expected by everyone these days.

When we were called to the table, there were party cowboy hats and poppers waiting for us and the Christmas menu was ribs or burger. The food was fantastic and the surprise on chuffs face was amazing when the staff brought out his birthday ice cream... a moment to remember!

After the meal we all amassed in the carpark to talk cars as usual, except for some of the girls who decided to prop the bar up (you know who you are)!

Photos were taken, mainly to prove that Chuff's Scarlet Pimpernel does exist and a good time was had by all.

A big thank you to everyone who turned up... roll on the summer season!

#### John "Webbel" Graddon













## KNIGHT RIDER FESTIVAL 2009



#### SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2009

#### **Venue: HALIFAX WATERMILL PREMIER INN**

Huddersfield Road, Salterhebble, Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX3 OQT

The Knightcon event, now in its 3rd and best year, is organised by 2 guys in West Yorkshire called Rob Ormondroyd and Steve Fawcett.

This year we were delighted to have a huge number of KITT replica cars, 22 in total and other American and TV cars. We had guests from Hollywood including Glen Larson (shows creator) graphic designer Nick NuGent (who has been working on a book called The Knight Rider Companion) and KITT's designer and builder Michael Scheffe. We also had guests from all over Europe including Holland, Germany and even as far as Croatia!!

The event has snowballed every year into the event you see now. We have messages from the cast and crew of the show including David Hasselhoff. We have lots of memorabilia on the day and even props used on the show! We have show and shine with judging and trophies and most importantly the sun shone all day long!! We had newspapers TV and Classic American magazine on the day promoting us.

We hope everyone can make it along to the event next year so dust off that old Pontiac and come along.

Please keep an eye on the website for details and we have our own social network for people to join in the fun.

Best wishes **Steve Fawcett, Co-Organiser** 

www.knightconuk.co.uk (website) www.knightconuk.ning.com (social network)











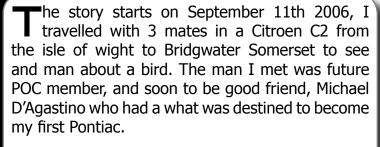






# EDITION BRD GEN







A 1983 Pontiac Firebird SE wasn't my first choice of Pontiac as I have always wanted a 1981 turbo Trans Am, a proper Bandit style TA, but lack of money prevented that so I settled for a 3rd Gen.





As my mate pulled along side the driveway where the Firebird sat I fell in love. Black is beautiful, especially when its coupled with T-Tops, tan doe skin interior and a 5 litre V8. So money exchanged hands and the keys were mine. East bound and down, T-Tops off, 110mph all the way back home, I was happier than a puppy with two peckers. I loved every second, it was as if I had just won the lottery, I finally had a Firebird, I was actually living a childhood dream and flying down the highway in a streak of black lightening called the Bandit Express.

When I got it home, after parading around

for a few days like a teenage girl in her prom dress. I begun to add my personal touches. First I painted the wheels Black, removed the gold pin stripe that run down the side and gave it a good clean and polish. I also added white neons behind the grills to act as sidelights, which at the time I guite liked but were later removed in favor of some fog lights with sidelight bulbs inside.

I still had some money left after the sale of my last car so it was now time to get rid of the restrictive GM exhaust and cat system in favour of a custom made single box stainless system with 2 mopar style tail pipes. It sounded awesome but I was still not 100% happy with the volume, this would later be corrected by fitting an ERV supplied by Finley at Dynoflow.

2007 was a busy year for customizing, at this point wheels were now gold, the edition of white dials and a new steering wheel were added inside, Trans Am decals, gold 2nd Gen style pin striping, black door handles, side light blackouts, window tints and rear light tint were

## BY ROBERT CASS

all added on the outside and performance front brakes, front and rear sway bars with adjustable wonder bar really tightened up the handling.

So far all my additions had been very mild in terms of customizing, so after some inspiration from fellow 3rd Gen owner and POC member David Bryden I took the plunge and cut a huge hole in my hood to make way for a functional 1977 Trans am shaker scoop.







Making a shaker scoop functional on a 3rd Gen wasn't as straight forward as I had first thought, the engine sits lower than a 2nd Gen and its also off centre by about an inch. I had to make a new shaker base plate that was off centre by exactly the right amount and a tall fiberglass spacer that was just the right height to raise the scoop out of the hole with out fouling on the hood.





The Finished result was spot on what I was aiming for. Now it really turned some heads. I just love watching the scoop shake as it idles at the traffic lights.

2008 rolls around and I decide to rip out all the engine emission equipment and tidy the



engine bay a little. Once a few pounds of emission piping were shed I cleaned and painted the block, added chrome rocker covers, which I personalized with

my own 305 cubic inch design, and replaced all the remaining pipes with blue silicone. This took

me what seemed like forever to complete but I think you can agree that the finished article is far better than when it left the factory.



It was later in 2008 that I stumbled upon an



eBay seller that had some YearOne Burt Reynold Edition decals for sale in the states; the Burt Reynold Edition 3rd Gen was born. My plans at this point was to fit some snowflake wheels, 2nd Gen front and rear spats and a bird on the hood but due to the recession starting I was made redundant and feared the very worse of having to sell my beloved Pontiac but alas I was very lucky in finding a new job which paid peanuts, but paid none the less.



2009, the recession is gathering speed and starting to spiral out of control, people are loosing their jobs left right and centre, moneys is but a fantasy and the pound is weaker than ever against the dollar. Even so I have still managed to plod on with my now self acclaimed Burt Reynolds Edition 3rd Gen.

I am happier than ever with the way it looks, now with the addition of 3rd Gen diamond spoke snowflakes that I have been polishing and refurbishing for the past 2 weeks. The new wheels along with double pin striping and hood decal, have transformed the car, they give it an all new stance. Next in line will be the 2nd Gen spats which are very close to completion and a 2nd Gen inspired nose, but for now I will have to leave you with the most recent pictures of the Burt Reynolds Edition 3rd Gen, The Bandit Express.

### Robert "Rob81" Cass



IF YOU'D LIKE TO SEE YOUR CAR FEATURED IN WIDE TRACK NEWS PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR STORY TO EDITOR@POC-UK.ORG

## BROADLANDS ROMSEY, HAMPSHIRE











# 30TH AUGUST 2009

This show is held on the Sunday, Monday August Bank holiday and is a show that encompasses all forms of motor transport, from military vehicles, early vintage cars right through to supercars.

As well as the display vehicles there are events in an arena that includes an exciting motorbike stunt show and a stand that was applying a flat black and a carbon fibre look vinyl to an entire car so the two days were needed to see it all.

A club stand was arranged for this event and although the first day was wet with a fine rain it didn't dampen ( pun intended ) our spirits, and we had over twenty cars on our stand which included the star appearance of Robin himself.

There was even a new member (Enhancer) that joined us from Northants and signed up that day, also members from Cornwall and Wales turned up which shows dedication... or they were really bored!

Sunday was also trophy day and Andy Georgallis won best car of the show, and also best paint whilst Jan Larsson won the best engine award.

Typically the Monday was a better day with an overcast morning, then by lunch time it was hot and sunny. Unfortunately the air display for the day had been cancelled that



morning, never mind eh. We still had about ten cars on our stand and had a lot of people showing interest in our cars so everyone enjoyed themselves and look forward to next year, so a big thank you to everyone that made this show a big success.



## EXTRA, EXTRA

This edition's **'Too much time on his hands'** award goes to Robert Cass for his 2nd Gen Trans Am snow car... nice one Rob!







## FORUM PHOTO COMPETITION

Down on our friendly POC forum, we have recently started running a small photo competition. The prize is the most fantastic prize of all - getting the opportunity to have your photo featured here for all to see! And, if you're really lucky - or the bribe is substantial enough - you might even make the cover (well done Paul Ashby for this edition)!

Unfortunately, Lutonmatt keeps changing the rules every month (usually to suit which ever photo he has taken at the time) so we can't print the exact rules here, but the General gist is that there is a different theme every month, the photo has to be taken by you, and it has to be a Pontiac - preferably your own. So far the themes have been Autumn (September), Smokin' (November), Cool Yule (December) and Tranquility of Winter (January). Check our forum for the themes for the coming months. **www.poc-uk.org** 

This is a just-for-fun competition, but lets get lots of really interesting photos! As you can see from some of these examples the point is to be creative so get thinking outside of that box and get snapping!

Although, perhaps some haven't been taking it quite as seriously as others...

























## **EVENTS**

his is my first entry in the WTN so my first thing is to thank every one who has helped me get to where I am today. Where ever that is...!

Last year was my first year as the Events man and it went well. There may have been a few mistakes here and there but I am still learning! This year it promises to be even better and we can look forward to all the big shows coming up like Wheels Day, Damn Yankees and Billing.

Hopefully we will have a nice, hot and sunny summer so we all can get out our motors - and don't forget your camera for our forum photo competition!

Hopefully this year I can stick to just the one Pontiac as last year I had a few! But, this year, now that I have KITT (which I plan to keep for a while) I hope to get to Knightcon as the show is getting bigger and bigger every year. With a few famous faces within the Knight Rider scene popping along its worth a look no matter what you drive. But if you have a KITT or a KARR then even better!

Hope to see you all at the shows this year. And remember to keep an eye on our website and forum for more info and updates on the shows and events!

Matt "Lutonmatt" Everest

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### 2 April 2010 Wheels Day

Rushmore Arena, Aldershot

### 16-17 Apr 2010

Spring Open Nationals Billing Aquadrome, Northants

#### 2 May 2010

Damn Yankees Mayday Nationals Northweald Airfield, Chipping Ongar Mersea Island, Essex

#### 16 May 2010

Victory Wheelers Hayling Island Beach, Hants

### May 2010 (TBC)

**Merrist Wood Summer Show** Worplesdon, Surrey

#### 6 June 2010

Can Am Lazy Sunday St Edwards School, Poole, Dorset

#### 13 June 2010

Bromley pageant Norman park, Kent

#### 13 June 2010

Mersea Motor Madness

#### 19 June 2010 **Pontiac Pow Wow**

Ace Café, London

#### 18-20 June 2010

Summer Open Nationals Billing Aquadrome, Northants

### 18 July 2010

Damn Yankees Summer Slam North Weald, Essex

### 25 July 2010

Worthing Rod and Custom Steyne Gardens, Worthing, Sussex

#### 20-22 Aug 2010

Late Summer Nationals Billing Aquadrome, Northants

### (Followed by POC mega cruise to Aug 29-30 2010 Billing for the evening festivities Hampshire Pageant Of Motoring

and camping for the brave!) Broadlands, Romsey, Hants

(Shows in red are our Official POC events with trophies!)

## POC REGIONAL MEETS

#### **COWBOY COUNTY MEET LINGFIELD**

4th Sunday of the month Smith & Western Restaurant McDonalds & Burger King Eastbourne Road, Blindley Heath Lingfield, Surrey RH7 6JJ Sam Knight, 07737 866059

#### **KRISPY KREMES DOUGHNUT MEET**

3rd Sunday of the month from 8am Shannon Corner, New Malden Dorset BH14 0QB 197 Burlington Road New Malden, Surrey KT3 4NA Sam Knight, 07737 866059

#### **KENT AMERICAN MEET**

1sr Sunday of the month from 12pm onwards. Riverview Diner, Bybrook Barn, Ashford, TN24 9JZ

#### **CROYDON MEET**

2nd Sunday of the Month 4.30—7pm Unit 1, Valley park Leisure Complex, Lathams way, Croydon R0 4XP Sam Knight, 07737 866059

#### **DORSET MEET**

Sundays through the year from 2pm View Point, Poole, Colin Hobbs, 07793 018175

#### **GUILDFORD CRUISE**

1st Sunday of the month from 4.30pm Ladymead Retail park (Burger King) Guildford, Surrey GU1 1AJ Sam Knight, 07737 866059

#### **WILTSHIRE MEET**

1st Thursday of the month from 7.30pm (April to Sep) The Sun Inn, Marlborough Road (A4259), Coate, Water, Swindon SN3 6AA Iain Hooker, 01793 877399

#### **HERTS MEET**

3rd Saturday of the month 11am—1pm (March—Sep) The Red Lion, Digswell Hill, Welwyn, AL6 9AJ Grant Patterson, 07810 543716

#### **NORTH EAST MEET**

2nd Wednesday of the month from 7pm. Metro Retail Park, Metro Centre, Gateshead NE11 9XU Chelmsford, Essex. CM2 6TE Scott Bainbridge, 07790 989337

#### **NORTHAMPTON MEET**

1st Wednesday of the month Old Orleans, Sixfields, Northampton, NN5 5QL Mark Brett, 07504048593

#### **WEST MIDLANDS MEET**

1st Sunday of the month from 3pm (April to October) OK Diner, A5, Bridgetown, Cannock, Staffs, WS11 0BN Dave Peake, 07811 331560

### **ESSEX MEET**

2nd Sunday of the month from 12pm Checkers Diner Amaryllis House, Montrose Road, Dukes Park, David Bryden, email: essex@poc-uk.org

## MEMBERS NEWS

### THE ULTIMATE ROAD TRIP, SMOKEY AND THE BANDIT STYLE!

In September Surrey Rep Sam and I, and a couple of friends, set off on the ultimate road trip. We had joined the Ramshackle Rally which goes from England to Croatia. The only rules being that the car has to cost no more than £150 and be road legal.

With Smokey and the Bandit as our theme, we needed a car to take us East Bound and Down!

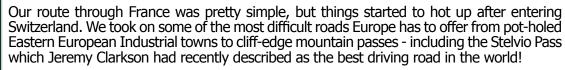




After our attempts to find a Black '78 TA for £150 failed we ended up with an old diesel Peugeot something-or-other which we dug out of the bushes. Sam worked his magic on it and soon it was firing on all 4 cylinders and MOT'd! An expert rattle-can paint job, some decals and a hood bird applied with gold pen precision and a Jerry Reed CD later - our steed was ready!











Whilst many other competitors disappeared in clouds of smoke our trusty Bandit soldiered on for 1500 miles and we arrived at Split, in Croatia, in one piece (albeit with very hot brakes, random electrical issues and part of the floor just hanging on). Many of those who had made it that far, scrapped their car and flew home. But we weren't finished!







Amazingly, we made it home (even with Sam navigating!), had a thoroughly good time and are hoping the car is still good enough for another crack this year. Burt Reynolds would have been proud.

#### Mark "Firebreather" McCubbin









## DVLA APPROVED!

- We are now approved to reunite vehicles with their original year of registration using the V765 scheme [see DVLA website for details].
- We will be in the DVLA booklet of approved owner clubs for all to see.
- We will be on the DVLA website for all to see.
- We as a club will be able to provide letters of proof of year of manufacturer after VIN has been decoded by us or a 3rd party.
- We also have a direct point of contact for DVLA via phone or email should you need any advice.
- Insurance valuation letters will carry more weight with insurance companies now we are on the DVLA's approved list of owner clubs.

POC points of contact for contacting DVLA are via **Steve Fullam, Sarah Sykes or James Armstrong.** 

At American Technique we offer a wide range of services and advice from quick and easy repairs to long term restoration projects. We specialise in bodywork & chassis tuning modifications & improvements.

We are the only company in the UK to design & build sub-frame connectors and our own selection of suspension/brake products. We can manufacture unique parts for your vehicle.

By sourcing parts as required we are able to supply from some of the US major distributors: Eibach, YearOne, Magnaflow, AirBagIt, NPD, SLP Engineering, Spohn Performance.

From minor blow ins to full car re-sprays we guarantee a high quality finish. We offer very competitive prices with discounts for club members without compromising on the quality of workmanship which we pride ourselves in. See the results for yourself at www.americantechnique.co.uk

Tel: 01923 225237

## **BOOK REVIEW**



Written by Darwin Holmstorm, Photography by David Newhardt. **Motorbooks Publishing.** RRP £30.00

xclusive POC Members offer – Just £22.00 with free p&p, call Grantham Book Services 01206255777 and quote 'GTO Great One'.

Just as the lights go out at General Motors Pontiac division, Darwin Holmstorm's masterfully written book explores the story and environment that allowed the creation of this brands most iconic muscle that to the die hard enthusiast. rocketed the performance-car world in 1964.

The informative, irreverent writing style captures GM's division well and provides one of the all time greats and the people involved in its creation, due credit. The tone used makes this an entertaining 'cant put down' read as it's almost like reading the memoirs of a now Myra Armstrong

GTO: Pontiac's Great One lost friend. Rarely before have I seen photography of this quality mixed beautifully with original advertising artworks, statistical data, charts and personal anecdotes from the people who made it happen. This substantial read (330 full colour pages) covers the 'story' from the initial option package through to high performance late model standouts.

> GTO: Pontiac's Great One includes a reprint of the infamous Car & Driver article that launched the leGend, an illustrated fold-out timeline and prints of original advertising campaigns to name but a few. David Newhardt's truly spectacular photography leaves no detail unexplored. It would be more accurate to call this an illustrated biography that reaches out not only

> We have a copy of this stunning book to give away to one lucky winner by entering our competition (details on can be found on the back cover). Good luck and happy reading.

## ADRIAN FLUX INSURANCE SERVICES GOLD CLUB SPONSOR

The Pontiac Owners Club has tied up with specialist broker Adrian Flux Insurance Services that gives members discounts on insurance, not only for Pontiac's and other cars but also in loads of other areas including home insurance. Flux was one of the first brokers to insure American cars, developing pioneering schemes back in the early Seventies. The company also has plenty of experience in dealing with car clubs - in fact Flux has set up a dedicated owners club team.

So, Flux knows clubs and it knows American cars, which makes the broker a great choice as POC's preferred insurance provider. Flux's Club Liaison Manager Craig Darwin explains some of the benefits: "I guess the headline offer for most members will be that we give up to 15% discount on your Pontiac's insurance. On top of that, members can claim up to 10% discount on insurance for house and contents, cars, motorcycles, kit and custom vehicles, motorhomes, caravans and even trikes and quads."

#### American-car-friendly service, insurance and breakdown cover

Flux offers several other benefits for members - such as agreed values, free legal expenses cover and an American-car-friendly breakdown service, including homestart, relay and roadside assistance, that costs only £45 a year.

"We try to make things as easy as possible for Club members" says Craig. "For example, we have a dedicated Club phoneline that means your call will go through to specialists who'll know what you're talking about - they understand what you drive, whatever the model or modifications, and will be able to answer your questions quickly. Of course, they should also be able to sort out an excellent deal on your insurance, and give you instant quotes and instant cover. They'll also be able to help you sort out an Agreed Value figure."

If you want to find out more about the special deals on offer, freephone the Flux Club quoteline on **0800 089 0035** or visit **www.adrianflux.co.uk/american**. When asking for a quote, mention you are a member of the POC and Flux will apply the appropriate discount.

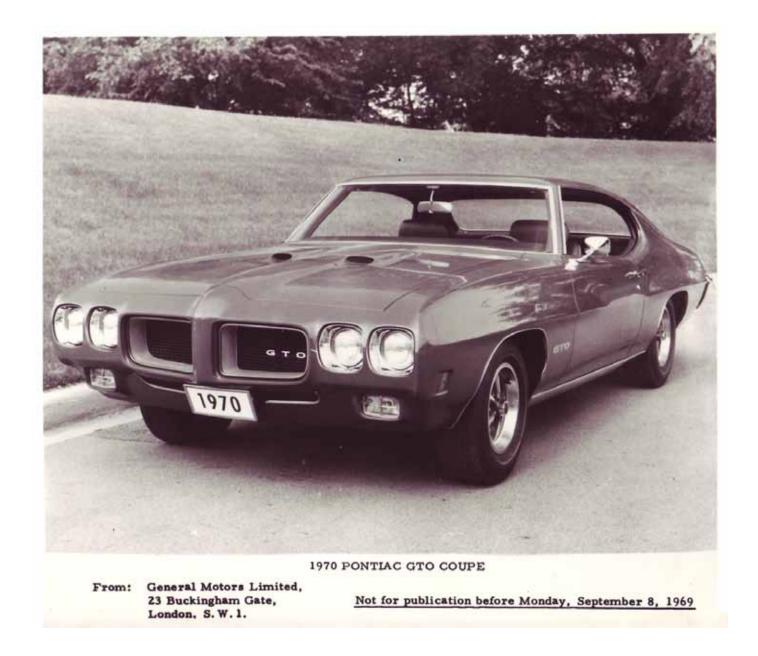
#### 1973: The Godfather's Oscar, Nixon's Watergate, The Monster Mash and Flux's first American Car

Back in 1973, when Bobby "Boris" Pickett & The Crypt Kickers had a monster hit with Monster Mash, Flux was insuring its first American car in the UK. Meanwhile, back on the ranch...

The best selling Billboard 100 single in 1973 was Tie a Yellow Ribbon, by Tony Orlando & Dawn. The Best Film Oscar went to The Godfather, Coppola's mafia masterpiece with Marlon Brando as Don Vito Corleone. USC won the Rosebowl, beating Ohio State 42-17. Nixon took full responsibility for the Watergate scandal - but denied any personal involvement.

**Outside the USA**, Pablo Picasso died; Concorde made its first non-stop trans-Atlantic flight, from Washington to Paris, in three hours 32 minutes; and LBC (London Broadcasting Company) became Britain's first independent radio station.





## COMPETITION

### How's your GTO knowledge prowess?

Heres your chance to win a stunning hardback copy of GTO: Pontiac's Great One (as reviewed within this issue).

Take a look at this question, and send your entry on a postcard together with your name and membership number to: The Editor (comp 67), 21 Goldcrest Gardens, Southampton, SO16 8FG.

### Q. Which year did the GTO 'rocket the performance car world'?

One entry per member please. Closing date for entries is April 31st 2010. Please note no entries will be returned. We can not be responsible for losses or delays in postal services so please post early. Winning entry will be chosen at random. Book will be posted on close of draw. **WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE NEXT ISSUE.** 

Congratulations to Mr D H Feltham from Bristol on proving his Pontiac prowess (Issue 66) with an impressive knowledge of the 1953 Parisienne.

