



PRESS RELEASE

12th April 2021

For immediate release

Latest News for Drive it Day 2021

National Drive It Day was created by the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs in 2005. It is the occasion when historic vehicle enthusiasts and the public at large have the opportunity to celebrate the One Thousand Mile Trial organised in 1900 to prove the viability of the new invention, the motor vehicle. It's also a chance to raise awareness and support amongst the public for the historic vehicle movement and keeping transport heritage on UK roads.

This year's Drive It Day celebration is scheduled for Sunday, 25th April and many enthusiasts have been asking for the latest information on what can and cannot proceed to mark this National Awareness Day. The FBHVC is pleased to announce that the latest news, is good news.

David Whale, Chairman of the FBHVC said, "*National Drive it Day has its place as a symbolic season opener, a chance to get historic vehicles of all shapes, sizes and types out in use, seen by the public and enjoyed by their custodians. It's a statement of national importance because, not only does it ensure that our transport heritage continues as a moving, working, living experience, but also raises awareness of the size, importance and contribution that the historic vehicle movement makes to the world.*"

This year, that contribution is even larger because the FBHVC have teamed up with the NSPCC's Childline® to raise money as an integrated part of Drive it Day in order to use our movement to contribute to a section of society that has needed huge help and support during the pandemic – vulnerable children. Lockdown has magnified all sorts of societal problems and the long days and weeks trapped in broken homes or abusive environments have put vulnerable children even more at risk.

Furthermore, the restrictions on social contact and the movement of people have seriously curtailed fundraising efforts for charities across the board and charities have found themselves underfunded, just at the moment when they need the resource the most. All profits from our official Drive it Day rally plate go towards the NSPCC's Childline®, so get yours now via www.driveitday.co.uk.

Sir Peter Wanless, Chief Executive of the NSPCC said "*We are delighted with the support of classic and historic vehicle enthusiasts in contributing to the work of Childline® in our first year of partnership. This support is especially important at the moment, Childline® is a crucial service on which young people can rely - day or night - whatever problems or dangers they are facing.*"

As we know, each devolved nation has provided bespoke guidance throughout the pandemic and this is the current position:

ENGLAND

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport through the Tourism Alliance has confirmed that at Step 2 of the road map for exit from lockdown applicable from 12th April, an event such as the Federation's Drive It Day may go ahead providing that:

- The event takes place outdoors
- Attendees will arrive and leave the event in a staggered manner throughout the day
- It does not involve attendees converging on and congregating at a site for a specific discrete activity, such as a theatre or music performance
- Rule of 6 or two households mixing outdoors applies

NORTHERN IRELAND

We are in contact with the Honorary Secretary of the Association of Old Vehicle Clubs and he tells us no decision has been made by the NI Assembly regarding opening things up but the Association will continue to monitor the situation and post new information as soon as it is announced on <https://www.aovc.co.uk/>

Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs Ltd, PO Box 295, Upminster, Essex, RM14 9DG

Tel: 01708 223111 E-mail: secretary@fbhvc.co.uk Web: www.fbhvc.co.uk

Registered Office: The Barn, Holly Berry House, Hamstall Ridware, Rugeley, Staffordshire, WS15 3SQ Registered in England No 3842316 VAT Reg No. 636 788683



SCOTLAND

Travel restrictions are not scheduled to be relaxed until the week after Drive It Day. We know enthusiasts have written to the Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity asking for an exemption to be made for historic vehicles on Drive it Day. We have also written to the Cabinet Secretary, our letter has been acknowledged as received but as the Scottish Parliament is suspended and in purdah, a reply may be unlikely. If we receive further news, it will be published on our News page at <https://www.fbhvc.co.uk/news>

WALES

Travel restrictions within the UK will be lifted from 12th April.

We hope this information is helpful but in all cases government guidance applicable on Sunday 25th April must be followed.

Rally plates can be purchased via www.driveitday.co.uk , where enthusiasts may also make an additional donation to the Just Giving page. All profits from the Drive it Day rally plates will go to NSPCC's Childline®.

For media enquiries, please contact:

- Wayne Scott at Classic Heritage PR, 07759 260899. wayne@classicheritagepr.co.uk

About the FBHVC:

The Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs exists to uphold the freedom to use historic vehicles on the road. It does this by representing the interests of owners of such vehicles to politicians, government officials, and legislators both in the UK and (through the Federation Internationale des Vehicules Anciens) in Europe. There are over 500 subscriber organisations representing a total membership of over 250,000 in addition to individual and trade supporters. All our directors operate in a voluntary capacity supported by our secretary.

Website: www.fbhvc.co.uk .