



February 2017

For immediate release

HERITAGE TRANSPORT SHOW IS NO APRIL FOOLS

The Heritage Transport Show, now in its eighth year, will take place on Saturday 1st April at the Kent Showground, Detling, 10am - 4pm. The event may be falling on April Fools Day, but it's no joke. Kent County Agricultural Society, organisers, believe that this year will see the Show welcome high numbers of entries. The value for money advance entry is just £7.00 and under 14's go free, visitors will also be able to park free of charge.

Amy Thomson, organiser, said "We have already received over 350 entries which is fantastic with nearly two months to go. The Heritage Transport Show has been gaining in popularity over the past few years and has now established itself as an exciting, nostalgic and interesting day out".

The event has a long-standing partnership with the South East Bus Festival, which has proved to be a wonderful addition to the Show in the past will be once again joining the festivities. The South East Bus Festival expect well over 100 buses and coaches, thirty or more of these will be on hand to provide a free service around the Showground. This is a highlight for visitors and passengers who will be able to alight at a number of special bus stop around the site and reminisce about journeys from their youth or share the experience with new generations. Organisers of the South East Bus Festival are also looking for bus owners who will be able to meet the Arriva bus service on the A249 to ferry visitors to and from the bus stops on the dual carriageway, to the Showground.

The Heritage Transport Show is pleased to welcome back the Kent Farmers Market which gives visitors the opportunity to buy food that was at one time produced with the help of the vehicles and machinery on display. Run by organisers of Tonbridge and Aylesford farmers market, the stands will feature award-winning chutneys and jams, Kentish beers, homemade sausage rolls and pasties amongst many other products.

Sundae Surprise, a vintage tea shop serving a traditional country kitchen menu, will be returning for a second year. The Damsels, a female vocal group who proved extremely popular last year will also be back, performing a variety of vintage songs. The group will be located in the Maidstone Exhibition Hall.

The Heritage Transport Show has examples of vehicles from early steam through to classic cars, commercial vehicles, motorcycles and bikes, and not forgetting the large bus and coach section. The Show also has a large display of agricultural machinery and stationary engines. Hopfields Live Steam Model Railway, Maidstone Model Engineering Society and the Veteran Cycle Club Display will form part of the extensive demonstrations and displays at the Show.

Trevor Manuel, Heritage Committee Chairman, said "Our Heritage Transport Show illustrates the history of the motor industry. Many visitors whether young or old have specific memories of a particular make or model that played an important part in their life. Without owners who spend time maintaining these vehicles, we would not be able to understand the remarkable journey the modern day car has undertaken."

The Committee are particularly delighted that there will be a couple of famous cars on display this year from film and television; the 1966 Volvo P1800S, driven by Roger Moore in 'The Saint' TV series, and the 1978 Lotus Esprit 52 the same model featured in the Bond film 'The Spy Who Loved Me'. Visitors will also be able to see a replica of the 1957 Porsche 356A Speedster, famously raced in the USA by James Dean and Steve McQueen in the 1950's/60's.

Visitors to the Heritage Transport Show will see a huge array of wonderful examples of vintage, veteran and heritage vehicles, all lovingly renovated by their owners. The level of dedication to the vehicles and the time spent by enthusiasts to keep these historic vehicles maintained is heart-warming. The 150 year old modern internal combustion engine has been famously used by thousands of makes and models over the decades. Many of the familiar names in car manufacturing are still going strong after more than a century, with many of them being exhibited at the Show.

It is even more important for visitors to connect with our transport heritage as we see the re-emergence of the electric car. Tesla, Volkswagen, Toyota, BMW, Audi and Nissan are some of the

car giants using hybrid technology in vehicles today. However, few people realise that it was Scottish inventor, Robert Anderson, who invented the first crude electric carriage powered by non-rechargeable primary cells in 1832 and by 1835 an American named Thomas Davenport built the first practical electric vehicle. By the 1890's William Morrison an American, built the first successful electric car and by the end of that decade electric taxis were being used in New York. By the turn of the century, Thomas Edison believes that electricity would run automobiles for the foreseeable future and spent a decade researching possible improvements. It was when Henry Ford introduced the gasoline powered Model T in 1908 that the electric car stopped being viable.

The Heritage Transport Show is a great opportunity to discover the history and the future of the transport world. Throughout the day, owners will remain with their vehicles and will be more than pleased to answer any questions you might have.

The gate price for the Heritage Transport Show & South East Bus Festival (combined ticket) costs £10.00 per person with car parking and under 14's free. **Tickets can be purchased in advance at a cost of £7.00 for an adult ticket, under 14's free.**

<http://kentshowground.co.uk/heritage-transport-show/>

****ENDS****

For more information or photos please contact the event organiser Amy Thomson: 01622 633057 or email amy@kentshowground.co.uk.

<http://kentshowground.co.uk/heritage-transport-show/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Heritage-Transport-Show>