

BANGERS GENERAL

Autospeed recently held a number of planned meetings regarding all things connected to Bangers – ranging from (rookie) Bangers, to Old Skool, to National Bangers. The outcomes of the meeting are noted below.

Our very grateful thanks go to those drivers who took the time to provide an assortment of comments, thoughts, ideas and suggestions via an eMail to the Autospeed website. These were wide ranging, but very helpful, and it was clear that a lot of thought had gone into this subject by a number of drivers and was clear that some new approaches were needed.

National Micro Bangers - 28 December 2014

Bookings for the Micro Bangers, which feature in Banger Bonanza 2 at Smeatharpe on Sunday 28 December, have continued to grow and grow. The number of drivers booked for this meeting has now exceeded 40, which looks set to be a terrific day of action.

Eligible Cars - Engine Size 1500cc maximum

Cars for Micro Bangers should be Mini, Metro, Fiesta, Nova, Renault 5 size.

Not acceptable for Micro Bangers – Ford Escort, Vauxhall Astra, Fiat Tipo, Nissan Cherry, Hyundai Pony, Toyota Corolla.

Be aware that the Ford Puma has been expressly noted as unsuitable for the National Micro Bangers.

Listed below are eligible cars.

Allegro	Fiat Panda	Mazda 121	Peugeot 205	Suzuki Swift
Austin 1100	Fiat Uno	Metro	Proton Pasona	Toyota Starlet
Austin 1300	Ford Anglia	Mini	Renault 5	Triumph Acclaim
Austin A30	Ford Fiesta	Morris 1000	Riley Elf	VW Beetle
Austin A40	Ford KA	Nissan Micra	Rover Metro	VW Polo
Citroen AX	Hillman Imp	Nova	Skoda Favorit	Wolsley 1500
Citroen Visa	Kia Pride	Peugeot 106	Sunbeam Stiletto	Wolsley Hornet

IF YOU HAVE A CAR WHICH DOES NOT FEATURE ON THE LIST, BUT WHICH YOU CONSIDER FITS THE REQUIREMENT OF A MICRO BANGER, PLEASE OBTAIN CONFIRMATION FROM THE AUTOSPEED OFFICE BEFORE YOU BEGIN PREPARATION OF THE CAR.

If possible, we will be trying to include a meeting for National Micro Bangers at St Day in 2015.

Bangers

It has been clear for some time that the (Rookie) Bangers have bordered on being out of control – particularly in terms of the speed of the cars; the amount of money being spent on tyres; the amount of money being spent on engines; the amount of time, money and effort being spent on “race prep”.

This is simply NOT what we want from this class. The (Rookie) Bangers class is NOT for high level, intense competition.

It is an entrance level class, based around a bit of fun.

To drag this class back to a more basic level, and to return the cars to being more like they were when they were on the road, we are making adjustments to the rules regarding Tyres, Engines and Wheels.

Ride Height

The promotion reserves the right to check the ride height of a car at any time. This will be to ensure that the ride height is the same measurement (or greater) on the driver’s side as it is on the passenger side, i.e. the car should sit level to the track. This will be done without the driver sat in the car.

Tyres

The following tyres are NOT PERMITTED for use: Road legal list 1B track and competition tyres.

THE FULL LIST WILL BE PUBLISHED ON OUR WEBSITE.

Engines

The BMW 3 Series up to 1895cc 8 valve - engine code M43TUB19 is permitted.

Not permitted - Honda/Rover models using twin cam V Tech engines.

Wheels

Increase maximum wheel size to 6J. All four wheels on the car must be the same size.

Supreme Championship

After the highly unsatisfactory outcome of the Supreme Championship at St Day on 2 November, that exact same race will be re-run at St Day on Sunday 8 February 2015. Hence, it will only feature those drivers who gridded on 2 November.

207	130	406	911	91	70	804	938	185	28	154	246	847	113	372	Outside
3	153	242	455	254	358	862	45	131	79	447	912	416	60	612	Inside

Bookings

A recurring theme of the Bangers has been some very poor efforts in terms of bookings, with far too many drivers turning up ‘on spec’ without having booked in. This creates a number of problems, particularly with regards to which race format is used.

2 Litre Old Skool National Bangers

Despite numerous requests to make the 2 Litre Old Skool National Bangers exclusively for old cars (i.e. to eliminate the likes of Mondeos, Cougars), it must be noted that the class is intended to offer an introduction into National Bangers. Our hope is for new and inexperienced drivers to race in the 2 Litre Old Skool National Bangers, and to get a lot of track time; a lot of racing laps under their belt; to learn how to race the car; to learn how to spin out other cars; and (if so desired) indulge in some heavy crashing in the Allcomers race. However, we are conscious that some drivers have been using 2 Litre National Bangers which have undergone some serious "race prep". Whilst that is acceptable to the current rules of National Bangers, we do not see that as being in the spirit of 2 Litre Old Skool National Bangers.

Therefore, we shall be introducing, with immediate effect, the following rule changes.

**STANDARD UNMODIFIED FORD ECU'S ONLY ARE PERMITTED - NO AFTERMARKET ITEMS
NO ROAD LEGAL LIST 1B TRACK AND COMPETITION TYRES. THE FULL LIST WILL BE PUBLISHED ON OUR WEBSITE.**

Unlimited cc Old Skool National Bangers

We have given some very serious thought to excluding relatively modern cars from the Unlimited cc Old Skool National Bangers to recapture the spirit of it being fun in slightly older cars. However, rather than making wide ranging changes, the car that we intend to remove from the class for now is the Ford Scorpio Ultima (Frogeye). These cars have become THE car to have for regular unlimited cc National Banger events, with an emphasis on high performance – and we feel they are therefore not what is expected from the Old Skool class.

To widen the scope on available cars, we would consider permitting some of the larger FWD cars that have little prospect of otherwise being used. If you have a car in mind then please ask the question. Such as Rover 75 FWD.

After the initial excitement of their display at Banger Bonanza 1 in December 2013, the Unlimited cc Old Skool National Bangers class has failed to flourish in the way we had hoped. A large car count at Smeatharpe on 28 December will help us determine what in the way of fixtures we plan for 2015.

Our thanks go to Teign Cellars for their fine sponsorship of each event this year.

National Bangers Unlimited cc

Following the lead from various tracks in the UK and Europe, we have decided to ban all truck chassis built luxury cars (like pre 70 Chrysler Imperials). We very much share the concerns the these other tracks have noted in the announcement they have made, notably, driver safety is very important.

Drivers are further advised that these types of car are due to be discussed very soon, by the Oval Racing Council, and IT MAY BE that they are assigned to special meetings only.

Since the last Newsletter, in late October, there have been other developments. These are reflected in updated information (where applicable) in the following categories.

National Bangers

The 2015 season will be very similar, with regards to dates for National Bangers, and will feature Winter Open, Boneshaker, Crasharama, Westcountry Wreckfest, Blockbuster and the Championship of the World.

Having had some good feedback to the idea of pairing two types of National Bangers at the same meeting on some days, viz: 2-litres and unlimiteds at Winter Open, Boneshaker, etc, this is likely to be repeated, although perhaps with less regularity.

National Bangers – Blockbuster – Sunday 30 August 2015 at St Day

After ten years of being the Autospeed Banger Manager, Eddie has felt it right to call time on his formal involvement.

Whilst he is still likely to be present at some race meetings, particularly with his sons David and Christopher racing, Eddie is stepping down from his formal position.

Accordingly, Autospeed felt that the most fitting way to recognise Eddie's contribution to Autospeed and to Bangers racing in general, would be to make the 2015 Blockbuster – A Tribute To Eddie James.

The origination of Blockbuster very much lies with Eddie James.

2 Litre Bangers Old Skool 2014 Supreme Championship

No	Driver	Supreme
133	Terry Hill	238
131	Sam Hill	235
333	Craig Partridge	194
97	Craig Deer	186
912	Simon Rees	169
910	Katie Dawe	163
47	Marcus A'Lee	130
153	David James	103
929	Sam Baker	97
246	Ryan Sparks	81
372	Jay Matthews	67
74	Adam Hitchcock	64
239	Steve Carter	59
190	Steve Bailey	57
185	Richard Coaker	54
162	Brett Ellacott	53
113	Aaron Brown	52
141	Toby Tiddy	50
714	Paul Smaldon	46
341	Andrew Jones	44
242	Ben Ellacott	36
406	Chris Bridger	36
95	Marcus Bunt	36
903	Adam Neville	36
284	Leon Benjafield	35
235	Toby Brooks	35
247	Richard Sparks	34
862	Daryl Cook	34
479	Jamie Jenkin	33
96	Michael Hiscock	30
6	Anthony Bradshaw	29
648	Jamie Smith	27
947	Luke Purdy	26
87	Paul Lawer	25
94	Calum Dorsan	25
320	Dan Abbott	22
427	George Harris	21
908	David Brown	21
53	Christopher James	19
422	Tristan Beresford	19
132	Jonathan Haradacrae	17
637	Dan Smith	17
210	Mike Johns	16
304	Marty Penhaligon	16
888	Simon Brooks	15
176	Ben King	15
184	Kieran Smith	15
101	Andrew Bishop	14
612	Lee Pink	13
718	Adie Brown	13
384	Scott Benjafield	12
337	Grant Williams	11
335	Albert Hughes	10
366	Peter Warren	10
147	Phil Purdy	10
189	Ry Beardwell	10
196	Luke Cannard	10
202	Adam Jones	10
272	Shaun Ross	10
861	Jean-Marc Penaluna	10
45	Mike Reed	9
56	Dan Burton	7
8	Daniel Wood	5
32	Jack Hellier	5
183	Dan Whitfield	5
382	Tommy Hutchings	5
538	Harry von Sommeren	5
624	Oly Cope	5
720	James Warren	5
938	Ashley Rice	5
961	Josh Cox	5
11	Lee Donnelly	5
31	Liam Shipway	5
70	Jamie Thomas	5
87	Roger Deer	5
108	Steve Brown	5
182	Neil Rippon	5
261	Liam Fisher	5
285	Andrew Phillips	5
387	Ben Bishop	5
383	Andre McLellan	5
444	Kieran Bellringer	5
451	Mickey Reed	5
452	Anthony Steeman	5
522	Chris Orchard	5
650	Jamie Seery	5
716	John Marshall	5
845	Albert Haines	5
999	John Glover	5

We are now calling on drivers to play their part in making Blockbuster a very special event indeed. Let's have lots and lots of drivers, reliving the old Spirit of Blockbuster, with an abundance of old and unusual cars.

To focus drivers in the right direction, Blockbuster 2015 will be exclusively for cars that fall into one of two categories:

A car must have been raced in Blockbuster at the old Westworld circuit OR One of the "Star Cars" that have been raced in Blockbuster at St Day. The full list of eligible cars will be available on the Autospeed website.

If you want to pay your own tribute to Eddie James, come along and be a part of Blockbuster 2015 on August Bank Holiday Sunday.

National Bangers – World Qualifying

The World qualifying for National Bangers in 2015 will be very similar to this season, with four rounds – two at each track (St Day and Smeatharpe).

World QR 1	Smeatharpe	25 Jan	unlimited cc (this will run alongside the 2-litre Winter Open)
World QR 2	St Day	5 Apr	tbc
World QR 3	Smeatharpe	20 Jul	2-litre
World QR 4	St Day	30 Aug	tbc

Points scoring will be exactly as in previous years – a mixture of attendance and results.

10 World points at each event for drivers who race at Winter Open (2-litre), Boneshaker (2-litre), Crasharama (unlimited cc) and Blockbuster (unlimited cc).

5 World points at each round for drivers who race in the World qualifying rounds.

Heats in the World qualifying rounds – 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1

Finals in the World qualifying rounds – 20, 18, 16, 14, 12, 10, 8, 6, 4, 2

For added clarity, races in all World qualifying rounds are races for National Bangers.

Vintage Tin Night – Tuesday 7 July at Smeatharpe – 7.00pm

This meeting is for cars which are under 1400cc, RWD. If you have a very old car, for example, a Wolseley 1500, which is just over the 1400cc limit, please enquire about the possibility of it being used.

The night's racing will be:

Heat and Final – Old Skool rules – no follow-ins and no hitting stationary cars

Allcomers – National Banger rules

DD – as per normal DDs – any direction, but no use of the infield

2 Litre Old Skool National Bangers – Sunday 28 December at Smeatharpe – 1.00pm

The Supreme Championship for the 2 Litre Old Skool National Bangers takes place on Sunday 28 December at Smeatharpe.

The top 24 drivers available from the Supreme Points listing, will be seeded into the race. All other drivers will contest a Last Chance Qualifier, to make the rear of the grid.

Please note due to numerous requests to inject some life into the series and aim this more at the National Banger newcomer, **STANDARD UNMODIFIED FORD ECU'S ONLY ARE PERMITTED - NO AFTERMARKET ITEMS PERMITTED**
NO ROAD LEGAL LIST 1B TRACK AND COMPETITION TYRES. THE FULL LIST WILL BE PUBLISHED ON OUR WEBSITE.

The primary objective of the 2 Litre Old Skool National Bangers is to offer drivers some racing, and the opportunity for some crashing at the end of the day. Our thanks certainly go to Scrap Vehicle Removal & Milo Jenkins Part Worn Tyres for their fine sponsorship of each event this year.

MPV Bangers

With a plentiful supply of MPVs, we aim to have two days (one at Smeatharpe, and one at St Day) exclusively for them.

These meetings are for MPVs – such as the Nissan Previa, Vauxhall Zafira, Renault Scenic, etc

PLEASE CONTACT THE AUTOSPEED OFFICE TO CHECK ELIGIBILITY

The racing will be:

Heat and Final – Old Skool rules – no follow-ins and no hitting stationary cars

Allcomers – National Banger rules

DD – as per normal DDs – any direction, but no use of the infield

Truck Racing – St Day – Sunday 24 May 2015

After ten years of Buses & Coaches, that option has probably now run its course, in view of the difficulty of the logistics.

So, as a replacement, we are looking at Truck Racing. There will be a maximum of eight places on the grid, with the racing to be very similar to that of the Buses & Coaches – namely, a huge emphasis on fun and entertainment for the crowd, rather than all-out competition. Maximum of 7.5 ton, box lorries, chassis cabs.