

KentMotors NEWS

Put your car on the right road for 2023

At the start of every new year, many of us make resolutions for ourselves – whether it's exercising more, eating more healthily or taking up a new hobby. The same could apply in the motoring world, too, in the sense that small checks and measures you can do on your vehicle can make a big difference in the long run. Here are some top tips to get your motoring year off to a good start.

START WITH A GOOD CLEAN

Though winter might be far from over – and the dirty road season might still be in full force – it's a good idea to start 2023 by cleaning your vehicle. Be sure to get as much of the grime and salt from the car with a jet wash before you start using a wash mitt to clean it any further, as this will help prevent any marring to the paint. Work in straight lines with a dedicated wash mitt – a sponge can often scratch the vehicle if any specks of grit are on the surface – and be sure to rinse the car off thoroughly after. Don't forget the door shuts, wheel arches and wheels themselves, either. Once the car

Think of these six tips as New Year's resolutions for your car, says Ted Welford



is dried off, it's a good idea to apply a layer of hard wax to the paint to help maintain the finish and repel the dirt.

DON'T FORGET INSIDE

Giving the interior a good onceover is a fantastic idea, too. This is the place where you'll spend the most time, so it's always best to keep on top of it. Empty the car of any rubbish or items you don't need, and then give the car a good vacuum. You might want to remove the mats, if fitted, if you want to go a step further.

Giving any leather surfaces a good clean will help to freshen the cabin, as will wiping over the dashboard. You might want to apply an air freshener to keep the car smelling pleasant as well.

MOTING DEADLINES

Organisation can solve all kinds of problems, particularly when it comes to cars. So at the start of the year, it's a good idea to make a note of all the key motoring dates. Whether you like a traditional calendar or reminders in your phone, jot down when your car's tax expires, when it

will need an MOT and service and also when your insurance is up for renewal. Not only will this help driving around a vehicle that's not legal by accident, but knowing when these dates expire can also help you with your budgeting.

CHECK THE FLUID LEVELS

Regular vehicle checks are key to safe motoring, so it's a great way to get your motoring year off to a safe and hopefully trouble-free start. Start by popping open the bonnet and having a look at the fluid levels under there. Look at

the engine oil first, which can be measured with the yellow dipstick. Remove this, wipe it clean with a paper towel, and then re-insert it once again to reveal the oil level. If it's below the reading, top it up straight away. You can search for the correct oil for your car online, but a local motor factor will be able to help with this. Washer fluid is another important one to check, particularly over winter when the roads are often salted, and generally muddier. It's best to use a dedicated solution (most petrol

stations and larger supermarkets sell ready-to-use screenwash), rather than water, as this is more likely to freeze.

GIVE TYRES SOME TLC

First, check the tread depth, which can be measured using a 20p piece. Insert the coin in the groove, and if the outer edge of the coin can be seen, your tyres aren't legal and need replacing. However, we'd recommend changing tyres well in advance of them getting this low on tread, particularly in winter. Looking for any signs of cuts, slow punctures and other damage, while also checking your car's tyres are correctly inflated. You'll be able to find the correct tyre pressures in your vehicle's handbook.

CHECK THE WINDSCREEN

Ensuring your windscreen in good condition is another good way to start 2023. We've mentioned having plenty of washer fluid already, but looking for any is important too. Windscreen chips can quickly develop into cracks over winter, so you should ring your insurer to arrange a repair before the damage gets any worse.

PUBLIC NOTICES

GRAVESHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

PUBLICITY FOR PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND RELATED MATTERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the following applications made to the Borough Council which require statutory publicity. Members of the public may inspect copies of the applications, the plans, and other documents submitted with them at the Civic Centre.

Members of the public may also view and comment on this application using Public Access on the Council's website. Log on to <http://plan.gravesham.gov.uk/online-applications/> and enter the application number and click on search.

DEVELOPMENT OR WORKS AFFECTING A LISTED BUILDING

20221218 - New Tavern Fort, Milton Place, Gravesend, Kent - Application for Listed Building Consent for the installation of two metal security gates at the entrances to the underneath of the west side 1905 gun emplacement

DEVELOPMENT AFFECTING THE SETTING OF A LISTED BUILDING and DEVELOPMENT AFFECTING THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF A CONSERVATION AREA

20221360 - 3 Park Cottages, Tanyard Hill, Shorne, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 3LF - Erection of two-storey dwellinghouse adjoining south side of existing terrace

DEVELOPMENT AFFECTING THE SETTING OF A LISTED BUILDING

20221361 - Land Adjacent To And At The Rear Of, Norwood Farm House, Norwood Lane, Meopham, DA13 0YF - Erection of a three-bedroom bungalow with a two-car garage and associated landscaping

20221350 - The Coach House, West Down Farm, Shipley Hills Road, Meopham, Gravesend, Kent, DA13 0JP - Erection of single storey side extension

DEVELOPMENT AFFECTING A PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY

20221362 - The White House, Foxendown Lane, Meopham, Gravesend, Kent, DA13 0BP - Erection of side and rear single storey extensions with balcony above and storage below rear extension

20221199 - Hope House, Ridge Lane, Meopham, Gravesend, Kent, DA13 0DP - Erection of two storey side extension including loft conversion and dormers

DEVELOPMENT AFFECTING THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF A CONSERVATION AREA

20221247 - 124 Darnley Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 0SN - Erection of a single storey wrap-around rear/side extension, construction of no.2 dormers in the rear roofslope, conversion of the roofspace to form habitable rooms and extension of the existing vehicular crossover

Anyone wishing to make representations about this application should do so by writing to me at Civic Centre by **03 February 2023** quoting the application number.

Wendy Lane (BSc Hons, MSc, MA, MRTPI), Assistant Director (Planning)
Civic Centre Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1AU

www.gravesham.gov.uk

Gravesham
Borough Council

LICENCE APPLICATIONS

LICENSING ACT 2003: Application for Premises Licence

Take notice that Mouthie Bar Limited has made an application in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 for a premises licence at 1 Manor Road Gravesend Kent DA12 1AA

The application is for: Supply of alcohol and regulated entertainment. This application has been made to Gravesend and Medway Shared Licensing Service, Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1AU. Any person wishing to view details of an application may contact the Licensing Partnership. Full details of the application and plans can be viewed at Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1AU during normal hours of business.

Any interested party who wishes to make a representation about this application should do so in writing to Gravesend and Medway Shared Licensing Service, Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1AU or by sending an email to licensing@gravesham.gov.uk, no later than 1st February 2023.

It is an offence, under section 158 of the licensing act 2003, to make a false Statement in or in connection with this application. Those who make a false Statement may be liable on summary conviction to a fine of any amount.

MOTORS

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