

Lancaster Insurance Classic Motor Show Report

NEC, Birmingham, 9th-11th November 2018

Dale Bishop, Doncaster, South Yorkshire & Richard Sozanski, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warks.

From Dale Bishop...

Christmas came early this year at the NEC Classic Motor Show with our stand's theme of *Christmas in Impland*. It was a festive display with all the trimmings snowballs, Christmas trees and presents – even Santa and his elves made an appearance!

I was staggered how busy the show was this year especially Friday and Saturday considering how much the cost of parking and ticket entry to the show has risen.

New members signed up at the show was at an all time high with nine new members. In addition we sold a staggering amount of regalia at the show.

The weekend did not go without fault though. Richard Sozanski's son, Antoni's modern car was stolen out of the east car park just one hour after we had left it there. It was later found parked on top of two concrete bollards after being used for crime purposes.

As usual I would like to thank all members who brought their cars to the show, particularly Gary Mathews who was seen constantly cleaning/dusting all the cars on display over the weekend, and also a big thanks to all who helped man the stand over the weekend.

For any members attending future shows you can get a discount if you pre-book your parking at £12 as opposed to the new price of £16 on the day. This can be done via the main NEC website. (We cannot guarantee it won't be stolen though.)

Planning is already underway for the restoration show in March 2019.

From Richard Sozanski...

Two low points of the show were, one that my son's car was stolen from the NEC set-up car park; you can imagine the hassle it created notifying the police, etc and then organising how to get home.

The other was that someone nicked the 'snow' from the roof of our display gazebo!

Apart from these thefts we had an excellent weekend. The footfall on the stand had to be seen to be believed as there were times you just couldn't move. We attribute this to the excellent stand location. Sadly we are not always as fortunate.

As Dale says, we had Santas (four in total) and the Elves (or should I say little Imps?) made an appearance on Saturday (they had to attend school on the Friday of course) and their antics



Top: Stand helper Lee Merriman (Richard's daughter's partner), Isa & Oli Webster (Richard's grandchildren), Richard Sozanski and Gary Mathews (not related to Richard in any way!)

Photo: Richard Sozanski

Main photo: Darren's Chamois Coupé, Gary Mathews' Chamois Sport, Andy Smith's Husky and Andy Attridge's Stiletto

Photo: Graham Anderson

Elf & Safety!
Isa (6½/2) and Oli Webster (9)
Photos: Richard Sozanski



including the snowball fight which amused a lot of people, so much so that at 5.30 p.m. on Sunday another stand exhibitor came across and thanked us, still smiling at their antics.

At this point I must thank the owners for

Future Imp Club
Regalia Officers
perhaps?
Photo: Richard Sozanski



Andy Smith's Husky, aptly painted Polar White
Photo: Richard Sozanski



bringing their cars for display: Darren Field (from Radtech), the red Chamois Coupé; Gary Mathews' Chamois Sport which he has just recently restored; Andy Attridge, a real time warp Stiletto in one of the rarest colours – silver grey – and family owned since new, Andy Smith's white Husky and not forgetting Santa for lending us his sleigh. I thank you guys for your dedication to the marque and the club.

Merry Christmas to you all from the NEC Show Team.



Andy Attridge's
Stiletto is simply gorgeous
Photo: Graham Anderson