



Friends News

December 2020

Keeping in Touch during Covid-19



Friends enjoying our traditional festive concert with Cameo Opera in the Gilt Hall - Xmas 2019

Dear Friends

Send us your story or article to share with members

Via
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Best wishes to all to all our members for a *Happy New Year* and good health throughout 2021

Brian Robinson tells of his two 'close encounters' with the Law

The first was in 1990

"In 1990 I took my nearly 3 year old son to Whyteleafe Park where there was a children's play area which incorporated a small hill which kids could run up and down. I made James run up and down this hill and every time he flagged I forced him on again.

I had been going like this for approx 3 minutes when I was tapped on the shoulder to find 2 Police Constables who informed me that they had been

watching me for the past 2 minutes and they were sure that I was ill treating my son and that they were arresting me and would I accompany them to their police station. I said I would willingly do this but requested one of them should lift my sons shirt to see what was under it.

One of the PC's did this and then confronted with wires etc demanded to know what my son was wearing. I told them that it was a heart monitor

which had been provided by the Brompton Heart hospital in London and that I had been instructed to work him hard for 5 minutes so that they could see how he coped. I then told them that James had been born with a Ventricular Tachycardia and at 3 months old my wife and I had spent 3 weeks (24 hours a day) watching him fight for his life.

Immediate apologies all round and I did not have to go to the Police Station."

The second was 2000

“The second time was also most peculiar and occurred on a Friday afternoon.

For 37 years of my 41 years working with the Royal Insurance Company I was an Inspector and the reason I plumped for this position was that the position gave you a free Company Car every 2 years. The office I worked from was in Kingston upon Thames and on the other side of the building was Kingston Police station.

We had a very small car park at the rear of the building and it was a rule that when Inspectors were in the office they had to leave their car keys at the front desk so that if your vehicle was blocking someone else your vehicle could be moved.

On this Friday I had been carrying out calls in the morning and

called back to the office at mid-day. At 3.30 that afternoon I had an appointment to do a burglary survey on a property in Esher. I left the office at 3 pm and was driving on the A3 into Esher when I was pulled over by a police car. I was approached by one of the Policemen who asked me if this was my vehicle. I replied yes and he asked me for the registration number which I gave him - MMC305C. He then asked me to step out of the vehicle and told me he was arresting me for stealing it. I protested my innocence but he pointed out that this was not the registration and in fact this car had been reported stolen.

I then noticed that the vehicle I was driving was in fact MMC301C. I could not understand this, told him I worked for The Royal and perhaps he should ring his station to see if in fact my car was still there.

They confirmed it was. He then agreed that I should go back to my office with him as a passenger to sort out how this mistake had occurred.

On returning the officer asked for my ignition key and then discovered that it opened two other cars, all blue Morris 1,000's. All had been delivered to us some 6 months earlier and one set of keys opened all 3!

None of us had realised this, they were all the same blue colour. I had my correct keys but had not realised my car had been moved.

Laughs all round and I had to apologise to my clients for being late (some 2 hours) for our appointment.”

**Brian's second
'offence'**

*Thank you
Brian for
sharing your
tales*

