



Bongo fury

Est. 2003

The Bongo-Freda Owners' Club



*Wake up to a
different view
every day*

www.bongofury.co.uk

Autumn 2026

Edition No 92

Newsletter

The 92 club



If, as I am attempting to do, you visit all 92 clubs in the top four divisions of English Football (I am currently on 83), you are entitled to apply for membership of the '92 Club'. However, it would be difficult for me to prove just how many grounds I have done as this odyssey began back in 1967 and I no longer have the tickets or programmes.

But all the Bongo owners reading this are in their very own 92 club as this is how many editions of our quarterly newsletter there have been since we were founded 23 years ago in 2003, a year before the launch of Facebook and only a few years after the foundation of Google. Back then the only way to find out about Bongo owner meetings was via this newsletter or the Bongo Fury website. But that has all changed.

Although the club continues to run meetings and rallies (see the back page for details), many of the various Bongo Facebook groups run their own gatherings and I am pleased to announce that we have teamed up with Rebecca McKay's Mazda Bongo/Ford Freda Owners Facebook group to jointly host a Tough Northerners event in North Yorkshire next year. It will be held over the weekend of 2nd April and also includes a Ford owners show on the campsite. Booking will commence in January and details will be published on the website shortly.

Another date for your diary, and another meeting organised by members, is the Big Bongo Weekender, hosted by member Nick Bennett, which will be held near Stafford from 28th May to 1st June 2027. We will also publish further information about this when we have more details.

In the meantime, I'm off to the final club meeting of the year in Somerset, so if you are going, I'll see you there!

Ian Maynard
(The Bongomaster)

Members' Fact Sheets

We have approximately 200 fact sheets available in the members' area of the Bongo Fury website on a variety of topics ranging from the Anti-Locking Braking System to Wishbones. If you send us a 2 GB USB memory stick and a First Class 'Large Letter' postage stamp we will send you the whole lot. Or we can supply them on one of our own USB sticks for £9.95.

The following fact sheets have been amended since the last newsletter:

Fan Speed Resistor - if your fans are not blowing, here's a troubleshooting guide.

Amended 09/09/26

Glow Plugs - what are they? Replacement and fault finding. **Amended 08/07/26**

Lambda Sensor - otherwise known as the O2 sensor, there are different types for the V6 and the 2-litre petrol Bongos. **Amended 29/07/26**

Parts - new information about where to obtain those hard-to-find bits'n'bobs. **New! 26/07/26**

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2026



This year's club AGM was very well attended (see above) and once again was held at the end of the Bongo Bash in Stourport-on-Severn in June. Here is a summary of the main points arising:

- **Acknowledgements:** Ian expressed his thanks to Bobby Poll and all the volunteers for organising this year's Bash.
- **Membership:** Club membership currently stands at 820.
- **Club Finances:** Following an increase in membership fees the club has turned a deficit of £539 into an operational profit of £887.
- **Next Year's Meetings:** Bobby will be organising next year's meetings at Wallingford, Stourport and Glastonbury, and Ian will be organising the Tough Northerners and Summer Camp meetings.
- **Anniversary Year:** 2028 will mark 25 years of the Bongo Bash at Stourport and the anniversary Bash has been arranged for 14th to 19th June 2028.
- **Bongonaut of the Year:** The title was awarded to Bob Hutton for his tireless work done behind the scenes on the Forum.

From the Archives (Newsletter Autumn 2006)

"We estimate that there are between 9,000 and 10,000 Bongos and Fredas on the road here in the UK, and the numbers are growing all the time. Correspondingly, we have experienced a huge growth in club membership over the last few months, and at the time of going to press the actual 'live' membership stands at 2,629. And, amazingly, we have members from across the globe including Namibia, Russia, Bermuda, Philippines and New Zealand."

And from the Bongo Clinic...

Q: I won't go into the full details, but I have managed to put a plank of wood through my back window. Do you know where I can get a replacement? (Gary from Helensburgh)

A: Any good timber yard should be able to help. We wouldn't recommend B&Q though, as you will pay way over the odds.



Forthcoming Club Meetings

All our events are child and dog friendly. Bookings are by telephone unless otherwise indicated. Full payment is required at the time of booking. Cancellations can usually be made without penalty up to 3 weeks beforehand. An information pack will be sent 2 weeks before the event.

2027 Meetings

02 to 04 April - Tough Northerners in North Yorkshire. CONFIRMED

This is a jointly-hosted meeting with the Mazda Bongo/Ford Freda owners Facebook group and will be held in Sherburn in Elmet in North Yorkshire.

06 to 09 May - Southern Softies at Wallingford. CONFIRMED

28 May to 01 June - Big Bongo Weekender. NOW BOOKING

This event is organised by Rebecca McKay and Nick Bennett and is held near Stafford. There is simple camping (no electric hook-ups) and live entertainment. Go to Facebook and join the Mazda Bongo/Ford/Freda owners group and select 'Events' for more details.

16 to 21 June - UK National Bongo Bash at Stourport, Worcestershire. CONFIRMED

12 to 15 August - Summer Camp in North Norfolk. CONFIRMED

September - Bongo Fest South West at Glastonbury. TBA

2028 Meetings

14 to 19 June - 25 Years of the Bongo Bash at Stourport. CONFIRMED

To Contact Bongo Fury:

Office opening hours are 9.30am to 12.30pm

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday only

Tel: 0114-2550836

At all other times use email ian@bongofury.co.uk
or leave a message or text or WhatsApp on **07932-844321**

Postal address: Unit 10, Aizlewood Rd, Sheffield S8 0YX

Visitors by appointment only