

# ARDINGLY IFIELD SOLAR

WELCOME TO THE THIRD EDITION OF THE NEW ARDINGLY IFIELD SOLAR NEWSLETTER. WE HOPE YOU WILL FIND IT BOTH INTERESTING AND INFORMATIVE!

WRITTEN BY THE STUDENTS OF THE TEAM



## WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE:

*Our summer*

*Going back to school*

*IMI course*



## OUR SUMMER

Getting a chance to go out there and do some hands on work has really been a great opportunity in these trying times. It has helped us move forward with the project and gave us insights on the different aspects when building a car.

'Whilst visiting the farm in Copthorne every Saturday, Mike has given us all opportunities to grow our knowledge on engineering. I have learnt the structure of different car parts, how they work as well as how to disassemble and reassemble them. As well as this, we have been taught and have studied different car models and designs. For example, Mike has shown us some William Towns cars, which are known for their small design, yet roomy interior, which is the perfect inspiration for what we want to make. Going to Mike's on the weekends has been so refreshing to get back to learning more practical skills with the team all together. I've had the chance to learn about different types of metal fabrication such as mig and tig welding and I been able to reassemble the front end of a Peugeot 206 breaking down what each individual part does and how they all fit together.'

Another student said this about the trips to the farm; 'Visiting Mikes farm on Saturdays over the past few weeks has reassured me of the fact that I am capable enough to be a part of this project as it has allowed me to refamiliarize myself with known skills and equipped me with new knowledge. Alongside this, seeing some of the cars and such that mike owns has opened our eyes to numerous possibilities for our own builds and so every meet up at the farm has been undeniably helpful.'



# GOING BACK TO SCHOOL

Both Ardingly and Ifield Community students are back to business, but not as they usually know it. Many new rules and regulations have been implemented to keep the students and teachers safe. Some of our team have mixed opinions;

' Seeing as schools are finally reopening after a few long months, I am very excited and happy to see the whole team back together and continue to work on the project same as we have been doing before COVID-19. Being back in my usual learning environment will help me get motivated again and ready for the upcoming GCSEs. I am relieved to actually get some structure back in my life as school has given me an idea of how I should be spending my time productively. Apart from having a few concerns related to the number of COVID-19 cases going up, I am more than prepared to be back. '

' I personally believe going back to school is the right decision but I do not feel 100% safe, mainly because there are at least 500 people in school every day and even though there are, arranged areas to eat/sit etc. and I still feel we are taking a risk. I am very unsure about returning to school, we have not been since March so it is going to feel very odd. I am relieved to get structure back in my life though as these past months have been a real struggle mentally. Nevertheless, I am somewhat hopeful that school will chill everyone out a little, and I think we all need something to do! '

' I feel a bit apprehensive about going back to school as I know I'm going to have to really "hit the ground running" as I have such a small amount of time until i sit my exams and have a lot to get done so I am really feeling the pressure on that front. However, I am not too worried about getting COVID-19 as currently there is a relatively low chance of me contracting it and I am confident we will close before transmissions get out of hand, if it does start to spread at a dangerous rate within our community. '



**INSTITUTE OF THE  
MOTOR INDUSTRY**

## **IMI EDUCATION COURSE**

Ardingly Ifield Solar enters a new phase in our relationship with the IMI as we are now an accredited centre to deliver our new 'Solar Car' course.

This has already started to be taught to the students and is being used to encourage new members to join our already swollen ranks. This partnership with the IMI is intended to reinforce the learning of the students in the first instance and encourage good practice in the automotive industry. We can then teach others what to do with solar cars. We all learn best when we teach others as this will make things clearer in our heads and will strengthen our knowledge.

The course will be mostly e-learning with the continuing top up from our practical sessions once we can properly interact with others and visit both sites.

We are all very much looking forward to this learning journey.

## **WANT TO GET INVOLVED?**

We are always looking for more support. If you are interested in getting involved, get in contact.



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