



February 2011 Classic bike news



Xenon light protest

It's not often we agree with a London taxi driver (and we'll try not to do it again) but we think taxi-man Ken Perham is onto something that needs a lot deeper investigation.

We're talking about disability glare from xenon headlights that are a mixed blessing (at best) and a major motoring menace (at worst).

Ken's gathered compelling evidence to show that the xenon searchlights as fitted to the likes of modern BMWs, Audis, Range

Rovers, etc, contribute to many road accidents—not least least accidents involving motorcyclists who are easily lost behind the powerful headlight beams.

It's not merely night use that's the problem, but also the growing fashion for daytime running lights. No, it's not a new concern.

Disability glare has been a worry since headlights were invented (in the old days, drivers used to close one eye as they passed each other at night). But modern technology had turned halogens into near-lasers thereby blitzing out pretty much everyone else except the vehicle coming at ya.

And closing one eye isn't going to help much on modern traffic-soaked streets where every millisecond counts.

The upshot is that Ken wants to stamp out this problem, and together with co-complainer, Roy Milnes, he's drawn up a petition and needs you to stick your monicker on it.

You can lend some weight to this campaign by following the link below. It's a serious issue that shouldn't be ignored. Go to the website. Read the blurb. Do what you have to do.

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— The Third Man

<http://sumpmagazine.com/classicbikenews/index.htm>

