

Carbon Emissions

The carbon legacy of pre-war cars is, arguably, minimal. Some say vintage cars are greener than a brand-new electric vehicle fresh out of a car wash! In the context of today's climate change, however, this is all beside the point. We must play our part to support the UK to become net-zero by 2050. It is the right thing to do and, importantly, we can now do it.

What is the VSCC doing?

We have entered into an arrangement with Tree-V, the preferred partner of the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs – of which the VSCC is a member. The carbon emitted by our cars while they are competing will be recovered through internationally and nationally accredited schemes. For every tonne the cars emit, around two tonnes will be immediately offset and the same amount again will be put towards long-term carbon capture schemes. Through tree-planting, Tree-V are also capturing the CO₂ of 10,000 business miles for us annually, which more than covers the mileage accrued by the Club's staff.

Why Tree-V?

At the initiative of the Club's President, a VSCC Library staff member with expertise in the area carried out a due diligence exercise in consultation with other experts. Five different carbon emissions offset and capture providers were compared systematically. The package of initiatives Tree-V offered the Club was unrivalled in scope and price.

What does this mean?

To have the greatest impact it is best to recover CO₂ using a balanced approach. Global warming is an international problem. Using offsetting through the carbon markets to immediately 'retire' carbon credits, earned through accredited carbon emissions reduction projects in emerging economies, benefits the whole planet. Long-term capturing carbon through tree-planting in Yorkshire and peatland restoration in the Scottish borders will bring a necessary UK focus. The more trees we have, correctly matched to the local habitat, the more CO₂ is 'breathed' in and taken out of the atmosphere (sequestered). By restoring peatland, we reduce greenhouse gas emissions from a degraded habitat, and also allow the landscape to store more water and support a greater diversity of wildlife.

What can you do?

You can play your part by recovering the emissions from your road cars, both vintage and modern. Go to <https://trees.fbhvc.co.uk/> to find out more.