

The Benchmark Automotive Bulletin

DO YOU KNOW THE HISTORY OF THE BLOCK HEATER?

Andrew Freeman of Grand Forks, North Dakota, invented the head bolt heater around 1940 and received a patent for it on November 8, 1949. In 1951, Freeman received another patent on an improved head bolt heater. These early heaters replaced one of the engine's cylinder head bolts with a hollow, threaded shank containing a resistive heating element. Before the block heater was introduced, people relied on numerous methods of warming engines before starting them, such as pouring hot water on the engine block or draining the engine's oil for storage inside overnight. Some even shoveled embers underneath their vehicle's engine to achieve the same effect.

During the dawn of aviation in pre-war Northern Canada, aviators flew with flight engineers who were responsible for preparing the radial engines for shutdown and startup to mitigate the effects of sub-zero temperatures. The flight engineer was responsible for draining the oil into buckets at night, and pre-heating both the engine and the buckets of oil using a blanket wrapped around the engine and a device known as a blow pot – essentially a kerosene jet-heater used for several hours prior to flight.

This Month's Featured Team Member

Graeme Burvill: Licensed Technician

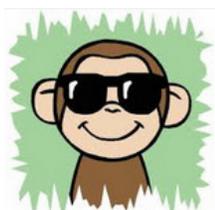
Hailing from the lower mainland Graeme was drawn to PG for its vast landscapes and colorful people. Graeme achieved his automotive certificate while at Benchmark and maintained top marks in his class. His drive to constantly improve and better himself make him a great asset to this team. His humor and good nature are always welcomed by his colleague's and customers alike, this allows him to be a true ambassador to our industry.



LET IT SNOW! LET IT SNOW!! LET IT SNOW!!

Winter tires on? ✓ Fluids topped up? ✓ New wiper blades? ✓ Block heater tested? ✓
Brakes inspected? ✓ Headlights all working and aligned? ✓

ARE YOU PREPARED?



Shelley's Monkey Bread

- 1 large banana, sliced
- ¾ cup dark brown sugar
- 10 tbsp honey
- 2 – 3 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 tube refrigerated biscuit dough



Spray 10 cups of a 12 cup muffin pan with non-stick cooking spray. In each of the 10 cups lay down a few slices of banana and cover with 1 tablespoon of honey, 1 tablespoon of brown sugar and a dash of cinnamon. Open the tube of biscuit dough, separate each portion and place one in each of the 10 muffin cups, pushing them down slightly so the dough touches the banana and sugar. Bake as directed on the biscuit package. Remove from oven and let cool for a few minutes. Carefully, but quickly, invert the muffin pan onto a baking sheet or platter. Remove the muffin tin, scooping out any biscuit or toppings that may have stuck to the bottom. Serve warm or cool.



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For general inquiries: info@benchmarkpg.ca
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Benchmark Kids Colouring Contest



Name: _____ Phone Number: _____ Age: _____

Bring in your coloured page by December 31st and you may win a cool prize!

*Age groups are 1 – 3, 4 – 5, 6 – 7 and 8 – 10
One entry per child. One prize per age group.
Random draw.*



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