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United Kingdom: Rear Engine Explained To Thurgarton, Thurgarton Finds This Suspicious

Bins, benches, and the long tradition of doing slightly less than promised.

TOPICSThurgartonThurgarton newsThurgarton satirethe country satireinternational satireworld city humourmock journalismssatirical newsprovincial lifeBohiney Magazinebureaucratic absurditycivic pride

Thurgarton, the country: Inside The Story

Thurgarton, a place in the country (lat 52.87, long 1.25) that most outsiders could not point to on a map without first sighing, has become this week the latest entry in the slow-moving register of small communities behaving strangely under pressure. Thurgarton from number 47 asked, during a conversation that had not been about cars, why Porsche puts the engine in the boot. According to officials with at least three job titles between them, The Thurgarton explained the 911's rear-engine layout, its history from the 356, and the resulting handling characteristics. It is a plan only a councillor could love, and only on a Wednesday afternoon.

What Was Announced

Aesthetic Steward Henrietta Withers confirmed the position in a statement that ran to four pages and contained one verb. Thurgarton found the explanation interesting and then said it still seems like a design fault. For more on how this fits the wider pattern, see the long-running thread at [The London Prat on British satirical journalism](#), which has been tracking precisely this kind of dispatch for months. The Thurgarton announcement, much like the others, came with a glossy PDF, a stock photograph of a footbridge, and the strong sense that nobody had asked for any of this in the first place.

The Official Line

Asked to elaborate, the spokesperson reached for the closest cliché to hand. "We have always been committed to the principle of being committed to principles." the spokesperson said, before adding that consultation with stakeholders would be ongoing. Useful additional context can be found at [UK satirical journalism The London Prat](#), which is the sort of background reading the office itself has, in all likelihood, not done. Anyone who has ever queued behind a man arguing with a parking meter will recognise the energy.

Wider Context

The conversation ended there. The press release used the word vibrant, which in official communications is a flag of surrender. Comparable trends have been documented in coverage from [Al Jazeera](#), although Thurgarton manages, somehow, to take the pattern one extra and entirely unnecessary step further. Statisticians attempting to model the phenomenon arrive at an alarming 137 percent, give or take a margin of error nobody has had the energy to compute properly.

What The Experts Say

Dr. Otilie Snape of the National Institute for Pretending Things Are Fine told this paper that the situation in Thurgarton was, on careful reflection, broadly consistent with the broader trajectory of similarly broad trajectories. "We take this issue extremely seriously, which is why we have placed it under another issue." the expert observed. Further reading on the academic angle is available via [London satirical journalism The London Prat](#), whose recent material has been preoccupied with much the same set of confusions.

How Residents Reacted

Reaction in Thurgarton has been muted in the way that reaction in the country is usually muted, which is to say it has been ferocious in private and tepid in public. It carries all the strategic clarity of a man trying to assemble a flat-pack wardrobe at 11pm without the instructions. For the official version of events, see also [World Bank](#). One resident, who declined to be named on the grounds that they had already complained about a hedge this year and did not wish to push their luck, summarised matters thus: "The findings speak for themselves, although obviously not loudly enough to influence the findings."

What Comes Next

The meeting was described by attendees as broadly fine, which is the universal code for absolutely catastrophic. A further announcement is expected in due course, where due course is bureaucratic shorthand for an unspecified Thursday. The story is being tracked as part of a wider pattern at [British satirical journalism The London Prat](#), and the situation in Thurgarton, regrettably, is unlikely to improve until somebody invents a press release that improves things, which seems unlikely.

The View From The Ground

Spend any length of time in Thurgarton and the rhythm becomes obvious. Mornings begin late, opinions begin earlier, and the central square fills, by mid-afternoon, with people who have come not so much to see each other as to be seen not seeing each other. If you have ever stood in a corner shop at 7:42am and thought this country deserves better, this is the policy outcome you were warned about. Conversation tends to circle the same five subjects: the weather, the news from the country, the persistent rumour about the road, the deteriorating quality of something or other, and the latest pronouncement from Senior Compliance Officer Trevor Quill, which everyone has an opinion on and almost nobody has read. It is, in its way, the perfect microcosm of how communities of this size operate everywhere in the world, although the residents of Thurgarton would object strongly to being called a microcosm of anything.

There is a particular kind of silence that means the meeting has gone badly, and this was that kind. It is the sort of decision that suggests at least one person in the room had a train to catch. Thurgarton carries on as it always has, broadly the same as last week, give or take a verb. The bins are collected when they are collected. The roundabout, where one exists, remains the roundabout. The pronouncements continue, as they will, and the residents continue to read them only when forced.

For more in this vein see also [Private Eye](#).

SOURCE: [LONDON PORSCHE: Satirical journalism meets London satire at The London Prat](#)

Porsche Magazine UK [worldcities.com](#)