



Newslines 17 March

Published: 17th March 2018

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Online version: <http://www.wheelswithinwales.uk/newslines-17-march/>

If planning to drive and watch a rugby international this weekend, or any other sporting fixture, beware of the impending possible heavy snowfall, says the RAC.

Plan ahead and if you decide to go, make sure you include a fully charged mobile phone and back-up portable power bank, boots, a warm waterproof coat, a blanket or sleeping bag, some food and drink and an ice scraper, carry a shovel and some old carpet as it gives drivers a chance of being able to get their vehicles going again if they get stuck in snow.

Easter getaway drivers should beware the growing number of Continental cities now operating environmental zones where diesel cars may be banned.

Many are in France but Stuttgart and Hamburg have just added some places and details of all current areas can be found on the [Green Zones.eu](http://GreenZones.eu) app .

The car finance sector is bracing itself for a backlash over its lending practices.

There is growing concern that individuals might overstretch their budgets if interest rates rise and the burgeoning PCP policies now driving 80% of car registrations will come into the spotlight and may be considered irresponsible lending and open up the possibility of civil claims against lenders.

A budget servicing scheme spread over six months to pay for annual repair bills is now available through Mopar, the back up to FCA group cars.

Research shows only half of owners can afford the annual £500 service cost so Auto Service Finance has been created, subject to credit status checks.