

Editorial

February 2007

Last month we had one of our regular natters.

This month we have a table-top rally organised by Alan Kemp and I hope you've all brought your Map 142s, your pencils, erasers, magnifying glasses, etc. The latter are most essential for those of us who need glasses but are too vain to wear them, or who can't read the maps without some form of assistance.

Unfortunately, March is going to be another natter/video/dvd evening. If anyone has some good ideas for a Club Night, or some speakers we might be able to arrange, please would they pass on the suggestions to us.

The next committee meeting will be 5th March 2007, at the Masonic Lodge.

Jan

Calendar of Events

Date	Event/Organiser	Location	Type
Feb			
12	PMC Club Night	Ellindon	Table Top Rally
17	PMC Dinner	Ellindon	Dinner
18	Marshals Training Day	Cambridge	Training Day
24	BillCammack Memorial Trophy	Manby	SV
25	PMC Trial	Billesdon, see later	Sporting Trial
March			
12	PMC Club Night	Ellindon	Natter
17/18	Ryemoor – Malton MC	O/S 99/100/105/106	RR
18	Phoenix Stages	Fulbeck	SV
18	Borough 19 Sprint	North Weald	Sprint
31	North Humberside	Yorkshire Forests	MV

The Club has an urgent requirement for someone to step forward and take on the role of Club Secretary. I'm told this isn't a very onerous role, apart from attending committee meetings and maybe writing the minutes afterwards, it's mostly just shuffling papers between people. However, without a Club Secretary, we don't have a Club. YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED, so please step forwards, someone! Talk to Alan about it.

Online Motorsport Survey

An online survey is being carried out under the direction and coordination of Motorsport Development UK (MDUK) and Sport England, the Auto Cycle Union (ACU) and Motor Sports Association (MSA) and you are invited to take part to establish your views on how to widen participation in motorsport.

The bodies are working together from now until April to develop a new 'whole sport plan' for the next 5 years, with the aim of getting more people involved in motorsport at every level, whether that be competing, spectating or volunteering.

The independent sports consultancy Performance Matters (a division of Leisure Partners Ltd.) has been commissioned to lead the consultation process across the entire sport. Performance Matters has conducted similar processes in cricket, golf, equestrian, and has considerable experience of working for national sports agencies such as UK Sport, Sport England, SkillsActive, and London 2012.

The voice of all those who participate, spectate and volunteer in motorsport is vital to the development of this new plan. In addition to this they would like to hear from those who are not currently participating.

The survey is being circulated as widely as possible in order to collate current opinion. It has been designed to be completed in no more than five minutes and to be submitted back to them electronically.

Please contribute by using on the link below. All responses are anonymous under the Market Research Society Code of Conduct and should be submitted by a closing date of 16 March 2007.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=269173104860>

Marshals wanted

Firstly, marshals are required for PMC's Pollard Trophy on 25th February, of which more later.

Rockingham is hosting a stage rally on 4th March and doubtless require marshals. I am told it is an excellent venue. Details can be obtained from the following website:
<http://www.wecc.co.uk/Rockingham/WECC-Rockingham2007.htm>.

Finally, Declacy MC are running the Spring Stages on Sunday 15th April at the Alamein Barracks in Driffield. This event is open to only 2 wheel drive vehicles and is the second round of the Yokohama 205 / Rear Wheel Drive challenge, offering approximately 60-70 miles of mixed surface stages. They need marshals for all areas and radio crews, so anyone who wishes to help, please contact Steve Cowley (Chief Marshal) either by email at steve@cowley96.freeserve.co.uk, or marshals@delacymc.co.uk, or by phone on 01977 644139.

First car will be at 08:30 and the event should finish at about 17:00. Signing on is from 06:30 to 07:45. There should also be some marshals' goodies, as well as the usual stage plans, notes, etc.

On the subject of marshals, the next local Marshals' Training Day is on Sunday, 18th February in Cambridge at the Regional College. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Derek Machin, the National Training Officer of the British Rally Marshals Club on 01625 869720 or by email on training@brmc.org.uk or on www.brmc.org.uk/cambridge2007.htm for online applications.

SILVERSTONE 2007 - RIP

As most of you know Peter and Kate Richards kindly offered to take on organising our Silverstone Race Meeting and in order to ease them into the job I agreed to try to set it up. Things have not gone well and it has been rather a baptism of fire for Peter and Kate. So I thought I should give a short explanation why we will not be running a race meeting this year.

Last Autumn Silverstone Circuits offered us the 22 April for our meeting in 2007. We have to take this on trust as they don't normally issue the contract until well into the new year. To get sufficient entries these days we need to put on rounds of national championships or series with perhaps an allcomers race as a second race for championship competitors and those people who don't compete in championships. As we don't promote our own championships or series it is necessary to recruit these from other clubs such as the Monopostos, BARC etc early before they sign up with other organising clubs and by mid November we were well on the way to filling the programme.

Then Silverstone rang to say that ITV had just announced their programme for the Rugby World Cup in September and this had a knock on effect on the dates for the BTCC and the British Superbikes and consequently they regretfully had to withdraw their offer of 22 April in order to accommodate the Touring Cars. They offered alternative dates in May and September but none of the clubs we had invited, or any others, were able to accept those dates and obviously we had to release the invited clubs from the April date.

Two or three weeks later it transpired that the BTCC had fallen out with Silverstone and were going to Rockingham instead. However Silverstone would still not give us our original date back and in any case, by then, it would not have been possible to recruit enough championships to fill the programme. So very sadly for the first time in 57 years we shall not have a race meeting.

In January, to add insult to injury, Silverstone offered our original date back!

Phil Johnson

Pollard Trial - Sunday 25th February

WANTED

Marshals, marshals, marshals or more important a CHIEF MARSHAL as due to ill health John Holman is unable to officiate, if you can fill this position – please give Lynn Jones a ring on 01733 252886 (evenings).

New Site

By kind permission of Mr Edward Hill, Nethercourt Farm, Billesdon, just off the A47, North of the junction with the B6047, will be arrowed from this junction, good parking, concrete road into farm. Although the address is Billesdon, it's on the Tilton side of the A47.

Best Trial of the Year Award

Congratulations to P.M.C for being awarded the award for 2006 by the British Trial & Rally Drivers Association, the Pollard and Johnson trials were equal first with our Warco trial third, it would have been a three way first, but we lost a point for not having a full compliment of marshals at the Warco. This is the first time in the history of B.T.R.D.A. that a club has taken first, second and third, when you think that there are 25 events in the Championships from Cumbria to Cornwall.

Well done to you all who supported the trials, this means a lot to the trials committee, especially to Lynn Jones, for his secretaryship, in keeping our trials going. As I write this I've just heard that S.U.N.B.A.C. have withdrawn their events out of the calendar through lack of support!!!

Les Titman would be very proud of us and I'm sure Mary is pleased to see us still at the top.

B.T.R.D.A. Gold Star Final

This year held at the Long Compton site, what a day, not only the state of the ground, but also the competition, with six competitors from Northern Ireland.

With Duncan Stephens taking the "Gold Star" for the first time and also the youngest recipient of this award, [come and see him perform at the Pollard] and you will see how he won.

Tom and Elizabeth Stevenson are still tops in P.M.C finishing 13th. Kim Warwick was unable to take his position after qualifying.

Christmas Quiz

By the notes members sent with their answers you appear to have enjoyed it over Christmas, it was amusing to see Ibiza had been moved from the Mediterranean Sea, with other answers just as amusing. But we raised £50 for Cancer Relief – many thanks

Winners:- 1st David Catling
 2nd Nick Nicole
 3rd R.M. Goodwin

One Husband and Wife, now when they go out and come up behind a vehicle, they say "Can you make an anagram out of that make, for Brian's quiz". I didn't know it was taken this serious!!

Brian Stapleton

NEW DATE FOR RALLYDAY 2007

Rallyday 2007 will take place on Saturday 22 September 2007 at Castle Combe Circuit in Wiltshire. The 2007 event has been moved to later in the year to avoid clashes with major rallies and other motorsport events.

CASTLE COMBE CIRCUIT ANNOUNCE 2007 RACE MEETINGS

Race dates at Castle Combe Circuit for 2007 include the following:

Monday 9 April -- Husqvarna Retro Raceday
Featuring cars from the swinging '60s for Top Hat Saloons, Cloth Cap Sports Cars, Oldies But Goldies and Stars of the '70s, plus the opening rounds of the Castle Combe Championships for FF1600, Saloons & Special GTs.

Monday 7 May -- Springtime Raceday.
A festival of club racing, with races for Formula Vee, Stock Hatch, Locost, RGB & Monoposto Championships, plus round 2 of the Castle Combe Championships for FF1600, Special GTs and Saloons, the latter featuring the 100th Castle Combe Saloon Car Race.

Monday 28 May -- Classic Saloon Raceday
Touring Cars from the '60s, '70s and '80s, including rounds of the Classic & Historic Saloon Car Championship, Post Historic Touring Car Championship, Classic Group 1 Touring Car Championship, Pre '93 Touring Car Challenge, Production BMW Championship, Classic Thunder Modified Production Saloons; also the Sports Racing & GT Challenge, plus round 3 of the Castle Combe Championships for FF1600, Saloons & Special GTs.

Saturday 23 June -- British Raceday
Highlighting the iconic Mini and the Caterham sports car, this meeting has a very British feel to it, with races for the Dunlop Mini Se7en & Miglia Challenges, Caterham Roadsport Championships, plus round 4 of the Castle Combe Championships for F1600, Saloons & Special GTs.

Saturday 14 / Sunday 15 July – Summer Racing Festival
Two days of action-packed GT and single seater racing. The headlining Formula Palmer Audi Championship includes a host of young, aspiring drivers racing the fastest single-seater race cars to visit Castle Combe during 2007. On Saturday, GT racing comes to Castle Combe with two 50-minute races for the EERC Britcar Championship. Featuring Porsche, Ferrari, Mosler, BMW, Marcos & Lotus, with the added excitement of driver changes, this is a spectacle not to be missed. The GT theme continues on Sunday, with rounds of the Lotus On Track Elise Trophy and Caterham Academy. For saloon car fans, this meeting also features the popular Alfa Romeo Championship, Dunlop Track & Race Saloon Championship and T-Car Championship (for 14-17 year olds). The Castle Combe Championships for FF1600, Saloons & Special GTs complete the line-up.

Saturday 4 August -- Classic Raceday
Featuring a variety of races from the Historic Sports Car Club, including Classic Racing Cars, Historic Racing Saloons, Historic Formula Ford, Classic Sportscars, Classic Clubmans and the Jaguar XK Challenge, plus the Castle Combe Championships for FF1600, Saloons & Special GTs.

Monday 27 August -- A Plant LUX Traffic Controls Sportscar Raceday
A celebration of sportscar racing, with races for the Aston Martin Championships, Ferrari Formula Classic, Porsche Open & Club Championship, plus the Castle Combe FF1600 and Saloons; featuring the 250th Castle Combe Special GT Race.

Saturday 15 September -- MG Raceday
Featuring races for the MG Trophy, Total Butler Championship, MG Midget Challenge, MG BCV8 & Metro Championships, Thoroughbred Sportscars, plus the Jaguar XK Challenge, TR Register Championship and Morgan Challenge, in addition to the Castle Combe Championships for FF1600, Saloons & Special GTs.

Saturday 6 October -- The Formula Ford Carnival

Celebrating the 40th anniversary of Formula Ford, with races for the traditional knock-out FF1600 event featuring the 3 Nations Cup, Classic FF1600, Classic FF2000, Historic FF1600 and Sports 2000 Championships, in addition to the final rounds of the Castle Combe Saloon Car and Special GT Championships.

THE RALLY SHOW at CHATSWORTH - Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th September 2007

Special stage rallying will return to Chatsworth in Derbyshire on 29th and 30th September 2007 for a new event, The Rally Show at Chatsworth.

The two-day event will include:

- Three competitive special stage rallies, for both historic and modern rally cars.
- A pageant of "Rallying History", featuring many of the world's greatest rally cars.
- Precision and stunt-driving displays, including TV star Russ Swift.
- "Stage Sessions" for owners of competition and modified road cars, giving them the opportunity of driving the special stages under non-competitive 'track day' conditions.
- Motor sport exhibitions and sales units.
- One-make, rally car and cruising car club vehicle displays.
- High-quality food and beverages.

A different special stage layout is planned for each day, using the fast and demanding asphalt park roads and including the spectacular jump and water splash, two features which earned the stage an international reputation.

The all-ticket event is the brain-child of Malcolm Neill, who for 14 years (1986 to 1999), was RAC Rally Manager. During his time, Chatsworth regularly attracted in excess of 20,000 spectators and a number of BBC TV live outside broadcasts.

A two-day adult ticket purchased in advance is £21, including an official programme (worth £3). Children up to age 9, accompanied by an adult, are admitted free. Tickets can be booked online at www.therallyshow.org.

"We are planning a wonderful weekend of motor sport at Chatsworth, with famous drivers in fabulous cars, demonstrating their skills on the renowned Chatsworth Stages. Special attention is being paid to providing superb viewing areas for spectators and - with the Rally Show, exhibitions, special demonstrations and lots more - it should be a great weekend for motor sport fans and families alike," said Malcolm.

Chatsworth was last used as a timed special stage on the 1996 Network Q Rally of Great Britain.

Further information can be found on www.therallyshow.org and www.chatsworth.org or by contacting:

The Rally Show Ltd
PO BOX 6168
Reading
RG19 9DS
Telephone: 01189 710424
Email: office@therallyshow.org

MEET THE STARS OF RALLYING, RACING & MOTORCYCLING AT RACE RETRO, 23-25 MARCH 2007, STONELEIGH PARK

Michele Mouton, one of the most successful and best-known female rally drivers of all time, will open Race Retro, the International Historic Motorsport Show, on Saturday 24 March 2007 - and will then drive her famous 1985 Pikes Peak Hillclimb-winning 500bhp Audi S1 Sport Quattro on the rally demonstration stage.

Audi team legend Mouton is among many stars of rallying, racing and motorcycling who will meet visitors, sign autographs and - in some cases - even take part in the live events at the Show.

Other stars include:

Friday 23 March 2007: The Show will be opened by three heroes of the motorcycle world: Jim Redman, Phil Read and Frank Perris.

Saturday 24 March 2007: Opening the Show on Saturday is one of the best female rally drivers of all time, and certainly a match for her illustrious Audi team-mates Hannu Mikkola, Walter Rohrl and Stig Blomqvist.

Sunday 25 March 2007: Opening the Show on Sunday are Richard Attwood and Vic Elford, two legends of motor racing who were team-mates at Le Mans in 1969, sharing a Porsche 917 in the car's first 24-hour race.

Motorist crashes on satellite navigation command

A 46-year-old German motorist driving along a busy road suddenly veered to the left and ended up stuck on a railway track -- because his satellite navigation system told him to, police said on Sunday.

The motorist was heading into the north German city of Bremen "when the friendly voice from his satnav told him to turn left," a spokesman said.

"He did what he was ordered to do and turned his Audi left up over the curb and onto the track of a local streetcar line. He tried to back up off the track but got completely stuck."

The police spokesman said about a dozen trams were held up until a tow lorry arrived to clear the car off the track.

Several German motorists have crashed their cars in recent months, later telling police they were only obeying orders from their satnavs.

U.S. drivers eat, shave, email -- oh, and drive

Talk on the phone while you're driving? Fix your makeup? Check e-mail? You're not alone.

A survey released on Monday shows 81 percent of Americans do more than drive when they're behind the wheel.

More than eight of 10 people surveyed by Nationwide Mutual Insurance said they adjust the radio or music while they drive, while 73 percent talk on the phone, 68 percent eat, 19 percent send text messages and 5 percent checked their e-mail.

Personal hygiene was also a big driver distraction, with 19 percent fixing their hair, 12 percent putting on makeup and 2 percent shaving while at the controls of a car.

"Clearly Americans have much to do and little time to do it, so to cope with that we've become multi-taskers," said Bill Windsor, associate vice president of Safety at Nationwide.

"The problem with that is driving requires focus, and multi-tasking while driving puts you and your fellow drivers at risk."

Drivers in the survey also admitted to changing seats with passengers, watching a movie, painting their toenails, nursing a baby and putting in contact lenses while driving.

Younger drivers multi-task the most, the survey found, with 35 percent of 18-to-27 year olds saying they always multi-task in the car, compared to 21 percent of baby boomers.

Windsor said the consequences for young drivers are severe, with car accidents being the number one cause of death for Americans aged 18 to 27.

"The bottom line is if it can be done in the kitchen, bathroom, office or bedroom, it should not be done in the car," Windsor said.

While some U.S. jurisdictions require hands-free devices for cellphone use in cars, most of the activities listed in the survey are not illegal unless they are determined to be the cause of an accident.

The survey of 1,200 drivers between the ages of 18 and 60 found that while 83 percent believe they are safe drivers, 38 percent admitted they have driven a certain distance without any recollection of doing so.

Sandra Guile, spokeswoman for AAA in Cincinnati, said the automobile club's driving instructors have seen it all, and work hard to try to correct the bad habits.

"Imagine if you're going 55 miles an hour down the road and you spill something on your suit and you have a meeting that day -- you're going to be more worried about grabbing a napkin than watching the road," said Guile. "But it just takes a split second to look away and there's an accident."

Cincinnati professor Penny Braboy said that while she never eats or makes phone calls while driving, she does answer the phone if it rings -- and she admits to other distractions.

"I have put on lipstick in the car," Braboy, 55, said with a laugh. "And I might try to look for something in my purse, which I know is dangerous."

But she said her distractions have never caused an accident.

"I try to be careful," said she, getting into her sport utility vehicle, Starbucks coffee in hand.