

Editorial

May 2008

Last month's we talked about Silverstone and watched dvds.

This month is going to be a 'Great Egg Race' at Ellindon, it was great fun last year, building little rubber-band-powered carts to carry crème eggs, and even more fun eating the eggs later.

Next month (June) will be the annual Treasure Hunt, organised this year by Richard Elms as a penalty for winning last year. He intends to start and finish at the Fitzwilliam Arms in Marholm (alias the Green Man) as it has a nice big car park and is quite accessible. It is hoped that people will arrive relatively early for a Club Night (from about 19:30) as otherwise it may be dark when you finish. Bring a writing implement, a clipboard and a source of light (in case you are still hunting when it gets dark!).

July sees the annual Barbecue at the Red Lion in West Deeping, which is booked for eating at about 20:00 and is free (as usual). If you haven't been before, it is normally an excellent evening.

The next committee meeting will be on 2nd June.

Jan

Calendar of Events

Date	Event/Organiser	Location	Type
May			
12	PMC Club Night	Ellindon	Great Egg Race
17/18	Lindholme MSC Danum Rally	111/112/113	RR
18	Borough 19	Bentwaters Park	Sprint
25	Harrow CC	North Weald	Sprint
June			
7	Sutton & Cheam Abingdon CAR-nival	Dalton Barracks	Sprint
8	Sutton & Cheam Abingdon CAR-nival	Dalton Barracks	SV
9	PMC Club Night	Fitzwilliam Arms	Treasure Hunt
14	Dukeries Rally*	Nottingham Forests	MV
14	Borough 19	Lydden	Sprint
22	Bury & Border MC Torque Bac Rally	Tba	SV
28	Tunbridge Wells MC	Goodwood	Sprint

*Includes Historics

Silverstone 2008

Once again PMC has successfully organised and run our premier event at Silverstone. Despite the problem last year, where many of you will remember that Silverstone could not make up it's/their mind about the date until they finally conceded that the BTCC round could not be poached from Rockingham, which left it too late for a viable race meeting to be organised, we got the date this year early enough to put together a good meeting. There was some early soul-searching as Phil Johnson was looking to take things easier, and our erstwhile potential Secretary of the Meeting, had left for pastures greener. Fortunately Pete Richards agreed to take up the assistant S.o.t.M role, and Phil agreed to do all the work! Again, in the past few years decent grids had become harder to find, and we had made a small loss. We agreed to try again and see what transpired, but this year, to limit the risk, we 'sold' some of the races to the championship organising teams, and left it up to them to fill their grids.

This turned out to work quite well financially, although the effect of getting loads of competitors entries at the last minute meant I had a lot of work to do as Entries Secretary. After pushing the only race we had at risk, the Allcomers, and finally getting a decent grid, we finished up with 169 competitors signing-on for 294 grid spaces, many of the races being run twice. The morning practicing was complicated by a noise limit early on and a 'church break', and it was quite a squeeze to get ten races run during the afternoon, but, despite a red flag resulting from car rolling, fortunately with no injuries other than to pride, we finally finished 10 minutes early.

We owe a debt of gratitude to all those club members and friends who helped out prior to the races and on the day to make it a race meeting up to our usual standard, indeed a number of competitors at the end of the day, and subsequently by email, congratulated PMC on a most enjoyable and well organised event. I must say, the most difficult part was negotiating decent weather, and, for a while in the morning, it seemed we might be let down. In the afternoon, however, our contact came good, and although there was rain all around we had a lovely sunny day. We even made a small profit.

Once again, a big thank you from the Club committee to all those whose help made it such a success.

Alan Kemp
Chairman

REG KEMBLE 1931 - 2008

It is with sadness I report the death of Reg, who died on Saturday, April 26th, in the Royal Hospital, Coventry, four days after having open heart surgery.

Reg was a great friend of PMC who first came on the scene in the early '60s attending our Autocross at the old Scrambles field at Wansford with his Cater-Sport services van and loos. This was then extended to many of our other events (mainly trials).

In the 1970's Mike Smallwood arrived without a passenger and Reg filled this space for many a year until Mike's untimely death. He then went on to fill the passenger seat for Brian Well for many more years until Brian retired from trialling last year.

Reg also made out trials trailer and PMC is the owner of his last mobile loo block in the safe hands of Norman Bradshaw. Margaret Pollard always said it was worth a pound to have Reg's loos at our events.

Elizabeth, Tom and I represented PMC at his funeral, which was held at the Heart of England Crematorium, Nuneaton on Tuesday 6th May.

Our sympathy goes out to his wife of 56 years, Phyl, his three children and their partners, his four grandchildren and two great-grandsons.

To those who knew him – there was only one REG.

Brian Stapleton

Marshals Wanted

Carlton and District Motor Club are organising their first Endurance Rally on 31st May and 1st June 2008. The event requires lots of marshals throughout and needs your support to be successful. **Please help.**

Brief details of the event are detailed below and marshals required for either /both of the legs.

The event starts and finishes both legs from the HQ, which is the Kings Meadow Campus, University of Nottingham.

They are supporting Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Rutland Air Ambulance and Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire Air Ambulance during the event.

Saturday 31st May

Start 1st car will leave at 15:01. Finish 1st car due back at 19:12.

There are 8 selectifs, 4 at Donington Park, 4 at a new venue in Leicestershire Forest and a rest break at Breedon Garden Centre for 30 minutes,

Saturday/Sunday 31st May/ 1st June

Start 1st car will leave at 23:01. Finish 1st car due back at 05:41.

This part of the event will cover 2 Forest Tests, plenty of Time Controls, Code Boards, Passage Controls and Sections Timed to the Second.

Marshals

All Marshals will be given a can of pop, chocolate, crisps and some other goodies.

If Marshals cover **2 controls** they will receive either evening meal or breakfast at Rally HQ

There will be a Marshal briefing nearer the event – details including map will be notified to all who register an interest.

Contact

Anita Thouless on 0115 8771398 or e-mail p.thouless@ntlworld.com

TOP DRIVERS SIGN UP FOR 2008 CYPRUS RALLY

The organizers of the 2008 Cyprus Rally have confirmed a strong international field for this month's event, with competitors from across the region set to do battle on the holiday island.

Round 2 of the 2008 FIA Middle East Rally Championship (MERC) calendar, the Cyprus Rally will take place over the weekend of the 17th and 18th May; with just a couple of weeks to go, final preparations are now well underway for what promises to be an unforgettable weekend's motorsport.

Entries have now closed and the organizers have confirmed a starting line-up of 55 crews, featuring many of the best-known drivers in the region.

Qatar's Nasser Saleh Al-Attiyah and Ulster co-driver Chris Patterson will be looking to continue their considerable success in Cyprus over recent years. They have already shown winning form so far this year, starting their 2008 MERC season with a start-to-finish victory in Round 1 - the NBK Qatar International Rally back in January - in their Subaru Impreza WRX N14.

They were followed in second place by the Subaru Impreza WRX STi of Qatar's Misfer Al-Marri and co-driver Stephen McAuley (GB), while Khalifa Saleh Al-Attiyah (QA) and French co-driver Matthieu Baumel came third.

All three crews will be competing in the 2008 Cyprus Rally, along with a host of other familiar faces including, among others, Jordan's Amjad Farrah, Lebanon's Michel Saleh, Saudi Arabia's Yazeed Al-Rajhi and Kuwait's Salah Bin-Eidan.

With many of the region's top drivers looking to score victory in Cyprus this month, local fans will be hoping for another Cypriot win, after last year's event saw Charalambos Timotheou become the first Cypriot driver to win the Cyprus Rally since 1991. Timotheou will be competing this year (in a Mitsubishi Lancer Evo IX), alongside other familiar faces from across Cyprus, including Andreas Tsouloftas, Dimitris Papasavvas and Pantelis Pamboukka, all of whom finished in the top ten of the 2007 event.

One of the most eagerly anticipated FIA motorsports events, the Cyprus Rally regularly attracts competitors and fans from across the world. A new route is being introduced for 2008, made up of a healthy mix of new special stages, stages first introduced in 2007 and a selection of classic stages which have challenged many of the world's best drivers. Reinvigorated for 2008, the Cyprus Rally is ready for its return to the FIA World Rally Championship (WRC) calendar in 2009.

This year's Cyprus Rally will again be based around the popular coastal resort of Limassol. The Service Park will be located on the town's seafront promenade, just metres from the Mediterranean, while Rally Headquarters and the Press Office will be located at Limassol's Apollonia Hotel.

The Ceremonial Start will be held on the promenade at 20.00 on Friday 16 May, followed by two days of action. Saturday will see drivers tackle a total of 453.23km, including 104.65km of special stages, with a further 456.24km on Sunday, including 123.39km of special stages.

With up-to-the-minute results, rally fans can follow the action online at the official event website - <http://www.cyprusrally.com.cy>. The website is regularly updated both before and during the event and provides a wealth of information about the rally and the island of Cyprus itself.

The Cyprus Rally is organised by the Cyprus Automobile Association (CAA) and sponsored by the Cyprus Tourism Organisation, Cyta, Golden Telecom and Travelscope.

Cyprus hosts not one but two rounds of the FIA Middle East Rally Championship this year. The Troodos Rally, Round 6 of the 2008 MERC and the penultimate event in this year's calendar, will be held in Cyprus later this year, on 7/9 November.

For further information about Cyprus Rally 2008, please telephone +357 22 313233 or visit <http://www.cyprusrally.com.cy>.

2008 FIA MIDDLE EAST RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP CALENDAR

24/26 Jan - Qatar International Rally

28 Feb/1 Mar - Kuwait International Rally (MERC Candidate)

16/18 May - Cyprus Rally

5/7 Jun - Syrian International Rally

27/29 Jun - Rally of Lebanon

16/18 Oct - Jordan Rally Middle East

7/9 Nov - Troodos Rally

18/20 Nov - Saudi Arabia Rally (MERC Candidate)

4/6 Dec - Dubai International Rally

RALLY SHOW CHATSWORTH - THE STARS GATHER

As well as the 21st Century's double World Rally Champion, Marcus Gronholm, the Rally Show at Chatsworth on 7/8 June will be visited by at least one World Rally Champion from the 20th Century: Stig Blomqvist, World Champion in 1984 at the wheel of an Audi quattro, is scheduled to make an appearance at the Show.

It is no coincidence that Blomqvist was also British Rally Champion in 1983. The theme for the whole weekend is a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the BRC. The Tesco 99 Octane British Rally Championship contenders will be there in force and will contest four rallies over the Chatsworth stages in the course of the weekend.

The Rally Show at Chatsworth's "History of Rallying" demonstration features examples, some of them the actual cars, of the rally cars which won the BRC during its 50-year history. These range from an ex-works Triumph TR3a and John Sprinzel's original Austin Healey Sprite (PMO200), through Volkswagens (including one of Bill Bengry's original Beetles), Lotus Cortina, Mini Cooper, Triumph 2000, Hillman Imp, Escort Twin Cam and RS1800, Vauxhall Chevette, Opels and Audis, up to a modern Hyundai WRC.

The celebration of the BRC's birthday also means that many of the winning drivers and co-drivers from down the years will be at Chatsworth on that June weekend. Among the drivers are names like Eric Jackson, Roy Fidler, John Bloxham, Will Sparrow, Chris Sclater, Billy Coleman, Russell Brookes, Pentti Airikkala, Jimmy McRae, David Llewellyn, Gwyndaf Evans, Mark Higgins, Martin Rowe, Marko Ipatti, Jonny Milner and David Higgins.

One name missing from that list, but who will also be there is Malcolm Wilson - not only attending the Show, but bringing a Ford Focus WRC from his M-Sport company for Gronholm to drive.

Among the co-drivers hoping to attend are Brian Melia, Alan Taylor, Don Barrow, John Brown, Ian Grindrod, Mike Nicholson, Mike Broad, Phil Short, Robert Reid, and Phil Mills.

Both Stuart Turner and David Richards – champion co-drivers first and later highly-successful rally team managers - will also be at Chatsworth. Indeed, they will be able to celebrate more than just their success in the BRC, since Chatsworth is paying homage during the weekend to the 40th anniversary of the Ford Escort's debut in rallying, on the San Remo Rally in 1968.

Turner was the man behind the phenomenal success of the BMC Mini Coopers in the 1960s and he was at the helm of Ford Competitions during the even more amazing achievements of the Escort, including its East African Safari victory in 1972 and its complete dominance of the British rally scene. The actual car which won the Safari will be at Chatsworth.

For Richards, too, the Escort was an iconic car: sitting alongside Ari Vatanen, he won first the BRC and then the World Rally Championship, before going on to mastermind Subaru's three WRC Manufacturer titles in the mid-1990s, as well as Drivers titles for Colin McRae and Richard Burns in 1995 and 2001 respectively.

There is still some room in all nine of the rally events. These range from Historic, through Post-Historic, to modern-day WRCars and, of course, the classes comprising the 2008 Tesco 99 Octane British Rally Championship.

Competitors can get entries in the next three weeks and benefit from the cheap additional ticket deal for competitors. After that, it will be difficult and certainly more expensive. The same applies to drivers who want to enter rally-type cars in the popular stage sessions. Entry forms, regulations and applications for additional tickets can all be found on the Show website at <http://www.therallyshow.org>.

Attractions out on the two asphalt stages - different for Saturday and Sunday - include no fewer than nine competitive rallies, the "History of Rallying" demonstrations, displays by stunt innovator Terry Grant, exhibitions of various exotic rally machinery and stage sessions open to privately-owned cars.

The quantity and quality of cars in action, as well as all the trade and club stands, plus the fact that the June date provides longer daylight hours, means that the Rally Show at Chatsworth 2008 will offer superb value for the enthusiastic rally fan and his or her family. Indeed, Saturday has been designated Family Day, with accompanied children admitted free of charge and with additional attractions for the younger spectators.

The whole weekend should be equally attractive to enthusiasts and to those coming to the sport for the first time. Tickets can be bought now, by booking via the show website at <http://www.therallyshow.org>.