

Editorial

February 2009

Last month we went to the Farmers in Yaxley, which is to be our new home for Club Nights and it was very well received. The beer there includes Theakstons, so that pleased many of us. There is also a big car park and it isn't too difficult to find.

This month we are back at the Farmers again (of course) but in a different room, although unfortunately NOT in the one we should be in, but it should be larger than the one we were in last month.

In March we have a speaker, Alistair Goodrum, who is a local aviation historian and will speak on 'Balloons to Bleriot and Barnstormers"', which should be very interesting and a nice change.

Jan

Calendars

Social

Date	Social Event	Location	Type
Feb			
9	PMC Club Night	The Farmers, Yaxley	Quiz
12	Bourne MRC		Talk – Simon Hope
Mar			
9	PMC Club Night	The Farmers, Yaxley	Talk – Alistair Goodrum
12	Bourne MRC		Talk – Pat Thomas
Apr			
9	Bourne MRC		Talk – Ed McDonough
20	PMC Club Night	The Farmers, Yaxley	
May			
11	PMC Club Night	The Farmers, Yaxley	Egg Race
14	Bourne MRC		Talk – Roger Fountain
June			
8	PMC Club Night	TBA	Treasure Hunt
11	Bourne MRC		Talk – Simon Hadfield
14	Bourne MRC		Classic Car Show

Competition

Date	Event	Location	Type
Feb			
15	LRS Offroad Challenge – Round 1**	Yarwell Quarry	4x4s
21	MiddleWick Stages	Woodbridge Airfield, near Ipswich	SV
21	Bill Cammack Memorial Stages	Manby	SV
22	PMC Pollard Trophy	Tilton on the Hill	Sporting Trial
Mar			
14/15	Robin Hood Stages	Nottinghamshire Forests	MV
29	Tour of Caerwent	Caerwent Defence Training Estate	SV
29	Jane Cowling Memorial Phoenix Stages	RAF Fulbeck	SV

** I have just received a plea for marshals for this event and it sounds quite entertaining. More details can apparently be found at the club involved's website (<http://viking4x4club.com/>) or by contacting the Chief Marshal Brian Elliot at bjell166@hotmail.com.

New Members

We have two 'new' members this month, they are Harry Brierley from Rushden and David Meekums from Great Paxton. Welcome to Peterborough Motor Club, both of you. May you both have a long and happy association with us.

THE POLLARD TRIAL - Your Club Needs YOU!

Our next sporting Trial is on February 22nd at Tilton, just off the A47. We really do need marshals to ensure that the event runs smoothly.

On our last trial in November, we were so short of manpower that one of the PMC competitors withdrew his entry and he and his passenger unselfishly marshalled to save the day.

This state of affairs cannot be allowed to continue, if we cannot run events successfully they will cease to exist and our last competitive events will be gone.

The Peterborough Motor Club is held in high regard by the B.R.T.R.D.A. and all the Trials fraternity, and our events have often been voted best run trial by the competitors.

The Pollard Trial will be held on February 22nd – BE THERE!!

The Trial will be held at Nethercourt Farm near Billesdon, Leicestershire – map ref. SK 723050. The site is a short distance from the junction of the B6047 with the A47 approximately 10 miles west of Uppingham. From this junction, follow the B6047 northwards for 0.75 miles then turn left onto an unclassified road, signed Hungarton and Cold Newton. Follow this for about 0.75 miles to a crossroads close to a radio transmitter on the right. Turn left and the entrance is about 20 metres on the left. Follow the concrete road to site.

Norman Bradshaw

Competition Secretaries Report.

There are a number of events coming up, sorry to concentrate on rallies on this occasion but as I marshal on several a year and hope to compete again later this year it is what I tend to hear about:

21st February

Firstly there are the **MiddleWick Stages**.

Middlesex County AC and Wickford AC are co-promoting a new event - The MiddleWick Stages. The event is running on Saturday 21st of Feb. The venue is Woodbridge Airfield, approximately 10 miles North East of Ipswich in Suffolk. It is all tarmac is the venue, so expect some quick cars. Marshals signing on will be from 6.45 - 7.45, and all marshals signed on by 7.30 will get a hot drink and Bacon or Sausage butty.

First car is at 9.00, 8 stages planned with last car aimed to finish by 16:30. To achieve this, all stages will be at 30 second starts and there is likely to be lapping - so it will keep you occupied!!! The stages are all being designed by the same madman who designed the Rockingham stage layouts, so expect some interesting variety!

The organisers realise this might be a distance for some of you, if you need accommodation we have struck a deal with the Holiday Inn, London Road, Ipswich. The rate is £60 for a twin / Double room, including Breakfast. Contact them for more details if you need.

If you are available to help, please contact the event Chief Marshal by e-mailing Chris Hunt on Marshals@middlewickstages.co.uk

Alternatively, if you want to call him his number is 07802 882182. He doesn't get many people calling him, so why not make his New Year and give him a call. (I think I am about to be shot!) Also, on the same day, are the **Bill Cammack Memorial Stages**

This is an all tarmac event at Manby Motorsport complex. It offers 45 stage miles for £199. The event will be a qualifying round of the both The Roadrunner/Phoenix Awards ANEMMC Stage Rally Championship and The Rainworth Skoda EMAMC Multi-use Rally Championship.

It is usually a good day out although it has always been rather wet when I've gone there – makes it interesting as it does flood quite well. There will be refreshments available on site during the event and overnight camping beforehand is allowed as well.

14th/15th March

Robin Hood Stages

Lindholme Motor Sports Club are promoting The Robin Hood Forest Stages Rally supported by Copcutt Toyota Worksop; The Alternative Sign Centre; and Methos IT Consulting

Modern cars compete on the 2-day format (with Saturday night stages) for the first time
HRCR Stage Rally Challenge supported by TR Enterprises inc. Mini 50 Cup
Motoscope Northern Historic Rally Championship
ANEMMC and ANWCC Historic Stage Rally Championships
ANCC Stage Rally Championship
ANEMMC Roadrunner Phoenix Awards Stage Rally Championship supported by Pantry Catering and Slick Tyres

ANWCC Forest Rally, All-rounders and Ladies Championships
Competition Car Insurance EMAMC Multi-venue Stage Championship

The event runs on a very compact route with Scrutineering, Rally HQ, Stages and Service all in close proximity. The Rally HQ is at a new location at South Forest Leisure Centre, Edwinstowe.

Scrutineering is also at a new venue - Mechanical Solutions' premises on Boughton Industrial Estate, Ollerton, Notts.

Supplementary Regulations are now available from the website, along with Entry Form. Paper copy of SRs from Entries Secretary - Tel. 01427 875973

Full details are at www.robinhoodforeststages.co.uk.

This is a cracking event and one of the first to have started the recent trend of night stages. I always try to go to this one, it is only just over an hour from Peterborough with an even more compact route this year. In my view it is one event not to miss as a spectator or competitor. The stages are smooth gravel although some corners are a bit sandy and do cut up a little.

29th March

Tour of Caerwent

This is one of the more far flung ones but I thought I'd throw it in as I've had an invitation to go and play with my MSA Safety radio over there.

On Sunday 29th March, Forresters Car Club Limited are once again promoting the Fast Impressions Tour of Caerwent. As normal, it is being held at the unique Caerwent Defence Training Estate between Newport and Chepstow. With 7 long stages currently planned, and a number of championships visiting the event (BP Motor Bodybuilders & Engineers Cotswold Motor Sports Group Stage Rally Championship 2009; the Steve Harkness Competition Tyres Welsh National Tarmacadam Championship 2009 and the Richard Egger Insurance BTRDA Asphalt Rally Series 2009), the entry should be high in both quality and quantity. As always, the event cannot run without the help of volunteers. The organising committee are both thankful for help in previous years and would be very grateful for your assistance in the safe running of the event on Sunday 29th March 2009. If any body is interested in going can they please contact the Chief Marshal, Richard Lomax, on 07740 457084 or e-mail at rslomax@googlemail.com. Due to the sensitive nature of the venue you will not be able to turn up on the day but need to contact Richard stating the number of car passes required for you to enter the venue and the callsigns of any radios that you will be using.

Due to the secure nature of the venue, entry will only be possible with a car pass and hence it is important to notify us in advance so that passes can be sent out to arrive in time.

Look out for further comments on forthcoming events in the future.

Also on 29th March is the Jane Cowling Memorial Phoenix Stage Rally. This is being run by Eastwood & District Motor Club and they require marshals (of course). It will take place at RAF Fulbeck Airfield, which is off the A17 Newark to Sleaford road, signposted Stragglethorpe. The Multimaps reference is <http://www.multimap.com/s/C21pF8xV>. Signing on is 08:15. Chief Marshal is John Minns (djminns@tiscali.co.uk).

Richard

Good Food, Good Wine, Good Company

Forty Six members, friends and guests of the club enjoyed the Annual Dinner and Prize Giving on Saturday January 31st at the Ramada Hotel in Peterborough. The evening began with a short silence proposed by Brian Stapleton in memory of Vic Beck, John Hollman and Stuart Butterfield, who all died recently.

Guest of honour was Martin Thomas who spoke about his long career in motor racing. He recounted some of the highlights and spoke of the famous friends he had made during his years of racing. He showed a film of the last race at Crystal Palace in which he led for thirteen of the fifteen laps. It was a very closely fought and exiting race which Martin lost after spinning and glancing the sleepers due to failing brakes. Despite the crash he still managed to come second.

Although the club has an impressive range of trophies only one was presented on the evening to Phil Johnson for the best performance in competitions this year. A presentation of a crystal bowl was made to Norman Manser in recognition of the years he has served the club. His granddaughter accepted the gift on his behalf.

Thanks go to Rosalind Brierley for organising the venue and extensive choice of menu. Everyone enjoyed their meal and agreed that it was a very pleasant evening.

David Catling

We have received the following letter from Norman Manser.

5th February 2009

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Committee and members of Peterborough Motor Club, for their generous gift to me at the Annual Dinner last week. I was most surprised but delighted to receive it and only wish that I could have been invited to the Dinner to thank the members in person.

Almost 56 years of membership is a very long time. It is something I have enjoyed and will miss in the future but I felt that my presence was increasingly causing difficulties with the Chairman, the Committee and the membership and whilst the Club will always be welcome at the Masonic Centre, at Ellindon, I did not want to stand in the way of any change the members wanted to make. Whilst I will always take an interest in the activities of the Club I will not be active in its events. I wish the Club every success in the future.

Norman Manser

Silverstone 2009

I thought I should explain briefly why the Committee has reluctantly decided not to run a race meeting this year. It would have been our 58th! It is mainly for two reasons.

First in order to get sufficient entries it is necessary that a meeting comprises almost entirely of championship or series races. These days competitors mainly race in organised championships and do not seem to favour one off events. And it is becoming more and more difficult for smaller clubs such as ours, which do not run their own championships, to attract those clubs which do run championships to our meeting. This is mainly because more and more the clubs which run one or two championships are increasingly coming under the umbrella of the four or so large clubs which then organise their race calendar for them usually incorporating these clubs' events within their own meetings. And for financial reasons these large clubs are, obviously, going to fill up their own meetings first.

I imagine we could attract a two or three of championship races but these would comprise less than half the programme and our recent experience of padding out our day with allcomers races suggests that the entries for these would be very thin. (Last year we benefited from some "political fallout" in a couple of series but it was touch and go). Consequently we feel this year we could incur a significant loss and in the current economic situation probably a substantial one.

Second I have said for several years that I wish to step back from organising the meeting and as no one has offered to take over this seems a good time to take a breather. Hopefully in a year or two circumstances may change and with some new blood we may be able to continue and to build on our reputation - I do hope so. Below is a letter from David Cox chairman of the Monoposto Racing Club which has raced with us for many years

Phil Johnson

From The Monoposto Racing Club - 17 November 2008:

Dear Phil

Re PMC Silverstone

Following your announcement that the PMC Silverstone is alas no more, I would like, on behalf of MRC, to thank you and your team for your unstinting efforts to promote such an excellent event over the years. This meeting was always one of the highlights of the year as the organisers were always focused on giving the competitor a really good day. Over the years I have seen your team "bend over backwards" to get people on the grid when they have had problems, to allow late entries into the meeting, to give refunds when they were really out of time, to be friendly, helpful and cheerful at all times. You may have run only one meeting a year but you certainly knew how to do it.

Personally I have very good memories of the PMC Silverstone. I had my first win in a single seater at the 1982 meeting and of course competed at the last meeting in 2008. I think Mono was on the programme for most of your meetings and we always made it a priority for our calendar.

PMC were always nice people to deal with and we will miss our annual get together.

On behalf of the Club I would like to wish PMC very success in the future.

With best wishes

David Cox – MRC Chairman

VIC BECK

I first met Vic Beck when I joined Peterborough Motor Club in February 1953. He was the person who met you when you entered an event and signed you in.

He wasn't a Founder of the Club but I am sure he had been involved from the outset. Vic, a native of the Newcastle area, had been called up and posted to a unit near Peterborough during the War and on his demob settled in the City. He managed to rent a property in Priestgate from which he could carry on his trade of Typewriter repairer and Duplicating service. When one entered the building you had entered an Aladin's cave of old typewriters waiting to be serviced or repaired.

He duplicated all the Regulations, Final instructions etc. for all the Club events and printed the Club magazine when he got the articles from the editor and then distributed it. On top of all this he regularly prepared several local Church magazines.

Some years later Vic moved to Stone Lane where his late wife Doris could be seen putting magazines together on the Dining room table whilst Vic was running off his stencils in the front room.

His contribution to the Club's Silverstone meetings was immense and he acted as secretary for that event for at least 25 years, and was held in very high esteem by the Motoring Press.

The other sport which gave him great pleasure was Bowls and he represented local clubs in many National events.

To his family we offer our sincere sympathy.

Norman Manser

STUART BUTTERFIELD

We are sorry to report that Stuart Butterfield died on 3rd January this year, aged 63, after being diagnosed with cancer only last September.

He supported our trials for many years in the '70s and '80s and designed his own trials cars, namely the S.R.B.s, a few of which are still competing today.

PMC was represented at his funeral at Rawdon crematorium near Guiseley, held the Monday after the weekend of the Trials Championship final, by Tom and Elizabeth Stevenson and Margaret and myself.

Our sympathy goes out to his wife Margaret and his brothers Keith and Tony, both of whom were also trialists.

Brian Stapleton.

Lifetime Achievement Award

PMC member Peter Putterill was honoured at the ERA Club Annual Reunion Dinner on 1st November

He was presented with the Francis Howe Trophy by Diana Sears (Jack's wife) for his significant contribution to the interests of the ERA Club.

Peter has been also a leading light in establishing the BRM Museum at Bourne and continues to contribute to its archives and displays. He has a substantial knowledge of classic and vintage motor racing and is a regular attendee at Goodwood with his elegantly attired wife Vivien.

Many Congratulations.

James Claridge

At the recent Formula Junior awards ceremony the trophy for the best presented car was awarded to Lola racer James Claridge, Ian's son. Well Done!

Attention all Photo-License holders

If you are the proud possessor of one of these really attractive things and you have had it for 10 years (or thereabouts) this is just a reminder that you are apparently supposed to renew them every 10 years (or the photo does – I don't have one so I only know what I'm told). There should be an expiry date on the front. If you want any more information, there's some on the Posh Mini Club's website – so see www.pmoc.co.uk for details.