





# Sevenoaks and District Motor Club Ltd.

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## ACORN MAGAZINE

### August 2007

*The Editor, Committee and Club do not necessarily agree with items and opinions expressed within ACORN magazine*

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**PLEASE NOTE: COPY DATE FOR SEPTEMBER ACORN WILL BE 20TH AUGUST**

**Wednesday 15th August 2007**

**Bat & Trap Challenge — That quaint old Kentish game  
The Crown, Seal Nr Sevenoaks. See events calendar for details.**

*You can e-mail copy to [dawn.travers@ntlworld.com](mailto:dawn.travers@ntlworld.com)  
I will also accept copy on disc or CD-Rom; on paper (typed or handwritten) or by 'phone for juicy gossip.*

## Editorial Ramblings

**W**e are catching up with results this month and I assume the holiday season has kicked in proper as all has been quiet on the article front from members. Inside you'll find no less than three autotest reports to bring in us right up to the last event of the 2007 season, which will have taken place by the time you read this. I know that **Stacey Thompson** will be hoping that the really unseasonable weather keeps away and there will be a return to more July temperatures on the 29th and we can expect a good turnout to round off another successful series.

I hope that none of our members have been too badly affected by the awful flooding which has been taking place in various parts of the country. What a summer! Let's hope that North Weald also proves to have unusual weather conditions over the Bank Holiday and turns into a warm sunny day! Chief Marshal **Phil Fawcett** needs your help and this will be one of the last chances to get your marshalling qualification for the Speed League. Phil's details are on the contact page or see the ad on page 8 in this Acorn. **David Balderson** has sent me an updated Speed League points table, which you can find on page 10 and from the looks of this, lots of the registered competitors need to be marshalling at either the Autotest Day, North Weald on August 26th or the Weald Trial on 14th October. Don't forget if you have already marshalled, you need to send your signed form into David to get your qualification registered.

Socially the club has finally found a more permanent (and familiar) home, as the committee have arranged to use The Buttery room at The Bull, Wrotham, a venue we used to use years ago and whose landlord is willing to welcome us back. The social page gives details of where to find the Bull if you haven't visited the pub before. The August social is however at The Crown in Seal, where we have booked the use of the Bat & Trap pitch. Please get together and enter a team of 6 and send details to **Dan Whittington**. Even if you want to come and haven't got a team together, we can put one together for you so please register your interest with Dan. Looking back at the July Acorn to find our How to Play guide, it looks like fun and Team Travers is needs two more members to make up our 6 (preferably someone experienced as we are not natives to Kent and therefore novices at the game (honest!!)...in reality we will take anyone who'll have us!

Finally **Suze Bisping** has very kindly put together an evening of Karting fun for October and a flyer with all the details can be found inside this issue or downloaded from our website. Please commit early to this event so it can go ahead. I know the last two events were well attended, so round up friends, family and work colleagues for a *friendly* competitive evening's motorsport.

That's me done till next month.

**Dawn Travers**

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## COMPETITION CALENDAR 2007 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>ORGANISING CLUB / Contact</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Champ Round</b>
8th August	Sprint	<b>Lotus MC/ B19MC:</b> Entries Christine Sharp Tel: 01206 728272 before 9 pm. Email casharpb19@hotmail.com	<b>Lotus Test Track Hethel Nr. Wymondham Norfolk</b>	Nat B	<b>Regionals; Invited clubs inc 7Oaks</b>
11th August	Sprint	BARC (Midlands): Noreen Ward 01455 824494 or email noreenward@tiscali.co.uk	Curborough	Nat B	Regionals; 7SL
** NEW ** 12th August	Cloverleaf Clubmans Road Rally	West Essex Car Club: Christine Crowther Download Regs and entry Form at <a href="http://www.cloverleaf.wecc.co.uk">www.cloverleaf.wecc.co.uk</a>	Cambridge Area	Nat B; Clubmans	AEMC; ASEMC; EMAMC; LCAMC.
** NEW ** 12th August	Grass Autotest	Eastbourne and Ram MC: Regs available at : <a href="http://www.eastbourneandrammc.co.uk">www.eastbourneandrammc.co.uk</a> or email ermcontact@aol.com	Burwash Common (near Heathfield) East Sussex	CS	Weald Clubs
15th August	<b>Bat &amp; Trap Evening Social</b>	<b>Open to all members and our friends in the Weald please register your teams of 6-8 with Dan Whittington 01233 660611 or email: <a href="mailto:dwhittingto@aol.com">dwhittingto@aol.com</a></b>	<b>The Crown Seal Nr Sevenoaks</b>	Social	
15th August	Grass Autotest	Weald MC (Maidstone): Ann Cook 01634 364021 or email ann.cook@ukgateway.net	Headcorn Airfield MR 188/848829	CS	
**NEW** 19th August	Mid Summer 12 Car Regularity Run	Blackpalfrey MC (Weald MC): Andy Gibson <a href="mailto:Andy@Blackpalfrey.co.uk">Andy@Blackpalfrey.co.uk</a> 01227 792740	Start from Café nr RH&D Railway Station, Hythe	CS	
26th August	Sprint	<b>7Oaks DMC: Suze Bisping 07986 445053 or email <a href="mailto:suze_bisping@yahoo.co.uk">suze_bisping@yahoo.co.uk</a></b>	<b>North Weald</b>	Nat B	<b>Regionals; 7SL</b>
8th Sept	Sprint	Tunbridge Wells MC: Gary Goodin 01892 516365	Brands Hatch	Nat B	Regionals; 7Oaks SL
19th September	Social	<b>7Oaks &amp; DMC Social Night—Noggin &amp; Natter—The season so far...bring photos, stories, videos</b>	<b>The Buttery at The Bull, Wrotham</b>	Social	
22nd Sept	Hillclimb	Woolbridge MC: Check <a href="http://www.woolbridge.co.uk">www.woolbridge.co.uk</a> from mid-July	Longleat	Nat B	Regionals; 7Oaks SL
7th October	Sprint	Herts County AC: Lionel Reeves 01920 823195 (no calls after 9pm) or email <a href="mailto:info@hertscountyaac.co.uk">info@hertscountyaac.co.uk</a>	Debden	Nat B	Regionals; 7Oaks SL
**NEW** 10th October	Karting evening	<b>7Oaks MC (Weald MC)....Members, friends and families of 7Oaks and Weald are invited to make up teams for a night of Karting fun. More details to follow or contact Suze Bisping .</b>	TBC	Social	
14th October	Weald Trial	<b>Weald MC: in the first instance contact Clive Cooke on <a href="mailto:clive.v.cooke@virgin.net">clive.v.cooke@virgin.net</a> for more details.</b>	Various venues	CS	<b>Weald Clubs plus invited clubs</b>
17th October	Social	<b>7Oaks &amp; DMC Social Night — Speed League Forum come along for a review of 2007 and a preview of 2008.</b>	<b>The Buttery at The Bull, Wrotham</b>	Social	
18th November	PCT (Ours)	7Oaks & DMC: Dawn Travers Email: <a href="mailto:dawn.travers@ntlworld.com">dawn.travers@ntlworld.com</a>	Stoneacre Farm, Otham, Kent MR 188/800536	CS	<b>Weald Clubs plus invited clubs</b>
21st November	Social	7Oaks&DMC Social Night: Motorsport Guest TBC	<b>The Buttery at The Bull, Wrotham</b>	Social	
19th December	Social	7Oaks&DMC Social Night: Festive Noggin & Natter	<b>The Buttery at The Bull, Wrotham</b>	Social	

**For further information contact :-**

**Competition Secretary: Ian Crocker 01892 546006 email: [ian@seight.com](mailto:ian@seight.com)**

**Speed League contact : Karen Webber: 01732 875091 email: [kes.web1@tesco.net](mailto:kes.web1@tesco.net)**

## Summer Autotest Series 2007

### Round 4 - June 21

**W**hat a beautiful evening it turned out to be after the threatening clouds of the afternoon.

Twenty one eager competitors turned up to do battle with Stacey's fiendish tests, including one using either side of the dividing fence line!

They were joined by an encouraging array of marshals, including **Tom Murphy** enjoying his first experience of autotesting. (He's a sprinter by preference - a Sierra Cossie no, less!)

In Class A, there was a fierce contest with nearly all nine entries finishing within 10% of FTD man **Daren Hall's** times - which were quick!

**Mick Rose** had an uncharacteristically difficult start, with a double wrong route, which was a pity as his remaining times were pretty good. Class winner Richard Olsen from Maidstone, although beaten on one test by Emma, managed to pull out just 1.1 seconds on Brian Sharpe, with Robert in hot pursuit.

Class B was even closer with **Ralph Travers** beating Steve Hatton's metro by just half a second, followed by Mike Thomas and the first of the Bate-man clan - well done Dad!

Nice to see **Equipe Wilks** back in action in their colourful Fiesta, with one of them even managing to finish a test with a cone stuck in the front wheel arch - and not realising it until everybody gave up looking for it! (No names, but it wasn't Adam)

If that wasn't enough, the Fiesta then disgraced itself by spewing up the contents of its radiator and after that, having a tyre 'pop off' a rim.

Class C was the preserve of Lee Busbridge with his (rather smart?) Marina, fresh from the Hughes Rally where it performed with credit.

Class E, the 'wild and wonderful bunch' saw **Darren Tyre's** IMMACULATE Mk 1 Escort beat off a flying Peter Dunn in the RX7. (Darren also, incidentally, has a Ford engined 'Frogeye' which he sprints.)

Many thanks, as ever, to the marshals and also to my two special junior helpers - the Hatton girls.

Stacey would love to see you all again in two weeks time - you wouldn't want to disappoint her now would you?

**Clive Cooke**

### Round 5 – July 5

**W**ell doesn't time fly! July 5th and the fifth round of this year's Evening Autotest series took place.

Well, we weren't so blessed with the weather this week but it wasn't half as bad as last week and all the chaps and chappesses seemed to enjoy the different driving challenges that a bit of rain brought.

Twenty brave autotesters turned up (eventually!) I must admit I was a bit worried when, at 6.30ish there were only four or five competitors!

There were 7 competitors in Class A with **CHRIS**

**JUDGE** taking 1st in class in his Mini with Maidstone's **RICHARD OLSEN** in second.

**DAREN HALL** in his Nova took FTD once more.

Class B had 10 competitors with **STEVE HATTON** in his Rover in 1st and Chelmsford's **MIKE THOMAS** taking 2nd place and **CHRIS PENFOLD** in taking the trophy home for 3rd in his Golf.

Once again I had to amalgamate Class C and E as there were only three entries in the combined class. **DARREN TYRE** won this combined class in his Healey.

Once again, thanks to everyone who turned up to play and a special thanks to all the marshals without whom we wouldn't be able to run the event, they are very much appreciated.

As I said at the beginning, I can't believe how fast this series is going. We have only one more evening event to go on the 19<sup>th</sup> July and then the all day event on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

### Round 6 – July 19

**W**ell the last evening tests of this year's Autotest series is over and my how they seem to have flown by!

The weather held up again and this week we had 17 competitors.

Class A had 6 competitors with **DAREN HALL** taking first in his Nova with **CHRIS JUDGE** two seconds behind in his Mini.

There were 9 competitors in Class B with Maidstone's **RUSSELL ECCLESTON** in first and **STEVE HATTON** in his Rover in second. **CHRIS PENFOLD** in his Golf took FTD.

The combined Class C and E was won by Borough 19's **PETER DUNN** in his Mazda.

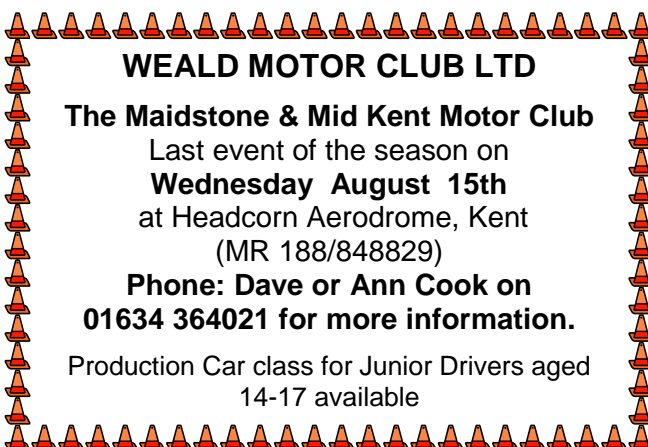
Thanks to everyone who turned up and a special thanks to all the marshals.

Now we have only one more event to go, the all dayer on the 29<sup>th</sup>. I hope to see you all there. First signing on at 10am last at 11.30am.

I will be bringing along some salad, paper plates, napkins etc and I will bring a few disposable BBQs to cook your food on. However, I'm still pondering on what to sit them on. I don't think Chris would appreciate little square holes in his lovely table!!!

Let's all pray for good weather and a healthy turnout. See you on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Stacey Thompson**



**WEALD MOTOR CLUB LTD**  
**The Maidstone & Mid Kent Motor Club**  
 Last event of the season on  
**Wednesday August 15th**  
 at Headcorn Aerodrome, Kent  
 (MR 188/848829)  
**Phone: Dave or Ann Cook on**  
**01634 364021 for more information.**  
 Production Car class for Junior Drivers aged  
 14-17 available

## SEVENOAKS/ WEALD MOTOR CLUB JUNE 21 AUTOTEST

	TEST NUMBERS						TOTAL	CLASS	O'ALL
	1	2	3	4	5	6			
<b>CLASS A</b>									
MICK ROSE Mini	WR 59 *	WR 33.6	31.9 31.3	35.3 35.1	36.2 30.2	28.7 37.7	217.9	8	16
CHRIS JUDGE Mini	36.7 32	29.1 28.8	34 33.1	36 38.5	31.4 31.1	26.6 27.1	187.6	4	7
BRIAN SHARPE Nova	WR 32.3	29.3 28.5	34.5 31	34.9 32.7	30.4 27.9	25.5 25	177.4	2	3
ROBERT SHARPE Nova	WR 33.9	30.3 39.3	33.3 31.4	37.1 34.2	35.3 29.1	25.6 25.5	184.4	3	6
JAY GROSSMITH Metro	34.2 37.5	WR 29.7	WR 52	34.5 34.2	31.1 30.6	WR 34.9	215.6	7	15
DAREN HALL Nova	29.9 29	26.6 26.4	29.8 29.4	32.2 33.7	29 28.2	24.9 23.1	168.3		FTD
RICHARD OLSEN Citroen	34.7 29.8	29.2 28.1	32.3 29.7	33.2 31.7	31.2 40.2	25.8 26.5	176.3	1	2
EMMA OLSEN Citroen	WR 34.4	33.8 WR	32.3 31.9	36.4 34.8	30.7 29.6	28 26.8	191.3	5	9
SUZE BISPING Nova	37.2 34	31.4 30.5	36 33	41.2 35.1	33.5 33.5	29.4 31.2	195.5	6	11
<b>CLASS B</b>									
RICHARD SCOTT Peugeot	38 36.6	32.1 32.5	38.7 38.3	36.4 36.9	WR 46.3	30.2 29.4	219.1	7	18
PETER WILKS Fiesta	48.4 41.7	48.4 33.6	48.7 35.3	WR 64.4*	47.5 30.9	WR 30.4	236.3	9	20
ADAM WILKS Fiesta	40.1 39.8	WR 30.8	33.8 33.8	WR 36.7	32.4 29.7	26.6 29.1	197.4	5	12
STEVE HATTON Metro	32.7 31.7	30 29.1	31.4 31.6	WR 36.4	31.3 30	28.4 25	183.6	2	5
TIM BATEMAN Citroen	38.4 37	30.6 37.3	31.9 34.4	35.1 WR	43.2 31.3	WR 26.7	192.6	4	10
DECLAN BATEMAN Peugeot	WR 61.3*	34.1 30.9	51.2 35.3	37.7 WR	117 32.8	37.6 26.6	224.6	8	19
JAMES BATEMAN Peugeot	37.2 40.4	29.9 29.8	WR 42.1	37 52.2	WR 29.6	28.9 27.7	203.4	6	14
RALPH TRAVERS Nissan	33.3 32.4	35 29.6	34.9 31.6	37.4 34.4	30.4 29.6	26.6 25.5	183.1	1	4
MIKE THOMAS Fiesta	31.3 31.6	29 28.5	33.1 WR	WR 36.1	32.5 32.4	26.5 28.6	187.9	3	8
<b>CLASS C</b>									
LEE BUSBRIDGE Marina	48.3 46.9	64.6 93.6	WR 40.3	WR 62*	33.2 34.2	32.7 43.6	279.7	1	21
<b>CLASS E</b>									
DARREN TYRE Escort	54.1 38.1	32.2 30.1	38.3 38.3	37.4 35.7	WR 33.1	27.4 27.9	201.7	1	13
PETER DUNN RX7	61.3 46.5	46.5 44.6	34.1 WR	40.6 34.7	31.3 31	27.4 30.9	218.3	2	17

\* = TIME GIVEN BY ORGANISERS TO REPLACE 2 WR ON A PARTICULAR TEST.





## Getting started in circuit racing

**B**reaking the theme here as my first circuit race isn't, hopefully, until August but the hassle of getting to the grid started a while back. I've recently bought a Formula Vee, a Sheane MK II, to race in the UK Formula Vee championship. If things go according to plan I'll be out at Silverstone in August and Snetterton in September. I'm currently compiling the "wish list" of events to do in 2008 and will see how that goes.

In order to race in the UK, you need a minimum of a National B race license. To get the necessary license, you need to buy a "Go Racing" pack from the MSA, pass a medical, complete the ARDS test and finally purchase the license itself from the MSA. The "Go Racing" pack is currently £51 and contains a video / DVD, Blue Book and the necessary ARDS form to complete your ARDS license. Even if you are a non-race National B holder, you will still need to purchase the "Go Racing" pack. Unless you are under the age of 18, you will also need to have a medical and if you are mid forties plus [forgive me please for not remembering the exact age!] you will also need an ECG. Shopping around for doctors is worthwhile – my local surgery wanted £150-£200, some surgeries in the Bromley area will charge £70 or so and MSV sometimes have sessions at Brands for example where they are £50 each.

Depending how quickly you want to do your license, you will need to book at some point your ARDS test itself which most circuits in the UK do. Some offer just the test for £250 upwards, whereas others like Silverstone combine both the ARDS test itself with skid pan courses etc. My ARDS is booked towards the end of the month at Snetterton as they had the most convenient dates, and there are two parts to the test itself – theory and practical. In the practical you need to demonstrate your awareness of other vehicles, that you know the lines, are consistent and other basic requirements, whereas a lot of the theory is about knowing the blue book rules [eg not crossing the line on the pit exit] and the flags etc. Fingers crossed I'll get through mine easily when the time comes! Once you've passed your ARDS, you can send all the paperwork back to the MSA, pay £47 and you're a National B race license holder.

Having already shelled out something in the region of £350 - £500 to get the paperwork side of things done, you need to think about the "protective clothing." Some championships have slightly different regulations as to what you can or can't wear, but generally you need two layer nomex with a layer of

nomex underwear, or a three layer nomex suit. Boots and gloves are actually both optional, and helmets are obviously required. If you are registered with particular clubs, eg 750MC, you may find companies such as Grand Prix Racewear and Demon Tweaks offer discounts which are well worth checking out – because by now everything is starting to add up! There are a few different racewear manufacturers out there and the prices can really differ depending who you go for – so it's hard to give any estimates. All in all racewear will probably set you back £800 or



so roughly if you go for the less expensive options including racesuit, gloves, boots, helmet and balaclava.

So the actual starting cost of racing is not that cheap – although the good news is, age dependent and in my case, I at least won't need a medical every year and can just pay the license renewal fee instead of having to get everything from scratch again. I decided not to factor in the car costs above, nor championship registration fees, nor even think about entry fees etc as the numbers might get a bit high! It is very different to the costs of autotests [free for me as under 21], PCTs [£17 entry] etc I've done so far but, fingers crossed, it'll go well. It's at least something more interesting than the day job!

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## Suze Bisping

### Marshals for North Weald Sprint Sunday 26th August 2007

**A** bank holiday weekend event means that there are less people around than usual so if you are free and haven't offered your help yet this year, we would be pleased to hear from you. Bring a friend to keep you company, but in the first instance ring:

**Phil Fawcett, Chief Marshal on  
01403 258073 or 07840 523439 or  
email your offer to  
marshal\_7oaks@hotmail.co.uk.**

**This is a Speed League  
Qualification event**

## Life from the Gravel Trap: Dreamland.....Am I dreaming?

The MSA is doing something proactive to promote motorsport, yes it seems so after reading a rather rambling press release lands in my inbox. The following is included near the bottom: "The MSA is also targeting new recruits to the sport. In recent weeks the level of enquiries to karting venues around the country has increased dramatically and this will inevitably create a surge of new young drivers. By breaking down the barriers to entry, the MSA hopes to attract as many of these newcomers as possible into official competitive motor sport, rather than simply the 'arrive and drive' leisure activity.

One particular initiative will see the MSA in effect offering free licences to competitors who are under 16 years of age. Having purchased their initial 'Go Racing' or 'Go Karting' packs, competitors will then be credited for the cost of their first licence when they ultimately make their application".

This is a superb initiative and if it is executed well, it will work brilliantly, however it is clear that it has come from the strong (and well funded) karting lobby. It would make so much more sense to do this for all first time licence holders. Imagine you were trying to convince someone to have a run at North Weald, "I'll lend you helmet and overalls and the licence is free for your first year so it is only going to cost you £50." A compelling argument that would no doubt bring more competitors into the sport.

Why is it that the Karting lobby can get such changes made but the local clubs, which are the backbone of the sport, seem to struggle to get anything positive done. Are the MSA influenced more by the richer more glamorous areas of the sport perhaps?

### Stig of the Dump



#### Got a Speed report for Acorn?

Email the Editor at:  
dawn.travers@ntlworld.com.

#### **September Acorn deadline is 20th August.**

Photos also welcome but  
please resample to approx 1  
meg size please.

Any other articles snippets,  
news stories and photos are  
welcome.



## Social Stuff

Here is your social calendar for the remainder of this year. From September we are going to be in **The Buttery at The Bull in Wrotham** for all social evenings.

The **August** social is **Bat & Trap**. This won't work if we don't have a reasonable number of participants (ideally at least a dozen) so please come along and



enjoy this quaint old Kentish game!

We are trying to line up an interesting speaker for the November social evening. This person will be a major figure in the motorsporting world and should be able to give us an insight into the future of motorsport at all levels, as well as some interesting anecdotes of past events.

### Daniel Whittington



#### Social Calendar 2007

##### **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> August**

Bat & Trap evening.

From 8:00pm at

The Crown, High St., Seal, Sevenoaks  
TN15 0AJ

Website: [www.thecrownseal.co.uk](http://www.thecrownseal.co.uk)

##### **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September**

Noggin and Natter – Bring photos and stories!

From 8:30pm in The Buttery at

The Bull, Wrotham, Sevenoaks, Kent  
N15 7RF

Website: [www.thebullhotel.com](http://www.thebullhotel.com)

##### **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October**

Speed League Forum.

From 8:30pm in The Buttery at

The Bull, Wrotham

##### **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November**

Speaker – to be confirmed.

From 8:30pm in The Buttery at

The Bull, Wrotham,

##### **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

Festive Noggin and Natter.

From 8:30pm in The Buttery at

The Bull, Wrotham,

Website: [www.thebullhotel.com](http://www.thebullhotel.com)

# SPEED LEAGUE RESULTS TO ROUND 13

## 70aks Speed League

entry	Pos	Name	Qualified	LTSP 1-Apr-06 Rd 1 N Weald	TTSP 15-Apr-07 Rd 2 Cadwell	TTHC 28-Apr-07 Rd 3 Wiscombe	TTSP 6-May-07 Rd 4 Bentwaters	TTHC 12-May-07 Rd 5 Harewood	LTSP 13-May-07 Rd 6 Debdon	LTSP 19-May-07 Rd 7 Goodwood	LTSP 2-Jun-07 Rd 8 Lydden	TTSP 9-Jun-07 Rd 9 Abingdon	LTSP 23-Jun-07 Rd 10 Lydden	TTSP 30-Jun-07 Rd 11 C Combe	TTSP 21-Jul-07 Rd 12 Llandow	TTHC 22-Jul-07 Rd 13 Llys y Fran	Avg Score	Total Rounds
31	1	Webber Andrew	y	14	11	12	10	9	14	14	0	15	12	15	11	14	12.58	151
10	2	Greville Chris		12	0	0	14	0	13	0	15	14	14	0	0	0	13.67	82
13	3	Giddings Jim		12	0	0	0	0	4	9	0	9	7	10	13	11	9.38	75
1	4	Balderson David	y	9	8	0	0	6	0	8	7	8	6	0	11	9	8.00	72
35	5	Start John		14	0	0	12	0	0	0	15	15	15	0	0	0	14.20	71
21	6	Nicholls Roy		0	13	0	12	0	15	0	0	13	0	9	0	0	12.40	62
7	7	Ellis Martin		13	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	14	0	12	11	12.00	60
11	8	Gibson Iain		12	8	0	15	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12.00	48
23	9	Richardson Gareth		0	9	0	0	0	0	8	0	11	0	0	9	8	9.00	45
26	10	Thompson Stephen		10	0	0	0	0	10	0	11	0	10	0	0	0	10.25	41
9	11	Franks Gordon		6	4	0	0	0	5	9	0	0	0	0	4	6	5.67	34
6	12	Druce-Smith Micheal		6	0	0	4	0	9	9	0	0	5	0	0	0	6.60	33
37	12	Oliver Matt		0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	12	0	11.00	33
36	14	Oliver Bill		0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	14	0	10.33	31
14	15	Giddings Russell		9	0	0	5	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7.33	22
3	16	Brown Ray		10	0	0	6	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7.00	21
12	16	Giddings Alex		8	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10.50	21
5	18	Dann Stephen		15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15.00	15
33	18	Murphy Tom		11	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7.50	15
34	20	Mead Nigel		12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12.00	12
39	21	Brook Darren											11	0	0	0	11.00	11
30	22	Collins Sam		10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10.00	10
19	22	Luff Tom		10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10.00	10
22	22	Rawlings John		0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	10.00	10
32	22	Whittington Daniel	y	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	10.00	10
38	26	Druce-Smith Joe											9	0	0	0	9.00	9
20	26	Miles Adrian		0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.00	9
18	28	Knapman Mike		4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.00	8
25	28	Thompson Oliver		8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8.00	8
27	28	Tyre Darren		8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8.00	8
41	31	Gomis Tony											7	0	0	0	7.00	7
2	32	Bispling Suze		6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6.00	6
40	32	Bridger Patrick											6	0	0	0	6.00	6
8	32	Forbes-Marsden Tony		6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6.00	6
24	35	Scotchmer Richard		4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.00	4
29	36	Actman Andrew		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
28	36	Clover Ian		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
4	36	Cresswell John		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
15	36	Hoare Bob		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
16	36	Judge Chris		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
17	36	Kemp John		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
42	36	Lee Richard		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0

## Monthly Mugs and Miscellaneous

Oh dear we have got seriously behind with this so here is a catch up from April—when we had our Summer weather if I remember! - and **Nigel Mead** made a superb effort at the April 1st



North Weald Sprint, his first ever sprint and came a very creditable 2nd in class and a first ever Scatter win for himself and his very able navigator wife **Rosemary**. May was quieter and we didn't hear any gossip on the achievements of the membership so had no-one to

award it to.

June was busy for members. Lots of speed events and **Andy Webber** was awarded the mug this month for his first class win at Castlecomb. Our Vice President **Vic Elford** got an honorary mention for his exploits at the Goodwood Festival of Speed, making it up the hill and flying the flag for our club in the process. Great stuff.

Don't forget we have this award to recognise the ongoing achievements of our members whilst carrying out their duties of enjoying themselves at their favourite pastime, and we know most of you are very modest but we would like to hear of anything that you feel particularly proud of. Please don't be shy and partners, spouses and friends, you have a duty to let us know too.

If you would like any stickers for cars or helmets, we now have new stocks available of the small and car sized ones. Please contact **Andy Elcomb** for prices and sizes required.

### Good Heavens!

A man is stumbling through the woods, totally drunk, when he comes upon a preacher baptizing people in the river. He proceeds to walk into the water and subsequently bumps into the preacher. The preacher turns around and is almost overcome by the smell of alcohol, when he asks the drunk, "Are you ready to find Jesus?"

The drunk answers, "Yes, I am."

So the preacher grabs him and dunks him in the water. He pulls him up and asks the drunk, "Brother have you found Jesus?"

The drunk replies, "No, I haven't found Jesus."

The preacher shocked at the answer, dunks him into the water again for a little longer. He again pulls him out of the water and asks again, "Have you found Jesus my brother?"

The drunk again answers, "No, I haven't found Jesus."

By this time the preacher is at his wits end and dunks the drunk into the water again but this time holds him down for about 30 seconds and when he begins kicking his arms and legs he pulls him up. The preacher again asks the drunk, "For the love of God have you found Jesus?"

The drunk wipes his eyes and catches his breath and says to the preacher, "Are you sure this is where he fell in?"

### If it had been presented this way, no one would have done it! - Mum Job Description

#### Position:

Mother, Mum, Mama, Mummy, Momma, Ma

#### Job Description:

Long term team players needed for challenging permanent work in an often chaotic environment. Candidates must possess excellent communication and organizational skills and be willing to work variable hours, which will include evenings and weekends and frequent 24 hour shifts on call. Some overnight travel required, including trips to primitive camping sites on rainy weekends and endless sports tournaments in far away cities. Travel expenses will not be reimbursed. Extensive courier duties also required.

#### Responsibilities:

The rest of your life. Must be willing to be hated, at least temporarily, until someone needs £5. Must be willing to bite tongue repeatedly. Also, must possess the physical stamina of a pack mule and be able to go from zero to 60 mph in three seconds flat in case, this time, the screams from the back garden are not someone just crying wolf. Must be willing to face stimulating technical challenges, such as small gadget repair, mysteriously sluggish toilets and stuck zip-pers. Must screen phone calls, maintain calendars and coordinate production of multiple homework projects. Must have the ability to plan and organise social gatherings for clients of all ages and mental outlooks. Must be willing to be indispensable one minute and an embarrassment the next. Must handle production and safety testing of half a million cheap, plastic toys and battery operated devices. Must always hope for the best but be prepared for the worst. Must assume final, complete accountability for the quality of the end product. Responsibilities also include floor maintenance and janitorial work throughout the facility.

#### Possibility for Advancement and Promotion:

Virtually none. Your job is to remain in the same position for years, without complaining, constantly retraining and updating your skills, so that those in your charge can ultimately surpass you.

#### Previous Experience:

None required unfortunately. On the job training is offered on a continually exhausting basis.

#### Wages and Compensation:

Get this! You pay them! Offering frequent raises and bonuses. A balloon payment is due when they turn 18 because of the assumption that university will help them become financially independent. When you die, you give them whatever is left. The oddest thing about this reverse salary scheme is that you actually enjoy it and wish you could only do more.



# Wheels

## FORUM AND AGAINST

Someone pointed out after my piece about Strengths and Weaknesses that a similar debate could be held on the use of Information Technology by clubs. Among the strengths is, of course, the ability to communicate quickly and cheaply – costs plummet if magazines become e-zines. Increasingly, regulations and entry forms are going on line too, although not all organisers are enthusiastic – one experienced hand is still happier with printed regs because he knows what's in them and that the content has not been corrupted; he prints entry forms on tinted paper to track them, assuming white ones have been downloaded.

IT should mean that all clubs have the strength of websites – ideally up-to-date ones – and it should also make it much easier to communicate with the media but that doesn't happen enough. Sadly. We may not like it, but outside F1 we're a minority sport and we'll remain so unless we get better at communicating with the wider world.

One area where IT scores is with eBay, or 'eBay gum' as it's known in Cod Fillet circles. I've only done a dozen deals, ranging from buying a small antique to selling a big one (a Dellow), but they all went

smoothly not least because I got someone with over 1000 transactions to his name to do them. His advice if selling? Use English not 'text' speak, don't exaggerate what you are selling, and use good pictures. If searching for something, use as many variations of the possible description as you can.

So, the wonderful, magical Strengths of IT. And the Weaknesses? Well, above all I think, the risk of *over*-communication. Keep shovelling stuff out and you may get a 'not again' reaction, while if you bombard journalists with news releases that aren't actually news (eg someone is 'hoping' to do well on an event. Yawn.) you'll just wear out their delete keys.

Another problem clubs may face is balancing the interests of those with PCs and those without. Maybe before long the 80% in a club taking everything on line, may ask why they should be subsidising paper and postage for those still using oil lamps.

E-zines can be hard going if they're just printed mags put on line – a simpler design may be called for – but clearly we are going to see fewer printed publications. Maybe clubs will just print Year Books like the ones they did in

olden days.

But the biggest weakness with the IT revolution still lies with chat rooms or forums or whatever they're called. Swapping information about widgets is great... until someone posts "but don't buy your widgets from Anytown Motors because they're a bunch of crooks." If anyone at Anytown notices, the originator may be sued for defamation, as may the club itself if it can be seen to be negligent in monitoring things. If a member repeatedly attacks a club on-line then look at the small print of the club's constitution – and use it to chuck them out.

As I've mentioned before, boasting on-line about doing handbrake turns in the middle of a town coming back from an event isn't clever but crass – anti-motorsport campaigners may simply add it to their file of ammunition, while if the Law see it, well, it might be simpler to report to the local police station and ask for a cell with an en-suite bucket.

Last word on IT should perhaps go to a CEO I saw end a recent staff conference by saying "Remember, garbage is still garbage even if you put dot com after it."

Stuart Turner

## CROSS-COUNTRY

The biggest growth in 4x4 vehicles in recent years has been in the so-called 'soft roader' SUV sector of the market.

Soft Roader drivers who want to compete in 4x4 trials, often find that the traditional 4x4 club's don't cater for their vehicles. Most trials events use more demanding terrain than these vehicles with limited ground clearance can cope with. However, recent changes in regulations for production car trials, run by mostly 'car-clubs' mean that 4x4 soft roaders are now being welcomed to events alongside the 'production' 2WD cars, both running on the same terrain. 4x4 clubs should see this as an opportunity to join with 'car-clubs' and co-promote events for the soft roader owning members within both types of club.

**Baja GB** – The first ever FIA cross-country event in Britain. Defending FIA Baja champion Marc Blasquez has confirmed his intention to enter as has his team mate from the Nissan Spain team, along with entries from Spain, Poland, Russia, the UAE, Qatar, Norway, Hungary, Belgium and France. Interest has risen with speculation that the new McRae Enduro cross country vehicle, might make an appearance. £100,000 is being invested to improve tracks in the forest areas in Mid-Wales which will form part of the route and spectator points. The event starts with a super special stage at the Royal Welsh Showground at Builth Wells on Friday 16th August, before heading into the forests and to Sweet Lamb on Saturday and Sunday. More details visit [www.BajaWales.com](http://www.BajaWales.com)

## AUTOSCENE



REVIEWS FROM



### MUSCLE CAR CONFIDENTIAL

ISBN 978 0 7603 283 1 6 Joe Oldham, Motorbooks, £25

With prices for genuine muscle going stratospheric, few are willing to give their cars a workout any more. Now you can get a vicarious thrill from reading what it feels like to burnout a Boss, courtesy of '60s US *Car* mag snapper and road-tester Oldham. He keeps his life story brief, concentrating instead on illegal street racing plus memories of testing the likes of the ally-fronted Catalina, Trans Am prototype, Judge GTO and Camaro Z28. You'll find stories of test cars arriving on slicks, 'puking transmission fluid' along the strip and being banned from AMC press events by chairman Gerald C Meyers. The text is

light-hearted, the layouts lavish yet logical and the pictures good. Oh and it's only £25. Recommended to any muscle fan.

### MY DAD HAD ONE OF THOSE

ISBN 978 0 563 539193 Giles Chapman and Richard Porter, BBC Books, £9.99

Surfing on the wave of car-spotting nostalgia courtesy of *Life on Mars* and the rise of '70s cool (whodathunkit?), comes this pithy, pocket-sized and cut-price slice of humour from former *C&SC* editor Giles Chapman and *Sniff Petrol* guru Richard Porter. Supported by a series of press shots, it's a run through all those cars that dads owned from the late 1950s through to the '80s split into categories such as Techno Dad (that would be the Citroën and

Ro80 fetishists), and with the Cortina getting a whole section to itself. Quite apart from the often hilarious fashions, it's the details and the words that make this book.

### COBRA BOOK REPRINTED

ISBN 978 0 9625093 08; £49.95; and available from Motor Books, call 020 7836 5376.

Copies of *The Cobra-Ferrari Wars 1963-1965*, Michael Shoen's outstanding history of Carroll Shelby's World Championship challenge, have been making \$700 secondhand but now a second edition has been published. Scanned from the original and self-published by Shoen, it has revised text and a softer view on Enzo.

### MONACO GRAND PRIX

ISBN 978 1 84425 4019 Michael Hewett, Haynes, £40

Hewett has a long association with Europe's glamorous street race, stretching back to 1962 when he watched the first-lap

mayhem from the front row of the Gasworks Grandstand. The following year Eoin Young, then at McLaren, gave him a track pass and he's been covering it ever since. Combined with the ACM's own archives to fill the pre-'62 gaps and most famous moments, this vivid 350-page book really captures the race's character. Clean layout and excellent repro do full justice to the wealth of pictures. Excellent.



## COD FILLET QUIZ

1. In which year did Louise Aitken-Walker become Ladies World Rally Champion?
2. How many times has Derek Bell won the Le Mans 24hr race?
3. Which British town is the base for the Ford World Rally Team?
4. Who won the MSA British Hill Climb Championship in 2006?

ANSWERS ON PAGE ii

## Recruitment aids

Volunteers in Motorsport (ViM) has now concluded its second phase and is commencing the third phase when it will provide further help and support to clubs in their recruitment campaigns.

A Recruitment DVD and audio CDs are now available to clubs free of charge for use at promotional events. The Recruitment DVD consists of up-to-date footage of motor sport in two-minute and eight-minute versions. The audio CD contains four recruitment to motor sport advertisements – two short and two long – using both young and more mature voices. As well as being used at shows and exhibitions, it can be lent to commentators. These audio clips, together with other information, are also on the ViM website: [www.volunteersinmotorsport.co.uk](http://www.volunteersinmotorsport.co.uk)

## Free display stands

ViM wishes to remind clubs that display stands and display material can be borrowed free of charge for use at events, shows or exhibitions. They enable clubs to present themselves professionally and are informative and visually attractive. To book the stands (which are proving very popular), club representatives should contact Richard Nunn at

the MSA on 01753 765000.

Other promotional material such as leaflets, brochures, postcards and business cards are also available.

## Focus on women

A Women in Motorsport focus group was formed by the MSA during the late 1990s and the Motor Sports Council considered a report on its findings.

As part of its proposals to widen participation in the sport, the MSA is seeking to again pull together a representative project support group of people with differing ideas on the greater inclusion of women in motor sport (to include the interests of clubs, competitors and officials across all the disciplines). A first brainstorming meeting of this group is likely during September 2007, either at Motor Sports House (near Heathrow airport) or in the Birmingham area.

A number of names have already been identified as possible members of the group. Although final numbers will be limited, any individuals wishing to be considered for inclusion in such a group should contact Allan Dean-Lewis at the MSA (email: [adean-lewis@msauk.org](mailto:adean-lewis@msauk.org)), with a note of their background and motor sport involvement plus an appropriate MSA Club or Regional Association endorsement of their nomination.

## Save it!

The MSA is working with Energy Efficient Motorsport (EEMS) to make sure that competitors and officials are fully informed of the

opportunities which energy efficiency in motor sport presents.

## Fresh blood

A number of people have recently joined the MSA as full-time members of staff. Richard Nunn is Volunteer Officials Co-ordinator reporting via Allan Dean-Lewis. Joe Hickerton is Technical and Risk Control Assistant reporting via John Symes. Laura Tucker and Stuart Haviland are in the Licensing Department reporting via Steve Redhead as Manager of Licensing.

## The Hamilton effect

After this year's F1 Canadian Grand Prix and Lewis Hamilton's first F1 victory, Britain's last world champion, Damon Hill, was quoted as saying: "We could be looking at the next British world champion." One thing is sure – the media attention on motor sport is almost unprecedented and could potentially extend to all levels of the sport. The success of Lewis Hamilton could provide an excellent opportunity to promote the sport and the activities of local Clubs. It goes without saying that liaison with local press and media contacts is more important than ever.

## Wales Rally GB tickets

Tickets for Wales Rally GB are now available by calling 0870 060 1764 or online at [www.walesrallygb.com](http://www.walesrallygb.com)

There has been a bit of controversy about Safety Cars recently and perhaps the time has come for a root and branch rethink of procedures.

When they go out is always going to be a decision for the Clerk of the Course.

What are more open to debate are the ground rules covering what Safety Cars should do once they are out there and what cars are suitable for use as safety cars.

The choice of car will always be a compromise. It needs to be fast enough to avoid causing problems for competitors like overheating, but roomy and quiet enough for the safety car observer in the passenger seat to see what is going on behind and use the radio.

All too often, Safety Cars have zero rear visibility and noisy cockpits, which makes passing messages and waving lapped cars through a nightmare – and that's another source of controversy.

If the Safety Car misses the leader – or it is deployed in a long distance race where competitors will seize the opportunity to pit – does it really matter?

The priority is, surely, to bring the train of competing cars under control so that the incident can be dealt with, so it could be argued that getting the Safety Car out on the track as soon as possible is more important than picking up the leader.

If that is the case, then it can be argued that waving cars through in order to put the leader behind the safety car for the re-start has to wait until the incident has been dealt with.

But, why wave them through at all?

On the one hand, the restart is, potentially, more fraught with risk than a rolling start, particularly if the race leaders are close, but separated by significantly slower cars. On the other hand, waving cars through means the restart will be delayed for another two or three laps.

What's more, wherever possible, the Safety Car radio needs to be on the same channel as an intervention team dealing with an incident and everyone else should keep off the air until the incident is over, the Safety Car is back in and racing has restarted.

## QUIZ ANSWERS

1. 1990 (Vauxhall/Opel)
2. Five
3. Cockerhouth, Cumbria
4. Martin Groves



**National  
Motorsport Week**  
11–19 August 2007

