



BMMC South West Region

Newsletter

January 2008

Editorial (by Dave & Chris)

May I first say a very Happy New Year to all the members of the South West Region, and may this year of Marshaling be a slightly dryer on than last year.

Our thanks to Steve Tarrant whom has edited this newsletter for the past 6 years, and we will try to reach his abilities when we find a new Newsletter Editor.

This brings me to my first appeal, would any reader like to join our committee (meetings listed below) and take on this position. For more info, if you are interested please contact either Dave or myself emails etc inside rear cover.
Chris Hurst

Now without further ado, please be upstanding for our new Chairman, Mr. David Loftus..... a few words please.

Thanks for the introduction Chris.

Christmas will be a past memory now we have returned to our everyday lives and looking forward to the start of the new season. The committee and I hope everyone has had a good seasonal holiday break and we wish all a very happy and safe 2008.

There have been changes throughout the close season within our region and elsewhere. Our thanks go out to Trevor Jackson, Steve Tarrant and John Barkham who have all served the region admirably in the past and who decided to stand down at the AGM last November. Our thanks are also extended to 'Team Wilson' who helped increase our regional membership with their presence at both the Thruxton TOCA / BTCC Rounds last season. Chris has already mentioned our need for a newsletter editor, but we also need a recruitment officer to work with 'Team Wilson' this coming season when

the TOCA / BTCC Rounds visit Thrupton on May 17th / 18th. So if any of you are interested or feel you can help in any way please get in touch with either Chris Hurst or myself.

The committee are here to help and serve you the members, but you can help too by letting us know what you would like to have or see happening within our region, or better still help us to make it happen by joining the committee.

Dave Loftus

LATEST TRAINING DATES

Date	Venue	Contact	Telephone
20th Jan	Cadwell	Mike Shorley	01977 780035
27th Jan	Mallory Park	BARC	01264 882200
27th Jan	Donnington	Marc Mills	07919 048484
27th Jan	Goodwood	Kirk Elleker	07772 917306
27th Jan	Snetterton	Darren Macclinton	07920 092457
2nd & 3rd Feb	Croft	BARC	01264 882200
2nd & 3rd Feb	Brands Hatch	Anne Rothberg	07970 620756
9th & 10th Feb	Oulton Park	Andy Holley	07941 965475
16th Feb	Gravesend	Andy Baker	01749 345633
17th Feb	Pembrey	BARC	01264 882200
23rd Feb	South Midlands BMMC	Dave Britain	01582 534885
Latest Training Dates Cont'd			
23rd Feb	Silverstone VSCC	Wendy Roe	07765 238729
1st & 2nd March	Thrupton	BARC	01264 882200

9th March	Lydden	Chris Bird	01622 745104
15th March	Knockhill	Nick Clarke	07896 533394
16th March	Castle Combe	Adrian Fawdington	01666 823754

Please check with the organisers to ensure this information is correct as we cannot be held responsible for any changes that may occur.

This list is not exhaustive and it is recommended that you contact the major motor clubs in your area to enquire about any marshals training they have organised for the new season. Please check to ensure that your training requirement is up to date and in line with the MSA rules. Also, remember to include training days when returning your insurance form to our Competitions Secretary.

BMMC Marshal's Insurance

When you have decided which meeting you want to attend this year please complete the attached sheet supplied by Gary Tanner our Competitions Secretary. When Gary receives your list he will then add you to the insurance list of BMMC marshal's attending, and so you will be automatically covered by the BMMC Marshal's Insurance, as well as any Club insurance you are covered by when you sign on.

If you have any questions re insurance or meetings please contact Gary (see back page for contact details)

Race of Champions – Wembley Stadium 16th Dec.

Those of us whom were luck to be selected, due to our telegenic good looks and youth, were witnesses to a fabulous scaletrix style race meeting. With the back drop of the new Wembley Stadium, 4100 tonnes of tarmac and concrete, and 55,000 spectators, and a cold temperatures, it did nothing to prevent racing of impeccable precision and nerve. To watch drivers such as Schumacher, Button, Coulthard, Elkstrom and others fly around the cross over track at speeds up to 60mph, no more that 6 feet from where you stood was awesome. The noise reverberated around the stadium, and the crowd noise made it hard to hear the race control radio, and when the F1 cars from Red Bull did a few laps and donuts the atmosphere was amazing.

I believe the Race of Champions will be at Wembley for the next two years under contract, and I feel that selection for marshal's will be very competitive, as I have done many big race meets in the UK, and nothing compares to this twin track, winner takes all style of motor racing, so I feel when the word gets about the numbers applying will soar.

The highlight of the meeting for me was seeing these tops class drivers slewing the cars around the tight bends with inch perfect accuracy, missing concrete walls and bollards by no more than 4 inches and doing so at 60mph. I also have one slight criticism, and that was England were drawn below Germany, so we clashed early on in the event, if the two teams were at opposite ends of the draw, then the crowd would have more to shout for.

All in all, it was worth getting up at 5:30am to travel into London, and stand in the cold, I'll be applying for next year without fail.

Chris Hurst (Exp. Specialist)

Marshal's Post

My Experiences

I am a 16 year old lad who loves motor sport. I first started marshalling when I was 13 at Castle Combe; Adrian Fawdington let me loose in the paddock.

This is a great place to start whatever age you are, as you learn the ropes of marshalling and most people if you are well manned let you go watch some of the racing. The paddock is a busy place, but a great place to get deeply involved in the event, you can get close to the drivers, even have a conversation with them. You help to make the event run smoothly as paddock marshals have to line the cars up in the assembly area, in grid order ready for the start line team to take over.

In the paddock you are always moving, go find this car, he hasn't turned up or could you take this paper work to race control etc. Most of my time in the paddock I was marshalling track days at Castle Combe and learning what to do when the car does hit the tyre wall.

After learning the ropes and three years in the paddock mostly at Castle Combe, maybe the odd meet at Thruxton. I was raring to get on the bank with my Dad and put what I had seen whilst watching the races into practice.

My first meeting on the bank was a scary, but an adrenaline filled one, it was the BTCC. I walked in to signing on at Thruxton, spoke to Trevor Jackson and he told me post 15 please, at first I had to ask someone where's that then? I found out, it was only the 140mph corner called Church. I was so excited and couldn't wait to get out there.

Since my first day as a course marshal I have done lots of race days, and have got involved in some of the biggest events in motor sport in the UK, Goodwood Festival of Speed, Goodwood Revival and most recently the Race of Champions at the new Wembley Football Stadium. I hope to be upgraded next year to incident and I want to keep going up the ladder.

Bring on next season and let's hope for even greater racing.

Remember safety, safety, safety.

Kieron Salmons (aged 16)

Committee meeting dates 2008

We will be meeting in the Holiday Inn, Eastleigh, at 8:00pm on the following dates in 2008, all are welcome.

January 24th (Thursday)

March 27th (Thursday)

May 22nd (Thursday)

July 24th (Thursday)

September 23rd (Thursday)

AGM November 23rd (Sunday)

Meetings last about 2 hours and refreshments are available in the Hotel bar.

If you cannot attend but would like to put a proposal to the committee for discussion then please write in person to the Secretary (Chris Hurst) no less than 3 weeks before a meeting date.

Newsletter articles

If you attend a meeting and want to drop us a few lines on it to fill out the newsletter then please do, no more than 300 words will be fine, and help greatly in giving our readership some more interesting to read.

Disclaimer

The articles in this newsletter are the views of each writer and not the overall view of the committee or the BMMC itself.

SW Region Committee Members

Chairman	David Loftus 5 The Oaks, Southampton, Hants, SO19 7RP Tel: 02380 422534 Mobile: 07808 294000 Email: david.loftus1@btinternet.com
Secretary	Chris Hurst 136 Reading Road, Henley on Thames, Oxon RG9 1DN Tel: : 07885 375890 Email: chrisarea51@hotmail.com
Grading Officer Regalia Officer New Mem Selc.	Wendi Batteson 60 Underwood Road, Bishopstoke, Eastleigh, Hants SO50 6FW Tel: 023 8064 2480 Email: wendibatteson@tiscali.co.uk
Comp. Sec	Gary Tanner 18 Meadows Place, St. George's, Weston-Super-Mare, BS22 7RT Tel: 01934 510014 Mobile: 07949 316975 Email: swcompsec@yahoo.co.uk
Rally Rep	Pete Penycate 8 Campbell Road, Tangmere, Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 3HX Tel: 01243 530470 Mobile: 07818 820460 Email: circuitmarshal@yahoo.co.uk
Members	Stan Hunt Tel: 02380 866490 Mobile: 07849 841073 Nick Kirby Mobile: 07761 201347 Email: n.kirby309@btinternet.com Adrian Rangecroft Email: arangecroft@dsl.pipex.com Tony Mullan Tel: 02380 652917 Email: tony@amkey.co.uk