



MMP

Summer 2015

Welcome to the Summer edition of the Midlands region newsletter, well I think it's summer, I wish the weather would make its mind up!

Firstly I think a few thank you's are in order.

Our 2015 taster days are in full swing; thanks to the taster day team for giving up their marshalling time to host the events and many thanks to Donington for all of their help with providing the circuit facilities.

Our taster days are still very popular and they are a fantastic way of introducing members of the public into our hobby.

Many thanks to Steve and Julie Hill for organising the sprint weekend at Curborough on the 16th -17th May and also many many thanks to the marshals who helped over the two days, your efforts are very much appreciated.

Steve & Julie will need support again please with the next sprint at Curborough on the 29th and 30th August.

We have carried out recruitment at the BTCC weekend and the three days of the Historic Festival at Donington.

All five days were a great success and the people who showed an interest in wanting to marshal have been invited to attend a taster day at Donington. The attendees normally marshal somewhere on the circuit during the afternoon and I would like to thank our regular marshals who look after them during their afternoon of marshalling.

Julian and Rachel, our social event organisers have booked a different venue for the 2015 Orange army Christmas party.

This will be the fourth year of this

very popular event, tickets are selling fast and full details are on page 3 of the newsletter.

Thank you to all of our members who have renewed their membership for 2015, it's very important to keep your contact details up to date, either by registering on the BMMC database which can be achieved via the link on the BMMC National website or if you are experiencing difficulties just email me and I'll sort out your membership, volunteering or contact detail update problems.

Mike Grantham



The BMMC Midlands region has two Facebook pages—click on the links below to take you there, and please Like.

BMMC Midlands Region

This page brings you the most up-to-date news on marshalling.

www.Facebook.com/BMMCMidlands

BMMC Midlands Social Events Team

This page is to keep you informed of any upcoming social events being considered or planned .

www.facebook.com/BMMCMidlandsSocialEventsTeam



Find us on the above

Direct Debit issue—Latest Update

Dear member,

Our apologies for the gap since the last e-mail on this subject but we have now concluded our investigations and determined that the problem arose through a combination of human error and a quirk of fate.

Many of you have already taken appropriate action by claiming under the Direct Debit guarantee, which applies to all financial institutions, and states that :

“If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit, by the organisation or your bank or building society, you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from your bank or building society”. Quite simply, your bank is obliged to make an immediate refund to your account.

We are now in a situation where members are in one of 5 positions:

1. Those who have obtained a refund from their banks/building societies, including any bank charges incurred. You need take no further action – the correct amount will be taken from your account

next January for 2016.

2. Those members who have asked us to keep the extra payment as their subscription for 2016. You need take no further action – we will not process your Direct Debit in January 2016, but will re-instate it for 2017.

3. Those members who have asked us to treat the extra payment as a donation to the club. We offer our grateful thanks and rest assured this will be applied to the benefit of members

4. Those members who have been refused a refund by their bank you should make further contact to advise them of your rights and insist upon an immediate refund. For a copy of the Direct Debit Guarantee click on the link [here](#)

5. Members who are still unable to obtain a refund and want the club to reimburse them please send an email headed DD REFUND to nat.treasurer@marshals.co.uk

quoting -

- (a) Your full name.
- (b) BMMC number.
- (c) Any bank charges incurred.

We will collate all such requests and make a BACS payment to your account as soon as possible during the month of May

We hope to draw this matter to a conclusion by the end of May when we will contact anyone who has not had their correct refund.

We can only apologise once again for the problem – you can be assured we will do everything in our powers to prevent a repeat! Direct Debit is the most efficient form of maintaining your subscriptions. Please do not cancel your Direct Debit Instruction, it helps us keep costs down and reduces the burden on our unpaid volunteers.

Regards

Chris Hobson National Chairman
Colin Barnes National Treasurer
Chris Whitlock National Secretary

Karting Charity event - Macmillan Cancer Support

A Karting charity event to raise money for MacMillan Cancer Support is taking place on 21st June 2015.

The event will take place at Teamsport Birmingham, Unit 7-10 Park Lane Industrial Estate, B69 4JX Oldbry, Sandwell.

If anyone is interested in competing, spectating, or supporting this event, please contact Julze Batten as soon as possible on julzeb@hotmail.co.uk

More details can also be found on Facebook—[Karting Charity Event](#)



Orange Army Christmas Party and BMMC Awards!



2015 sees a new venue for our annual Christmas party!

I am excited to confirm that this year's **Christmas Party** will be held at

Thistle East Midlands

on

Saturday 5th December 2015.

Thanks to Donington Park and its association with Thistle East Midlands I have been able to negotiate a fantastic ticket price and also discounted room rates.

Check out the wonderful facilities simply by googling Thistle East Midlands; I look forward to seeing you all early Sunday morning for a swim!

Starting at 19:00 prompt you will be invited to sit down to a three-course meal.

After the meals the BMMC annual awards will take place followed by a live DJ so start planning your outfits and brush up on the dance moves!

All marshals, motorsport officials and event organisers are invited,

regardless of club or affiliation, plus their partners and guests too.

Tickets are now available and selling fast. Tickets are priced at £20 per person, that's a £7:50 REDUCTION compared to in previous year.

However, availability is limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

So, to avoid disappointment, reserve your place today with a £10 non-refundable deposit and start looking forward to what I hope will be an unforgettable evening.

To book, simply email me at rachdale@hotmail.com or call Julze on 07545077262.

All outstanding balances MUST be received in full by 1st November 2015, with menu choices from the following options (please keep a copy for reference): -

To commence

*Roast Tomato and Basil Soup with a Crusty Roll

*Goats Cheese Salad with Beetroot and Pomegranate Salad (Gluten free)

To continue

*Roast Turkey with Chipolata and Cranberry Sauce

*Honey Roast Ham with Mustard Gravy

*Mushroom and Requette Pasta (V) with Parmesan

(Gluten free mains will be without flour based products)

To conclude

*Christmas pudding with brandy sauce

*Dark Chocolate Torte with Raspberry Coulis

(Gluten free options available)

* Tea, Coffee and Mints

(PLEASE MAKE ME AWARE OF ANY SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS AT THE POINT OF BOOKING.)



Race for Freedom Rally 2015—DPRAC are taking part!

At the end of August we will be taking part in the 2015 Race For Freedom Rally, which will take us from Dover, south through France, across to the east coast of Italy and back up through Switzerland and Germany to UK. This is not auto-route driving, but is through really challenging alpine routes, gorges and through mountainous terrain to make it a challenge for car and drivers alike. It is approximately 3000 miles in 7 days, in Paul's 45 year old MGB GT, most of the competitors will be in more modern cars (we have the classy car).

Obviously we are not taking this on just for fun, we are doing it to raise money for 2 service charities:

The Royal Marines Charitable Trust Fund (and)

The Sailors Children's Society

Our aim is to raise at least £750 per team entrant (20 teams x £750 = £15000 raised).

All sponsorship raised goes to the charities as the entrants will be paying for all fuel/food/accommodation themselves.

We travel south west around Paris to near Limoges, visiting the Memorial village of Oradour Sur Glane.

Then south east down to the South of France, past Nice and onto Monaco. Here we have a reception with the British Ambassador to Monaco and the chance to drive around the Grand Prix route in the principality.

We then travel east past Turin and Modena (home of Ferrari) and on again past Bologna. Arriving at Lake Commachio on the Italian Adriatic coast. Here we will be laying a wreath on the grave of a Victoria Cross winner, Corporal Thomas Peck Hunter (Royal Marines).

Then it is back towards the north west of Italy and up into Switzerland, past Balzano and through the Stelvio Pass (approx 32 hairpin bends down the mountainside!).

Onwards to the west of Switzerland near to Saint Moritz and through the San Bernardino Pass. Then into Austria, Germany (through the Black Forest) and

back up to Calais & then home to Dover.

So, that's what we are doing. What we are asking you to do is consider sponsoring us. Simple really isn't it?

If you do feel you would like to sponsor us please follow this link to our website:

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/2LivingTheDream>

(Don't forget to Gift Aid your donation!)

If, like me, you are a luddite and prefer to deal in cash please see Nicola in Reception at Midland House or grab me (Paul) as I visit the various offices?

If you want more info on the challenge please see this website: <http://raceforfreedom.co.uk>

Thank you for taking the time to read this appeal.



The Donington Park Racing Association Club was formed in 1973 to support Tom Wheatcroft's campaign to bring back motor racing to Britain's first road racing circuit.

For more information about DPRAC, please go to their website by clicking on this link <http://www.dprac.co.uk/>



Summer Quiz—answers on page 16

A BIT OF EVERYTHING

- 1 Which formula do the following drivers compete in and where is the formula based?
a) Nelson Piquet (junior) b) Nicholas Prost c) Lucas Di Grassi

- 2 The following drivers held the fastest laps during 2014 but at which circuits:
a) Paul Tomkins (SHP Ford Pickup) b) Bob Berridge (Mercedes C11) c) Alex Mortimer (Radical RPE SR8)

- 3 Sir Chris Hoy, the Olympic champion, is to drive in the ELMS series backed by Ginetta and Nissan in 2015 – True or False?

- 4 What do the letters ELMS refer to?

- 5 Which city and in what year held a Formula 3000 race around the streets:
a) London b) Birmingham c) Manchester

- 6 What do the following brand names supply?
a) ATL b) Eibach c) Revolution d) Ohlins

- 7 Name three models built by MG in the 1980s starting with the letter “M”

- 8 Has there ever been a six wheeler Range Rover built?

- 9 Where is the Morgan sports car built?
a) Norwich b) Blackpool c) Malvern

- 10 What do Chris Rea and Nick Mason have in common?

FACT – Lella Lombardi drove her March Formula 1 car to sixth place at Montjuich in 1975 to score one point (only to be halved because of the shortened race). She is the only female to have scored points in F1

Hoping your season is going well—Roy Harrison

Regalia and Sales Dates

Our Regalia Officer Simon Morris, will be selling regalia on the following dates for the second part of 2015 -

June	28th	Donington	MSVR
July	11th and 12th	Blyton	WSSC
July	25th and 26th	Donington	Trucks
August	1st	Mallory	CSCC
August	8th	Curborough	BARC
September	5th and 6th	Donington	CSCC (tbc)
October	3rd and 4th	Donington	750MC
October	10th	Curborough	HSA
October	11th	Curborough	MAC
October	17th and 18th	Donington	BRSCC
December	26th	Mallory	Plum Pudding



Simon will be busy marshalling on the following dates, but please feel free to ask him for anything as he will have stock with him -

July	5th	Curborough	NSSC
August	2nd	Curborough	MGCC
August	9th	Curborough	Mid Cheshire
August	16th	Curborough	Reliant Owners
August	22nd	Curborough	Morgan
August	29th	Curborough	BMMC
August	30th	Curborough	Lotus 7
September	12th and 13th	Thoresby	NSSC
October	25th	Donington	Rally



Knitted Hats
100% Acrylic - machine washable
Embroidered with BMMC Logo
Colours :- Black or Orange



Baseball Caps
100% Brushed Cotton Twill
Velcro adjuster
C/w BMMC Logo
Colours: Orange or Black

All regalia can be viewed and ordered on the official website:

[BMMC National Regalia Price List](#)

Donington ES Team Regalia

If you would like to purchase anything, please contact Tony Baggaley at tony.baggaley@hotmail.com

Taster Days 2015

These days give a great insight into a day in the life of a marshal, whether it's in assembly, pit lane, or on post around the circuit—and that's only a small part of it!

The day starts with an introduction to the Taster Day co-ordinators, before commencing to morning sign-on for volunteers for the day's racing.

- Attendees will be given an overview and demo of flagging and fire extinguishers.
- Expect lots of tea breaks
- Tours of the paddock, pit lane, race control.
- Meet the marshals, officials, racing teams...
- Choose whether to spend the free part of the day enjoying the rest of the racing or take part.

So if you have friends or family that would like to give it a go, get them signed up for a Taster Day!

For more details go to www.tasterdays.info



Sunday 26th July	BTRA British Truck Championship
Sunday 6th September	CSCC Classic Sports Car Club
Sunday 4th October	750 Motor Club

Under 18?

In association with **Go Motorsport**, the BMMC Midland Region & Donington Emergency Services Team Taster Day programme provides opportunities for prospective marshals between **16 and 18** years of age. Complying with the Motor Sports Association's (MSA) 'Duty of Care' guidelines, this provides younger volunteers with the chance to gain first-hand experience of a motorsport environment.

New Members and Upgrades

Welcome to our new members!

Sarah Hammond from Quarry Bank
 Phillip Blount from Lichfield
 Jozsef Cseko from Worcester
 Jason Allen from Nottingham
 Dean Carmichael from Cannock
 Dave Chesterton from South Wingfield
 Joe Watts from Hinckley
 Stephen Rees from Old Knebworth
 Douglas Rae from Walsall

Welcome to our new members!

Ian Harley from Evesham
 Sarah Jayes from Leicester
 David Adams from Nottingham

Congratulations on your upgrades!

Mark Reid	Experienced Track
Phil Boyer	Track
Roy Harrison	Post Chief
Michael Billingham	Experienced Speed

A potted history of Donington Park Racing Circuit—Part One

I now spend some of my time at our holiday home in France.

I came back to England in April so that I could marshal for the Le Mans Cars at Silverstone and the Touring Cars at Donington.

Sitting in the sunshine and nodding off during the lunch break last Sunday my thoughts went back to how the circuit started, was changed and re-opened in the 1970's and how much it had improved since my last visit in September 2014.

The story I am to tell you is part history, part my small part in the re-opening of the circuit in the late 1970's, part conversations with other people, and some assumptions.

If I am wrong, SORRY but that's what I was told.

Pre-war there were very few permanent Racing Circuits, Brooklands near London was one.

It was the idea of Fred Craner (thus Craner Curves) of Derby to build a permanent circuit in the Midlands. It was on The Donington Estate and it comprised the Estate Roads of the Estate; it ran Grand Prix for cars and motorbikes from 1932 to 1939.

The original track ran through the woods, through the arch of stone bridge near "The Old Hairpin" (go look at the Memorials there), up the hill to McLeans, then onto Coppice where it ran between the farm, (with outbuildings) and the Museum, then on to Melbourne Hairpin (named after the village), back to Redgate where it ran between the Farm House and outbuildings, then

downhill to The Hairpin, then up to the bridge.

The circuit closed from 1939 to 1945 and was used by the Army for vehicle storage and repair. Rolls Royce had some buildings that my father told me were used for building jet engines, they did not want R&D and jet engines at the main factory in case it was bombed.

After the war the Estate Roads and trees between them fell into disrepair, the buildings became either for storage or were empty.

When I left school I went to work for a local firm of Architects, Surveyors and Estate Agents. For my first 4 years I was "An Articled Pupil" basically a POSH APPRENTICE; they taught me to be a Surveyor, paying me £52 for the first year £365 for my last. During this time I learnt how to be a Land Surveyor, designer, and worked for this company for 8 years.

Whilst there the company was asked to both survey and then look at the practicality of resurrecting the Estate Roads and return the circuit to a MOTOR RACING CIRCUIT and its former glory.

I was given the task of carrying out both a structural and level survey of the Estate Roads. I obtained copies of 1 to 2500 scale (1 meter is 2500 meters on plan) Ordnance survey Maps, went to the Estate and carried out a detailed survey of what remained of the original circuit.

The roads themselves were not very wide—about 7 meters, in not

very good condition; they had trees growing close to them and in places none existent due to buildings being built on top of them.

I also carried out a Level Survey on the centre Line of the road at 10 meter intervals, with photographs taken every 30 meters to show what the circuit looked like.

When I returned to the Office I plotted the survey to a scale of 1 to 500, did a Long Section of the centre line of the road showing both the distance and difference in height.

I then wrote a report combining both structural and Land surveys with the photographs.

It was obvious at the time that it would be very difficult to resurrect the course on its original route and that a new route had to be found; I made some suggestions from my experience as a Motor Racing Marshal, with a sketch of what the circuit could be.

All paperwork for this project was kept in a locked room and you were not allowed to talk about it. Some months later I was allowed to look at a preliminary drawing that had been prepared in the Senior Draftswoman's Room of the proposed Circuit layout. This plan was being prepared for Outline Planning Permission and was "Top Secret". I was asked my opinion and made a few suggestions, from memory the corners were all drawn with a "French Curve" not by compass, thus the odd shaped curves we have today. The GP circuit went all the way to the Melbourne Corner and access to the Paddock was over bridges, or

A potted history of Donington Park Racing Circuit—Part One cont'd

driving across the circuit between races; there was even a suggestion of the existing main straight continuing past the back of the Paddock (going wrong way down existing GP circuit to the Melbourne corner, turning left, coming back up the South side, then going over the circuit by a bridge at the Esses, then falling downhill past the Start Finish Line).

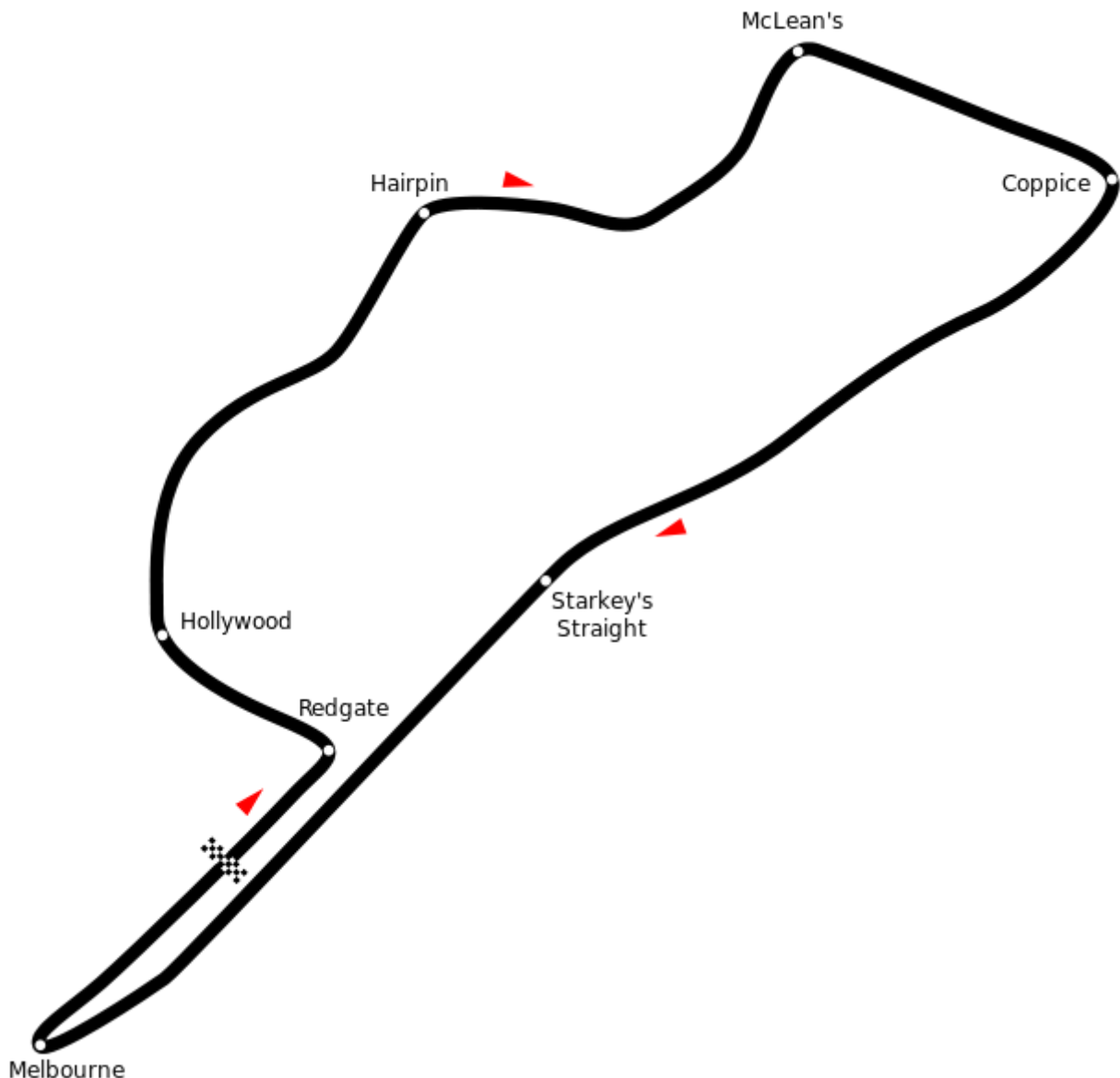
This idea was not used due to the cost and safety reasons, but the lo-

cation of the Melbourne Hairpin near to the main road past the circuit (Circuit Road that was built is still located in Sunday Market Field).

This plan was used to obtain Outline Planning Permission.

M Glover 214X

Part Two will be in the next publication of the newsletter, in the Autumn.



Marshals Appeal—Donington Masters 4th and 5th July



Volunteers are very low for this meeting, on both days.

If any of our marshals are free for this event, could you please urgently contact Melanie Baggaley, Donington ES Team Administrator.

Melanie's email address is admin@doningtonsteam.org.uk

Just a few photos from the last few events...



Formula Kart Stars—Volunteering Form

Name		Grade	Membership No.	
Address				
Post Code		E-mail address		
Telephone Number				
Date	Event	Venue	Location	Availability
April 9/10	Pre-season test	<u>Whilton Mill</u>	Daventry	
May-01	Official test	<u>Whilton Mill</u>	Daventry	
May 2/3	Rounds 1&2	<u>Whilton Mill</u>	Daventry	
Jun-05	Official Test	Silverstone Stowe Circuit	Northampton	
June 6/7	Rounds 3&4	Silverstone Stowe Circuit	Northampton	
Jul-24	Official test	<u>Nutts Corner</u>	Northern Ireland	
July 25/26	Rounds 5&6	<u>Nutts Corner</u>	Northern Ireland	
Aug-14	Official test	Three Sisters	Wigan	
Aug 15/16	Rounds 7&8	Three Sisters	Wigan	
Aug-21	Official test	<u>Rowrah</u>	Cumbria	
August 22/23	Rounds 9&10	<u>Rowrah</u>	Cumbria	
Sep-04	Official test	<u>Glan-Y-Gors</u>	<u>Corwen</u>	
September 5/6	Rounds 11/12	<u>Glan-Y-Gors</u>	<u>Corwen</u>	

Please return completed forms to :

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 RG26 4BX
 Tel: 0118 327 6345
 Mobile: 07818 411367
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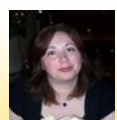
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Answers to the Summer Quiz— thanks Roy!	
1	Formula "E" Series and is based at Donington
2	Rockingham Oval 40.478 seconds 18 May Silverstone Historic GP 1.50.735 seconds 26 July Oulton Park (full circuit) 1.33.473 seconds 16 June
3	True
4	European Le Mans series
5	Birmingham in 1986
6	Racing fuel cells Springs Competition wheels Suspension parts
7	Metro, Maestro and Montego
8	Yes, approximately 400 were built by Carmichael specialising in emergency vehicles and airport fire tenders
9	Malvern
10	Both are musicians and love to drive Ferraris competitively

The next
Committee
Meeting in
2015 will be
Wednesday
5th August

Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of individual contributors and are not necessarily those of the BMMC, the Region or the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit contributions for length or clarity. E&OE