



# Midlands Marshals Post

## Winter 2020



### Chair's Report—Jayne Poston

Well there we have it, a very different end to the 2020 season to what any of us had planned. Thinking back to January when we had our annual training at Donington, everyone bright eyed and bushy tailed eager to get on with season, trying different circuits, looking forward to a crammed packed year of meetings. Then came February and the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, that took the rug from under us. It changed everything and affected everyone. When we eventually got back to Motorsport who could of imagined the changes – masks, electronic sign on, spectator bubble, no spectators, team bubbles, GP's & BTCC behind closed doors the list goes on.

I would personally like to thank everyone who helped get Motorsport back up and running. The work that happened behind the scenes was monumental and showed that no matter what organization, circuit or Club, we could all work together as one Team. Even though meeting face-to-face was an impossibility at times and Zoom became the go to meeting place, we have come out the other side.

To those who have been able to marshal THANK YOU. To those who were unable to get to a circuit we will see you again.

One of the victims of the pandemic was our Annual Christmas Party Knees Up. We will be back even bigger and better in 2021.

Our Trainers are working hard to bring a training program to you in early 2021, this will look very different to what has been delivered in previous years.

Please remember none of us know what demons people are dealing with on the inside, in this world, this crazy world if you can be anything – be kind.

*Jayne Poston*

Midlands Regional Chair

National Recruitment Officer



Find us on the  
above, when it's  
safe to do so

## Award Winners 2020

It's that time of year again!

Usually our Annual Awards would have been presented at the Christmas Party. However, due to the current restrictions, we're not allowed to party this year.

Therefore, our Annual Awards were presented virtually over Zoom at our Annual AGM. We are proud to announce the well deserved winners were:



**New Marshal's Cup-**

Andrew Owens



**Christine Lynham Shield-**  
*Cadet Marshal of the Year*

Oliver Anslow



**Sylvia Edwards Trophy-**  
*Specialist Marshal of the Year*

David Jackson



**Shadow Trophy-**  
*Significant Contribution to Marshalling & the Club*

Viv Dutton



**Bellini Trophy-**  
*Marshal of the Year*

Neil Smith

## **In the Spotlight: Oliver Anslow**

### **How did you get into Motorsport?**

I got into motorsport at a very early age, I was 12 weeks old when I went to my first race track, Thruxton, for my dad's rescue assessment. I have always gone to meetings with my dad and as I got older, I knew I wanted to be a part of motor racing too. Shortly after my 11<sup>th</sup> birthday I attended Donington Park as a Cadet Marshal and have never looked back.

### **What does a typical race day in your role look like?**

A typical race day consists of arriving at the race circuit at around 7:00 am, going up into race control to help my dad sort the radios out for the marshals around the circuit. I then head over to the assembly area to meet the team that I am working with for the day. We then put out the road boards from 1 to 20. These are so the drivers know what position they are in for the race. I then would go and get the countdown boards, if needed for the day, the green flag and the fire extinguishers. Around 9:00am the cars turn up at the bottom of the assembly area for noise testing. Once they have finished being noise tested by the scrutineer, they come up to the assembly area to be told which position they are in for their practice/qualifying/race. This will be the same procedure for all the sessions. Sometimes it can get very chaotic when all of the cars turn up at the same time, or the grids change at last minute.

### **What skills have you learnt through being a Cadet Marshal?**

I have learnt a lot through being a cadet marshal. This includes communication skills, team work and having confidence in talking to drivers and asking them to do what I need them to do



## In the Spotlight: Oliver Anslow

### Do you have any advice for any potential Cadet or Assembly marshals?

If you want to be a marshal and you are between 11 and 16 a good place to start is by coming along and having a go at working in the assembly area. This will give you a good insight as to whether marshalling is for you.

### When you are old enough, what role are you looking forward to trying outside of Assembly? or will you continue in assembly?

When I am 16 (in one year) I would like to try out the bank and see what other marshals do on a typical race day. When I am at the age of 18, I would then want to go on and become part of the rescue crew and part of the snatching team.

### What is your favourite motorsport memory?

My favourite motorsport memory is winning the regional and national cadet of the year awards.

### Do you have any other hobbies outside of motorsport?

Outside of motorsports, my other hobby is karate, which I have been doing since I was 7 years old. In 2019 I graded to 1<sup>st</sup> Dan (black belt) I also competed as part of the EWSKA England squad at the World Championships in Bratislava and gained 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the team kumite (fighting).

### Describe the BMMC in 3 words.

Fun, friendship, family.

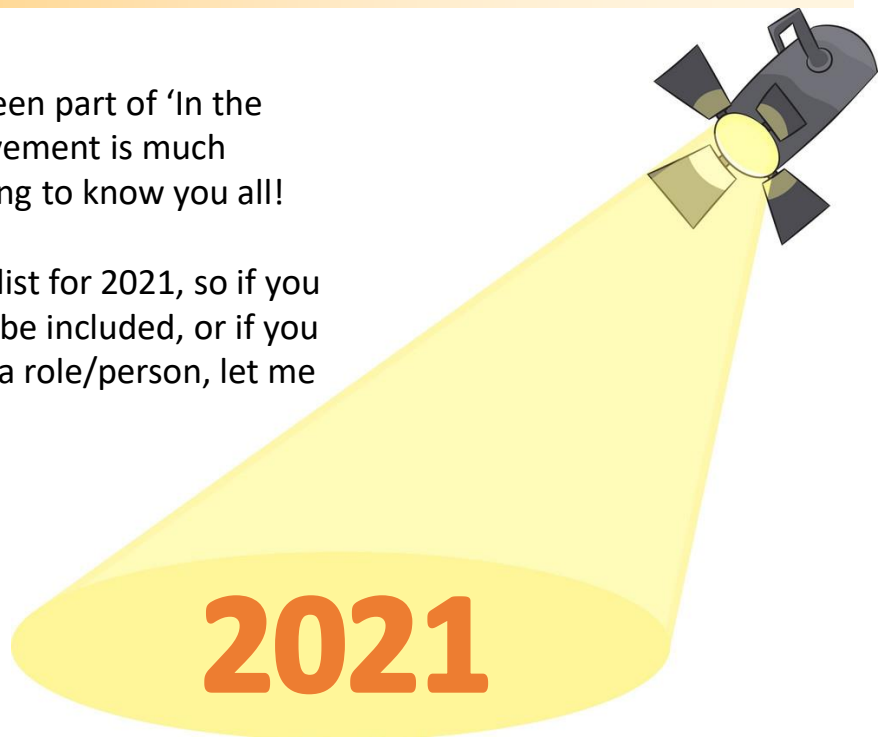


## In the Spotlight: 2021

A big Thank You to all who have been part of 'In the Spotlight' during 2020. Your involvement is much appreciated and I have loved getting to know you all!

I am now putting together a wish-list for 2021, so if you know someone who would like to be included, or if you want to find out a bit more about a role/person, let me know!

[m.newsletter@marshals.co.uk](mailto:m.newsletter@marshals.co.uk)



## Training Sessions 2021

I suspect that many of you are wondering what is going to happen with our 2021 training sessions. Join the club! As I'm sure you appreciate, while things are looking increasingly optimistic for a return to (mostly) normal, that is not going to happen until later in 2021. We don't even know what the new tiers are going to mean for Donington or our travel possibilities.

Very small numbers at Donington might be directed at people who have never done fire training – maybe. Some people are talking about Zoom sessions – might be a possibility. I'd welcome any suggestions which people might have. Don't forget that Motorsport UK have suspended any need for attendance at training to retain your grade so there is no pressure there.

As soon as things become a little clearer, we will be sending out information to everyone.

Best wishes for Christmas.

Jim Whitaker

## Get to Know- Donington ES Team Committee

We all know how much work and effort the Donington ES Team Committee put in to effectively manage and support a large group of Marshal's and officials at Donington Events. So here is your opportunity to get an overview of their current duties.

### Di Hardy – Chairman

- Liaise with Circuit
- Attend BMMC Council Meetings

### Dan Brough- Deputy Chair

- IT Problem-solver
- Responsible for Radios
- Radio Duty

### Ian Berry

- Assist in circuit matters
- Meetings with Circuit Manager(s)
- Arrange working parties

### Melanie Baggaley-Team Coordinator

- Team Administration
- Responsible for marshals welfare/safeguarding
- Ticket enquiries & liaising with circuit

### Steve Angel

- Impact Log / Circuit barrier hit map and details

### Nick Anslow

- Allocation of Marshals for Donington Rescue Unit
- BMMC Enquiries
- Laptop maintenance and IT problem-solver

### Ian Dixon

- Circuit Matters
- Survey posts and marshalling areas
- Newsletter Articles
- Circuit Representative (ABMRC)
- On circuit contact for Marshals

### Mike Blacklock- Treasurer

- Minutes of Committee Meetings
- Attendance statistics for the Team

### Tony Baggaley

- Snatch Liaison
- Assist Ian Dixon in circuit matters
- Allocation & sign on
- Pre-allocation of Marshals

### Mark Mills

- Silent Partner for now



## Pre-Season Party 2021

As you know, our Annual Christmas Party has had to be postponed until next year.

The plan is to have our party on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2021 as a 'Pre-Season' get together. Obviously we will review all Covid restrictions and guidance in place at the time, and will work alongside The Hilton to ensure any event that is able to go ahead is Covid-secure.

There is still plenty of time to get your name down if you are interested in attending. Drop an email to [m.bmmcevents@hotmail.com](mailto:m.bmmcevents@hotmail.com) or contact Joe Watts or Aimée Longley on Facebook.

We will keep you all updated in the New Year!

We hope you all have a brilliant Christmas and New Year!

Keep Safe, we can't wait to be partying with you all at some point in 2021 (fingers crossed!).



## Midlands Region Winter Rally Report

So here we are, it's December and 2020 is almost over. Covid-19 has completely annihilated the calendar of rally events for 2020. Hopefully 2021 will be a much better year, but I'm not holding my breath. We all know that a preventative vaccine is on the way, but when it will be available to everyone has yet to be arranged. Rally dates and championships are being organised for next year, however a couple of events that were scheduled for early in 2021 have already moved to later in the year. The BRMC website will carry an up to date 2021 event calendar.

Depending on how well the coronavirus is brought under control, rally training will hopefully be available next year, again available dates and further details will be on the BRMC website.

The first weekend in December was a busy time for rallies, in Italy we had the last round of the World Rally Championship being staged in and around the historic F1 circuit of Monza. The Friday stages were all staged within the confines of the circuit and included the main circuit and the circuit access tracks. The Saturday stages were mainly run in the mountains above Monza. The competitors described the stages as being very similar to those that are used on the Monte-Carlo Rally, which included snow at the higher altitudes. Unfortunately, this snow saw the demise of Elfyn Evans. Elfyn was leading the drivers World championship at the time of the accident, no one was hurt and the car wasn't damaged, but the car finished up about two meters below the level of the stage and he couldn't regain the road. Elfyn's retirement handed the championship to his teammate Sebastien Ogier, Elfyn's retirement also prevented Toyota from winning the manufacturers championship which went to Hyundai.

Nearer home, the Dukeries Rally ran today (6th December) at Donington. It looks as though it may have rained a little bit, however the winners of the event were Frank Bird / Jack Morton in their 07 Ford Focus WRC.

| Date                      | Event   | Venue        |
|---------------------------|---|--------------|
| 6 <sup>th</sup> December  | Dukeries Rally                                | Donington    |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> January  | MGJ Engineering Brands Hatch Winter Stages    | Brands Hatch |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> January  | Alan Healy Memorial Cadwell Park Stages       | Cadwell Park |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> February  | Neil Howard Stages iaw Coffey & Co Solicitors | Oulton Park  |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> February | Snetterton Stages                             | Snetterton   |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> March     | ND Civils Lee Holland Stages                  | Anglesey     |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> March    | LDV Stages                                    | Donington    |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> April     | Cirrus Research Stages                        | Cadwell Park |
|                           | Reserve Event                                 |              |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> April    | Altatrech SMC Stages                          | Anglesey     |

Championship website [msnrallychamp.co.uk](http://msnrallychamp.co.uk)

Stay safe everyone and have a great Christmas and New Year.





## Mel's Blog

Dear all,

Well what a year it has been!

We started it off very well with our ES team get together at the circuit which was well attended by marshals and all their other halve and children, and we thought it was going to be a great start to the new season – oh how wrong we could have been.

**The committee** pulled together and we came up with the new sign on system which does have its pro's and cons and we may have to permanently move forward with some of the ways which allowed you all to sign on safely, but I miss that community feel of having a cuppa and natter with you all! –Briefings have been non-existent which has had its frustrations in circuit matters.

**We lost Derek Yeoman's** this year and thank you for all of you that contributed into the pot for a bench, we couldn't have done it without Allan Wright and the support of his company to make such a fine oak bench – we are waiting for a concrete base and hopefully will be moved into situ for all to enjoy. He had a wonderful send off and the Family were truly grateful for his lap of honour and his final resting place by delta 4 at Donington.

Ian Berry is hoping to set Ian Armstrong's Azalea plant this year also – Ian has not been able to get to Donington this year and the plant has been cared for under his wing at home.

**The wellbeing of marshals** is paramount to me, and I want to say thank you to all of you that have attended a meeting at Donington and followed the guidelines that we have been set. I know it has not been easy and some marshals have chosen to take a year out and I do hope we see them back at the circuit soon

**2021** –sees new adventures and a change in the calendar, which for the older crew is refreshing

as it has been stagnant for a while. I am choosing to send a letter to you all – I do prefer the personal touch than an email and it's a way of you saving stamps for our ongoing appeal to sponsor a guide dog – we did this many moons ago so please save your used stamps if you can. ☺ It also gives you a copy of dates to keep for F1 applications and also Formula E.

**Training for snatch crew** we felt we could miss a year, I know a few of you have shown an interest in joining the snatch crew team and we are always scouting the talent as marshals move on. This year is proving difficult to recruit to train, but we know who you are and will keep you informed. For those of you that would like to get involved in the snatch crew the following criteria is necessary

- be working towards I/O standards.
- Offering to attend 15 days or more marshalling at Donington.

I am pencilling in an open season get together and once the 2021 calendar is finalised I will get a date out to you with the same format of being allocated an item of food for you to share amongst your mates. So fingers crossed we can be fortunate for this to go ahead.

From all the committee I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your time, patience and support through what has been a very very difficult year. I DO HOPE you are able to spend time with your loved ones over the Christmas period and I will raise a glass to you all! Or two ☺

*Mel Baggaley*

Donington ES Team coordinator

## Derek Yeomans- Memorial Bench

A massive thank you to Allan Wright, who has created and donated a memorial bench for Derek Yeomans.

It's a wonderful piece of carpentry, all wood is Oak and has been donated by Allan's Company- Cornell Iron Works, Cadeby.

Allan took it upon himself to make the bench in his own time. Similar to a lot of us, he had fond memories of our lovely Derek.

Over the winter period at Donington, the circuit will put down a concrete behind Post 11 for all to enjoy.



## Remembering Friends

At the end of a difficult year, we would like to take a moment to remember our friends that we have lost over the year.

They will always be in our thoughts and memories.

### Derek Yeomans



### Linda Walker



### Phil Bunn



## **Should have bought a good book!- Ian Dixon**

Trucks can be very entertaining, once traction is lost they can't stop, they scuttle off into the scenery only to be dragged out by Merlos or big recovery units. The recovery units hired for the event, in this case were two big orange trucks in the shape of Crouch Heavy Recovery.

They turned up while beside us at post 24 while we were waiting for proceedings to kick off. I did think that there was an age limit to driving such large vehicles. The young lad that jumped out of the driver's seat only looked about 16. He then started polishing both vehicles and eventually blackened the wheels of the unit as well – nice job by the way.

Trucks did make their appearance felt at the chicane, not only in the form of gravel everywhere but, also mud well and truly compressed into the tarmac- "Delta 14, sweep through the Esses."

The Citroen C1's proved to be lively in the morning practice with one rolling at Coppice. We were called to go, and after being checked over by our Doctor, the driver was deemed to be ok. We put the roll down to the vehicles having small wheels and once side on and at speed in gravel, rolls them easily. However, he was not the only one to roll. It was amusing to see one with a lopsided roof and no glass – I presume scrutineers were ok with that.

The Citroen C1 3 hour race was most entertaining, even at post 16 where we were, probably because there were so many of them. Apparently, the radio has to work in these vehicles and all the drivers tune in to find out where they are in the race through listening to the commentator. What's up with the pit board fellas!

During a particular long break, a prize was offered to a post that entertained throughout this period, caught on camera of course. Post 6 did entertain and I believe they won! Jonno, our entertaining Merlo driver, was cajoled to dance naked. When asked, he said, he'd been naked all day!

Most of you know that Derek Yeoman's family laid his ashes to rest at the back of post 11, near FT2's gap. Through wind and rain believe it or not Derek is still there. He's not blown or washed away and we all say good morning to him as we pass. He was always a resilient character and wouldn't move his truck for anyone, once positioned – doesn't look like he wants to move now.

It was quite easy to spot a couple of people driving around the spectator area at the Ferrari meeting on electric bikes. The bikes did have very bright lights front and back, they could be seen easily at post 6 from post11.

Not only that, they were travelling fast, but as there were not many spectators around I did feel that they were not causing problems for others. That was until I was sitting at post11 in the fire tender one drove past me and into the marshalling area. A shout, toot on the horn and a "Get out of here" sent him off in the right direction.

Not only that, he had a very young girl sitting in front of him as well. Safe as houses - not.

## Should have bought a good book!- Ian Dixon

So, when you have been told that you are driving the doctor's car at the GT meeting and you have prepared yourself as best you can, you have got all your gear on board, med bag, oxygen and entonox and worked out how to stick the blue lights to the roof and hoping they don't fall off. Imagine the disappointment when your doctor hasn't arrived and the reality of sitting outside the Medical Centre for hours sinks in. I should have brought good book.

In the afternoon I did venture into the grandstand and sat with Jayne, Katie and Jake. We put the world to rights and Jake played on his Ipad. Rob Mitchell on the cameras spotted us then phoned me to say so – we all waved. It all helped to pass the time.

As many of you know, I have a motor home and it is now 14 years old and is in my opinion in very good condition. But, however much I try to keep the outside clean the lustre is not what it should be. I did look at buying a buffer and doing it myself. I read up and it seems that more damage can be done in inexperienced hands than good, so I left that to the experts. The expert came in the form of Mr Paul Bysh – we booked a date a time

and Paul turned up in his van with all his gear. He set up his scaffold and set to work with his buffer. He would buff and I would follow behind with Autoglym to protect the surface.

Before I even got as far as polishing the difference was unbelievable with buffing alone. It was a difficult job as there are quite a lot of windows to cut round and the awning was not an easy to get round either. As time went on Paul was suffering from the effect of holding a buffer in his hand for a long time. After a break, we cracked on until all was done. It took seven hours of hard graft, my aching shoulder telling me next day. Paul did an excellent job and was a reasonable price too. So, if you need a buff up or a valet, get in touch with Paul Bysh.

Stay safe!

Ian Dixon

A big thank you to Ian for all of his contributions to the Newsletter this year. It has been great to get an insight into his weekends across the circuit as well as what he gets up to outside of Donington.

Your contributions are very much appreciated!

Thank you Ian!

- Aimée

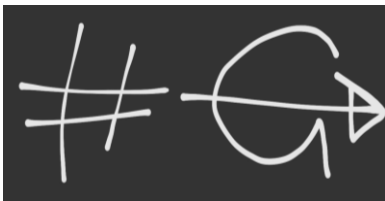
## Post Chief Hieroglyphs- Solutions

In our Autumn Newsletter, Joe Watts set you all the challenge of deciphering his Post-Chief hieroglyphs.

How many did you guess correctly?



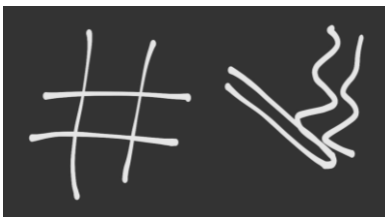
[Number] Spun & Continued



[Number] through the gravel



[Number] & [Number} Side to Side Contact



[Number] Smoking from the Rear



[Number] Overtook [Number]  
between Yellow & Green Flags

## **BMMC National Regalia & BMMC Teamwear**

Many thanks to everyone who has purchased Regalia during 2020.

Hopefully we can get back to some in-person selling during 2021. In the meantime, if you would like anything, please message Joe Watts or email [m.regalia@marshals.co.uk](mailto:m.regalia@marshals.co.uk) to arrange OR order for delivery off the BMMC Website.



### **BMMC Facemasks still available!**

Water-repellent fabric

Antibacterial fibre.

Reusable after washing.

Two colour options with the Club Logo

Contact Eric at [nat.regalia@marshals.co.uk](mailto:nat.regalia@marshals.co.uk)

**For Team Wear and MORE!**

Visit the Regalia section on [www.marshals.co.uk](http://www.marshals.co.uk)

## **BMMC Counselling Service**

For those who may need any advice or support, the BMMC have a free counselling service available to all members. This is completely confidential.



## **COUNSELLING SERVICE**

Modern living creates a multitude of strains and stresses on individuals and families alike. Though most of us can carry one or two problems at a time, sometimes things just pile up.

**Quote Policy No.  
100580442CCI**

### 24 HOUR HELPLINE SERVICE

# 0117 934 0105

- **CONFIDENTIAL**
- **NON-JUDGEMENTAL**
- **SUPPORTIVE**

Counselling is a process of learning to understand yourself and others by exploring your thoughts and feelings in a supportive and non-judgemental space, enabling you to make a constructive change in your life, whether in crisis or an ongoing situation.

As part of your policy with us, DAS provides a confidential counselling service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to you and members of your immediate family – providing they live with you and are over the age of 18 (or aged between 16 and 18 and in full-time employment). DAS counsellors are members of The British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy and are covered by their code of Ethics and Practice.

Callers' concerns could include:

1  
6

#### **PERSONAL ISSUES**

- ELDERCARE
- FAMILY BREAKDOWN
- STRESS, ANXIETY, DEPRESSION
- BEREAVEMENT
- RELATIONSHIPS (DIVORCE/SEPARATION)
- DOMESTIC ABUSE
- SUBSTANCE ABUSE

#### **WORK ISSUES**

- PRESSURE
- BULLYING AND HARASSMENT
- WORK CONFLICT
- DEATH IN SERVICE
- WORK OVERLOAD
- WORK LIFE BALANCE
- REDUNDANCY
- CHANGES AT WORK

### HELPLINE SCENARIOS

The following scenarios are fictitious, although typical, examples of Counselling Helpline calls.

#### **Parent – Teenage anguish**

A mother calls the DAS Counselling Service, distraught at the behaviour of her teenage daughter. The caller showed signs of feeling angry, upset and very frustrated by her daughter. Although the mother phoned about her daughter, in the counselling we concentrate on the caller and how she feels.

Together we look at ways that she could rebuild the channels of communication between herself and her daughter. We help her to look at the situation through the eyes of her daughter.

Over a series of calls, and a lot of work in between calls by mum, they are able to rebuild their relationship.



Counsellors may be able to help you work through your problems and find ways of dealing with them. Remember, you choose when you call and what you talk about. Calls may be recorded to help check and improve our service standards.

**You need not be alone.**



## **Articles / Images / Ideas Wanted!**

A big thank you to those who have contributed to this publication throughout 2020.

I am looking for more ideas/articles/images for future publications.

I am keen to produce a Newsletter that is helpful and interesting for you, our members, whilst celebrating the fantastic work that Marshals do across the Midlands.

The next publication will be Spring 2021-so plenty of time to get your suggestions in!

Articles ideally no longer than 600-700 words but don't worry if they're shorter!

If you would like to contribute or share any ideas of what you would like to see in the next publication, email me at:

**[m.news@marshals.co.uk](mailto:m.news@marshals.co.uk)**



## **BMMC Midlands Committee**

### **Chair**

Jayne Poston

[m.chair@marshals.co.uk](mailto:m.chair@marshals.co.uk)

### **Deputy Chair**

Mike Grantham

[m.deputychair@marshals.co.uk](mailto:m.deputychair@marshals.co.uk)

### **Secretary (Acting)**

Derek Murphy

[m.secretary@marshals.co.uk](mailto:m.secretary@marshals.co.uk)

### **Members Secretary**

Derek Murphy

[m.members@marshals.co.uk](mailto:m.members@marshals.co.uk)

### **Rally Representative**

Mike Grantham

[Midlands@bmrc.org.uk](mailto:Midlands@bmrc.org.uk)

### **Training Officer**

Jim Whitaker

[m.training@marshals.co.uk](mailto:m.training@marshals.co.uk)

### **Regalia Officer**

Joe Watts

[m.regalia@marshals.co.uk](mailto:m.regalia@marshals.co.uk)

### **Volunteering Coordinator**

Nick Anslow

[m.volco@marshals.co.uk](mailto:m.volco@marshals.co.uk)

### **Newsletter Editor**

Aimée Longley

[m.news@marshals.co.uk](mailto:m.news@marshals.co.uk)

### **Speed Representative**

Simon Morris

[m.speed@marshals.co.uk](mailto:m.speed@marshals.co.uk)

### **Grading Officer**

Simon Morris

[m.grading@marshals.co.uk](mailto:m.grading@marshals.co.uk)

### **Recruiting Coordinator**

James Pearson

### **Website Secretary & Social Media Officer**

Kate Neal

[m.media@marshals.co.uk](mailto:m.media@marshals.co.uk)

### **Sprint Secretary**

Steve Hill

[m.sprintsec@marshals.co.uk](mailto:m.sprintsec@marshals.co.uk)

### **Social Event Coordinators**

Aimée Longley & Joe Watts

[m.bmmcevents@hotmail.com](mailto:m.bmmcevents@hotmail.com)

### **Donington ES Team Administrator**

Melanie Baggaley

[Admin@doningtonesteam.org.uk](mailto:Admin@doningtonesteam.org.uk)



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