



Midlands Marshals Post

Spring 2021

Chair's Report—Jayne Poston

Hi All

I actually wanted to start this report upbeat and positive for the forthcoming season, but events earlier this week have dampened my spirits somewhat, losing Murray Walker and Sabine Schmitz in the same week was an incredible loss to motorsport. Both were huge personalities and will be very sadly missed by everyone.

The first meetings for the 2021 season are planned for the Easter weekend all be it under the pandemic restrictions, once again Motorsports UK, Circuits, Clubs and ES Teams are working tirelessly to ensure motorsports continues to operate. They have made many decisions in order to comply with Government and Local Councils to ensure we can have some sort of activity at the tracks and keep everyone as safe as they possibly can.

Remember if you see any of our Midlands members displaying an act that makes them shine above all others please send a nomination to myself at m.chair@marshals.co.uk for our Regional Annual Awards. For the Regional Awards they need to be current BMMC Midland members. We have five awards to aim for The Bellini Award (Marshal of the Year) The Shadow Trophy (Outstanding service for marshals) The Sylvia Edwards Trophy (Specialist Marshal of the Year) The Christine Lynham Shield (Cadet Marshal of the Year) and The Newcomer Trophy (Most Outstanding New Marshal of the Year).

We will look at awarding our trophies at our Christmas Party on 27th November 2021 at The Hilton Hotel (Government restrictions allowing). Tickets are selling fast for this prestigious event – contact Joe Watts or Aimee Longley for details. I don't know about anyone else but I'm ready for the Party of the Year!!

Later in the year we will hopefully be able to run our marshal taster days and recruitment program for new marshals.

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 and stay safe

Jayne Poston

Midlands Regional Chair

National Recruitment Officer



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

Sprint & Hillclimb

Have you tried marshalling at a sprint or Hillclimb?

Most marshals that do so for the first time come back many times so must enjoy it.

It is not the same as racing or rallies and that is part of the appeal, in that it is a different way of doing motorsport.

Generally you are closer to the track which is allowed as all track activity stops once there is an incident or debris to clean up. You get a wide variety of cars and experience of drivers entered at most events. Though some events do specialise in a single make or make/model.

See below a list of events in and around the Midlands area in 2021 and contact details for each event.

Event & location	Marshal contact
3rd April - Hagley & DLCC hillclimb Loton Park	chiefmarshal@hdlcc.com or 07484 160287
4th April - Hagley & DLCC hillclimb Loton Park	chiefmarshal@hdlcc.com or 07484 160287
11th April - MGCC sprint Curborough	simonmorrisbmmcmgcc@gmail.com
18th April - MAC sprint Curborough	Tel 01886 812 211
25th April - Sheffield & Hallamshire sprint Curborough	annicc@icloud.com
1st May - MAC hillclimb Shelsley Walsh	Tel 01886 812 211
2nd May - MAC hillclimb Shelsley Walsh	Tel 01886 812 211
2nd May - VSCC sprint Curborough	comps@vsc.co.uk
8th May - Bentley DC sprint MIRA	competitions@bdcl.org
8th May - BMMC sprint Curborough	hilljulie@btinternet.com
9th May - Lotus 7 sprint Curborough	simonmorrisbmmcmgcc@gmail.com
15th May - Hagley & DLCC hillclimb Loton Park	chiefmarshal@hdlcc.com or 07484 160287
16th May - Hagley & DLCC hillclimb Loton Park	chiefmarshal@hdlcc.com or 07484 160287
15th May - Longton & District MC at Blyton	https://www.longton-dmc.co.uk/index.php/contact-us
16th May - Longton & District MC at Blyton	https://www.longton-dmc.co.uk/index.php/contact-us
23rd May - Shenstone & DCC sprint Curborough	jwilliamsdono@gmail.com
5th June - MAC hillclimb Shelsley Walsh	Tel 01886 812 211
6th June - MAC hillclimb Shelsley Walsh	Tel 01886 812 211
6th June - Sheffield & Hallamshire sprint Curborough	annicc@icloud.com
12th June - Hagley & DLCC hillclimb Loton Park	chiefmarshal@hdlcc.com or 07484 160287
13th June - Hagley & DLCC hillclimb Loton Park	chiefmarshal@hdlcc.com or 07484 160287
13th June - Morgan three wheeler Club sprint Curborough	compsec@mtwc.co.uk
20th June - Owen sprint Curborough	simonmorrisbmmcmgcc@gmail.com
20th June - York MC & Huddersfield MC sprint Blyton	sprint@yorkmotorclub.org.uk
26th June - NSCC sprint Curborough	simonmorrisbmmcmgcc@gmail.com
27th June - NSCC sprint Curborough	simonmorrisbmmcmgcc@gmail.com
3rd July - MAC hillclimb Shelsley Walsh	Tel 01886 812 211
4th July - MAC hillclimb Shelsley Walsh	Tel 01886 812 211
10th July - Hagley & DLCC hillclimb Loton Park	chiefmarshal@hdlcc.com or 07484 160287
11th July - Hagley & DLCC hillclimb Loton Park	chiefmarshal@hdlcc.com or 07484 160287
10th July - Westfield Sports Car Club at Blyton	http://www.wsc.co.uk/speedseries.htm
11th July - Westfield Sports Car Club at Blyton	http://www.wsc.co.uk/speedseries.htm
11th July - Shenstone & DCC sprint Curborough	jwilliamsdono@gmail.com
17th July - MAC hillclimb Shelsley Walsh	Tel 01886 812 211
18th July - MAC hillclimb Shelsley Walsh	Tel 01886 812 211
24th July - MAC hillclimb Shelsley Walsh	Tel 01886 812 211
25th July - MAC hillclimb Shelsley Walsh	Tel 01886 812 211

Aug 1st - MGCC sprint Curborough	simonmorrisbmmcmgcc@gmail.com
Aug 7th - Hagley & DLCC hillclimb Loton Park	chiefmarshal@hdlcc.com or 07484 160287
Aug 8th - Hagley & DLCC hillclimb Loton Park	chiefmarshal@hdlcc.com or 07484 160287
Aug 8th - Mid Cheshire sprint Curborough	simonmorrisbmmcmgcc@gmail.com
14th Aug - MAC hillclimb Shelsley Walsh	Tel 01886 812 211
15th Aug - MAC hillclimb Shelsley Walsh	Tel 01886 812 211
Aug 15th - RSSOC sprint Curborough	simonmorrisbmmcmgcc@gmail.com
21st Aug - BARC sprint Curborough	Fred Bromley <barcfb@gmail.com>
22nd Aug - BARC sprint Curborough	Fred Bromley <barcfb@gmail.com>
28th Sept - Hagley & DLCC hillclimb Loton Park	chiefmarshal@hdlcc.com or 07484 160287
29th Sept - Hagley & DLCC hillclimb Loton Park	chiefmarshal@hdlcc.com or 07484 160287
Aug 28th - BMMC sprint Curborough	hilljulie@btinternet.com
Aug 29th - Lotus 7 sprint Curborough	simonmorrisbmmcmgcc@gmail.com
5th Sept - Shenstone & DCC sprint Curborough	jwilliamsdono@gmail.com
11th Sept - MAC sprint MIRA	Tel 01886 812 211
12th Sept - MAC sprint Curborough	Tel 01886 812 211
18th Sept - MAC hillclimb Shelsley Walsh	Tel 01886 812 211
19th Sept - MAC hillclimb Shelsley Walsh	Tel 01886 812 211
19th Sept - Aston Martin OC sprint Curborough	enquiries@amocracing.com
Sept 25th - NSCC sprint Blyton	simonmorrisbmmcmgcc@gmail.com
Sept 26th - NSCC sprint Blyton	simonmorrisbmmcmgcc@gmail.com
25th Sept - Hagley & DLCC hillclimb Loton Park	chiefmarshal@hdlcc.com or 07484 160287
26th Sept - Hagley & DLCC hillclimb Loton Park	chiefmarshal@hdlcc.com or 07484 160287
Oct 9th - HSA sprint Curborough	https://www.hillclimbandsprint.co.uk/contacts.asp
Oct 10th - HSA sprint Curborough	https://www.hillclimbandsprint.co.uk/contacts.asp
16th Oct - BARC sprint Curborough	Fred Bromley <barcfb@gmail.com>

Simon Morris
Sprint Secretary

Rally Report

It's now officially Spring and hopefully, thanks to the national inoculation program the Covid pandemic appears to be in retreat. However, Motorsport UK have issued this latest update.

"A number of the devolved nations are currently in, or are entering, a period of lockdown to help control the spread of the new COVID-19 variant. In light of the prohibition on movement during this period, Motorsport UK confirms that permits issued for events in areas that are in or entering into a period of lockdown are withdrawn. Organisers will need to reapply if they plan to hold the event at a later date once lockdown restrictions in the applicable area have been lifted. The MSUK website will be continually updated to reflect the latest government restrictions and protocols. Motorsport UK would like to thank the motorsport community for its continued resilience. During the intervening period we will be working hard to ensure that as soon as government guidance allows, motorsport can safely resume once again". Events, especially multi venue rallies are continually being either cancelled until 2022 or postponed until later in the year.

The Motorsport News in association with MSV 2020/2021 Circuit rally championship have released a new updated event calendar!

Snetterton Stages	25th April	Snetterton	www.snetterton.co.uk
Neil Howard Stages	31 st May	Oulton Park	www.oultontpark.co.uk
Lee Holland Stages	3 rd July	Anglesey Circuit	www.angleseycircuit.com
SMC Stages	4 th July	Anglesey Circuit	www.angleseycircuit.com

The prestigious British Rally Championship will return in 2021 with a revised calendar of events after a radical overhaul from the originally planned schedule. With ongoing restrictions forcing a change to the provisional programme set out last December, the first three qualifiers, the Circuit of Ireland Rally, Corbeau Seats Tendring and Clacton Rally and Beatson's Building Supplies Jim Clark Rally were forced to cancel.

The Neil Howard Stages, in association with Graham Coffey & Co solicitors, will be staged at Oulton Park and will be the opening round of the championship.

British Rally Championship Manager Iain Campbell said: *"It's been an extremely tough time for all forms of motorsport over the past 12 months or so and the British Rally Championship hasn't escaped the challenges caused by the pandemic. But we have been working very hard behind the scenes to create a calendar worthy of the British Championship title and I truly believe we have come up with an exciting, challenging yet cost-effective offering for our BRC top-flight, Juniors and National competitors".*



Rally Report-Contd

2021 Motorsport UK British Rally Championship Calendar:

Round 1	Neil Howard Stages	Oulton Park	31st May
Round 2	Nicky Grist Stages	Bulith Wells	10th July
Round 3	Grampian Forest Stages	Banchory	14th August
Round 4	Trackrod Rally Yorkshire	Scarborough	24/25 September
Round 5	Beatson's Building Supplies Mull Rally	Isle of Mull	8/10 October
Round 6	Visit Conwy Cambrian Rally	Llandudno	30th October
Round 7	Today's Ulster Rally	Newry	20th November

Hopefully the BTRDA Gravel Rally championship will get under way again on July 10th with the Nicky Grist stages. The remaining championship event dates are:

Nicky Grist Stages	10 th July	Builth Wells.
Plains Rally	14th August	Mid Wales.
Woodpecker Rally	4 th September	Ludlow.
Rally Trackrod	25 th September	North Yorkshire.
Cambrian Rally	30 th October	North Wales.
Rallynuts Stages	13 th November	Mid Wales.

All rally dates are provisional and could be cancelled or postponed until 2022. A full up to-date list of calendar dates can be found on the BRMC website: www.brmc.org.uk. Similarly when any rally training dates become available during 2021, they will also be displayed on the BRMC website.

And finally, I can now announce that the 2020 BRMC marshal of the year is Andrew Hindhaugh, the BRMC committee decision was a unanimous one and was based on Andy's very valuable work behind the scenes helping with the distribution of essential Covid supplies. Many congratulations Andy, the plan is to award the trophy as soon as is possible.

Stay safe

Mike Grantham



Ian Dixon- Hoping for a better 2021!

Well what a year 2020 was or was not for us all. Who would have thought that we would be wearing masks, avoiding people and keeping pubs and shops shut.

At the beginning of 2020, during lockdown, it seemed that I had stepped back to the 50s when there was less traffic on the road, everywhere was closed and it was all very quiet.

Fortunately for me I wasn't laid off because I work in the food packaging industry and am classed as a key worker. I carried a key worker letter in case!

This did help keep me sane, although the weather was very nice at the time and chilling out in the garden wouldn't have come a miss. A cuddle from children and grand children wouldn't be missed at the present moment in time.

We did repro three PPE forms for aprons to be made in the UK. We also did a lot of work for Fisherman's Friend and, believe it or not, cigarette wrappers for the far east markets. Tate and Lyle Sugar and flour packaging shot up, bake your own was on the rise!

So for my quick review of 2020:

Covid certainly halted the start of Motor Racing, so much so, that at one point it was suggested that there should only be two marshals on a post, observer and a flag. Even to the uninitiated that it was obvious that that was not going to work.

The ES Team came up with a plan. That was that there was loads of room around Donington, several gaps in the walls, and posts that are often not used. We had to however identify these posts and gaps, take photos and suggest where we could spread people around. Then I had to write a report to Donington and MSA to get it all passed. It took me until 3 in the morning to document everything. So instead of using forty marshals we, got the numbers up to 77 for the short circuit and about 95 for the international.

Also Mel and Tony had to devise a way of organising tickets and sign on. Different clubs wanted procedures doing differently so it was a very difficult job for them both. May I say what an excellent job they have done.

To be honest everyone has been awesome, I can't recall anyone complaining and all incidents were cleared efficiently.

The Rescue Unit has been called on a couple of times. David Morgan's explosive fire at The Old Hairpin being a shocker. I have never seen a car explode like that. The scene was straight out of a Hollywood film. David I believe has now made a full recovery. Good luck David!

One shout we were called to was an unfortunate driver who had come out of the pit lane on his warm up lap and immediately turned left into the wall before post 2. He was laying in the gravel complaining of back pain when we got there. We got the Oxygen, Entonox and Med bag out. Then the driver complained of back ache again. I got the scoop out of the unit and placed it by the med bag. Our paramedic managed to persuade the driver to stand up. When he stood up he was very tall, I was so pleased we didn't have to carry him and I did question whether the scoop was big enough. Our backs were going to be in danger if we had to lift this guy. Phew that was a close one!

Ian Dixon- Hoping for a better 2021!

It was a surprise to me that I had somehow managed to a total of 23 days this year and two days walkabout.

Our walkabout consists of Ian Berry and myself updating our yearly report on the condition of the marshalling areas, posts, walls and tyre walls around the circuit so that the marshals lot is a better one. Believe me we go over everything. This task is always an uphill struggle as money is always an issue, as well as ongoing development. We will always push on your behalf to make marshalling a better experience for you.

I hope that the roll out of this Covid vaccine accelerates soon, then we can all get back to normal.

We will be able to have good joke and conversation in the mornings at sign on. A chance to go to the pub and meet socially.

To the new season, hope it's a good one...

Stay Safe

Ian Dixon

Committee Corner

A new feature for 2021!

In each publication, members of the committee will share their thoughts/memories/opinions on topical subjects in the Motorsport world. If anyone has any ideas or topics you would like to see covered, let me know on m.news@marshals.co.uk

Remembering Murray Walker & Sabine Schmitz

Aimée

If I'm honest, my childhood definitely wasn't very motorsport orientated at all, so in terms of memories of Murray Walker and his famous commentary style, I don't have any specific memories of the first time I heard him or anything like that. However, as I have become more involved in the Motorsport world during my 20's (thanks to Joe...) I have been able to appreciate and acknowledge the huge impact that Murray had on the motorsport world. Through hearing the memories of others on social media and during conversations, it's clear that his unique commentary style paved the way for modern day commentating, and he has obviously inspired vast amounts of people. It is now on my list to read his autobiography!

Sabine Schmitz is another motorsport icon that I discovered fairly recently. I loved her appearances on Top Gear, especially when she was giving the presenters a run for their money! I'm most definitely an advocate for strong, ambitious women in motorsport and Sabine was a clear example of this. I wish I had the opportunity to watch her drive around a track as from talking with others, I'm sure that would've been a great experience (see Simon's story!)

Joe

I cannot really remember hearing Murray Walker as a F1 commentator during my childhood. However, as a young boy in the 90s, I spent a lot of time playing games on the Playstation 1. F1 '98 was a regular choice for me and this is where my memories of Murray Walkers commentating comes from. His voice would accompany me as I sat in my bedroom racing round tracks for hours on end. The start of the motorsport hobby! My favourite part was his infamous 'Murrayisms' which had made their way into the game!

Committee Corner-Contd

Simon

So it was a damp day 4 of the Nurburgring 24H in May 2011.

This was my first marshalling abroad and I was on post 138 which was 4 posts before the Karussell. We had a team of four on post and shared the manning of the post and breaks between us.

Sabine was running in two cars in the race, her usual GT3 Porsche, and also driving stints the RJN Nissan 370Z GT4 car.

At this point of the meeting we had gone through all the practice, qualifying and support races, indeed the 24 hour was around 2/3 complete. Therefore, as flag marshals, we had a very good idea of the speed of the various classes of cars in the race. This had been quite a challenge as there had been 202 starters (not sure how many were rung at this point, but 135 cars finished).



By far the slowest car on track in every 24H session all weekend was a blue BMW, running in one of the production car classes. This car was not even in the slowest class of car, but the drivers just were not quick. Post 138 is just after the 13KM marker and after the Multi-curve and Klostersal turns which effectively makes up a blind flat out s-bend. Because of this high-speed blind arrival and the amount of cars around the track, we had gotten used to putting the blue flag out for the slow BMW as soon as we saw them.

Earlier in the day we had had a downpour, but at this moment the rain had stopped but the track and grass were still very damp. On flags at the time were Mike and Gareth, and I was a few steps back as an extra pair of eyes and spare flags manager (the floor space where you flag was very small and close to the armco, so we stored unused flags back from the wall to avoid trip hazards).



We saw the blue BMW and could hear multiple other cars coming up behind, so the blue flag was waved rigorously. As the cars all appeared in our view it became apparent that there were 3 cars behind the BMW, the last being the far quicker Sabine in her 370Z. To this day not one of us four can recall what the other two cars involved were, as our attention was closer to the post.

Committee Corner-Contd

The BMW made a late manoeuvre to get out of the way of the faster cars, but this resulted in checking them up and causing all three to make sudden lunges in avoidance. The second and third cars went to the right of the BMW (the far side of the track to the marshal post) but Sabine had no choice but to dive up the gap between the BMW and the armco. This gap which had about 10cm spare on either side of her car had wet grass under the tyres. We had already seen earlier in the weekend how little grip there was on the grass. Despite this Sabine avoided both the armco directly in front of us and the BMW and carried on without a scratch. Sabine came within 1m of Mike and Gareth and probably with 3m from me. All three of us were very glad of her car control, as I am sure a four-car pile-up right in front of us would have resulted in us being showered in debris.

RIP Sabine



BMMC National Regalia & BMMC Teamwear

Many thanks to everyone who purchased Regalia during 2020. Hopefully we can get back to some in-person selling during 2021. Please see the below dates where I plan to be at Donington Park or Mallory Park for regalia collection. If you would like to order anything, please message Joe Watts or email m.regalia@marshals.co.uk to arrange.



Date	Meeting	Circuit
10/04/2021	MSVR	Donington
11/04/2021	MSVR	Donington
01/05/2021	Historic Festival	Donington
02/05/2021	Historic Festival	Donington
08/05/2021	BRSCC	Donington
09/05/2021	BRSCC	Donington
22/05/2021	BRSCC	Mallory
26/06/2021	HSCC	Donington
27/06/2021	HSCC	Donington
10/07/2021	British GT	Donington
11/07/2021	British GT	Donington



BMMC Facemasks & Snoods still available!

Contact Eric at nat.regalia@marshals.co.uk

For Team Wear and MORE!

Visit the Regalia section on 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
2

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!

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 Summer 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



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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