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OUTPOST

North West Region
Newsletter
OCTOBER 2019



50 TEAMS
1000 KM
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RACE OF REMEMBRANCE

IN SUPPORT OF 

8-10 NOVEMBER 2019

The Forces' Motorsport Charity

MISSION MOTORSPORT 

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CHAIRMAN'S OCTOBER MUSINGS

With the traditional circuit season rapidly closing in, perhaps now is a time to reflect on your achievements this year. Have you done enough days to maintain your grade? Have you done enough days to consider upgrading? Have you enjoyed your season? What improvements/feedback would you give your marshal colleagues and/or the committee? I could go on but.....

Whilst I know how my season has gone, it would be good to share some of your experiences, especially for those who have ventured far and wide to marshal. Please let me have your thoughts/ comments etc

At this time of year, clubs will be formulating their calendars for 2020. British GT and BTCC have already announced dates and other organisers will follow suit soon. My advice is to try and mix things up if you can. What about a rally, an ideal motor sport antidote for those winter days? Alternatively how about trying autotests, sprints or karting the list is endless?

I intend to attend a hill climb next year amongst other events, just to see what goes on. Perhaps I can learn something from other disciplines of motor sport, maybe you can also. I will be able to provide a more concise summary of the Region's season at the AGM this year, details of which were announced in the last Outpost and repeated this month. Unlike previous years, the committee's intention is to hold a business only AGM and have a social event separately.

Regretfully though, the venue I had selected for this years' social event is unavailable due to circumstances beyond my control. Rather than doing a half-hearted attempt this year, I propose that we look at a date Q1 2020 and do it properly, more details will follow. However, as part of the social evening is fund raising raffle, please check to see if you have

any suitable prizes you would like to donate. Please note though that half-eaten pork pies or empty cans of Red Bull do not constitute suitable prizes!

The club is on the verge of announcing some exciting new developments, including our new president, a new smarter logo for BRMC, a reboot of the club ambassadors - the list goes on. There is a lot that goes on in the background, it's not just formation tea drinking at committee you know!!

You may be aware of the recent loss of three of our colleagues, Dave Jordan, Martin Borland & Terry Harrison. Their presence on the bank and at a race meeting will be sorely missed and I have fond memories of marshalling with both Dave and Martin. Terry was a vital part of the back office at Oulton Park and he was always on hand to provide support and advice, pulling on a wealth of experience in motor sport. Rest in peace gents.

May I remind you of the basic principles of marshalling: Look after yourself, look after your colleague, look after the driver then look after the car. Always in that order.

I will be reviving the quiz next year, busy compiling questions for the social evening. However, if you think it can be improved - let me know. Always happy to take on feedback from colleagues

Finally, Ferrari win at last!! Perhaps the red rain dance as performed by Mike Cadwallader is working again. It's been an exciting season so far for us all.

See you at the AGM next month.



Martin Borland R.I.P.

WANTED - SOCIAL MEDIA OFFICER

Social Media is recognised as the main tool of communicating with people, being able to reach large groups of people/organisations within seconds. With the click of one button the engagement reach can double.

The British Motorsports Marshals' Club uses social media to communicate with marshals, the media, partners, stakeholders and other interested partners whilst providing a presence and landing point for any new enquiries for marshals.

To keep in line with the branding and messages the person needs to:

Responsibilities and Duties

- Work closely with the North West BMMC Committee members to get key messages across.
- Produce a monthly report, where necessary, to submit to the committee regarding any social media movement, content, monitoring or action that has to be taken (i.e. asking someone to take down a post).
- Monitor and moderate the BMMC North West page, Oulton Park Marshals, Oulton Park and Anglesey Marshals and the NMLT groups.
- Produce content that engages the members (i.e. publishing sign-on times et al).
- Respond to any queries that may come via message or comment on Facebook, Instagram, or reply and direct message on Twitter.
- To use a polite tone of voice that fits in with the BMMC and reflects the

North West region (Whilst you may not know the answer it is important to be able to respond with the view that you are looking into it to reassure them).

As Social Media is a growing tool and is usually the main point of contact for people you will be expected to attend a number of committee meetings throughout the year, the AGM and the North West regional training days (Two in March, One in June).

Person Spec:

- Interest and experience in managing social media pages.
- Good verbal and written skills.
- Ability to work as a team.
- Good organisation skills.
- Ability to listen to members and bring forward their suggestions to the committee and be open for discussion.
- Good use of various operating IT platforms as noted above.

If you believe that you can fill this role on the Committee, please send your name and details to:

Paul Newns, NW Region Secretary by

31st October.



THE CHIEF FLAG MARSHAL

Over the years I've performed a variety of marshalling roles but the most challenging has been Chief Flag. It demands consistently high levels of concentration. Any mistakes are highly visible.

Before Racing Begins

At Oulton, Chief Flag usually does the allocation of flag marshals so my race day begins around Wednesday when the list of names is received from the Chief Marshal. On the long circuit, we have 22 flag points; Island circuit there are 17; and Fosters just 15. It helps to have enough to man each point. Some meetings we have plenty, others we struggle.

If I'm short of flaggies you can bet Chief Post Chief is even worse for post chiefs. So one of the first things is to contact the CPC and ask if he needs any of the flaggies to multi-task. If there are any flag upgrades I also need to know where the examining PCs are located.

Then I start to allocate. We keep a record of where you have all been during the season so in theory you shouldn't get the same post, twice. Circumstances dictate that this can't always happen but I do my best to move you all around.

Many names that I recognise and know their experience so they go in first. Then there are the ones that I don't recognise but according to our records have done a few days. They can go solo if need be, but usually where they're near the PC for advice. Then there are the ones I don't know and who don't seem to have done much flagging. I try to match them with experienced flaggies.

We don't encourage requests for posts therefore, but if there are any, or anyone needs to be on a particular post, I try to accommodate them.

So Plan 'A' is formed. Over the next two nights I get updates of cancellations and further requests from Chief PC, so it becomes Plan 'B';

C; etc. Moving one person can lead to altering several posts to maintain experience levels. By bedtime Friday the master plan is finished.

I also need to find and read the Final Instructions so that I understand start procedures. Different clubs have different procedures. Even within a meeting we can have a variety. Green flag laps - yes or no? Grid and go or green flag from grid? Rolling start? Where does that start from? Fortunately, Race Control will usually confirm the procedure.

On the Day

Race day I try to get there, early. Set out the stall and get the light controllers. Then sign on can start when I have the sheets from Chief Marshal. I just have to hope you all turn up. No shows on the day can cause a lot of work shuffling people around.

While I'm doing sign on, Deputy CF will be laying out our flags and boards.

At Anglesey, allocations are not my responsibility so I don't get involved there.

Startline flags consist of:

Green flag - off you go

Red flag - stop what you're doing **NOW**

Yellow flag and SC board

Black flag - oh dear, the Clerk requires your immediate presence.

Black and White - driving standards. We're watching you so any future indiscretions may lead to penalties.

Black and Orange - come in now, something is wrong with your car.

Chequered flag - it's all over, folks

Union flag - just in case the start lights fail, we can start the race with it.

Then we have countdown boards and various penalty boards, along with a last lap board and maybe a pit window board. There's a few others, too, to add to the fun.

Qualifying is fairly straightforward. Lights turn green, start the stopwatch (yes, we still

have those) and check it against the official timing screen. Then let the allotted time elapse and chequer the first car you see after that. We keep a list of runners and their relative positions so that we can tick them off as they pass the flag. We need to make sure we listen for retirements both on track and in the pit lane so that we can cross them off, too. Once all cars have taken the chequer I let Race Control know so they can release the course cars.

I always keep an eye open for cars overshooting and taking the chequer twice.

Racing is a different matter. Far more complicated. Most races are timed these days rather than number of laps, so lots of arithmetic.

Cars form on the grid. Watch for the green flag at the back from Stacker. One minute board; thirty seconds; then either green flag or five seconds board. Mostly, it's a "Cheshire Minute", which has nowhere near sixty seconds in it! If they've had a green flag and reform on the grid, watch for the green flag again. I usually count slowly 1; 2; 3; 4; 5; red lights on; 5; 4; 3; 2; 1; lights off.

After a couple of laps both CF and DCF will try to estimate the race time so that we know when the last lap board and chequer will be due. In a fifteen minute race, that needs to be done pretty quickly. I then monitor the end of each lap to confirm our calculations. It's not too crucial usually, so long as they are within a few seconds, but sometimes the estimated time is pretty close to the race length. Then the heart starts to pump just a little faster, especially if the leader's lap times aren't consistent.

Why do it so early, you may ask. Well occasionally the Clerks like to hand out penalties and things can get a bit hectic. So if you haven't done your calculations in advance you may not have time towards the end of the race.

That's without Safety Cars! They throw all your calculations out of the window. When the green is waved, recalculations are needed. Sometimes mega quick.

At the same time, I'm trying to keep a lap chart, although having the timing screen is a great help these days. You can always cheat! That doesn't help you identify the cars coming at you, though. By the end of the race you need to be able to spot the leaders.

It's not just the leader, either. You need the first few because the leader or leaders could take each other off. That's where our lap chart helps, too. You know when you're expecting the leader and from the positions of the other cars, you hopefully know who the next cars should be.

Anglesey is a bit easier because you can see them head towards Rocket and can judge whether the back marker is going to get caught but Oulton is a long lap and all sorts can happen out of your sight.

So last lap board is shown and taken in after the last car or just before the leader is in sight. Then chequer to the winner. Usually DCF waves the flag and CF checks them off.

And relax! Then repeat it all over again.

At Oulton, after the racing has finished there's just one more thing to do. Update the allocations record and e-mail it to Colin Barnes. Then my day is done.

Paul News



RALLY CALENDAR 2020

British Rally Championship

- 8 February - Cambrian Rally**, Llandudno
14/15 March - West Cork Rally, Clonakilty Park, Republic of Ireland
25/26 April - Corbeau Seats Rally Tendring & Clacton, Clacton-on-Sea, England
25-27 June - Renties Ypres Rally, Ypres, Belgium
21/22 August - Today's Ulster Rally, Newry, Northern Ireland
19 September - Armstrong Galloway Hills Rally, Castle Douglas, Scotland

British Tarmac Championship

2020 Protyre Motorsport UK

Asphalt Rally Championship

- 20/21 March - Legend Fires NW Stages**
11 April - Rallynuts National Tour of Epynt
15/16 May - Manx National Rally
30/31 May - Jim Clark Rally
18 July - Tyrone Stages Rally
6 September - Hills Ford, Three Shires Stages Rally
27 September - Ford Parts Cheviot Stages Rally

BTRDA Championship

- 8th February - Cambrian Rally**
14th March - Malcolm Wilson Rally
18th April - Rallynuts Stages Rally
18th April - The 75th Scottish Rally
11th July - Nicky Grist Stages
5th September - Woodpecker Stages
26th September - Trackrod Forest Stages
- The BRMC will have marshals at every one of these rallies, anyone wanting to marshal on any of them, please contact me.

Ian Briggs

Email: north@brmc.org.uk

NOTICE OF THE BMMC NW REGION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019

The AGM of the North West Region of the British Motorsports Marshals' Club will be held at the Blue Cap Hotel, Sandiway, Northwich, Cheshire, CW8 2DR on Monday 18th November 2019 at 7:30pm.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the 2018 AGM (copies available on the night)
3. Chairman's Report
4. Secretary's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Election of Committee Members
7. Members' Propositions

In accordance with the Club Rules K.3.3 and K.3.4, the following Committee Members stand down by rotation and offer themselves for re-election.

Gordon Knight

Mark Noble

Rob Wood

Rob Lee (not seeking re-election)

The Regional AGM is required to consider any resolutions proposed and seconded by fully paid up members and lodged in writing, with the Regional Secretary not less than **14** days prior to the date of the Regional AGM.

Signed: Paul Newns

North West Region Secretary

WELCOME - NEW MEMBERS

The NW Committee would like to extend a warm welcome to the new members below. We sincerely wish you a happy and safe marshalling future.

Charlie Kirk

Hoole

Joseph Mainwaring

Sandyford

Andrew Plows

Loggerheads

Ben Bersantie

Bebington

LONG SERVICE AWARD



The British Motorsports Marshals' Club has created Long Service cloth badges for BMMC members with the relevant amount of marshalling as shown on the badges above, (not solely with BMMC or BMRMC).

These are issued on the basis of one FREE and extra badges at a cost of **£1.00** each (cheques payable to **British Motorsports Marshals' Club Ltd** or the equivalent in usable stamps) and can be obtained by completing an application form and sending to the National Regalia Officer (Eric Ridler)

Nat.Regalia@marshals.co.uk

Application forms are available on the BMMC website in the [Regalia](#) section.

Elsewhere in this Outpost you should find a calendar for the major rally championships taking place next year, the BRMC will be helping on all those events, however BRMC North West region will be running stages on the following events, please contact me for further details:

8 Feb - **Cambrian Rally**, Llyn Elsi stage near Betws Y Coed.

14 March - **Malcolm Wilson Rally**, Grizedale Stage near Coniston.

21 March - **North West Stages**, Secret location in the vicinity of Garstang.

Ian Briggs - north@brmc.org.uk

REGALIA PRICE LIST

Description	Price
BMMC CLOTH BADGES, LAPEL BADGES & STICKERS	£2.00
UNION FLAG CLOTH BADGE c/w WEBSITE	£2.00
BMMC GRADING BADGES	£1.00
'HEROES' CLOTH BADGES, LAPEL BADGES & STICKERS	£2.00
LEATHER WELDERS GLOVES	£4.50
HI-VIS ORANGE WATERPROOF GLOVES	£4.50
WOOLLEN SKI HATS - BLACK or ORANGE	£4.50
BASEBALL CAPS - BLACK or ORANGE	£7.00
OUTBACK SUN HATS SP50	£14.00
Catalogue and Order forms can be downloaded from the club website or from Eric Ridler, BMMC NRO	

2019 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

RACE MEETINGS

Oct 26	BARC NW	Oulton
Nov 08	BARC HQ R-o-R	Anglesey
Nov 09	BARC HQ R-o-R	Anglesey
Nov 10	BARC HQ R-o-R	Anglesey
Nov 17	BRSCC NW	Anglesey

KART RACE MEETINGS

Nov 16	Cheshire KRC (practice)	Hooton Park
Nov 17	Cheshire KRC	Hooton Park

BMMC NORTH WEST REGION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

18th November - Blue Cap, Sandiway

BMMC NATIONAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1500 hrs, 1st December - Jurys Inn,
Midsummer Boulevard, Milton Keynes

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Next Copy Date - 2nd December 2019

Publishing Date - 9th December 2019

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