

The Outpost

November 2022 edition

Cover story

Race of Remembrance is back in Anglesey.

Under scrutineering

We get to know about a regular face at marshalling.

In the news

We guide you round the news that you need to know.





A Look Inside

Dive into the latest edition of the Outpost, as we bring you the latest news from Motorsport UK and what it means to you, a great feature from David 'Fast toes' Williams about CNC Heads driver Jon Wolfitt and his Spire, as well as a new feature that shines the spotlight on one of our marshals.

You will also be able to look back on the racing that has passed in the last two months, at Oulton Park and Anglesey.



A message from the chair

WELL, it's back. Welcome back Outpost. Following Eric's untimely passing away, the NW committee thought it only right that Outpost should continue as the voice of the region, keeping you all informed of what's going on. Rob Lee has stepped up to the mark and we are all grateful for his expertise on these matters. Rob, you have big boots to fill.

So, since July, what has been going on? Well, the Gold Cup date was moved this year (thank you Silverstone). However, it did not lose any of its sparkle and with full grids, plenty of incidents to deal with, I'm sure you will agree that it continues to be one of the highlights of the year.

Club racing continued to fill the calendar at Oulton Park and Anglesey with all the clubs bringing their race series for us to enjoy. There has been a broad range of championships to enjoy from MGs to Fun Cup and the perennial favourite – CNC Heads Sports and Saloons. Anglesey never fails to deliver on spectacular scenery, weather and racing and we look forward to going back next year. This year's Race of Remembrance will be remembered for its benign weather, 50+ cars on the grid and a sense of camaraderie that should be bottled and sold, long may it continue.

My AGM report will go into more detail on events of the year, so I'll not witter on now.

With the sad passing of Eric Ridler, George Copeland and recently – John Griffiths at Anglesey, it serves as a timely reminder that we need to look after each other and be the family that we all say we are.

I am also saddened by the premature death of Simon Arron, a much-respected journalist and loyal supporter of all things Oulton Park. No doubt Motorsport and other journals will pay a much more fitting tribute to the photographer in pink, wearing shorts and lurking around with Phil Rainford.

Unfortunately, with recent political shenanigans dominating news headlines along with the conflict in Ukraine, events now affect us all in many ways financially, mentally, physically and morally. However, the two things that we all have is hope and a sense of community within the Northwest marshalling fraternity.

Crikey, it's all doom and gloom. However, the optimist in me thinks that we will come out of this situation stronger and with a sense of renewal and looking towards the horizon of 2023. Surely, as the song goes – 'Things can only get better!'

So, please look out for each other, be nice to each other. A little kindness will go a long way. After the AGM the Chairman will be hanging up the orange garb for a little seasonal red outfit.

Michael Broadbent, BMMC NW Chair.



Representation on the big stage

WHILST the 2022 F1 season may have come to its conclusion, preparation for next year's British Grand Prix are already under way.

Application for the 2023 British Grand Prix is now open. However, you don't have long, the deadline for submission is Wednesday 30 November.

To be eligible to apply, marshals must:

- Be a member of a recognised Motorsport UK club. A summary of your application will be sent to the indicated primary club for verification.
- Have held the correct grade for the role being applied for, as of 31st December 2021; marshals who had Registered Marshal status (formerly Trainee) and have upgraded since, can still apply if the minimum marshalling days of 12 has been achieved after the upgrade date.
- Renew your Motorsport UK Registration for 2023.
- Have marshalled a minimum of 12 days, during the 2022 season. You should include all circuit race event days that you have marshalled in any capacity.



Please note those who are Registered Marshals (formerly Trainee) or Novices at the time of application are not eligible to apply for this event.

Should you require help towards your application, please contact the Committee or one of your fellow marshals who has attended the event. They would be more than happy to assist.



2022 Recap

The 2022 British GP will be one of the history books. Not only did Carlos Sainz (pictured left) take his maiden F1 pole position and victory, we also saw a record crowd at Silverstone.

Whilst the horror crash at turn one may have dominated the headlines, we witnessed fine racing, but more importantly for us, some fine displays of marshalling across the circuit.

From the first on scene to the turn one incident, to the hard work of the Copse Out marshals who had multiple wet weather incidents. All were able to hold their heads high for another successful weekend.

Mike Boradbent, Chair of the BMMC NW Committee said; "Like every other year that has been we have seen a large number of marshals from the north west region attended the British Grand Prix. It didn't matter what discipline it was, all were covered with great professionalism. It makes me proud knowing that, as a region, we are not only represent well to our fellow peers, but also the motorsport world as the race is broadcast to millions."

2023 Marshal renewals

As the nights start drawing in, it is now the time of year where we start thinking ahead to the 2023 season.

Motorsport UK announced on 14 September, marshal renewals are now open.

All marshals are being invited to renew their license online to help increase the sustainability efforts of motorsport, reducing the need to send out paper forms.

To renew your registration you can follow a link sent to the email you used to sign up. If you are having any issues you can contact the Membership Team on 01753 765050.

Once your registration has been received, you will receive a membership pack in the post, which



includes you marshal registration card, sticker, lanyard and card holder.

Please note, this does not automatically renew your BMMC membership if you don't pay via direct debit.

Marshal's Pathway goes live

The Marshals' Development Pathway replaces the current Marshals' Grading Scheme in 2023.

If you need more attendance days or are missing training modules which cannot be achieved this year, you have until 30th June 2023 to submit your completed upgrade using the current upgrade requirements.

For 2022 upgrades, event attendance signatures are valid from 2018 onwards. Training module signatures are valid from 2019 onwards (including both in person training and online Zoom/Teams training delivered by Motorsport UK trainers)

From January 2023, Motorsport UK trainers will present the new marshals' pathway training modules.

For more information or guidance documents please visit the Motorsport UK website.



Remembering Eric Ridler



Eric has been a stalwart of the BMMC and a long-standing member of the North West region.

He played an active role on Regional Committee notably publishing the Northern Outpost as a news digest of all things happening in the North West. He

mastered new technology and kept the regional website pages up to date.

He also held a national committee position as our Regalia officer - having dealings with our overall suppliers and sponsors and ensuring that their badges are in plentiful supply.

Nadine Lewis, Chair of the BMMC, said: "I will particularly remember Eric from our weekends at Autosport - his attention to detail to ensure the stand was set up and being open to change and redesign, but it all packed away just-so and how he wanted it. The curry evenings when there would be much conversation around his antics in the army, on rallies and no evening would pass without a mention of his visits to Zandvoort."

Our deepest condolences to Eric's brother Peter, family and friends.



FOR the vast majority of us, we experience very positive and mutually respectful relationships with those we come into contact with at racetracks across the country week in week out.

On the rare occasion, things don't always go so smoothly and now and again we hear reports of behaviour we would not expect or want to experience when undertaking what is in essence our hobby.

It is therefore reassuring that Motorsport UK want to encourage a positive environment, on and off the track, and a socially-minded standard of behaviour is expected from everyone within the motorsport community.

By participating in a Motorsport UK event, in any capacity, you are agreeing to follow the values of the governing body's Respect Code:

- Respect
- Integrity
- Fair Play
- Self-control
- Good Manners

We therefore ask all BMMC members to support the Motorsport UK pledge to #RaceWithRespect and:

- Contribute to a welcoming and friendly environment that ensures the safety and welfare of all participants
- Always behave with integrity and uphold fairness in the sport; play your part in keeping the sport safe through your actions
- Treat everyone with respect, regardless of their gender, ethnicity or socio-economic background, language, religious or other beliefs, disability, sexual identity or other status
- Recognise that we all represent the sport and therefore have a duty to be polite and respectful to all staff, officials, competitors, volunteers, as well as fans and supporters
- Respect the rules, regulations and authority of the officials and Motorsport UK

Breaching the above obligations may result in disciplinary action.

If you are subjected to or witness behaviour not in keeping with this pledge you can raise it directly with Motorsport UK via their reporting tool (which can be anonymous) for individuals and clubs which can be downloaded at www.motorsportuk.org/racewithrespect and goes to a central team for review.

Race of Remembrance

The Race

WHAT is now a staple of the racing calendar, the Race of Remembrance returned to the shores of Anglesey for its eighth installment of the event.

Over 130 marshals made the journey, for at least one of the three days, to the circuit to support this great event.

A 12 hour race split into three sections, the Race of Remembrance saw a grid of 55 race teams, the highest number of entries ever to compete in the eight-year history of the event, go door to door to compete for overall victory.

Whilst the racing starts on Saturday afternoon, and goes into the night, the event doesn't reach its final conclusion until Sunday afternoon.

The race falls silent before 11am on the Sunday, as all involved head to the pitlane to pay their respects.

There is something rather moving above a race track falling silent in the middle of the race, with only the sound of the sea and the wind being heard.

After 12 hours of racing, the two front runners were separated by less than a lap. A hard fought affair, that is fitting of the event itself.



Pictured above: Three days into the event, Ash Harwood, still marshals with a smile.

However, the event is not about the overall victory, though that does help, it is about the coming together of a charity, motorsport and ex-service personnel.

Over the course of Remembrance weekend, Mission Motorsport supported its largest cohort of wounded, injured and sick service personnel and veterans, including those from Operation Motorsport, its sister charity from America and Canada who joined after a covid- induced break of 2 years.

The days may have been long for marshals, but the spirit of those in attendance wasn't to be broken.





The Biathlon of Foolishness

EVERY Saturday the Biathlon of Foolishness takes place. It's a quick run to the sea, a short swim and back to the pits.

Team members, marshals and officials all took part in this year's event. Helping to raise more money for Mission Motorsport.

Ben Seaton (pictured below), Motorsport Marshal and Team Manager for the Royal Engineers Motorsport, said: "Besides cold and a bit wet? It was surprisingly enjoyable, the sea wasn't actually as cold as I was expecting, especially as it was November. It was a good laugh to get out there and help raise an extra bit of money for Mission Motorsport in a very foolish way."

Well done to all those who took part.



Pictured above: A perfectly observed minute's silence during the pitlane service on Remembrance Sunday.

James Cameron, CEO of Mission Motorsport, said: "Race of Remembrance is British motorsport's way of marking Remembrance weekend, and to celebrate the intersection of motorsport and the armed forces communities.

"Using motorsport as a hook, we're able to support those who find this time of year incredibly difficult, to get them engaged and, for some, we're enabling them to attend a Service of Remembrance when in previous years they haven't been able."

We look forward to seeing the Race of Remembrance return in 2023.

Fun on the island

As temperatures soared across the United Kingdom, British Racing and Sports Car Club landed at Anglesey Circuit.

The annual Fun Cup trip to the Welsh circuit featured a 20+ car grip, with a support package from Caterham's and Formula Fords, and 30 plus degrees on the thermometer.

From Friday evening's Fun Cup practice, all the way through over 13 hours on post in sweltering conditions on Saturday, and continuing on for another day's racing on Sunday, all marshals did a brilliant job with efficiency and enthusiasm given the hot weather.

Many marshals would have been looking forward to the cooler night temperatures, however, as the racing continued and the sunset there was no respite from the heat.

The welfare of the marshals was taken seriously, with bottled water and free ice creams provided, just to help take the edge off the heat.

Whilst the Fun Cup race came to a premature end, due a red flag, as a result of an incident on pit straight, everyone was treated to some good racing.

Following the premature finish, the marshals treated themselves to a well earned 'cold one' in the bar and caught up about the day.

What was expected to be endless chatter included phrases such as "I can't believe how warm it is," turned into an evening discussing the close racing and how well incidents were cleared up by marshals.

It wasn't just the temperature that brought a challenge to the weekend, as Fun Cup was held on the Coastal Circuit, and the support races on





the International Circuit. Marshals and officials completed a well orchestrated dance to ensure that every post was manned for the start of the corresponding sessions.

Other than a Formula Ford incident, on the Sunday, that had one car parked on top of another, the day ran with relative ease, and the temperature was polite enough to stay in the mid-20s rather than mid-30s.

Paul Levitt, Senior Clerk of the race meeting, said: "I would like to thank each marshal for their commitment that weekend. In the high temperatures that we were experiencing, the standard set was very high.

"I would also like to thank the Coordinators and drivers of various championships as well, as they looked after us with refreshments. Thank you."

The weekend was a great one all round, with close action on the track and great camaraderie off it. BRSCC and Fun Cup have already released their 2023 calendar, and it isn't one to miss. With their annual trip to Anglesey Circuit taking place the weekend of the 23rd and 24th June and two races at Oulton Park on 15th July and season finale on 28th October.

Full 2023 calendar:

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Brands Hatch | 15 April |
| Snetterton 300 | 27 May |
| Anglesey | 23/24 June |
| Oulton Park | 15 July |
| Silverstone National | 19 August |
| Donington National | 9 September |
| Oulton Park | 28 October |



Racing recap

Since the last edition of Outpost there has been a huge amount of action across the region, UK and the rest of Europe. The 24 hours of Le Mans was once again won by Toyota, claiming their fifth win in as many years. There was also a 24 hour race at Anglesey that saw the equally as powerful Ford KAs battle it out to the bitter end.

The British Touring Car Championship visited Oulton Park, and we took a step back in time as the Gold Cup took up a new date within the racing calendar at the end of July.



BRSCC take us into the night

Following the 24 hour of Ford KA, BRSCC NW brought the Citroen 2CV night race to the isle of Anglesey.

Supported by the BMW compact cup, Formula Fords, Super Karts and Legends. We were treated to an excellent weekend of racing.

Running the full international circuit we saw our fair share of action, with intertwined Legends and Formula Fords parking on top of one another. The C1 night race provided wheel to wheel action, lap

after lap, and when followed closely made for a very entertaining race.

BRSCC NW also visited Oulton Park later in June, with their Mazda day. It was another day of close racing and wheel to wheel action.

Whatever happened to the Gold Cup?

It moved to July, is the answer. In its new slot on the calendar, the Gold Cup dialled the clocks back some 90 years in some cases. Historically, the race ran over the August Bank Holiday weekend, but in its new slot it didn't lose its charm of bringing the old motors to the modern era.

Formula 5000s, classic touring cars, Lagonda's, the famous Guard's Trophy, and more powered around the Cheshire circuit bringing beauty and noise in a neatly packaged event.



Of course, with the old cars comes the annual oil dressing championship, we're not sure who won this year, but we're sure it was hard fought between all parts of the circuit.

If your corner did suffer a large crash though, there are three marshals that can take the blame; Mark Noble, Robert Lee and Daniel Fitz-Gibbonz were caught red handed on social media eating the savoury magnet that is the pork pie.

Upcoming events

Now the North West racing circuit season has drawn to a close, most of us turn our attention to the festive period. The Christmas period gives us all a chance to reflect on the season that has just passed.

For others, it's already a time to look ahead to the 2023 season. We've already mentioned the British F1 returning to Silverstone in July, but there are some extra events that will be on the calendar in 2023.



Training Day

Date - To be confirmed

Location - Oulton Park

Our annual training day returns in 2023, the first stop for any upgrades or information that you will need for the season ahead.

With the new marshal's pathway in effect it would be highly recommended to attend this training session.

East Riding, closed road tarmac.

Date - 25 February 2023

Location - East Riding nr Hull

Malcolm Wilson Rally, classic forest gravel rally

Date - 11 March 2023

Location - Grizedale, Lake District

There's a huge number of rally stages that you can take part in, head over to www.BRMC.org.uk to find out more.



British GT Championship

Date - 8-10 April 2023

Location - Oulton Park

The British GT Championship returns to Oulton Park for the opening two rounds of the 2023 championship.

Whilst it may not be the first race meeting of the year, this is a favourite amongst marshals and isn't one to miss out on. Get your name down early for a great display of racing and noise.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank PS Images, Dr Paul Williams and Lloydia photography for their support with imagery throughout all editions of the Outpost. Their help has made this magazine what it is.



Under Scrutineering

In this section we get to know some of the people that share the same love of Motorsport as us. Starting up off in this section we sat down with the new Editor of The Outpost, Post Chief, and regular of Oulton Park and Anglesey Circuit, Robert Lee.

Rob started marshalling in 2010, and wasn't scared away by a large grid of Ford XRs barring down on him at Old Hall corner at the start of the race in the torrential rain.

What is your first memory of Motorsport?

I remember the 1998 Belgian GP being my introduction to it all. I was on holiday with my family, and my dad took me to the bar to watch the race. It seemed strange as we were in the blazing sunshine yet in Belgium it was bouncing it down. That lap one incident followed by Damon Hill taking an unlikely win had me hooked.

How did you get into marshalling?

My uncle, Faz, was a marshal and after hearing I wanted to be a motorsport engineer thought it would be a great way to get to know teams around the paddock and organise some work experience. I was 14 when he first mentioned it to me, but when I turned 16, I thought why not give it a shot, what's the worst that could happen. 12 years later, I'm not an engineer, but I am a journalist, and I'm still marshalling so can't have been that bad.

What is your favourite memory of motorsport marshalling?

That's a tough one, I have many memories for different reasons. The XR Challenge at my very first meeting sticks with me as it was absolutely tipping it down and a grid of 30 came down to Old Hall and it felt like they all crashed there. The Le Mans 24 hours as well, that was pretty special to marshal, it's probably the only time I've been emotional when marshalling came

to an end, you create a family with complete strangers and the drive back home feels lonely.

What is your favourite race track to go to?

Anglesey Circuit, something about the layout, the mountains in the background and the sea in the foreground makes it a great place to visit. If you catch it on the one sunny weekend a year it just adds to the magic. If I'm lucky enough to be posted to Rocket In then it's perfection. Spa Francorchamps is up there as well, you can almost feel and hear the history within the forest, it's a pretty magical place.

What is a must do event?

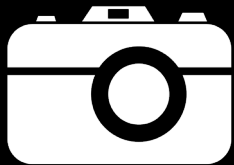
Anything big and loud, like the British GTs or World Endurance. If it makes the ground shake and you can hear them a mile off you know it's going to be good. CNC Heads as well, there's just something about that race series I can't describe, but it is fabulous. British GTs is a must, but Race of Remembrance is a close second.

What advice would you give to anyone thinking about marshalling?

Get stuck into it, there's no better way of keeping in touch with the motorsport world. It also gives you a greater appreciation to the sport in general. You see the speed of a race car on television or from the crowd, but it is nothing compared to being a few feet away from it.



Scan to book a
taster day



Interested in marshalling?

Want to get closer to the action and have the best seat in the house? Want to be involved more with the sport that you love?

Motorsport marshals provide a valuable service to the rest of the motorsport world, a service that without racing simply would not exist.

Marshalling is for anybody who is interested in and wants to be involved in Motorsport. You don't need any special skills or qualifications to start, just common sense and a reasonably developed sense of self-preservation.

The best way to see if marshalling is for you is to try a taster day. Use the QR code above or contact the NW regional recruitment officer, on nw.recruiting@marshals.co.uk.