



The Marshal's Post



The Editor's post

"Ladies and gentlemen, fasten your seatbelts"

In a flash, we are into the new season! For those of you that attended the Winter stages rally which, incidentally, was another cracking event, the cobwebs have been thoroughly blasted away before we even got to training! As I am sure you are aware the main training sessions for the Southeast are all now complete and I trust that everyone is up to date with their training. You need to attend training once every two years. If you are hoping to complete an upgrade this year, please read our grading article in this issue and double check you have met all of the requirements to avoid disappointment when you submit your paperwork. There are articles on both the training days and grading in this issue.

As you read this the first on track race event in the region will have been completed, the pre66 classic sports and GT weekend at Brands, which marks the start of the race events in earnest across the UK. Check out the upcoming events section in this issue to make sure you don't miss any exciting track action in the region. Brands Hatch will be hosting the first of the region's headline events in the form of Trucks and the volunteering portal closes early on the major weekends so if you haven't registered your availability already you may miss out. It is always a good idea to plan your calendar out early so you don't let deadlines slip past you, there's nothing worse than missing out on a race meeting because you were late in registering.

We also gave out our regional awards at the training sessions and we introduce you to our recipients, plus a very special award recipient, later in this issue. Being the start of the year it's a good time to point out that all of our recipients have been nominated by their peers then chosen on the strength of those nominations by the regional committee. If you have been on post with a colleague that has impressed you, please let us know. Tell us who they are and what they did that caught your attention, did they handle an incident particularly well? Did they provide an excellent role model for you? Did they go above and beyond expectations? We like nothing more than to be able to recognise and encourage the best of the marshal community, but we do need your help to do this!

As always stay safe and I'll see you trackside!

Si Lloyd



Chairman's Scribbling March 2024

Welcome to your first edition of the Marshals post for 2024 and this will be 1 of 4 for the season. These newsletters are for updating you on important information and please take time to read all the contents that members and the committee have contributed too to keep you informed. If this is the first time of reading the newsletter, we welcome you to the club and Southeast region and hope to see you at one of our 3 circuits this year. Don't forget overalls can be ordered and you can get 1 pair every 3 years fully subsidised so make your order and if you need any support in doing this do drop me an email se.chair@marshals.co.uk

By the time you are reading this newsletter, all 3 circuits (Snetterton, Brands Hatch & Lydden) will have completed their training days and started to deliver the new pathway modules required to upgrade. Before the season starts do take a look at the pathway rules/criteria and familiarise yourself with the requirements.

It was good to see a great turn out at Snetterton, and one of the largest numbers I have seen in a while there and thanks to Kay, Karl, Tony and Mike at BRSCC EA for allowing BMMC to be there and not only have a pop-up regalia stand but to award a trophy and vouchers to deserving marshals.

After the Snetterton weekend I headed to the coast to the great little Lydden circuit and I was invited, by lead trainer Richard Sneader, to deliver EV training but again to meet the membership and represent BMMC. This circuit really needs your support and they do have some great meetings there, so if you can, do put it on your bucket list and make a visit. Our pop-up shop was present and our regalia sold well.

The final weekend of training and 3rd weekend in a row and Brands Hatch was the venue. Always supported well by marshals, Andy Lyle led the training team to deliver that essential training we all need. It was another good turn out with around 130 marshals and trainers for each day. Again, some deserving marshals were in receipt of regional trophies and one national trophy. More on this in the newsletter later. The pop-up shop for regalia beat last year's target and managed to complete over £1k in sales. Note to regalia to get a bigger box for stock!

The calendars for all the clubs are finalised and it's going to be another busy year for us all. I would like to at this point, thank my committee for their continued support of me and the region and supporting you all as members. We all give up our time freely so do bear with us if we don't always respond when you think we should. If you are interested in joining the committee then please do drop me an email to express your interest and to discuss any vacancies. If you don't join, then you cannot complain!!

As a club we are looking to be more environmentally aware given our sport burns lots of fossil fuels. We are fully aware that it sounds contradictory, but as a club we can be more kind to our surroundings which is why we are trying to win the MSUK award for sustainability and environmental awareness for 2024. You all have your part to play such as car sharing which has started in the NW region and we encourage the SE membership to try this as well. As our environmental reps meet, we will be working with circuits to see how they can support us and also local environmental charities in which we as a national club wish to recognise regionally.

If you have any deserving charities you think we could support, do drop me an email with the charity name and your reasons why. For those bigger meetings why not camp over and share the night life on the marshal's campsite. I hear these nights can be lively and worth a visit. Marshals camp site is normally inside the circuit and can have power and showers available.

As you go through this season please think about "What could I do better" or "can I put what I learnt at training into practice". There are many new skills to learn and if you want a different role such as fire truck or rescue then do get in touch. These roles and more are fully supported by experienced marshals and officials and you will receive on the job training to ensure you operate safely and to a high standard. If your day doesn't go well, talk to someone about it and see what can be done? Please do not use many of the different platforms to criticise those who have put on training or who you have spent a day with. We are one orange family so let's work together.

I do have to raise the issue of social media and how we communicate using this. All directors and regional committee give up their time for you. Please do not place comments on social media which may cause offence to others or make comments about individuals of the club which are unfounded in facts. As chair I encourage the use of these platforms (personally I do not use any), as they can provide a great deal of information to our new marshals joining or to update about the weekend's activities. What I **do not** expect from members of the Southeast region are any personal attacks, threats or finger pointing that something could have been better. We live in a democratic and equality society, and if you have any concerns, as chair, I am here to listen to you and with the regional committee and national directors; we do try to make things better. Please remember that MSUK are the governing body and they make all the final decisions on proposals we make not only as BMMC but for all the other clubs that go racing. If you want your say, then please volunteer for a national role or regional role, as then you could be heard!!

For those of you who chose to ignore BMMC policy on social media use or that of MSUK, then unfortunately these will have to be dealt with on a case-by-case basis and not something I want any regional member to have to go through. Share your thoughts, discuss, and provide constructive feedback, not destructive feedback!!

I hope to see you at a circuit soon and do let me know of anything that we need to discuss. Stay safe, ensure you use the correct PPE for your area and enjoy another cracking season of racing.

Andy Bumstead



Time for training

Training this year was extremely well attended across the region and it was great to see so many new faces amongst the familiar crowds. This year I had the good fortune of being able to attend each of our circuits.

Snetterton had a bumper turn out for their day, Brands hatch as always draws a huge crowd for their two days and Lydden Hill by comparison was a smaller affair but no less comprehensive. New for 2024 was the EV content and with electric and hybrid race cars set to become ever more prevalent the need grows to have a better understanding of the differences between conventional race cars and the unique challenges that the new technologies pose. At Snetterton, courtesy of the BRSCC, there was a Formula Foundation, all electric single seat racer on display with its covers off, so we could get up close and take a better look at the intricacies of EV racers. This was an especially good treat as there are a lot less EV race cars currently out there than you might imagine.

Lydden Hill and Brands Hatch had their training delivered by our very own regional chair, Andy, and for this session we had examples of PPE and battery cells to handle. All of these training modules have been put together to help alleviate some of the fears that surround EV and hybrid vehicles which are generally unfounded.

Our training is an extremely important part of our year, aside from the obvious social aspect, after all it may have been several months since we last shared some banter. The basic requirement for

all marshals is one days training every two years this is to maintain our basic skill level and ensure that we are up to date with new or amended regulations. Training is the best opportunity we have to practice our skills in a relatively safe and risk-free environment and ensure that if we need to attend an incident during our year we are completely prepared.



The feedback has been really very good at all the circuits and your feedback is invaluable in helping refine the training that is provided so please let us know your constructive thoughts! Now that we've all received our yearly or biennial education, we are ready to head into the new motorsport year fully prepared for what may come.

As a final note, training days are huge undertakings and whichever venue you attended a great deal of time and effort went into putting on the day so I'm sure you would all agree that big thanks are needed to all at MSV, BRSCC and all of the teams that helped provide the regions four great days of training.



Grading coordinator updates 2024

Regional training days in the Southeast have again shared and discussed the new pathway and what the requirements are. There is lots of information on the MSUK website if you are unsure so please take time to read these documents. Please note that upgrades are time dependant as well, with minimum timescales between upgrades. For 2024 all upgrades requested must be accompanied with a copy of the MSUK marshal registration card. This is an MSUK request and no upgrades will be processed if not sent and will delay your upgrade.

Please check you have received your 2024 MSUK registration card and if you have not, please contact MSUK direct to seek assistance. Your card must be able to be presented at sign on if requested. Having a valid 2024 card also confirms your grade to any post chief if they request this. For those that joined MSUK late in 2023 your card is still valid and will be renewed at the next renewal at the end of 2024.

A great tip and question that is often asked is, "I have lost my PRC, can I still upgrade"? The simple answer is no, as there is no proof of any attendance or training, so why not take pictures with your smart phone or scan every couple of months to ensure you always have a record in case of loss, water damage whilst at a circuit or new bedding material is made using your PRC pages. Recent viewing of PRC and continuation sheets showed lots of damage and many loose sheets in the PRC. Only use the sheets or a book for your recording of signatures and ensure your name is on all documents.

MSUK have confirmed that they will only send out a new A5 PRC when you upgrade. Also, your attendance signatures are allowed for 3 years to date and training for 2 years to date.

UPGRADING

For those wishing to upgrade you can still have your PRC signed for your assessment as confirmed by MSUK (please check MSUK website for full details). If the Assessor is not happy to put pen to paper using the MSUK assessment sheet <https://motorsportuk.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/08153052/2023-06-08-Assessment-Continuation-Sheet.pdf> then he must send the marshal who seeks the upgrade, an email confirming the outcome of the assessment and this must be included with the PRC when sent for upgrading to the RGC. No other documents are required, only the PRC, MRF, registration card copy and email of assessment. If you are unsure, please do contact your regional grading coordinator for clarity. All attendance signatures only and no upgrade required must be continued to be recorded by the marshal on a PRC continuation sheet. Please respect these guidelines.

For those of you who are upgrading the process normally takes around 4-7 weeks to process and follows these steps:

- Week 1-2; PRC and MRF presented to RGC (Regional Grading Coordinator) and ratified by regional committee.
- Week 2-4; NGC (National Grading Coordinator) ratifies regional decision and presents PRC and MRF to MSUK. NGC will issue grade badge and confirm successful application.
- Week 4-7; MSUK then ratify both Regional and national grading coordinators and issue new registration card and return old PRC and issue the new A5 type PRC. The MSUK approval panel meet monthly and it will depend if your application was received before their meeting date. MSUK will send out an approvals list to all clubs to check of any issues with those submitting upgrades.

If you think your upgrade is taking longer than expected, please contact your RGC for support and they can check the progress for you.

Keep in your PRC wallet.

Upgrade process

- Collect the required number of signatures for the grade you are completing in your Personal record card (PRC) or continuation sheets. Only one duty per day to be recorded. All marshals will and must be registered with MSUK in order to upgrade.
- Complete training day or days as defined in the PRC. Experienced grade training days must be 1 year apart. All upgrades have a time dependant element so please ensure you meet the standards.
- Complete the "On post" assessment following KASE with Examining Post Chief (XPC)/assessor grade. Details can be found at <https://motorsportuk.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/08153052/2023-06-08-Assessment-Continuation-Sheet.pdf> Complete a marshal registration form (MRF) latest year version and mark at the top "UPGRADE".
- Copy of your current registration card is to be sent with all upgrades.

- Send original upgrade documents (PRC & MRF, registration card copy) to your Regional Grading Coordinator (RGC) BMMC only. (Other clubs may have different person nominated). PLEASE NOTE: you must retain copies of documents sent in case of loss in the post.

Your regional grading coordinator is:

Andy Bumstead

3 Savoy Road,

Dartford,

Kent DA1 5AN

07802 652556 before 2000hrs please

andybumstead72@gmail.com

se.grading@marshals.co.uk



The BMMC SE Annual Awards

During the course of every year we volunteer and all do our bit as a motorsport marshal but there are some marshals among us that go that bit further and demonstrate strong skills and best practice in a way that marks them out. As always, we put this to our regional members to find the marshals that have inspired their peers and here are our award winners for 2023.

The Hastings 1066 Trainee Marshal of the Year



Tom Pledger

Tom joined the pit lane and has become an all-round specialist marshal. He regularly marshals at Brands and is able to confidently deliver all aspects of Off-Track marshalling. He always has a good friendly manner with teams and his contribution to the pit lane is now being recognised by this award. His enthusiasm has seen him participate in the Fun Cup which did well and a young group of potential mechanics and drivers".

"I love his passion and enjoy our brief chats. I also love that he represented us all in the Fun Cup".

Southeast Marshal of the Year

David Blyth (Snetterton)

"David is a great choice. This will be his 12th season. As you say, he's there most weeks. He's happy to take the rough with the smooth. Has his favourite meetings but is also happy to answer the call on the less popular events. Similarly, David doesn't care what post he's on and often takes one for the team and single man when the numbers require it. David struggled a bit with the high fuel costs going into last season, I think he only put 5 or 6 days on his availability form. When it came down to it, I think he only missed 3 or 4 days. He always does his best so some recognition would be well deserved".

"He is a willing and helpful member to any team, and just quietly gets on with whatever task he is given and seems to be at most meetings".



Norrie Bergin Award

Keith Wright

“Mr 4A! I have watched this person grow into an outstanding marshal, unflappable, calm and diligent. To me this is a role model of how to marshal”

Keith is a fantastic member of the team on post and over the past year has shown time and again to be more than just a competent level head in a difficult situation, he has demonstrated best practice and just about the best marshaling can be. He has been first on scene to a number of big incidents over the course of 2023 and each time has been a true role model for the marshals around him”.

“His understanding of marshalling and ability makes him a valuable asset when on post.”



John Davalou Trophy

Tony Almond

I am not nominating Tony for his role as a Post Chief. Being a Post Chief myself, I have no experience of working with him on post. My nomination recognises his role as “the voice of Race Control” where, in recent years, he has consistently been a calm, cool, and “human” voice; one always of support. Always calm and appreciative of those with whom he is communicating. In so doing, he commands the respect of Post Chiefs and no doubt of clerks in Race Control. (Tony received his award at the first meeting of the year at the marshals briefing)

Bryan Degerlund trophy

Pete Thompson

As a pit lane marshal for as long as I can remember A true specialist in the dark art of pit lane with knowledge and skills to share with those who join the ranks, a fitting recipient of the Bryan Degerlund trophy
“He is really fiendly to everyone and if we have taster days he will show them what startline does and get them involved”



John Nicol Trophy

Each year our regional award recipients are reviewed at a national level meeting and are considered for a national award on the strength of their nominations. This time last year one of our regional award winners was so strong they deserved national recognition. It is our pleasure to announce **Anna Lamb** with the John Nicol Trophy for National Trainee of the year!

“The National directors received nominations from all the other regions for a series of national BMMC awards and this person has been selected by a director’s vote. This person has been previously nominated by the regional committee for the best newcomer award for demonstrating enthusiasm and dedication to the sport during their early years as a marshal”



Each year there are awards outside of our marshalling community, some of which are extremely prestigious. It is with great pleasure we can share this news with you all.

Mildred Whiltshire BEM

Mildred’s name is probably known by every British marshal, and a good number from overseas and in the recent new year’s honours list she was awarded the British Empire Medal for her services to motorsport. It is an award that she richly deserves, so for those of you who may not know the lady herself let us introduce her!

Mildred’s initial interest in motor racing came from her school friend David Gilbert who had become a marshal in the late 1960s spending many of his weekends at Brands Hatch. Her nephew Neil also had started to become interested in motor racing in the early 1970s from living near Brands Hatch and spending time there on practice Wednesdays during the school Summer holidays.

Knowing of Neil’s interest, Mildred organised some Sundays at Brands Hatch, starting with a bus ride on the 719 from New Eltham, collecting Neil at Swanley and then onto Brands. They would meet with David and use his car on Southbank to either shelter from the wind and rain or enjoy Mildred’s legendary packed lunch, mainly from Marks & Spencer’s. Viewing would eventually come from the main grandstand, as Mildred felt a bit more luxury was needed, especially during bad weather. The facilities then were poor and muddy on most weekends, but this never deterred Mildred and a good time was always enjoyed, returning back for more, time and time again.

Mildred always supported and championed the marshals knowing how much time and effort they devote to a race weekend, feeling that their dedication was not always recognised at it should have been. David met up with quite few marshalling friends on race days and Mildred made very good friends with their wives and partners.

Not happy with just spectating, Mildred became involved in assisting with the administration at race weekends, initially with the British Racing and Sports Car Club (BRSCC) writing down



messages that came in from the marshals' post via telephone. Mildred's writing was the neatest there is and of course it was very important that the writing was legible for the race director to read when following up incidents. Her in-depth knowledge and drive have ensured the smooth running of motorsports meetings which needed an efficient organizer to send out information and tickets to marshals as well as maintain essential race records. Because of this Mildred started helping out for other clubs including the Classic Sports Car Club (CSCC), Historic Sports Car Club (HSCC), Aston Martin Owners' Club (AMOC) and Motor Sport Vision Racing (MSVR) which is the predominant club at Brands Hatch and probably fills up the bulk of Mildred's administrative time and effort.

It was not long before this was recognised and Mildred was asked to carry out the same task at the British Grand Prix, which continued for many years. This was despite Mildred not really enjoying being in race control in a room all day without any windows and not being able to see the cars go by - at Brands the control room had a 360-degree view of the entire circuit, so Mildred could keep her eye on proceedings.

At Silverstone for the Grand Prix, between 2006 and 2012, she served as a vital part of the Race Phones support network, taking calls from Post Chiefs out on the track and delivering this information through to Race Control, also helping to maintain the Race Log.

Mildred also became Chief Marshal Coordinator at Brands Hatch in 2006, enlisting and delivering all the marshal requirements as well as assisting on the radios in Race Control. Her spare time when she was not at a race circuit every weekend was devoted to organising the extensive amount of paperwork from her own home, thereby making sure that the running of race meetings was as cost efficient and as centralized as possible.

This work has all been unpaid and her commitment and services to UK Motorsport are unrivalled. Her devotion to the smooth running of race meetings has undoubtedly helped to boost Motorsport in this country to an extremely high level recognized throughout the world.

During the Covid epidemic Mildred was able to quickly adapt procedures in order to comply with the many changes required for race meetings to safely re-start. Being highly respected, she was called upon for her expertise by several clubs that struggled with the new way of working.

Mildred's role with administration extended far above the weekend race meeting duties, to include organising marshals' attendance leading up to a race weekend. Often spending seven days a week receiving mail and phone calls from marshals and then organising them for the weekend and sending out tickets.

Mildred was also a founder member of the Goodwood Road Racing Club where she was inspired to write letters to various groups supporting the race circuit to be reopened which successfully took place in 1998.

Through all of her volunteering, supporting and organising it is no understatement to say that she has made an indelible mark on British motorsport, particularly here in the Southeast, and it is absolutely wonderful for her contributions to be so prestigiously recognised.

Mildred received her honour at a private event at Bilsington Priory in Kent and I'm sure you will all join us in congratulating her thoroughly deserved award.

Huge thanks to Rosemary Beck for her work in creating this article.



BMMC Regalia

This year we really tried our best to provide a good opportunity for our regional members to pick up their choice of BMMC gear we attended every training day throughout the region and set up a little pop-up shop. The results were unprecedented! It was great to see so much enthusiasm for the new products we've added to the range and we are also working hard to bring some of the brilliant suggestions we received into reality. Next year we are hoping to have a full and professional pop-up store at every training day throughout the country!

For this year we are trialling a slightly different approach for regalia throughout the year. Previously we have attempted to bring the bulk of regalia to as many



meetings during the season as possible, however this is not particularly practicable or viable. So now we will be bringing the full regalia range to one or two meetings during the year at Brands Hatch, and one at Snetterton. These will be communicated well in advance and will be bigger events, in the meantime if you have a specific request Si can bring these to any race meeting he attends just drop an email to se.regalia@marshals.co.uk with what you need and he will bring them on the next available date. Alternatively, there is also the new webstore, this has a much bigger range which also includes tees, polo shirts and outerwear, if you haven't had a look, it is well worth checking out.

With new items being introduced all the time, such as these new sew on badges don't miss out on the pop-up store later this year!



And finally.....

There are some busy months ahead and plenty of great race meetings so whether your favourites are Touring cars, big GTs, glorious historics or even EuroNASCAR there really is something for everyone! Check out the dates for your diary below and get signed up! Remember very often the big events get oversubscribed fast so don't delay to avoid missing out!



Upcoming SE Events April - June 2024

6th/7th April - BRSCC - Snetterton
13th/14th April - BRSCC (TCR UK) - Brands Indy
13th/14th April - BARC (Britcar) - Snetterton
20th/21st April - MSVR (Ferrari Challenge) - Brands Indy/GP
20th/21st April - HSCC - Snetterton
27th/28th April - 750 Club - Brands Indy
4th/5th May - MSVR (GT World Challenge) - Brands GP
11th/12th May - BARC (BTCC) - Brands Indy
11th/12th May - MSVR - Snetterton
18th/19th May - MSVR - Brands GP
18th/19th May - BRSCC (TCR UK) - Snetterton
25th/26th May - Master Historic - Brands GP
25th/26th May - BARC (BTCC) - Snetterton
1st June - MSVR - Brands GP
1st/2nd June - MSVR (GT Cup) - Snetterton
8th/9th June - American Speedfest 11 - Brands Indy
8th/9th June - MSVR (Ferrari Challenge) - Snetterton
16th June - Tunerfest Live - Brands Indy
22nd/23rd June - 750 Club - Snetterton
29th/30th June - Super Touring Power II - Brands GP/Indy
29th/30th June - MSVR (Historic 300) - Snetterton

Visit <https://www.marshals.co.uk/volunteering> to
volunteer for any event

With the Easter holidays now upon us and the 2024 season beginning in earnest there is a lot to look forward to and get excited about!

Thank you for reading this far and I hope you have enjoyed it!

This newsletter belongs to you the members and I always welcome your thoughts, opinions and input send these to se.news@marshals.co.uk

Our next issue will be out at the beginning of July.