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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.

The Chairman's Chatter....

Dave Reed - South Midlands Chairman



Welcome to the Newsletter for

the South Midlands Region

The Walter Hayes Trophy saw the last of the race meetings at Silverstone, and the British RallyCross on the Stowe Complex, both on the same weekend. I have heard good reports from both meetings a few incidents for marshals to deal with, but overall the competitors behaved themselves.

Time now for us to pack away our kit, unless you are marshalling a rally or trial perhaps. However, you might like to check inside your kit bag or box before hiding it in the back of the cupboard or garage. Evolution is a known quantity, it can be surprising what an overripe banana can mutate into. Don't be shocked when you open your flask in February in readiness for the Pomeroy Meeting that it explodes with fermented coffee dregs.

A handy tip, why not empty the contents of your kit onto the lounge floor, spread it out so you have a good view of all the items. You can then wash, wipe, tidy each item placing it back in your kit ready for next year. A wise tip from experience, do it when you are alone in the house, for some reason my wife was not happy. Refusing to speak to me for a couple of days (always a silver lining).

We held our end of season dinner and AGM at the White Horse, Silverstone on 27th October following the Birkett. I would like to thank Lesley, Committee Secretary for planning and organising the event. Ben Harris stood down at the AGM, I would like to thank him for all the work he has carried out for the Committee and members for a good number of years.

Each year at the AGM we award a trophy to Regional Marshal of the Year. This year we approached all Post Chiefs, Examining Grades and Committee members in our region to nominate someone. The nominations were then voted on by the Committee, this year's Marshal of the Year went to Bob Sketchley, congratulations to him and well done.

I welcome Malcolm Flippance who was voted onto the Committee as Regional Grading Officer and hopefully by the time you read this we will also have filled the role of Taster Day Organiser. This leaves us with the Regional Members Secretary and Recruitment Organiser to fill. These roles are advertised in the issue, don't wait too long to put yourself forward you could miss out.

I would like to thank the members of the South Midland Region Committee for all the work they have done on your (the members) behalf this year.

Finally, although it's only November, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Merry New Year.

Keep safe out there.

Dave Reed
Chairman South Mids Region
British Motorsport Marshals' Club

Membership Matters

New Members

Although we are approaching the end of the year, we are still attracting new members, the following new members have joined us since my last newsletter report. I would like to welcome them to the club, as usual, if you cross their path at a meeting, please extend a hand of welcome.

David Grimes, Oxford Daniel Hynds, Milton Keynes

Membership Renewal

By now you will have received the annual email reminder from the Club to renew your membership. Thought I would take this opportunity to remind you that if you renew before 31st March you will be included in the annual prize draw so make a note in your diary before the 31st December to renew your membership.

The 2019 membership cards will be sent out in the new year.

Change of Details

Have you changed your home or email address, if so, you can update via the members area of our website or by emailing me at: nat.members@marshals.co.uk

Greetings

It seems too early to be thinking of Christmas, it appears to get earlier each year, but as this is the last Newsletter of the year, can I take the opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

Dave Reed
Members Secretary South Mids Region
British Motorsport Marshals' Club

Vacancies in your Region

We are currently looking to fill the vacancies below, both hold a position on the Regional Committee, you would need to attend meetings 6 times a year.

Recruitment Organiser

We have in previous years organised 5 recruitment events at Silverstone and Kop Hill, we wish to continue holding these events to promote the presence of our Club and a means of attracting new members. You do not need to be an experienced marshal, the role requires the holder to be able to plan and organise the events.

- Liaise / organise stand with event organiser.
- Organise set Up manpower/logistics access tickets
- Organise event cover manpower & access tickets
- Organise breakdown manpower/logistics access tickets
- Ensure Committee are updated by report each meeting

As the organiser you would not be expected to attend all events.

Members Secretary

The region has at present 240 members, this role provides our members with a point of contact for membership queries. You will also liaise with the National Membership Secretary regarding our regions membership.

- Contact new members welcoming them to the region by email
- Answer questions / give advice to member enquiries
- Follow up non-renewals end of January and February by email
- Maintain regional data on membership from Club database
- Ensure Committee are updated by report each meeting
- Role will use email, word, excel and use of club database (read only).

If you would like to apply or show an interest in one of these vacancies please contact me for more information

Dave Reed
Chairman South Mids Region
British Motorsport Marshals' Club

Sadly, no more Rockingham from 2019 onwards

Unfortunately, due to the impending closure of Rockingham we won't be able to carry on running our training day "with a difference" around the internal circuit at Rockingham. Nick Breed and his team at Rockingham have been very supportive of our training day over the few years and we must extend our thanks to them and wish them the best for the future. We have been very fortunate to have such a great venue and such a supportive organisational team that have allowed us to run it this way. We have to also thank the helpers we have had as well as the drivers and the team from prize motorsport.

The loss of Rockingham isn't going to prevent us from running Mockingham v2.0 "The BMMC Training Stakes" again this year. We are going to be running our training day on the 24th of February at the Sawpits Centre (The Old Library) in Towcester included a range of modules. The modules will be run in an interactive method and there will be an opportunity to put some of the training into action. The advantage of our new venue is the weather for the afternoon session is guaranteed to be better than last year's snow.

We look forward to seeing you there and seeing what we have in store for you this year; all marshals are welcome.

Matt Turner
Deputy Training Co-ordinator South Mids Region
British Motorsport Marshals' Club

Grading Gripes

MSA Registration

Have you completed and returned your 2019 MSA Registration (MRF)? If you have not already done so, please do it ASAP – do it online.

Review the PRC

With the season, for most of us, now closed, it is a good time to review your PRC. Having gained experience over the past few months you need to check to see if you have obtained sufficient attendance signatures; training day(s) and assessments towards an upgrade. Consider, what if any, training days you need; either to complete your existing training grade, or planned upgrade.

Book your place on the South Midlands Training Day - 24th February,2019.

Whether taking the first step from trainee, or a more senior grade, there are some key things to remember, none of which should over-rule the MSA guidance at: https://msauk.org/Resource-Centre/Marshals

- Ensure you have the required number of attendance signatures;
- Consider whether you believe you are ready for the responsibilities of the next grade;
- Make sure you have the required number of training days there is often a requirement to complete more than one day;
- Having met those requirements, through the Chief Marshal, request the required number of upgrade assessment day(s);
- Obtain from an Examining Post Chief, signatures for the successful assessments;
- Make a copy of your PRC and any appropriate continuation sheets for safe keeping;
- Finally, complete and sign a Marshals Registration Form (MRF) and send it, together
 with, your original documents, to the South Midlands Grading Officer, for checking;
 who will then forward the upgrade to the National Grading officer for BMMC
 endorsement and submission to the MSA.

Grading Successes

Congratulations to the following members of the South Midlands Region:-

Alison Barnes Experienced Marshal

Alasdair Darrant Experienced Marshal

Robert Stevens Track Marshal

David Grimes Trainee – Race and Speed

Malcolm Flippance
Grading Officer South Mids Region
British Motorsport Marshals' Club

BMMC Volunteering System

We are now at the end of the traditional circuit racing season with a few disciplines such as rallying, trials, karting etc. continuing through the winter months. The organiser's contact details and in most cases Chief Marshal can be found by logging onto the volunteering page of our web site.

The volunteering system is again having some minor updates over the next few months, these being more related to its user friendliness, and include a change to the search and dropdown facility so the venue will only be listed once irrespective of how many track configurations there are. The exact track layout details will now be described within the description box that the VolCo's will type in for each event.

The release date for volunteering using our volunteering web page will next year probably not start until late January, date to be confirmed later, this is being held back specifically so that all the smaller motorsport clubs will have confirmed their dates for 2019 and therefore allow us marshals the full choice as to where we allocate our time. After all the smaller clubs need our help and expertise more than some of the larger and popular events, and in most cases are far more rewarding.

If there are any events that you know of that are not listed, please drop me an email with as much detail as possible and I will do my best to ensure they are included.

There are a couple of dates early 2019 for your diary, these being,

Autosport International – NEC Birmingham – 10th to 14th January – if you are visiting the show please call in at our recruitment stand and say hello and possibly meet one of our directors.

Race Retro – Stoneleigh Park – 22^{nd} to 24^{th} February – Falcon Motor Club are looking for marshals to man the Live Rally Stage, which if anything like this year will feature Group A, B and C rally cars and well known drivers.

BMMC SM Training Day – Old Library, Towcester - 24th February.

I have just returned from a family holiday in Florida where I took advantage of the location to marshal the Michelin Encore meeting at Sebring, details in the next Newsletter.

Have a good Christmas and keep logging in to the volunteering web page for any updates.

Glynn Ellis SMids Volunteering Coordinator British Motorsport Marshals' Club

Fancy a 5-day trip to the Isle of Man with ferry travel and 5 nights bed & breakfast accommodation paid for by Manx Motor Racing Club?......

Manx Motor Racing Club (MMRC) organises the annual Manx Classic Hillclimb event on the island in April each year. The Manx Classic is a unique hill climb for Edwardian, vintage, classic and modern sports cars taking place over three consecutive days on closed public roads on the Isle of Man, two of which are part of the famous TT Mountain Course.

The Sloc Hillclimb in the south of the Island is on Thursday 25 April 2019; followed the next day by Creg Willey's Hill, part of the Glen Helen section of the TT course. The event concludes on Saturday 27 April 2019 with the Lhergy Frissell hill climb out of Ramsey on the TT Mountain section.

Ferry travel out from the UK to the Island is on Tuesday 23 April 2019, returning on Sunday 28 April 2019. MMRC will cover the cost of Isle of Man Steam Packet ferry travel and five nights bed & breakfast based on four people travelling on the ferry to the Island in one car. Additionally, each car driver will receive a one-off payment of £30 for getting their passengers to the three venues. A free packed lunch is also provided at each of the three venues.

We've got a great team of friendly marshals and officials, and we're always keen to welcome more volunteers to ensure the Classic is run safely. Some 40 marshals are need in the paddock and startline areas and track-side course posts, so help is essential. Could you help us in 2019?

MMRC is holding an Event introduction and training session at the Holiday Inn at Haydock on Sunday 18 November 2018, so come along and see what this is all about. Sign on is at 10.30am with tea/coffee on arrival and a buffet lunch is provided. The session is scheduled to finish around 3.30pm.

To register your interest for this session or for further information about the Manx Classic, please contact our Chief Marshal, Paul Dewar on 01824 308259 (landline) or 07910 283843 (mobile) or by email at paul.dewar@manx.net

You can also view information and register for the Classic on the club's website www.manxmotorracing.com

Graham Malcolm
Clerk of the Course
Manx Motor Racing Club

Clio Cup star Rowbottom confirms British Touring Car Championship campaign

Kidderminster-based Renault Clio Cup ace Dan Rowbottom will join the Dunlop MSA British Touring Car Championship in 2019.

Backed by leading fuel and exhaust system cleaning brand Cataclean, Dan will graduate from the Renault Clio UK Cup to the BTCC with Ciceley Motorsport. That will mean Dan lines up in one of the team's Mercedes-Benz A-Class cars for the 2019 season.

Rowbo was a triple race winner last season on his way to fourth place in the Renault Clio UK Cup and has been eager to graduate to the BTCC. With the support from Cataclean, a long-time backer and supporter of Dan's racing, the time is right to step up to the BTCC.

Dan's career began in karting, winning the 2001 Super 1 National Comer Cadet Championship and the Renault Elite League - Super Libre title in 2005. A move to cars came in 2008 with a season in the SEAT Cupra Championship before funding stopped his progression. A return to car racing in 2015 placed Rowbo in the Lotus Elise Trophy before moving to Renault Clio in 2016.

"Money has always been tight and so to join the BTCC grid is a dream come true," says Dan. "Cataclean has been a great backer of my racing and with its support we have been able to make this possible for 2019 and beyond. With Ciceley Motorsport we have found a team that is a perfect fit and one that I am really happy to be with. We have been talking to the guys at Ciceley for a while and I have a really good feeling about the team and it will be great to be able to learn from Adam Morgan who has proved that the Mercedes-Benz A-Class is a winning car. I can't wait to get started."

Ciceley Motorsport Commercial Director Norman Burgess said: "We are delighted to welcome Dan to the team. We have been watching his pace in the Renault Clio Cup and have been very impressed, especially as he has been the real underdog up against the bigger teams. We are confident that he will soon be up to speed in the BTCC and we look forward to working with Dan and seeing him progress in the championship. Dan is a class act both at and away from the race track, we nearly secured his services while running our Clio team, everybody at Ciceley Motorsport is really looking forward to working with him.

"We are delighted to welcome Cataclean to the grid as well. A new, major sponsor on the BTCC grid is always welcome and we look forward to helping Cataclean promote its message successfully next season."

The opening rounds of the Dunlop MSA British Touring Car Championship will be at Brands Hatch, Kent, on April 6/7 with live and exclusive race day coverage on ITV4.

Peter Wilson
National Recruitment Officer
British Motorsport Marshals' Club

Newsletter Deadlines

All members of the Region are invited to contribute articles to the Newsletter. Newsletters are published in the following months:

January March May July September November

If you have any articles that you would like to see publish can you please email the Newsletter Editor by the 20th of each publishing month at: sm.news@marshals.co.uk

Regional Committee Meetings

Would you like to attend our Regional Committee Meeting to see how the Committee works for you? Meetings are held 6 times a year on a Monday at The George, Tiffield, NN12 8AD, 19.45 for 20.00. Dates for 2019 are:

14 Jan 11 Mar 13 May 8 Jul 9 Sep

11 Nov

BMMC South Mids Regalia Sales Order Form

For British Rally Marshals Club regalia please contact:

Derek Murphy - Mobile: 07768 202236 - Email: regalia@brmc.org.uk

For all other Club Regalia please see our latest on-line catalogue www.marshals.co.uk

Or send an A5 size SAE to: Adrian Cashmore, 9 Church Street, Weedon, Northants, NN7 4PL

Item	Price	Grade	Qty	Total Cost
Grading Badge (Please provide proof of grade)	1.50			
Grading Badge (Please provide proof of grade)	1.50			
Union Badge	1.50			
Sew-on Cloth Badge	2.00			
Lapel Badge	2.00			
Interior Sticker	2.00			
Exterior Sticker	2.00			
Long Interior Sticker	2.00			
Heroes Cloth Badge	2.00			
HeroesLapel Badge	2.00			
HeroesSticker	2.00			
Heroes Keyring	2.00			
50 Years of Motorsport Marshalling	Free			
		 		Total

Name:	Membership Nos:
Address:	
Postcode:	
Telephone Nos:	Mobile:
Email:	

Cheques should be made payable to: BMMC Limited

Please send this order form with payment to: Adrian Cashmore, 9 Church Street, Weedon, Northants, NN7 4PL - Email sm.regalia@marshals.co.uk

SOUTH MIDLANDS REGION

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