

BRITISH MOTORSPORT MARSHALS' CLUB



MARSHALS' POST

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH WEST REGION OF THE
BRITISH MOTORSPORT MARSHALS' CLUB

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Wendi Batteson, South West Chairman

SW Regional Committee Chairman's Chat – June 2019

Dear SW Members

We on the committee are looking for help with the various roles we have vacant at present. So please, please consider whether you can give us some of your time. Following on from my last newsletter I'd like to welcome Charlotte Starkie on board. She'll be taking over from Adrian as Secretary. I'd also like to welcome Joe Shingler who will be our Recruitment Officer and Leon Smigielski as a Committee Member. We're still looking for Social Media/PRO Officer and a Webadmin Officer. So, if you do wish to come along and help us in any of our vacant roles then please let me or anyone else on the committee know. Any of you are also welcome at any time to any of our meetings.

Our dates for this year's committee meetings to be held at the Toby Carvery Solstice Park Services off the A303 are:-

Thursday 18 July 2019 at 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Thursday 24 October at 7.00pm for 7.30pm; and finally,

The AGM on Sunday 17 November 2019 at 12 noon – venue to be advised.

I hope you are enjoying the season and have donned the orange frequently, it seems there are more events than marshals to marshal from feedback I have been getting. If you have any news worthy items our newsletter editor is always keen to include something in the newsletter.

All the best and stay safe.

Wendi Batteson

South West Chairman

British Motorsport Marshals' Club

101 year old Witness in Murder Trial

Mike Abbott sent me an extract from the Daily Telegraph (23rd May) regarding a 101-year old lady witness in a murder trial. The lady in question was Liz Zettl, who many of the "more senior" members of South Mids and surrounding regions may remember from BRDC and other major events at Silverstone.

Liz was and is a true lady. She and Anne Pullen combined on race telephones at Silverstone for many years. Popular with everyone and widely known as "the ladies" who manned race phones at Silverstone. I am not sure exactly when Liz retired but I believe she was into her eighties before she did.

Three or four years ago I had the great pleasure to be sat next to Liz at a Doghouse charity dinner in the BRDC suite. Observing the adage, "One does not ask a lady's age", I did not enquire but was reliably informed Liz was in her late nineties.

Well, you would never have guessed that! Once she placed who I was ("Weren't you the Marshals' Club Treasurer for a while?") we did not have much to say to others around us. Dredging up all the names of times passed - Jimmy Brown (loyal friend of BMRMC), Tony Salmon, Pierre Aumonier and a load of other names I cannot now remember, but I bet Liz would!! I can see why the Judge made the remarks he did in the recent trial.

Guest Speaker at the Doghouse event was John Bercow, Speaker of the House of Commons. Despite the criticism we read of his alleged antics in the House, he gave a varied, interesting and very humorous talk that evening. He and Liz are near neighbours and he made many kind references to her in his speech.

Liz is believed to be the oldest witness ever to give evidence in a murder trial. The trial at which she was giving evidence concerned a nasty plot to kill and rob elderly people of their last few bob. We must be eternally grateful that they did not get to Liz. (DT article attached)

Happy memories of a true lady.

George Copeland

101-year-old witness in murder trial 'may have been next target'

By Daily Telegraph Reporter

BRITAIN'S oldest court witness yesterday gave evidence at a murder trial that heard she may have been the next victim.

Elizabeth "Liz" Zettl, 101, relived the moment she was told by police how two men on trial for killing a pensioner had a copy of her will.

The court was shown evidence that the defendants, Martyn Smith, her lodger, and his friend Benjamin Field, had an emailed copy of the will.

Mr Field, 28, a church warden, and Mr Smith, 32, a magician, are accused of conspiring to murder retired lecturer Peter Farquhar, 69, in Maids Moreton, Bucks. Mr Field is accused of attempting to murder retired teacher Ann Moore-Martin, 83. Both were allegedly targeted in a "gaslighting" plot.

Ms Zettl appeared in court as a video was shown of her police interview when she was told that Mr Field and Mr Smith had a copy of her will. She sug-



Liz Zettl, 101, is believed to be the oldest person to give evidence in a criminal court

gested the only reason why Mr Smith may have a copy was because he had "scrawled" a telephone number on the back and needed the piece of paper.

It is understood she is the oldest person to ever give evidence in a criminal court. She told police her lodger was "absolutely no trouble".

The court heard police discovered

the will on Mr Field's university server as an email attachment which Mr Smith sent himself from her email address.

The prosecution say this was so they could "see what she was worth".

After her evidence, Ms Zettl told Mr Justice Sweeney: "Sorry it wasn't very helpful but my memory's not as good as it was." The judge replied: "If we're all as bright as you are at your age, we will have great cause to be grateful."

Mr Smith, of Penhalvean, Cornwall, also denies three counts of fraud, one of burglary and one of possession of an article for use in fraud, namely Liz Zettl's will. Mr Field, of Olney, is additionally charged with one count of burglary, three of fraud and one of possession of an article for use in fraud - also in relation to Ms Zettl's will.

He admitted the three fraud counts and the burglary. Also in the dock was Mr Field's brother Tom Field, 23, of Olney, Bucks, who is charged with fraud by false representation.

The trial continues.

Contrasting Weekends

Finding we had some unexpected free time, June and I decided to attend the Club's Sprint Meeting at Curborough on 11th May. Saturday it is BMMC, Sunday follow-on with Lotus Club, which usually means good entries on both days.

BMMC Sprint Meeting

This is real grass roots motorsport. Competitors camping out in pup tents for the second day, on the grass, beside their vehicles, with a sprinkling of slightly better accommodation for those with a little more cash to spend – but nothing too grand anywhere. Friendly atmosphere all around, it seemed.

Helped of course by the fact that both days have been run, for 15 or so years, by Steve and Julie Hill and team members. This time, we missed Steve and Julie; Julie had been called away to act in an official capacity at an FIA International event at Spa. This seemed to present no problem; Derek, Lorna and Mel took on the organisation and no gaps were seen. Stewards Jon Hopkinson and Brian Commons (Baldrick) there to assist if required. Malcolm Flippance of South Mids regions was there, as always.

Pity we still seem to struggle to get a full complement of marshals each time. It really is a good day out and Steve and the team look after the marshals well.

Sadly, we had to leave before prize-giving, but we saw most of the runs before we left – and the myriad of prize pots for the winners. There always seems to be so many at Sprint Meetings.

Before I “retired” I used to try to get to as many Sprints as I could but, with moving house, etc, there has been a longer gap this time. We are at Pocono for the Indy race when it is the August meeting, but we will put the dates in our diaries for next year. It was a good day out, even though a bit further than before, from Wokingham.

Thanks to Steve and Julie and the rest of the team who keep this event going. It does the Club reputation a power of good and, with ex-Treasurer's hat on, makes a decent contribution each year to Club funds.

HSCC Meeting 18/19th May

Then, we arrived home to an invitation to the HSCC meeting at Silverstone the following weekend. This came from Jonny Westbrook, who initiated what is now known as the Dunlop Saloon Car Cup series and whom we have known since he was a very young man.

A quite different meeting from last, with some fancy machinery on display. Full grids for every race on Sunday (good to see) and some great racing. Richard Kent, son of an ex-business partner managed three podium places, including a first, but we missed all that because this was ex-programme.

Marshals' Club members were well in evidence in the listed “heads of departments” but I don't think the meeting was in any way “over-populated” in marshalling terms. Again, it seemed a case of too many meetings over the same weekend, many too close for comfort; marshals cannot be in two places at once! This was a hardy perennial on almost every meeting of the ABMRC and I know from talking to present ABMRC members that it remains

so. I suppose, as participants, we should all be grateful there is so much racing to keep us going but it does put pressure on the likes of Fay Crook, who seems to spend all her free time trying to round up marshals for several different clubs.

Our Club Badge still appears in the Supporters page of the HSCC programme.

Circuit Standards

This was our first “proper” attendance at a UK race meeting since I retired in 2014. Even before then most of my Clerking activities, for ten years or more, had been out of the country. Good to be back – and visiting Silverstone, after ten years or more around foreign GP circuits, how in Heaven’s name can Silverstone come in for so much criticism. Silverstone facilities, in my view, are as good as, or better than anywhere in Europe. OK, there are some circuits with plusher admin offices and “hostility” suites (the bits the “high ups” see) but overall “my local circuit” is well-maintained, with excellent safety features, and a great bunch of marshals.

Have a look behind the scenes at some areas at Spa; they look like derelict building sites. June has a great photo of the *single* toilet for the main grandstand at Hungaroring, with a high cistern and a string pull chain. First time I went to Monza with Radicals Euro Series, we were directed to the VIP car park – grass about a foot high! Later that weekend a low-slung sports car came in, a bit hot from the Autostrada perhaps, and promptly set the grass on fire. For anyone who has attended Sebring lately, where they still run major sports car meetings, that circuit is hardly luxurious, for officials, VIP’s or spectators.

So, let’s hope this year is not the last F1 GP at a very famous track. Ross Brawn said in a recent TV interview that “no major circuit would drop off the list in 2020”. Let’s hope he meant it and Silverstone is able to continue without bankrupting the BRDC.

George Copeland

Lille Racewear Overalls

Amazingly 4 months have already passed since AWS closed and Lille Racewear became the new and sole supplier of proban overalls and it is timely to review progress.

We know some of you have found it difficult to contact Anthony as he is often on the road seeking new business opportunities but for the time being this is his preferred way of operating as he learns about BMMC marshals.

There have been some delays fulfilling orders due primarily to a combination of training a new seamstress, and a greater number of made-to-measure orders at a time of peak ordering. This should now settle down.

One issue on which Anthony seeks your help is ensuring you order the correct size overalls. Before telephoning to place an order please refer to the sizing chart on the Lille website – look under Marshals Suit BMMC – and ask someone to measure you! Self-measurement is invariably inaccurate.

www.lilleracewear.co.uk

We also appreciate there is also a waiting time to receive your subsidy from the Club and we are looking at ways of shortening this time in our administration process. Do send your claim as soon as you receive your overalls, but not before.

Having been accustomed to the honed services of AWS over so many years some initial teething problems were to be expected but we are working closely with Anthony at Lille to resolve and move forward.

Lille Racewear is now the leading supplier of marshals overalls in UK with many other manufacturers struggling against cheap and inferior quality garments from the Far East and we therefore need to make this relationship work.

I would however suggest that any contact with Lille Racewear is carried out on a “direct” basis as previously advised.

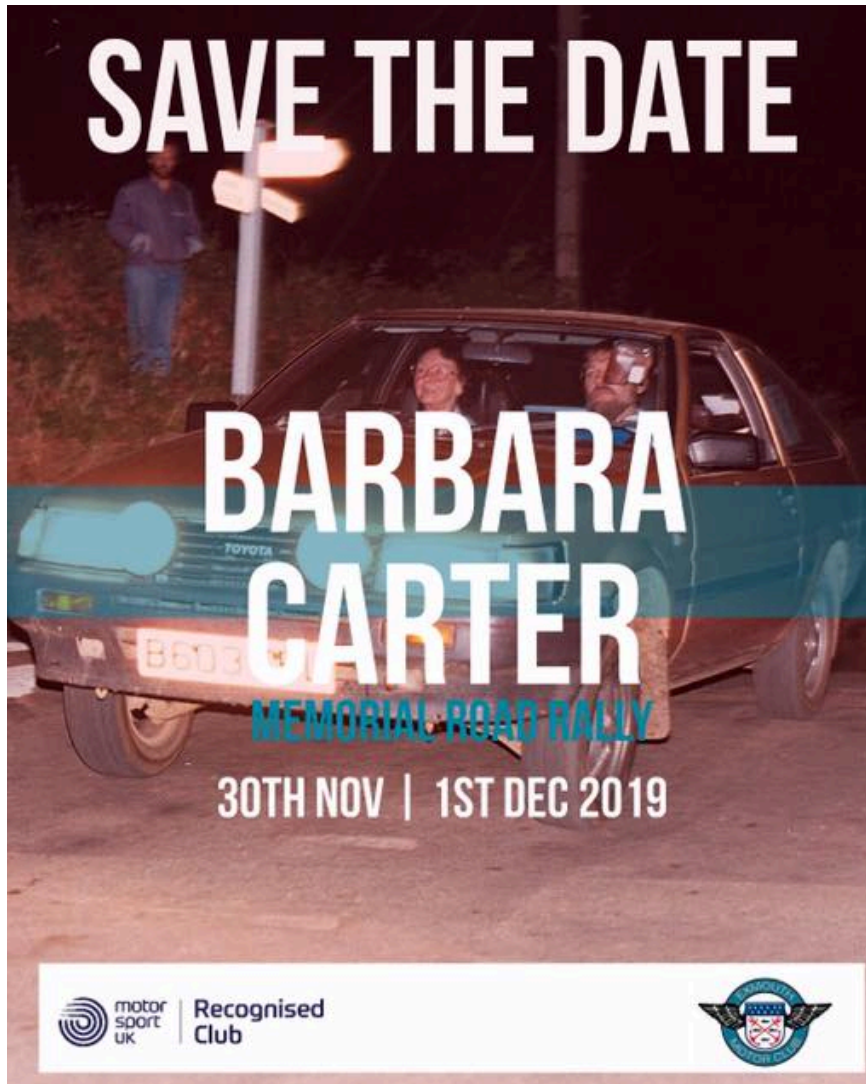
Will you please delete any reference to AWS.

Many thanks

Ian

Ian Harrison
South West Regalia Officer
British Motorsport Marshals' Club

Barbara Carter Memorial Road Rally 30 Nov - 1 Dec 19



The event is based around the Devon / Somerset area but is already attracting interest from entries as far away as Elgin in Scotland! The event will be run on a Navigational Clubman permit, so a competition licence is not required and the range of eligible vehicles to enter is opened up more than the usual Road Rally regulations (for example more than 4 cylinders and turbos are allowed).

It would be great to see some of your members either on the entry list or helping us out by marshalling.

We have set up a Facebook page for the event which can be found here:
<https://fb.me/BarbaraCarterMemorialRally>

Best Wishes,

Daniel Pidgeon
2019 Clerk of the Course

Regalia Items

Item	Cost (£)
Union Jack W/Website	2.00
BMMC Anorak Badge	2.00
BMMC Lapel Badge	2.00
BMMC Tie Pin	2.00

BMMC Stickers etc.

Exterior Stickers	2.00
Long Atmospheric Stickers	2.00

Heroes items

Heroes Woven Badge	2.00
Heroes Woven Badge	2.00
Heroes Lapel Badge www	2.00
Heroes Stickers	2.00
Heroes Key-Rings	2.00
Proud Marshal Stickers	2.00

Clothing & Equipment

Woollen Ski Hats Black	4.50
Woollen Ski Hats Orange	4.50
Baseball Caps - Black	7.00
Baseball Caps - Orange	7.00

Sundry Zero Value Items

Grading Badges	1.00
Large Stickers 7"x7"	1.00

(Please note prices are as last advised).

I can be normally be found at Thruxton, Gurston Down, but also marshal at Castle Combe or Wiscombe Park.

If you need any of the above items please do not hesitate to contact me as per details advised within members of the committee.

Please also note that if you require new overalls these can be obtained at a discount, directly from AWS (tel 01233 638498); you will need to quote your BMMC membership number, and upon a signed delivery you will be entitled to a contribution to the delivery cost.

Ian Harrison
SW Regalia Officer
British Motorsports Marshals' Club

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