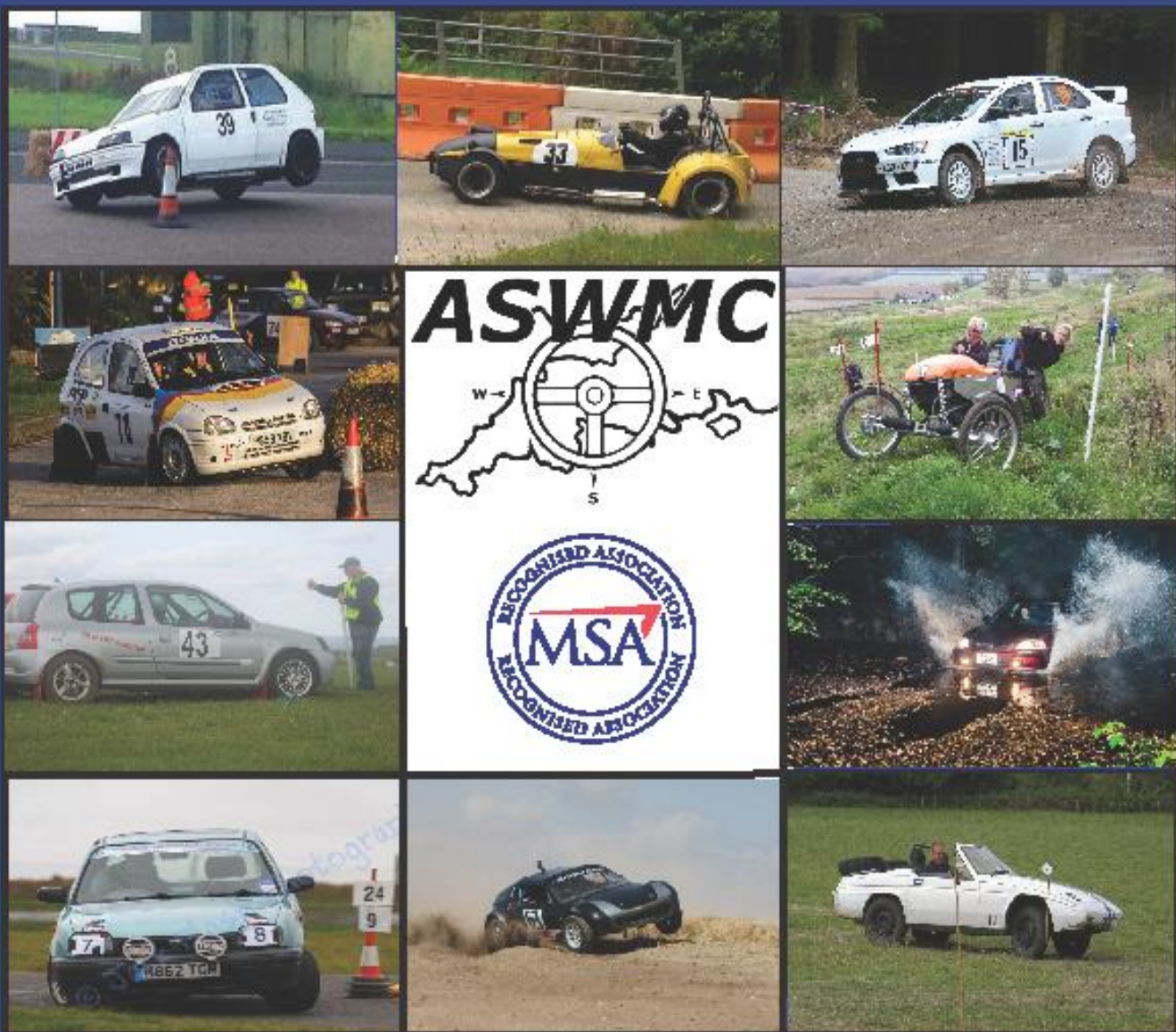


ASWMC



South West News

Spring 2016

www.aswmc.org.uk



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ASWMC Championships supported by:



Welcome to the 2016 ASWMC Championship Spring Newsletter

2016 did not begin well, with the loss of three well-known South West motorsport characters – Nic Ayre, Terry Thorne and, more recently, John Forsyth. It is to be hoped that the new season will bring success and some joy from this rather gloomy start.

We welcome M & E Alarms and Electrical Services of Barnstaple as the new sponsor of the Southern Counties Autocross Championship, and hope this will be the beginning of a long and fruitful relationship – please encourage your friends and business contacts to use their services whenever premises protection and electrical solutions are the issues – their website is at <http://mandealarms.co.uk/>

So far this year several loose surface rallies have run successfully, without serious incident or having to be curtailed, and it is to be hoped that the same will be true of the upcoming Somerset Stages Rally – one of only two loose surface rallies left in the south of the country - on 16th April. As anyone who has tried to contact any of the organising team about other matters will know, they have been working their socks off to secure the running of the event and I make no apology for again including their poster appealing for marshals and general help – on page 9. Please give the event your support. Anyone found doing nothing on the day and failing to volunteer may be visited by the 'Howard West Roadshow' and made to watch repeated re-runs of the new-for-2016 Formula 1 qualifying format as a penance!

Rupert Barker - Newsletter Editor

(The Editor's comments in this column are personal and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Association, its executive committee or other elected officers.)

News in Brief...

*Two-day permits ...
proposed Autosolo
regulation changes ...
the Association
Website ... help with
developing a new
venue ... all in 'From
the Chair' – this page.*

*Taunton MC's Ben
Bonfield in charity
enduro-karting event
...page 13*

*South Hams Motor
Club at the Night of
Champions
...page 14*

*The next ASWMC
Council Meeting will
be at the AGM on
Sunday 23rd October,
at the Hartnoll Hotel,
Bolham, near
Tiverton.*

From the Chair...

At the Motor Sports Council meeting at the beginning of March the MSA General Secretary announced that only one permit would be required for each two day meeting, with immediate effect.

This will impact upon our Hillclimb and Autocross weekends and, as is common in some venues outside our region, Sprint weekends too. This should mean that all weekend meetings in these disciplines become more economic to run. This subject has been "under consideration" at Motor Sports House for about five years now, having been being common practice in racing weekend meetings for time immemorial.

For those of you who organise AutoSolo events, can I draw your attention to the re-write of Section M, which is now out for consideration (for intended implementation from 01.01.17). Go to the MSA website (www.msauk.org) and towards the bottom of the left hand side you will find a block entitled 'Regulations' ('Out for Consultation', etc.). Click there and the on 'Proposed Changes'; scroll down to the list (in red) and click on 'Autotest Committee' and 'Autotest Committee Rewrite of Section M'.

Also, on the right hand side that page, you can register for 'Alerts' that will tell you about proposed changes as soon as they are published - once registered you will no longer have to search the website for them.

We are still in the process of resurrecting our website, which has unfortunately been inactive since the loss of our webmaster, Nic Ayre, at the start of the year. A sub-committee of the ASWMC Committee has the issue, and much more, in its sights to coordinate all our information and publications.

Many clubs will be aware of Kevin Moore, our regions "Go Motorsport" Regional Development Officer (RDO). Kevin's role in our sport is a wide one so if you have, for example, discovered a possible motorsport venue, but are not sure how to take it further, Kevin is an additional resource to lend a helping hand - he has many contacts and can liaise with both the ASWMC and MSA to take a project forward.

There are many changes, some made and some looming, in many different areas of our sport and across all disciplines at the moment so 2016 has the potential to be a very interesting year - I hope you all have a safe and enjoyable season, whatever your role.

Paul Parker, Chairman

Notes from the ASWMC Executive Committee meeting, 28th February ...

2-day permits – have now been introduced across all disciplines following the March Motor Sports Council meeting

Insurance for non-road legal vehicles (following the announcement of proposed EU legislation) is being discussed by the MSA ...

Road Closure Legislation ... concern was expressed that local councils will see road closing orders as a 'money spinner' when the secondary legislation is enacted later this year ... the focus of the association's venue development officer may change, and increase in importance, as clubs' seek advice and support ... new venues may value the back-up of a team to help establish new events ... many clubs may need to co-operate/co-promote to stage new events ... the role of the RDO may be crucial in coordinating new ventures ...

The Rescue Development Fund has been re-titled 'Safety Development Fund' ... two papers on Frontal Head Restraints (FHRs) are in the latest MSA news (*also reproduced below on pages 6, 7 and 8 – Ed*) ...

The Regional Committee has added Autosolo to the disciplines to hold an Inter-Association competition ... the ASWMC will host the inaugural event this year, organised by Bath MC ...

The Forestry Commission now differentiates its safety requirements between rallies and trials ... the latter still have the same agreement but will now need a Safety Officer for trials on FC land ... FC trainers have yet to complete their training ...

Applications for 2017 MSA committees are being sought ... details in the MSA News ...

The 'ASWMC Marshals' section of the yearbook will be re-drafted during 2016 in the light of changes in safety requirements

Member clubs that fail to pay their renewal invoice will not be pursued by the Treasurer (at the release of this newsletter 3 clubs have still not paid). If a club's membership of the Association lapses as a consequence, competitors' will not be able to enter events under that club's name and will not score championship points even if they have registered ...

REIS has withdrawn its sponsorship of individual championships although continues to support the Yearbook ... hopefully this situation may change for 2017 ...

M & E Alarms have stepped in to sponsor the 2016 Autocross Championship ...

The ASWMC 'Best Event' awards, and how they are scored, are under discussion ... some disciplines ask competitors for a simple overall vote whilst others use a scoring framework with several categories ... the top three (rather than just the winner) will be announced at the awards presentation ...

Speed event registrations are slightly down, particularly in the kit car classes, with some competitors experiencing problems with new requirements for roll-over protection (ROPS) and tyre eligibility ...

Pam Hartill volunteered to take on the vacant roles of Coordinator for the Club, U21 and All-Rounders' championships ...

The 2015 Awards Presentation was deemed to be a success, particularly the new room layout and use of the dining room for the buffet lunch ... some disappointment was expressed at the turnout, particularly those who won awards but did not attend or offer their apologies ... the committee will discuss this issue further at their August meeting ...

A new rule to empower the removal of a club from the Association was discussed at length ... the MSA will be consulted for their view and other Regional Association rules checked to see if there are precedents ...

Rodger Harvey was thanked for his work in producing the 2016 yearbook in a very short time ... he is to take on the role of Yearbook Editor ...

The Association website will be re-activated and back in use as soon as possible ... the style, format and functionality is to be reviewed by a new sub-committee that is tasked with rationalising and coordinating the Association's information and publications ...

The MSA is looking at the roles of Regional Associations within the Go Motorsport structure ...

Autosolo permits were discussed ... some championships require a Nat B (CMSG, BTRDA) whereas an ASWMC event can run under a Clubman's permit ...

Charity donations in memory of Nic Ayre and Terry Thorne were unanimously agreed ...

A rule change was debated to prevent competitors from 'reserving' an entry by claiming to be an ASWMC championship contender when they are not actually registered ... one suggested solution may be to require the competitor's registration number in order to secure one of the ASWMC reserved places ... and a sanction may be to remove competitors who make a false claim and/or report them to the MSA...

In the future a list of registered contenders in all disciplines may be available via the website for organisers to check claimed registration ...




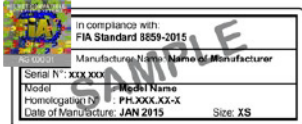

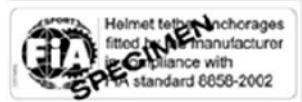



Increasing the number of qualifying rounds for speed events, to help venues with lower entry levels, was debated ... the last poll conducted by the coordinator on the topic had 30 replies, all of which voted for 'no change' ... a new rule requiring a minimum number of different venues (three?) to be entered was suggested ... Roy Sims was asked to liaise about a rule variation...

The 2016 Inter-Association Autocross will be held at Alnwick, Northumberland and a contribution to expenses for the ASWMC team entries was agreed ...



RECOGNISED STANDARDS FOR THE USE OF A FRONTAL HEAD RESTRAINT

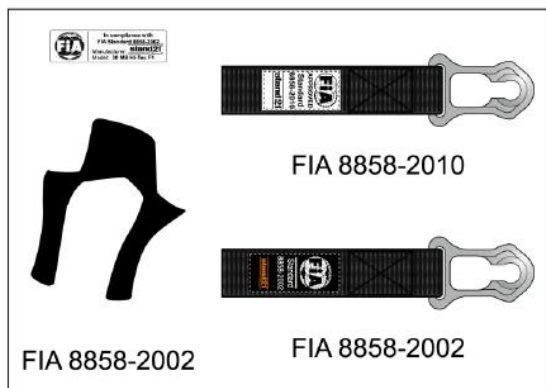
This table demonstrates the acceptable combinations of Helmet and FHR standards for acceptability at both FIA International and MSA National events.

STANDARD DESIGNATION	LABEL EXAMPLE	FIA Events	MSA Events
FIA 8860-2010	 <p>OR</p> 	YES	YES
FIA 8860-2004 NOT VALID AFTER 31.12.2020		YES	YES
FIA 8859-2015		YES	YES
Snell SA 2005 + FIA 8858-2002 NOT VALID AFTER 31.12.2018 Snell SA 2010 + FIA 8858-2002 NOT VALID AFTER 31.12.2023	 <p>+</p> 	YES	YES
Snell SA 2005 + FIA 8858-2010 NOT VALID AFTER 31.12.2018 Snell SA 2010 + FIA 8858-2010 NOT VALID AFTER 31.12.2023	 <p>+</p>  <p>+</p> 	YES	YES

Continued Overleaf



STANDARD DESIGNATION	LABEL EXAMPLE	FIA Events	MSA Events
Snell SA 2015 + FIA 8858-2010 Tether Anchors <div>NOT VALID AFTER 31.12.2023</div>		NO	YES
Snell SAH 2010 + FIA 8858-2010 Tether Anchors <div>NOT VALID AFTER 31.12.2023</div>		NO	YES
Snell SA 2005 <div>NOT VALID AFTER 31.12.2018</div>		NO	NO
SFI 31.1 SFI 31.1A SFI 31.2A <div>NOT VALID AFTER 31.12.2018</div>		NO	NO



Frontal Head Restraints (FHRs)

Competitor guidance



What is an FHR?

A Frontal Head Restraint (FHR) is a system designed to reduce injury by limiting forward head movement in the event of an accident.

Do I need to use an FHR?

From 1 January 2016 the use of an FIA-homologated FHR is mandatory in MSA National Events * for the following competitors:

- All drivers and co-drivers in Stage Rally events, with the exception of Historic Category 1 vehicles (pre-1968).
- All drivers in Circuit Race events, with the exception of Period Defined vehicles (pre-1977).
- All drivers in Sprint and Hill Climb events, with the exception of Roadgoing category vehicles & Period Defined vehicles (pre-1977).

For details on Period Defined vehicles, please see the definitions in the MSA Yearbook Section B (Nomenclature and Definitions).

Is the FHR I am interested in FIA-homologated?

FHR systems must be FIA-homologated. There are currently two FIA FHR standards: FIA 8858-2002 and FIA 8858-2010.

The FHR will bear the FIA homologation sticker, in a prominent position, stating compliance with 8858-2010 or 8858-2002.



A full list of FIA Homologated FHR systems can be found in [FIA Technical List No.29](#).

The FIA Technical lists can be found on the FIA website at the following address: <http://www.fia.com/homologations>

Is my helmet compatible with an FHR?

FHRs can only be used with helmets on Technical Lists No.33, No.41 and No.49. Additionally, for MSA National events only, they can be of SNELL SA2015 or SAH2010 standard:

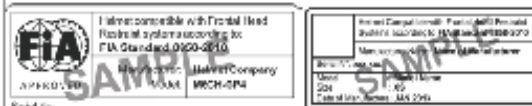
- [FIA Technical List No.33](#) – Approved helmets according to FIA 8860-2010 & FIA 8860-2004
- [FIA Technical List No.41](#) – Approved helmets compatible with FHR according to FIA 8858-2010 & Approved helmets compatible with HANS according to FIA 8858-2002.
- [FIA Technical List No.49](#) – Approved helmets according to FIA 8859-2015.

What does this mean for my helmet's standard?

All FIA 8860, FIA 8858 and FIA 8859-2015 standard helmets are compatible with FHRs as a matter of course.

Snell SA2005 & SA2010 standard helmets must be listed on [FIA Technical List No.41](#).

Helmets approved as compatible with FIA Standard 8858-2010 and shown on [Technical List No.41](#) part one will feature the FIA 'Helmet compatible with FHR systems' label shown below.



Helmets approved as compatible with FIA Standard 8858-2002 and shown on [Technical List No.41](#) part two will have the FIA approval label shown below.



FOR MSA NATIONAL EVENTS ONLY* –

Helmets to Snell SAH2010 and SA2015 standards are approved for use with an FIA-homologated FHR without the need for additional FIA labels. For these helmets the

Reminders ...

A Message from the Event Director



SATURDAY 16TH APRIL 2016
www.somersetstagesrally.com

Promoted by:



Burnham on Sea and Minehead Motor Clubs' 2016 Somerset Stages Rally (held under the new MSA Rules and Regulations which came into effect on January 1st 2016) is nearly upon us – next weekend, on Saturday 16th April.

The Somerset Stages, together with the Purbeck Stages in August, are currently now the only two remaining loose surface stage rallies in the South of England.

The event is a round of the BTRDA, English and ASWMC Loose Surface Stage Rally Championships.

The MSA and the Forestry Commissions' extensive new rules, to protect and control rally spectators and increase safety in general, will require significant numbers of marshals, radio crews, and senior officers for the event ... and it's not too late to volunteer!

If your club is running a Special Stage, or sharing the running of a stage with another club, please contact your chief marshal or marshalling coordinator to see how you can help.

It is in all of our interests, and our sport in general, to continue to support this rally, and we urge you all to offer your assistance, either as a club, or a group of enthusiasts or individually.

Any form of motor sport experience is welcome and acceptable - you will enjoy an exciting day's motorsport!

If you can help in any way, please make contact with Phillipa le Coadou – now!

With many grateful thanks in anticipation of your support.

HOWARD WEST
(EVENT DIRECTOR)

Telephone: 01297 551375.
E-mail: hm.west@hotmail.co.uk

PHILLIPA LE COADOU
(CHIEF MARSHAL)

Telephone: 01643 333743.
E-mail: marshals@somersetstagesrally.com

Reminders ...

Event Marshals

With the need to fully marshal events now a constant and pressing concern, it has been suggested that clubs' chief marshals might benefit from routinely circulating their neighbouring clubs of their requirements, both well in advance of the date and about 7-10 days beforehand.

ASWMC Facebook group

The Association's facebook page is unable to take new members pro tem whilst we arrange to appoint a new administrator for the page. If you are already 'vetted' and able to post, you can continue to use it, but potential new members will have to wait a while longer, I'm afraid. We're working on it ... in the meantime go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/331829570210716/>

Scoring ASWMC Championship Points

Please note that in order to score points in an ASWMC Championship a competitor must have a minimum of a Clubman's Licence (see D.4.5.4 in the Blue Book) ... and their club must have paid its annual subscription to the association (see *the Committee Notes on page 4*).

Event Regulations

Please help the ASWMC's championship coordinators to do their job by remembering that event secretaries need to send draft copies of their event's supplementary regulations to the relevant coordinator before being released to competitors. Thank you.

Registered Contenders' Event Entries

Event organisers are also reminded that Regulation 10b of the ASWMC Rules (page 9 of the 2014 yearbook) requires that they retain 20 entries for registered contenders until either those entries have been taken or the closing date has passed, whichever is the sooner. Event organisers - please check whether a competitor claiming such a reserved place is actually a registered contender before allocation (see *the Committee Notes on page 5*).

Marshals' Training Day at Wiscombe Park

The training day at Wiscombe Park on Sunday March 20th was once again a success, with a good turnout of experienced marshals and new recruits.



The day started with a PowerPoint presentation on incident handling, after which smaller groups formed to tackle a variety of different scenarios under the guidance of West Country Rescue personnel; each exercise was concluded with a debrief to consolidate what had been learned and capture the key points of the exercise.



After lunch, those new to marshalling listened to a presentation geared to understanding the basics of the job, whilst West Country Rescue guided the remainder of the attendees through their excellent fire training course.

Thanks are due to Andy Roberts, Steve Major and West Country Rescue for their invaluable assistance in making it a very enjoyable and informative day.

For further information about future training events, contact me at any time via my details on page 22, or by:

E-mail at: training@aswmc.co.uk or rogernunn7@hotmail.co.uk

Or via the VIM web site: <http://www.volunteersinmotorsport.co.uk>

Roger Nunn

Nic Ayre

To say that Nic 'contributed' to British club motorsport would be a titanic understatement - his organising skills and enthusiasm over many years extended into many disciplines.

At the national level, Nic sat on the MSA Autotest Committee for 16 years; he took over from the late David Everett as MSA Autotest Championship Co-ordinator in 2006 and, to quote the MSA, "dragged the Championship into the 21st Century", setting up and maintaining a dedicated MSA Championship website and Facebook page.

Nic was the longest serving member of the current ASWMC Executive committee, holding the role of Autotest Championship Co-ordinator from 1994 to 2012. From 1997 to 2002 he added two other championships – Trials and Autocross – continuing with the latter until 2007. In 2008 he added Year Book Editor and coordination of the Under 21, All Rounder's and Club Championships to his workload, whilst still finding time to create and manage, the association's website and Facebook page.

Nic and his 'Devonshire' sense of humour will be very sorely missed, not only at Motor Sports House but particularly here in the South-West, where his passing has left a void that will be exceptionally hard to fill.

Paul Parker

2015 ASWMC Awards Presentation

The 2015 ASWMC Championship Awards presentation took place at the Exeter Court Hotel, Kennford, on Sunday 21st February. Michael Southcombe, ASWMC President, Mike Potter (Bridge Tyres and Wheels Point S) and Steve Furzeland (WRC Spares) presented the awards.

Paul Davis and Keith Richings - Subaru WRC Spares Ltd
Sealed Surface Stage Rally champions



Dean Gammon - Bridge Tyres & Wheels Point S
Sprint Champion, and 2nd in the Hill Climb Championship

Sam Treleaven – Novice Navigational Road Rally champion;
2nd place in both the U21 and All- Rounders' championships



Kieran Anderson – Southern Counties Autocross and
U21 champion



North Devon MC's Ilfracombe Rally – Navigational Road Rally of the Year, collected by Scott Cleverdon

Bournemouth & DMC's Purbeck Stages Rally – Loose Surface Rally of the Year (l to r - Vic Fancy, Nigel Winkworth, Janine and Darren Loveys)



Nigel Winkworth - Marshal of the Year



Torbay Motor Club - Roger Harvey collecting the trophies for Dick Mayo Trophy for the Best Speed Event of the Year (Wiscombe Hill Climb) and the inaugural Nic Ayre Shield for the Best Autocross of the Year



South Hams Motor Club - The RAC MSA Silver Salver – The ASWMC Club Championship and The Michael Southcombe Award - Club of the Year, collected by Club Chair, Jamie Watts

(All photographs by Scott Boulton at Jack Flash Photography - <http://www.jackflashphotography.co.uk/>)

Around the Clubs ...



Taunton MC's Ben Bonfield will be part of a 10-man team in a 3 hour 'Karting Ironman' event at Exeter's Race World on April 21st, in aid of Cancer Research UK. Ben will pay the entry fee himself, so all monies will be going to the charity.

On his Facebook page, Ben writes:



Ladies, Gentlemen and Friends, both facebook and personal - On April 21st I am participating in a 3 hour 'Karting Ironman' to be held at Race World just outside of Exeter. I know it sounds like a real blast but I can assure you that 3 hours will be pure agony - anything more than 20 minutes in a kart is usually bad enough!

Sadly, cancer affects many people; it has taken loved ones and continues to carve paths of pain and suffering. There are those who beat it and who fight to carry on, and Cancer Research UK helps in that fight to one day cure all cancers. I'm not going to ask everyone for money - I know some cannot afford to give and it isn't fair to take from those who struggle to stay afloat ... but for those who can, I simply say this. Any donation, large or small, will be appreciated by my fellow drivers and me, and the cause for which we will be driving. Any loose 'shrapnel' down the back of the sofa (have a look, now!) or the change from a cup of coffee will do ... every little helps!. If you feel like coming down and supporting us, please do, as the support of like-minded spectators will be highly appreciated. Thank you for your time to read this.

Ben Bonfield

The link to donate is: https://www.justgiving.com/Ben-endurance-karting-2016/?utm_source=Facebook&utm_medium=fundraisingpage&utm_content=Ben-endurance-karting-2016&utm_campaign=pfp-share



Rod and Georgina McKenna from CRSW report that veteran competitor **Ron Easton** reached his 100th birthday over the weekend of 12th March.

Ron campaigned his much loved blue TVR in Autocross events, winning the ASWMC Autocross Championship in 1982. He was also a regular competitor at the Weston-Super-Mare 'Sandocross' for many years, competing well into his 70's.



(Photo: Pat Jennings)



Woolbridge MC will be running their 55th Anniversary Car Tour on the 14th August.

This is a non-competitive car tour to raise funds for the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance and is open to all, with no restriction on age or type of car ... members of all ASWMC clubs are welcome.

The event will start with a drive up the Wiscombe hill climb course and a 100 mile route will take entrants via scenic route to the finish at Athelhampton House & Gardens, near Tolpuddle, Dorset.

Entry to Athelhampton House and gardens is included in the entry fee.

Full details are available on the Woolbridge MC website at:

<http://www.woolbridge.co.uk/calander.html#160814WMC55thanniversarytour>



John Forsyth

On a sad note, the club recently lost a stalwart with the sudden death on 22nd March of John Forsyth, aged 72. A member of Woolbridge MC since the 1970's, he served continuously on the Board/Committee for over 20 years, holding various offices, and had twice been Chairman.

A keen competitor, he took part in road rallies, autotests and trials, but will be best remembered for speed events, notably hill climbs. Over the years he tackled most of the major hillclimb venues in the country, including all in the South West. He enjoyed success with a variety of cars, notably a Pilbeam MP58 DFR, a Mallock and his latest steed, a 500cc Jap-engined Alfa Dana, an 'in-period' replica of a Cooper Mk 9. He used many different types for trials events, most recently this restored sporting trials car, a Fiat-engined Ibox.



John with Derek Harris – 2016 Golden Springs.



John was a devoted family man; we send our deepest condolences to his wife, Judy and to their children, Jo, James, Andrew and David.

Colin Rolls



South Hams MC was presented with the JLT MSA Motor Club of the Year 2015 award at the MSA Night of Champions, held on Saturday 30th January at the Royal Automobile Club Pall Mall in London.

The club was represented by their Chairman, Jamie Watts, and director Roger Gillard, who collected the award from Richard Rainbow of JLT. Master of Ceremonies Steve Rider (a South Hams resident!) was joined by Louise Goodman in hosting the event.



Other awards were presented by John Surtees MBE, a former world champion on two and four wheels. FIA President Jean Todt gave a speech by video message highlighting the strength of grassroots motor sport and called for a round of applause in recognition of the hard work and dedication of volunteers in the sport.



Torbay MC members took a variety of competition and fast road cars to Southlands Residential Home in early March as a surprise for Honorary Life member 'gentleman' John Turpin, now 90 years old.

John competed locally for many years, driving his Porsche 911 on hill climb and sprint events, including numerous times at Oddicombe. As well as a Porsche Carrera in full competition trim (pictured), club members' cars on display for the residents to see included an AC Cobra replica, a Lotus Elan and a Dellow.

Not content with just admiring the display, many residents took advantage of the opportunity to go for a ride in some of the road-going cars, and the afternoon was topped off with tea and cakes for all.

A reporter and photographer from the local Torbay and district paper, the Herald Express, were on hand to record the day and the event featured in the 9th March edition of the paper.



(Article reprinted courtesy of Guy Henderson at the Herald Express)

2015 Championship Updates



2016 Hillclimb Championship

As I write, the hillclimb championship is about to get underway with Woolbridge MC's Wiscombe event over the weekend of 23/24th April.

Entry levels are already high for the April and May Wiscombe events, with the May events having only a few spaces left at the end of March. If you want to compete the trick seems to be to put in your entry in as soon as I send an e-mail. Werrington event entry lists are also filling fast, so if you haven't entered yet you'd better get a move on.

Truro DMC have changed the date for their June event, moving it to the 25th and 26th June; all the notifications have been done.

The championship registrations are slightly down compared to last year; some of the 'usual suspects' haven't yet registered yet and perhaps some have been put off by changes in regulations, which affect almost every class in one way or other.



2016 Sprint Championship

Championship registrations are slightly down, which is a little disappointing, and it may be that the regulation changes (see above) may well be affecting the Sprint championship in the same way as they have for hill climb registrations. Entry levels for events seem to be less affected and running at reasonable levels.

Two rounds of the championship have run so far, the Great Western at Castle Combe and Hullavington Sprint. Richard Trevail currently leads with a maximum score for the two events, but the top five are covered by only two points, so a tight battle at the top is already underway at a very early stage in the championship.

The upcoming events are Treloy on the 3rd April, Clay Pigeon on the 17th April, and Llandow on the 7th May, with regulations out now.

SRs will also be available soon for the Abingdon CAR-nival. Don't forget that this event will host two events in one day as far as ASWMC championship scores are concerned, so with savings to be made on travel costs this is a great value event, although it can be very busy.

Unfortunately the Wessex Sprint at Hullavington (3rd July) has had to be cancelled due to closure of the venue so the Craven event was the last one there.

Roy Sims

2016 Southern Counties Autocross Championship

With just under three weeks to the first event of the 2016 championship the majority of you, hopefully, will have sent in your championship registrations and entry forms, and will now be completing the final jobs on your weapons of choice for this year!

Please make sure that you have all familiarised yourselves with any regulation changes for this season, all of which can be found on the ASWMC website - if you're not sure you can always give me a call.

The 1st round, hosted by Torbay MC, will be in the same field as the first event last year and should provide a similar size track and layout to enable you to well and truly blow those winter cobwebs away! After experiencing the event from the marshal's perspective last year, it looks like we will be welcoming some 'converts' from the 'Hills and Sprints fraternity', who may be coming out to have a go ...

Please could you all think whether you would be interested in making the journey to the North East at the end of May as part of the ASWMC Team in their efforts to retain the Inter Association Trophy. It will be good to strengthen the relationship between 'us and them' with a view to perhaps resurrecting the National Championship in 2017.

Please note that the NDMC July Autocross dates should have been changed to 23/24th July – this had been noted previously but seems to have slipped through the net.

I look forward to welcoming you all at Fairmile on 23/24th April.

Colin Anderson

2016 Open & Novice Navigational Road Rally Championships

After the Devil's Tour, Burnham-on-Sea MC's James How leads the Open Drivers' championship by 9 points, with a three-way tussle for the next places between Phil Harris, Brendon Wellman and Roger Holder covered by just 4 points.

The navigators' championship is already proving to be a close-fought affair; Liam Burns leads the way with a six-point cushion over the pursuing group of eight, headed by Sam Treleaven, who are separated by just 7 points.

In the Novice Championship, Ray Sissins is the sole scoring driver so far, whilst Rhys Williams and Derek Mines are separated by just 3 points in the navigators' table.

On police advice, Exmouth MC's Barbara Carter Memorial rally will now run on October 22nd/23rd. The club's original dates clashed with the 'Ottery Tar Barrels' night and the volume of spectators would have made using roads in the area impractical.

Alan Whitney



2016 Sealed Surface Rally Championship

After the Bovington Stages, championship sponsor Steve Furzeland leads the drivers ahead of North Devon MC's Edward Lambert, just 3 points adrift, whilst Yvonne Furzeland heads the co-drivers table ahead of Gareth Drayton by the same margin.

2016 Loose Surface Rally Championship

After just two rounds, Woolbridge MC's Rex Ireland has taken a healthy 33 point lead over David Peters, who has Bill Paynter and Simon Stanbury close behind; the co-driver's championship is much tighter, with Richard Crozier holding a 9-point advantage over Roger Partridge and Alexz Stanbury just a further 2 points behind.

Alan Whitney

2016 Car Trials Championship

The 2016 season started with 19 registered contenders, of which a magnificent eleven scored points at the first event of the year, Woolbridge MC's Golden Springs trial. The well-prepared venue laid out eight very tricky and interesting sections in slippery conditions. A healthy entry of 34 cars included fourteen championship contenders, Class one hosting a notable 9-car entry. Other classes were less well supported, with four in Class 3 and, disappointingly, just a sole entrant in Class 2.

Competition was fierce, and at the end of the day the extremely competitive Class 1 was won by 2014 ASWMC champion Mark Hoppé (Woolbridge MC) by just one point from Nick Cleal (Windwhistle MC). Rounding out the top three was Andy Webb (Alfa), with new contender, and ex-autograss racer, Dave Atkins taking his Citroen Saxo to a very creditable fourth place, completing an ASWMC championship-contender top four lock-out. BTRDA Bronze star champion Shawn Franklin (Woolbridge MC) didn't have the best of days, ending the day in 6th place in his Ford KA, his usual Citroen Saxo being unavailable due to on-going problems. Kent driver Chris Judge (Sevenoaks & DMC) had a reasonable day in his Saxo but struggled with the conditions to finish 8th. This class was dominant in terms of index performance, with Hoppé collecting the overall Golden Springs Trial trophy for the third successive year.

Lone class 2 entrant, and regular autotest exponent, Wayne Grimshaw (Truro & DMC) had a steady day without any problems and completed all 32 tests to take the class win.

Reigning ASWMC Champ David Robinson (Windwhistle MC) took Class 3 victory ahead of Nigel Weeks and daughter Gemma (Stroud MC), second and third in their Imp. Stewart Green, driving the Toyota MR2 that is more accustomed to classic trials use, came fourth.

Round two of the championship on April 10th sees the contenders travel to Bristol Pegasus MC's Cross Trial at Dundry, hopefully with a few more registered contenders contributing to a very competitive season ahead.

Mark Hoppé

2016 Classic Reliability Trials Championship

The first half of the Championship year has been very busy, with a trial nearly every week from mid-January to mid-March; seventeen registered contenders have all entered at least one event and some have entered them all. The near continuous winter rain has made conditions very tough and muddy, and on some events whole sections have been lost.

The season started with the Clee Hills Trial, back in the calendar after a year's sabbatical. It proved a tough and very long day for those who ventured north from the southwest peninsula. Long delays meant that many finished in the dark and marshals were at their posts for many hours. Aaron Haizelden won the event overall, with Bill Bennett and Dave Haizelden winning their respective classes. The following Sunday's North Devon MC Exmoor trial went smoothly and managed to finish in daylight. Highlights of the day were the infamous High Bray and Stoodleigh 2, where the restart caught out most. Sticker Martin's persistence paid off as he very slowly worked his way off the restart and up the section at the expense of 3 tyres. Andrew Rippon continued his winning ways from 2015, with Aaron, Dave and Bill again class winners.

The well-respected Cotswold Clouds received a full entry but heavy rain on the Saturday before led to very muddy and tough conditions, forcing the cancellation of the last two sections on safety grounds. Duncan Stephens and Aaron Haizelden achieved class wins. With just a week's break, the popular Holsworthy MC's Chairman's Trophy Trial enjoyed high praise on social media, the class wins this time being taken by Aaron, Andrew, Duncan and Tris White. 'Missing in action' was Dave Haizelden, who had to retire and content himself with video footage of his rivals' efforts.

The Torbay Trial ran in glorious sunshine and it was clear that Dave Haizelden, Keith Sanders and their organising team had spent a long time planning and preparing the sections. Although mud was plentiful, the more compact route meant that the large entry of nearly 90 bikes and cars all finished in daylight. Craig Allen in his small-engine Beetle was first overall and Bill, Andrew and Aaron won their respective classes. Brian Alexander in his X90 somehow managed to reverse into the ditch at the end of Kingswell Lane, much the amusement of his passenger for the day, Becci Macey!

Carlie Hart

2016 Sporting Trials Championship

Thirteen contenders have now registered for this year's championship; over half have competed in all three rounds run to date and all have scored points.

I particularly welcome Stuart Beare, who has returned to trialling in his Sherpa Indy, which he is steadily developing, after a five year absence. Stuart has taken an early lead with a class win and two third places and we wait to see whether he will make the long trip from Kent to Cornwall for Launceston & North Cornwall MC's Northgate trial, an event that Jerome described as "the ultimate 'heart in your mouth' trickling day".

Second to fourth places are occupied by Green Class drivers, with Alan Baker, John Cole (who is now settling into his Crossle and nearly won the Picadilly outright) and Ian Fullwood, who turned in a star performance at Shelsley with a fabulous ninth overall.

Reigning champion Roland Uglow won at the Walsingham, netting him fifth overall, but ironically he will miss Round 5 at his own farm as he will be away!

John and Jerome Fack return to the championship, with Jerome in the MSR, and we wait to see whether he can capitalise on his maiden win. It is good to see the return of Alan Ede and his characteristic attacking style, while he awaits the arrival of a replacement car. Jon Moores has sold his car but we hope to see him back on the hills soon, perhaps as soon as Calvin is old enough to be his passenger.

Duncan Stephens

2016 Championship Points Tables and Calendars

Updated points tables and a list of the remaining championship rounds will be published in the Summer Newsletter.

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