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www.trackrodmotorclub.co.uk

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF TRACKROD MOTOR CLUB LTD
RAC MSA AFFILIATED, NO. 1230

BOXING DAY AUTOTEST REPORT AND FINAL RESULTS

26th Dec 2008

After the new long easy to remember fast flowing tests on an excellent new surface the results (including actual test times) are included below the report.

The behind the scenes dramas again unfolded in the weeks and final days/hours leading up to the annual Boxing Day Autotest event. With all yard areas packed full and a total lack of an alternate venue ...due to usual Leeds City Council "Health and Safety" reasons, Trackrods' own Mr Tom Whittaker saved the day and ordered a massive new flat concrete slab to be quickly constructed. It was finally completed in the early hours of Christmas eve and had just that day and Christmas Day to "go green" ready for our Boxing Day Autotest to christen it.

The fantastic new surface was greatly appreciated by all. Each competitor was personally timed by either myself in Area 1 or Trackrod Motorclub Chairman Mr Rod Parkin, in Area 2.

Nothing but massive grins greeted us as we clicked the stop-watches and quickly issued the test times on the respective stop lines.

Our traditional post event gathering and awards presentation commenced just after 12 noon in the Punch Clock Tavern.

We managed again to keep the entry fee down to just £5 thanks to vital support from Morley Waste Traders, Bootham Engineers and Trackrod/Wakefield Motor Clubs.

The Final Results are as follows.

Position	Competitor	Car	Total	Penalties -Test times 1-8							
FTD 1st	O/A Ian Barrett	Metro4R2	294	39	37	35	36	38	37	34	38
2nd	Rob Barrett	Metro4R2	300	49	37	37	35	34	34	35	36
3rd	Chris "Pud" Wood	Micra	305	37	36	36	36	39	37	49	35
4th	Dave Hemingway	Micra	316	42	41	38	38	40	37	38	42
5th	Ben Spencer	110dB Corsa	320	42	41	40	37	49	37	38	36
6th	Michael Pickles	205	321	39	38	38	39	41	38	52	36
7th	Steve Carter	Micra	332	44	41	40	38	44	40	44	41
8th	Lorraine Leeming	Mk2 Escort	355	46	43	42	39	55	46	42	
42	1st Lady & 1st RWD										
9th	Tom Stoker	Quiet Corsa	363	55	42	40	42	48	52	43	
41											
10th	Lee Sherburn	Mk2 Escort	402	64	53	44	41	47	51	50	52
11th	Mark Sherburn	Mk2 Escort	447	56	66	45	56	65	58	49	52
12th	Simon Parker	Clutchless Micra	448+	63	62	54	50	63	56	W/Os	

Well done to Ian Barrett for the win with a mature controlled drive with no penalties!

We had no protests or hearings as following recent events, our new regulations now exclude them!

Thanks again to all who came and supported the event including Derek and Jean Lee for totting up the results.

So until next year, Happy New Year & Best Regards for 2009!

Andrew Apperley

Clerk of the Course
The Boxing Day Autotest

RETROSPECTIVE

30 YEARS AGO - JANUARY 1979 - On the cover was a collage of pictures from Motoring News, however the quality of photocopying was such that the subject matter was almost unidentifiable!!

Club night venues for January included the Square & Compass; Shoulder of Mutton; The Royal at Boston Spa (now flats) and The Leeds Junior Chamber of Commerce where Nigel Latimer was to put on an indoor rally.

Dinner dance tickets were on sale at £6 - to be held at the Crest Motel and the award winners were to include :- Steve Wood; Richard Jackson; John Wilson; Richard Spensley; Andrew Roddy; Alan Powell David Taylor; Chris Miller; Paul Noon; Ronnie Moore; Frank Stuart-Brown; Sue Broadbelt and Vicky Spurdens.

The Boxing Day autotest was held there as well - Howard White took FTD.

The Xmas party had been held at Cookridge Village Hall where Christine Goodall took FTD by knocking herself out by falling against a door handle (no-don't even think about asking how !).

Just heard that the Costa Di Plenti was to be back in the MN Championship for 1979.

The Shell League calendar was finalised - 5 autotests meant that this would be "our" year - just like all the other clubs were thinking!!

20 YEARS AGO - JANUARY 1989 - Boxing Day autotest was held at the Wellington St Carpark - 7 entries and 5 finishers then to the pub!!

John Renny, Stage Commander for a Dalby stage on the Cartel in Feb. was seeking volunteers; he also thanked all who turned out on the RAC.

Award winners at the forthcoming dinner dance included :- Steve Lancaster; David Smith; Richard Anderson; Pam White; Richard Ineson; John Renny; Peter Green and Mark Eastwood.

The last Navigational Scatter of 1988 was won by John McNichol/Ron Mackinnon from John Westmoreland/Steve Sanderson in 2nd.

10 YEARS AGO - JANUARY 1999 - Tickets for sale at £18 for the Dinner Dance at Castle Grove - the menu had a very familiar look about it!!

Chairman Parkin touched on the reasoning behind withdrawing the Forest Rally from the Mintex Championship - to do with "subjective route notes" being a requirement for all events in the Championship - something that was not acceptable to our organising committee. The event would, nevertheless continue on its September date and be a round of various other championships.

TRACKROD _____ ENDS

And a HAPPY NEW YEAR to ALL

RETROSPECTIVE

30 YEARS AGO - FEBRUARY 1979 - On the cover was Tony Pond's TR7 - picture quality no better than last month!!

Going to have a film show (!) at the Lawnswood Arms this month - no programme - it will be a surprise!!

Chairman Richardson gave a brief history of the club magazine as this issue was no.100! The previous 99 issues condensed into one and a half sides of A4 was definitely brief but touched on many aspect and characters of the club, many regulars and some new faces. Amongst them, Vince Girardier, who was reported to have fitted 3 new wings to his Escort in the first 2weeks of his membership!!!

Editor Charlie Palmer reported on the Three Swans Rally from the co-driver's seat in Mark Adamson's Mini at no.29. Martin Kemp/John Richardson were at 2 behind eventual winners Wilson/Millington with Tom Whitaker/Vince Fletcher at 28 and John Bean/Ray Beamish at 31. The event apparently became a bit of a farce as 60% of the entry got caught out on sheet ice on the Millington Pastures selective and it took over 4 hours for the tail enders to emerge and be slightly OTL!

20YEARS AGO - FEBRUARY 1989 - John Renny still seeking volunteers for the Stadal Stage (Dalby!) on the Cartel.

An article on autotesting and what it was all about/how to go about it was penned by yours truly - the editor also had a dig at me for daring to challenge his publication of anonymous articles (Mr Angry & Dangerous Bros.) my view being that if you couldn't put your name to it, it didn't deserve publication!! He didn't agree!!! And now they are part of the club folklore!!

Peter Stanhope scripted a piece on radio operation and also had an advert for various oyy welding bits and bobs at a "bargain" price of £100 (new price £250) to include the lorry tailgate maybe!

10 YEARS AGO - FEBRUARY 1999 - Andrew Apperley's wife (it says here) was forcing him to sell his "Network Q finishing" Fiat Uno Abarth!! The bottom line was £2700 after nearly a page of blurb of what it had and what it could do!! Peter Stanhaope was also in fund raising mode - offering his well-used (210k miles) Range Rover with impeccable provenance as it had been "well used in Yorkshire (forests that is) for many years only £950

Dave Hammond reported on his outing with A. Apperley on the Xmas stages in the Sierra Cosworth which sadly ended in the afternoon against a tree. The impact was sufficient to inflict damage causing retirement.

TRACKROD _____ ENDS

Marshal of the Year

Steve Weston, a member of the Castle Combe Racing Club, has been voted the winner of the prized JLT Sport/MSA Marshal of the Year Award 2008 by the MSA.

The award recognises excellence by a volunteer marshal from any discipline of motor sport and the winner collects the prestigious trophy (as well as a cheque for £250) at the MSA's annual Night of Champions awards evening in January. An active marshal for nearly 20 years at race and speed events, Steve recently took on the role of Club Child Protection Officer at Castle Combe and has since taken an active role in the recruitment and training of young cadet marshals.

Club of the Year

The Rathfriland Motor Club in Northern Ireland has been voted the top motor club in the UK for 2008 by the MSA.

Representatives of the club will receive a trophy and cheque for £1,000 at the MSA's annual Night of Champions awards ceremony at the Royal Automobile Club, Pall Mall, London in January.

Of particular importance to the judges was Rathfriland's Safety First schools programme, which highlights to young motor sport fans the importance of car preparation and safety requirements for motor sport and how some of these lessons can be carried over to new road drivers – a direct road safety message.

Second and third clubs

Second prize, an MSA Flag Trophy and £500 goes to Clay Pigeon Kart Club. With entries increasing by 20 per cent and club membership by 40 per cent, Clay Pigeon is obviously doing a great deal right. Regular open days address entry-level issues for new competitors and the club undertakes extensive promotion in the nearby towns.

Third prize, an MSA Flag Trophy and £250 is awarded to Castle Combe Racing Club which, in just three years, has been responsible for the recruitment of more than 100 new marshals and the training of more than 600.

Highly commended clubs

The Trent Valley Kart Club and Stockton & District Motor Club were highly commended by the judges and will receive commemorative certificates. Trent Valley has become one of the UK's leading kart clubs with its splendid facilities at PF International. Stockton & DMC has arrested a decline in numbers to emerge as a very active club.

2009 Seminars for Officials

Licensed Clerks & Stewards

Letters have been sent to MSA Licensed Clerks and Stewards inviting them to attend the full day training seminars planned during the period January to March 2009. If you are eligible to attend these seminars and have not received an invitation to attend, please advise Richard Nunn, Volunteer Officials Coordinator at the MSA on 01753 765071 or e-mail at r.nunn@msauk.org, so that full details can be forwarded.

For your guidance, dates and broad locations are as follows:

24 January – Motherwell; 25 January – Inverness; 31 January – Peterborough; 1 February – Basingstoke; 7 February – Brighouse; 8 February – Solihull; 21 February – Exeter; 22 February – Llandrindod Wells, 8 March – Belfast.

Evening seminars are also planned in the Isle of Man (2 February), Jersey (3 February) and Guernsey (4 February).

Scrutineers

Letters have been sent to MSA Licensed Scrutineers, Trainee Scrutineers and Environmental Scrutineers, advising of the series of training seminars arranged for them. If you are eligible to attend these seminars and have not received an invitation to attend by Christmas, please advise Michael Duncan, Technical Administrator at the MSA on 01753 765037 or e-mail at michael.duncan@msauk.org, so that full details can be forwarded. Note that there are separate seminars for Car and Kart disciplines.

For your guidance, dates and broad locations are as follows.

Car: 17 January – MSA HQ; 18 January – Taunton; 24 January – Cambridge; 25 January – Brands Hatch; 1 February – South Wales; 7 February – Belfast; 8 February – Fife; 21 February – Brighouse; 22 February – East Midlands.

Kart: 18 January – Three Sisters; 24 January – Whilton Mill; 25 January – Buckmore Park; 31 January – South West; 7 February – Belfast; 8 February – Fife.

Club Insurance

Through special arrangements with JLT Sport in early 2008, the MSA arranged club social events cover as an addition to the automatic insurance cover provided to its Clubs as a benefit of MSA registration. We are pleased to advise that this continues for 2009 at no additional cost to Clubs.

Full details of the cover is available from Simon Fowler, Competitions and Clubs Manager on 01753 765045 or e-mail simon.fowler@msauk.org

VAT

Following the reduction of Value Added Tax announced by the Chancellor in the recent Pre-Budget Report, the MSA made the following statement.

The majority of fees charged by the MSA are exempt from VAT – licences, permits, etc.

Only certain products and services are subject to VAT at the prevailing rate.

The MSA will amend the price of all items over £100 in accordance with the reduction of VAT from 17.5 per cent to 15 per cent.

The MSA will not amend the prices of items under £100. Any additional revenue generated as a result of retaining these prices will be donated to the Motorsport Safety Fund.

The MSA estimates that this sum is unlikely to exceed £5,000 in 2009.

Yearbook omission

There is an omission in the MSA 2009 Competitors' and Officials' Yearbook (the so-called Blue Book which is sent to licenced competitors). It is in Section I - Sprints, Hill Climbs and Drag Racing.

The omitted text is in the Winter issue of *Motor Sports Now!*, the MSA publication sent to licence holders, and on the MSA website at: www.msauk.org > News under the heading Clarification for Sprint and Hillclimb competitors.

e-Wheels

Word and pdf versions of previous e-Wheels can be downloaded from the MSA website www.msauk.org by clicking on MSA publications>Wheels>e-Wheels.

Merry Christmas from all at the MSA. Have a safe and successful 2009 motor sport season.

Allan Dean-Lewis

ENDS.

Go Motorsport 2009

The Go Motorsport campaign has had a very encouraging first six months, attracting more than 45,000 visitors to the website since the launch in June. It has also had great success at major events such as the British Grand Prix, the British Motor Show, Goodwood Festival of Speed and Wales Rally GB.

However, while many thousands have visited the website, very few have made direct contact with clubs through the website channels. With this in mind, Go Motorsport in 2009 will work more closely with clubs to attract new people as well as raising the profile of the sport at both a local and national level. More than 160 clubs completed the Go Motorsport questionnaire in 2008 and their details and events were listed on the website. The MSA would like to encourage more clubs to get involved this year – particularly as a comprehensive fixture list is one of the most popular sections of the website. Please click on the link below to open the questionnaire. It should only take a couple of minutes to complete but will ensure that Go Motorsport has all the correct information for 2009. Click here for the questionnaire or paste the following URL into your web browser: http://files.e2ma.net/2971/assets/docs/go_motorsport_questionnaire_2009.xls Please return the questionnaire by email to info@GoMotorsport.net as soon as possible.

Forest fees

The MSA has confirmed the fees that will be charged for providing access to the Forestry Estate for MSA-permitted rally events in 2009. As established in the new three-year Master Agreement, covering 2008 to 2010 inclusive, prices have increased in line with the Retail Price Index (RPI), as set in October 2008 at 4.2 per cent.

Speedier licences

The MSA's online licensing facility opened for business at the start of December at www.msauk.org, offering nearly three quarters of all competitors the opportunity to speed up their licence application. Online applications will be dispatched in fewer than ten days –reducing by a third the turnaround time compared to standard postal applications.

Ton-up clubs

Will your club be celebrating its centenary in 2009? The MSA has a Centenary Club Award, which may be used by the receiving club, at its discretion, either as a commemorative award or as a special award for occasional or annual presentation. Please advise Allan Dean-Lewis at the MSA (e-mail: adeanlewis@msauk.org) if 2009 is your club's ton-up year.

MSA Yearbooks

The Competitors' and Officials' Yearbook 2009 and the Kart Race Yearbook 2009 are provided free with the relevant MSA competition licences. They can also be purchased from the MSA for £25 and £9 respectively (inclusive of postage within the UK). Orders should be addressed to Sales Dept, Motor Sports Association, Colnbrook SL3 0HG or can be made online at www.msauk.org

2009 Autosport International Show

Colin Hilton, Chief Executive of the MSA opened this year's show (8 to 11 January) flanked by MSA Elite programme members, Adam Gould and Alexander Sims, who in the past month have claimed the two biggest prizes in British motor sport for young drivers – the Pirelli UK Star Driver shootout and the McLaren Autosport Driver of the Year respectively.

Speaking at the opening, Colin Hilton said: "The MSA invested more than £1.2m in the development of UK motor sport last year and we will continue this programme of investment in 2009 to ensure that the sport continues to grow in these challenging times."

MSA 2009 Competitors' and Officials' Yearbook correction – fuel testing

Regulation changes with regard to fuel testing were ratified by the Motor Sports Council at its meeting on 4 March 2008 and duly published in the Spring 2008 issue of Motor Sports Now! – the quarterly MSA publication sent to licenced officials and competition licence holders.

However, these changes were omitted from relevant sections of the 2009 Competitors' and Officials' Yearbook (the so-called Blue Book which is sent to licenced competitors) but can now be viewed on the MSA website at www.msauk.org>Clubs>Publications>MSAYearbook

Yearbook omission

As mentioned in e-Wheels December 2008 and repeated here for emphasis, there is an omission in the MSA 2009 Competitors' and Officials' Yearbook in Section I – Sprints, Hill Climbs and Drag Racing. The omitted text is in the Winter 2008 issue of Motor Sports Now! and on the MSA website at: www.msauk.org > News under the heading Clarification for Sprint and Hillclimb competitors.



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Club Nights

February 2009

3rd Old Modernians Sports & Social Club
10th Fox & Grapes – York Road (A64)
17th The Yeoman – Otley
24th Admiral Hawke – Boston Spa

March 2009

3rd Old Modernians Sports & Social Club
10th Fox & Grapes – York Road (A64)
17th The Yeoman – Otley
24th Fox & Grapes – York Road (A64)
31st Admiral Hawke – Boston Spa

April 2009

7th Old Modernians Sports & Social Club
14th Fox & Grapes – York Road (A64)
21st The Yeoman – Otley
28th Admiral Hawke – Boston Spa

**Also any suggestions
for new places to meet
please contact any
member of the commit-
tee.**

Events Calendar 2009

February 2009

10 Riponian Stages
21 Bill Cammack Memorial Trophy Rally
28 North Humberside Forest Stages Rally

March 2009

7 Malcolm Wilson Rally
14-15 Robin Hood Rally
14-15 Ryemoor Trophy Road Rally
22 Lookout Stages Rally
28 Phoenix Stages
29 SMC Stages

April 2009

17-18 Pirelli International Rally
18 Tour of Cumbria
19 Jubilee Historic