

Maidstone and Mid Kent Motor Club



Newsletter June 2009

The Club has had a very successful year so far with all events being well supported by members apart from the AGM where the turn out was disappointingly small. As this is the Members opportunity to express their views about the way the Club is run we can only assume that we are meeting peoples expectations?

Since the last **Newsletter** there has been a number of Autotest events. The Kent Driver Tarmac Autotest enjoyed good weather and attracted 42 entries, more than it has done for a few years. A big thank you must go to Ann and Dave Cook who ran a very profession event, which as a National, should do nothing but enhance the Clubs reputation in the wider motorsport world. It was good to see alongside the top National competitors, a large number of club member's competing this year. A big thank you must also go to the large number of club members who turned out and marshalled on the day making the event the success it was.

The 2009 Evening Grass Autotest series has been its usual success this year with entries of around 30 at each event, except for the last event on June 10th when James Muir attracted 42 entries, on what proved to be a rather damp evening.

Flying Proms 25th July

We are again looking for volunteers to help with the car parking at this years Flying Proms. The event has returned to its usual date in July and helpers are required for Saturday afternoon and evening. We will be running our usual shift system so anyone interested in helping should contact :-

Lyle Cathcart at l.cathcart@btinternet.com / 01622 631631 or

Bruce Jenkins at bajenkins@btinternet.com / 01622 842327

New Chief Marshal

We are always struggling to find enough marshals to help at events, so I am pleased to report that in an off guarded moment at the AGM, Lloyd Bass agreed to take on the role of the Club's Chief Marshal. Please let Lloyd know what type of events you are prepared to help with so that he can keep a register of people prepared to turn out and undertake this very important role. Lloyd can be contacted at stunts4tv@aol.com

Club Stickers

For those that compete we have large Club Stickers available to go on your competition cars, available from Lyle Cathcart at £1.00 each.

Gymkhana 2nd August

The 2009 Gymkhana is coming up on the 2nd August organised by our Chairman Chris Browne.

This year we have invited the HRCR to bring along some of their Classic vehicles to add a bit of colour to the day. If last years event is anything to go by we should have a record attendance this year. So put the date in your diary and bring the family along for a day of fun and frolics.

As always we need articles for the next edition of the Kent Driver, so I would be pleased to receive details of your exploits for publication as soon as possible.

And finally we must congratulate Competition Secretary Matt Sullivan on his marriage to Katrina on 26th May. Please keep sending your results to Matt as he needs something to keep him busy now he has a wife to do everything for him!!

Bruce Jenkins

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10 June 2009 adean-lewis@msauk.org

BTCC boost for Go Motorsport

Britain's top racing series, the HiQ MSA British Touring Car Championship, is backing *Go Motorsport* which was set up by the MSA to help guide people into all areas of motor sport, be it as a competitor, spectator or volunteer.

MSA Chairman, Alan Gow says: "With exciting racing and extensive live television coverage on ITV4, the BTCC package is clearly the best promotional stage within UK motor sport and thus a great platform from which to spread the *Go Motorsport* gospel."

Detailed information about *Go Motorsport* is available at www.GoMotorsport.net.

CCPR Sports Club Survey, 2009

The information below is included in *e-Wheels* so that it reaches the nominated contact in each club. If you are no longer undertaking that role, please forward this e-mail to the person who is and advise the MSA of the change of contact details.

Would you like to win £200 of Decathlon vouchers for your club or a weekend in a top-class London hotel? If so, please help with this survey, which is being conducted with motor sport clubs on behalf of the MSA and in partnership with the Central Council of Physical Recreation (CCPR).

CCPR is the umbrella organisation for national governing and representative bodies of sport and recreation in the UK. Its mission is to 'protect, promote and provide' for sport and recreation. The information you provide will be extremely useful for CCPR as it lobbies Government to promote the welfare of sport and argues for increased support and funding for sports clubs.

Please answer the questions in the survey document as completely as you can. They are about your club – including its membership, volunteers and finances. You will need a copy of your club's annual reports and accounts from the last two years in order to answer some of the questions. Please make sure you have this information to hand *before* you start to fill in the questionnaire.

Your response will be kept confidential and anonymous. The survey is being administered for the CCPR by the Sport Industry Research Centre at Sheffield Hallam University. If you have any queries about the survey or require assistance, please telephone David Barrett on 0114 225 2298 or email d.barrett@shu.ac.uk.

To begin the survey, click on the following link: <http://sircspss.hwb.shu.ac.uk/ccpr>

Channel Islands travel

The bilateral agreement between the UK and the Channel Islands, which provided free access to immediate necessary primary medical care whilst visiting the Channel Islands, was terminated by the UK Department of Health on the 31 March 2009.

As a result, from 1 April 2009 anyone travelling to the Channel Islands must ensure that they have adequate medical and travel insurance in place. The islands are classed as Crown Dependencies of the UK and thus are not part of the European Economic Area (EEA) and not covered by EU Regulations. The European Health Insurance Card is therefore also not valid in the Channel Islands.

If individuals visiting the islands already have private medical insurance, the terms should be carefully checked as not all UK medical insurers include cover for Channel Island hospitals.

The same restrictions now apply to visitors coming from the Channel Islands to the UK. They too will now be charged for any medical treatment required during their stay.

Let's Go Karting says MP

Hugh Robertson MP, the Shadow Minister for Sport and the Olympics, visited Buckmore Park kart circuit in Kent recently to experience first-hand the MSA's *Let's Go Karting* programme.

"I am delighted that the MSA is investing in the future generations and breaking down the barriers to make the sport more accessible to people from all walks of life," said Robertson.

For more information on *Let's Go Karting*, including a list of participating venues, visit www.lets gokarting.net.

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Youthfulness no barrier

The MSA is again seeking nominations for individuals to fill the vacancies on the Specialist Committees that represent the interests of the various disciplines of motor sport.

The Specialist Committees, covering Autotest, Cross Country, Historics, Karting, Race, Rallies, Speed Events and Trials, meet two or three times a year, normally at Motor Sports House, to discuss and debate new regulations and other issues. The decisions and minutes are communicated via the Committee Chairmen to the next MSA Council meeting for approval.

All applicants must be a member of an MSA-recognised motor club or Regional Association, which must 'sponsor' the application. However, there are no formal qualifications required other than the benefit of experience in motor sport. The role is voluntary, with expenses paid to cover travel costs to meetings at Motor Sports House, and the appointment is normally for a three-year term. No person will serve more than three consecutive terms, apart from in exceptional circumstances.

"We always try to ensure that the membership of the Specialist Committees is kept fresh," says Colin Hilton, MSA Chief Executive. "We would particularly like to encourage younger members of the motor sport community who might not realise that they are eligible to stand for nomination. If they can offer their experiences and perhaps bring a different perspective to the role, it would help the various committees to continue to do a great job in developing and shaping the sport. We would encourage anyone with a passion for their sport to think about getting involved."

How to apply

Applicants should submit a brief CV of their motor sport involvement and achievements, including any relevant qualifications, together with name, address and contact details to the sponsoring MSA-registered club or Regional Association. The sponsor will forward the application to Andrea Wren at Motor Sports House, Riverside Park, Colnbrook, SL3 0HG. This should be done as soon as possible as applications must be received before the end of June 2009 at the latest.

Applications are considered for the limited number of positions available each year, so the MSA encourages those who have applied before but not been successful to re-apply this year.

Club of the Year award 2009

The MSA Club of the Year award has been presented annually since 1993, and this year's competition, with the support of JLT Sport, gives another opportunity for clubs to win the top prize of £1,000 together with the prestigious JLT Sport Trophy and other benefits. There are second and third prizes of £500 and £250 respectively, with commemorative awards.

This year clubs are being judged on a range of factors:

- The general marketing and promotion of the club
- Initiatives (including training) undertaken to attract and retain marshals and other volunteer officials
- The attractiveness of membership to (especially) younger people
- Examples of partnerships in such areas as road safety
- Projects that benefit the local community

Entry for the first stage of the competition is by nomination from a Regional Association – which must be submitted to the MSA by 1 October 2009.

If you wish your club to be nominated, contact your Regional Association. Clubs which are not active members of a Regional Association or which are based in remote locations (e.g. offshore islands), may submit nominations directly to the MSA, marked for the attention of Allan Dean-Lewis, Head of External Affairs.

Marshal of the Year award 2009

With the support of JLT Sport, the MSA will again be presenting a Marshal of the Year award at its Night of Champions evening at the Royal Automobile Club in Pall Mall in January 2010. The award will recognize excellence from any or all disciplines of motor sport.

Many of the 14 Regional Associations and the British Motor Racing Marshals Club already have their own marshals' awards and are being asked to submit their nominations for the Marshal of the Year award to the MSA by 1 October 2009.

If a club wishes to nominate someone, their name and brief reasons for the nomination should be submitted to the club's Regional Association as soon as possible.

Clubs which are not active members of a Regional Association or which are based in remote locations (e.g. offshore islands), may submit nominations directly to the MSA, marked for the attention of Allan Dean-Lewis, Head of External Affairs.

ENDS.