

# slipstream



Mark Bradley with the Junior's trophy

[www.witneymotorclub](http://www.witneymotorclub)

## September 2011

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**Please** – when writing to Brian Pegram with a membership (whether it be new or renewal), please **make the cheque payable to *Witney Motor Club*, & not to Brian.**  
Many thanks – removes the hassle!

# Chairman's Chat

Hello all would like to start by thanking Simon for the great job he did with the autocross, the bit I saw and the comments I have heard and read, all point to a great weekend and a well-run event.

And as ever he can't do it all on his own so thank you to all that helped, especially the non-members and the new friends of the club that turned out to help without them we would have struggled.

Helen and I had a baby Girl, Lauren Elizabeth Boyle born at 23:55 on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September. Both Helen and Lauren are doing well she is a beautiful little girl, I am a very proud daddy, thank you Helen.

As we had some new marshals at the Autocross and they wanted more action I am looking at organising a Witney MC day out, marshalling at an event soon, if you're competing on any events, let us know (unfortunately I can't do the Regency Stages) if anyone else wants to do it though that is fine.

We have an Autotest coming up this month so keep your eyes open for another day playing with cars.

## **Steve**



**Getting her used to a 3 point Harness early!**

**Club web sites, for interest:**

[www.witneymotorclub.co.uk](http://www.witneymotorclub.co.uk)  
[www.witneymotorshow.co.uk](http://www.witneymotorshow.co.uk)  
[www.witneyautocross.co.uk](http://www.witneyautocross.co.uk)  
[www.witneykarting.co.uk](http://www.witneykarting.co.uk)

## ***Social Report***

Coming up we have:

<b>Awards Dinner</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> November	at The Bel, Long Hanborough
<b>AGM</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> November	A short committee meeting first. Please come and have your say.

## ***Derrick***

**IF YOU HAVE GIVEN US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS,  
YOU WILL NOW RECEIVE YOUR MAGAZINE BY  
EMAIL –LET PAM KNOW IF YOU STILL  
REQUIRE A HARD COPY.**

## *Competition Secretary's report*

Hello all.

Its busy month for the club. We have had another round of the club Autotest championship and the Autocross.

I'm afraid I was not present for the Autotest but the reports I have had back have been positive. Sounds like everyone is getting closer in ability and next year it could be very close for titles. As for this year, with one round left, it's one of about 3 people to take. Almost as close as F1 last year!

We have come off the annual Autocross which has been a massive success. This was my second year at the event and my first as an official. I would like to thank all the members and non-members who gave up their time to come and support the club as marshals and officials. Massive thanks also go to Simon Bradley who, as event manager, has had a stressful few months organizing it and the event would not have gone so well if not for him.

Please come and support the club as we would love to have the same support as we have this year.

Many thanks

*Craig*



Pictures taken at the Goodwood Festival of Speed by Craig Abbott



## Ref: Jimmy's Rant No.8

Up until now I assumed "Jimmy's Rant" was intended to be a serious piece.

Then I read his rant No. 8.

He's obviously been winding us up all along! Very successfully though - I was certainly fooled. . . . . until now!

No-one can believe he's serious when he states that he doesn't "see the need to use more than 2 lanes" of a multi lane dual carriageway. If everyone drove like this the inner lanes would be totally empty. Mind you it would save our country tens of millions of pounds if only 2 lane roads were built.

Over the last year I have driven many thousands of miles towing trailers on the motorways of this country and come across many "middle lane hogs" travelling at less than my speed. Lorries and vehicles towing trailers are not allowed in the outside lane if there are more than 2 lanes so when I come across someone not driving in the inside lane I often have no option but to overtake them on the "inside". Luckily this is not necessarily illegal as it is OK to pass on either side on a one way street/road, however it would be much more courteous to other road users if the "middle lane hogger" didn't hog the middle lane and moved back to the inside lane.

If Jimmy's Saab driver was indeed *swerving* across 3 lanes then he was driving in a potentially dangerous manner and shouldn't be copied but without doubt he was right to move back to the inside lane after each overtake.

As for having to brake hard if "blocked in", this surely only happens if you haven't been paying attention to the traffic around you and failed to adjust your speed to suit the conditions.

I think Jimmy should be congratulated. He's made me put pen to paper for the first time in many years and I suspect I'm not the only one. We need controversial comments in Slipstream occasionally!

However by the very nature of our club many of our members are relatively inexperienced drivers and they shouldn't be encouraged to drive in a manner that goes against the guide lines in the Highway Code.

## *Vernon*

### **The 2011 Vaux Shop Autocross**

I daresay there will be loads of articles about the weekend just gone, but in order to catch the current magazine press date, a few words of thanks and praise.

- Simon - for organising and having a contingency plan for absolutely everything.
- Craig - for being clerk of the course par excellence, and for the excellent quiz that got so many people socialising and having fun on the Saturday evening - GB1 is a cry that will stay with many of us for a long time, and the novel penalty system for GB1 - Richard Davies, the new national champion - of plying him with beer and then weighing his car down with just about everyone's empties!
- Julie and Shirley - results and helping mastermind the emergency marshal's food when the burger van didn't arrive - and to Pauline (wife of Mitch the paramedic) and Herby for cooking it.
- Brian and Derrick - for sorting the pits, and getting the right cars on the start line for the right run.
- Jimmy and the rest of the Milligan and Hedges families - for the land use, the bales, the landrover, and all the other things that we borrowed.
- All the marshals, helpers, supporters and families, and especially the competitors, without whom, we wouldn't have an event.

The weather was pretty kind - a bit of everything but not too much of anything, the atmosphere was terrific, and yet again, people drove off on Sunday shouting "see you next year" - guess that means we've got to do it all over again!

***Sue***

## **Jimmy's Rant of the Month – No. 9**

I was passing a row of parked cars on my side of the road in a housing estate with my estate car and 16ft trailer, which together must be close to 35ft long when a car coming the other way tooted at me. Presumably because I was still on his side of the road and he had to slow down because as he past my car he hadn't realised that those little lights following my car were actually attached to something!

It got me thinking that at some time or other we all do something which may be against the rules of the road or just causes someone else to slow up or stop. What I am asking for is a little bit of patience and consideration. Examples of patience being needed can be when you are behind a learner driver doing 30 in a 50 limit, well we all had to learn sometime or the elderly person in the little car obviously without power steering who had to do a 3 point turn to get round a mini roundabout, well it comes to us all!

The other potentially more serious situation is if you ever meet a vehicle coming towards you overtaking something else, holding onto your road position may be your right but it isn't in your best longevity plan. Calmly moving over to the grass verge and slowing will usually show the other driver where their best option is, hopefully the middle of the road. In my view if another driver has time to blast his horn it wasn't that close! Getting impatient only makes the other person flustered and it ends up taking longer.

A few minutes lost on a journey doesn't add up to much in the greater scheme of things and you get an enormous sense of wellbeing by being helpful to someone.

Next Month Drivers who rush into Petrol Stations and nearly run me over. If you disagree with anything on here please write it down and send it to Pam and she will bin it. No she won't she will add it to the Magazine next month. (Too true – see Vernon's rant at Jimmy's rant!)

*Jimmy*

## **The 2011 Vaux Shop Autocross**

Hi All

Thanks to one and all of those who organised, competed or helped on our Vaux Shop Witney Autocross this weekend making it a great event.

Please find attached results, they will be posted on the web site for download also, probably tomorrow now.

For any of those that missed it, photos of the event are available on CD of the event, £5.00 per CD for as many as you wish, these are available from Sam Gratrix, took some brilliant photos last year and no doubt will have some of the same again. I have a few orders but if you would like to order please let me know and I will arrange.

We also had our local OxBox TV filming the event on Sunday, click here for a taster <http://www.oxbox.tv/showvideo.php?video=5521606> I will let you know when the whole film is available.

Raised quite a bit for Bob – Thanks

(You will have to look at the results on the web site – too much to include in this.)

*Simon*

## Jack FM Quiz in aid of JR Paediatric Ward – 10 Aug at the Old Swan,Minster Lovell.

What's this? I hear you say-I knew nothing about this. The reason would probably be that Steve entered a Witney Motor Club team, and then forgot all about it till the day. He quickly put a piece on Facebook, and Jimmy confirmed, and then had to cancel. I saw it and thought about it, but before I made any decision, Steve contacted me and agreed to collect me and go via the cashpoint. Steve, Helen and I arrived, and found ourselves to be one of 9 teams to enter - nibbles on the tables,£5 a head and glasses in hand, we had difficulty getting over the name of the team-after all these years, Steve's accent still causes some fun. Most of the teams appeared to be 5 or 6 people-ours was 3 and a bit, if you count baby Boyle!

The answer sheets were handed round, including a picture round to do as and when - the pictures weren't that clear, but Helen was really on the ball, and got an answer for all of them before the end - Steve and I made a few contributions, but they weren't always helpful. I think Helen and I were both worried we would be hopelessly last, as all the other teams were twice the size of ours. However, when the first two rounds were marked, we were equal 3rd, so we were pretty pleased. The remaining rounds we felt we had done pretty badly on, only to discover that everybody else was pretty much the same. Like in most pub quizzes, every team has one round they struggle with and another they do well on. Our worst seemed to be on Oxfordshire - the questions were pretty random though, honestly!

One round made all the difference - we tried to work as a team - when we all came up with an answer, we democratically chose the answer we gave, just a shame that on three occasions, we picked the wrong one. But true to our democratic system, we all had a right answer when we chose another one!

Final results revealed we had finished equal 4th over all, and only  $3\frac{1}{2}$  points behind the winners. We were all pleased and it was a really enjoyable night.

Next time there's one organised, we should try and get a team together properly - there were one or two questions we know Derrick would have known or Jimmy, or.....

*Sue*

## **Goodwood Festival of Speed 2011**

I am a motorsport junkie. Ask anyone who knows me and 9 times out of 10 you will find me watching or supporting all aspects of motorsport from karting to F1, Speed Boats to MotoGP.

A great way to get a fill of motorsport is at the annual Goodwood Festival of Speed. Held just before the British GP, it's a celebration of everything motorsport. It's one of the few places on earth you can go and see the early pioneers of motorsport running on the same tarmac as the latest F1 machines. That coupled with a forest rally stage and an arena for 'extreme' sports and you get a great fill whatever your taste.

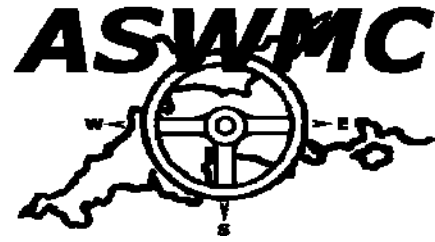
My wife and I spent the morning up on the rally stage enjoying the thrill of watching everything from late 60's Escorts to the latest WRC Mini. I especially enjoyed the Group B monsters flying through the trees with the amazing sound of an original Metro 6R4 making me feel like a small child.

On track action was hot and fast with several celebrations happening. Jaguar were out in force with both the E Types 50<sup>th</sup> birthday and a celebration of Jaguar in Motorsport. There were celebrations of the Isle of Man TT and Mazda's first win at the Les Mans 24hrs. Personal highlights were seeing the Mazda 787B Les Mans car attack the hill and Ken Block floating his Ford Fiesta WRC in drifts and slides.

In the air, the crowd were treated to a wonderful display from the only flying Avro Vulcan in the world.

I would say that if you have petrol coursing through your veins then the Festival of Speed is well worth a visit as you won't be disappointed.

*Craig*



## **ASWMC Council Minutes, 21st August 2011**

**Present** – Tony Scott Andrews (MSA), Bristol, Burnham, Camel Vale, CRSW, Silverton, South Hams, Weston, Woolbridge

### **Apologies for absence**

Colin Hilton, Alan Whitney, Howard West, Colin Goode, Roy Sims, Tony Bonfield, Nic Ayre, Ecurie Cymraeg, Ross, Epynt, DEWS, Truro

**Minutes of the Council Meeting of 10th April 2011** - approved

**Matters arising from those minutes** - none

### **General Secretary's Report**

Colin Hilton not attending today, Allan Dean Lewis to attend in October in place of Miles Booker

ADL stated the Ian Davis would be unable to attend our meeting in October but if we had any specific questions he would attempt to obtain answers for us.

South Devon Off Road club have applied with cheque – executive in favour of acceptance. - Post meeting note, I have informed them they have been accepted and will be forwarding yearbooks to their secretary, contact details to Nic and cheque to Colin

Correspondence : various MSA press releases. Forestry allocations. Chairman asked if clubs copied MSA press releases to their members, some did, some put them on websites or linked to the MSA. Suggested that important MSA releases be passed on by clubs to their membership.

Executive Committee Report by the Chairman together with Motor Sports Council and Specialist Committee Reports

LARA – The 14/28 day rule is under review again by the government. PP explained the consequences of losing the 14/28 day rule, which would be the loss of many venues

(e.g. farmer's fields) that don't have planning consent for motorsport use. Important that clubs send in submissions to the consultation by the end of August.

Executive decided not to pursue an autosolo championship in 2012 as the main bulk of events are on the northern edge of the association area or beyond, but will be considered for 2013.

Roger Gillard looking at a review of available venues, with an emphasis on not interfering with existing arrangements, but (for example) talking to Defence Estates about venues not currently used for motorsport. There will be a venues sub-committee and members from outside the ASWMC Executive are sought for this.

#### Treasurer's Report

Paul Parker read out Colin's report in his absence. The report is attached at the end of these minutes

### **1. Championship Co-ordinators', Training Officer, and Forestry Liaison Officer's Reports**

Autocross – 44 contenders, 42 scoring. Explanation of date clashes with National Championship, situation should be improved in 2012.

Training – MSA marshals registration forms have been sent. Contact from John Radford Hospital re attending training days. Oct 16 rally training day at Wiscombe, please publicise. This will have two mock stages, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. West country do the recovery to see how they get the marshals allocated etc. Debrief over lunch, same in the afternoon and will set fire to the cars at the end. Names and numbers needed in advance. Some discussion about the importance of marshals being properly trained as well as getting the card signed for attendance on events, as untrained "experienced" marshals are a problem (e.g. car rolling and all marshals attend rather than leave one to alert following competitors). RN advised he would be happy to go to clubs to do training.

Forestry – 2012 allocations have been submitted, all ASWMC accepted, only three. There are more allocations available should any club wish to run an event. Disease still rampant throughout the country. Not big impact, more concern about trials as they 'leave the beaten track', requirements being imposed on stages to wash wheels when leaving contaminated areas. Felling has caused cancellation of some smaller events. Situation likely continue into 2012 but shouldn't be worse. Nothing that can be done with lobbying as all driven by DEFRA etc. Advice is to talk to local forester rather than the hierarchy. Again concern regarding possible changes to the 14/28 rule and the

make up of the committee looking at this. Any clubs wishing to run a rally in the SW for 2012 must now talk to CH before talking to the MSA. 3 allocations so far, more are available.

Autotest - NA report was read out by Paul Parker and is attached at the end of these minutes

Rallies – AW report was read out by Paul Parker and is attached at the end of these minutes. Prima @ Smeatharpe entries stand at 16 and the event may not run – subsequent communication from the organisers is that the event will run. This could lead the venue being used for drag racing or other similarly noisy activities. This highlights the problem of date congestion in the Sealed Championship in October. It has been suggested the clubs involved sit down and agree dates to minimize this. Rally of the midlands thought to be a good event and worth considering if AW can get it into the championship. Sponsor for Loose Surface needed.

MSA representative – Tony Scott Andrews, chairman Motor Sports Council

Closed roads may actually happen for 2013. Talked about the problems of disseminating information and asked for suggestions of improving how this is done down to individuals. Said that MSA Executive attend political party fringe meetings etc. to lobby.

Date of Next Meeting : Sunday 23rd October 2011, 2.30pm, Hartnoll Hotel – AGM and council meeting.

Allan Dean Lewis from the MSA will be attending the October meeting. If Clubs have any questions for him that may require research beforehand, please email me at [secretary@aswmc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@aswmc.org.uk) in plenty of time so I can forward them.

Attached reports:

### **REIS ASWMC Autotest Championship Report**

Registrations are up this year with 16 registrations and 14 having scored points, compared with 12 and 11 in 2010. We are down to seven rounds, so it will be the best 5 to count.

Ray Sissins heads the championship after five rounds, with Ernie Burles closing in after missing the opening two rounds of the year.

Bad news is that Weston withdrew both their autotests from the 2011 calendar due to a lack of interest within the club, the good news is that Plymouth found a new venue and their event in July ran as planned.

The new North Devon event at Chivenor ran for the first time and the venue will hopefully be open to us again next year and it looks like we will have another new event in the Bournemouth area as well.

A few dates for 2012 will need to be changed as we look to avoid any clashes with MSA/BTRDA rounds. This will maximise our chances of getting more drivers at events and also allow our local drivers to compete further afield in these National Championships.

If your club would like to organise a ASWMC Championship round for 2012, please contact me soon to discuss dates. There is always help available and I can offer draft regulations to test diagrams and other advice and tips are always at the end of the telephone or email.

Finally I will be cutting back on some of my ASWMC activities next year, so we are looking for someone to take over the Autotest Championship or at least assist me in running the Championship, we will also be looking to introduce an AutoSolo Championship maybe as soon as next year, so if you are up for the challenge give me a ring and we will have a chat.

## **RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP REPORT 21-Aug-2011**

My apologies for not being able to attend today's meeting, I hope to attend the next meeting in October

### **This is run down of each individual rally championship**

#### **Subaru WRC Sales Sealed Surface Stage Rally Championship 2011**

This year's registration stands at 72 up by 5 from 2010 (really good news)

With number competitors scoring points at 60 up by 3

There are 5 events still to run

This year we lost Colerne Airfield as a venue which meant the cancellation of both the Azimghur Stage Rally and the Wugging Stages, and another event lost was the Castle Combe stages.

With the loss of these event the championship is now down to 12 events

There also may be a problem with the Prima Motorsport stage at Smeatharpe, at the moment there entries are very low

On a bright note I have been in touch with Streetly Motor Club which run the Rally of the Midlands, this year about 9 ASWMC crews took part ( which is

more than some of the rounds in the Championship), I believe this would be a good addition to the championship

### **Loose Surface Stage Rally Championship 2010**

This year's registration stands at 17 down by 6 from 2010

With number competitors scoring points at 10 down by 7

There are just 2 rallies yet to run

Next years championship will stay the same as this year with 8 rounds, same events as this year

We need a sponsor for 2012, if anybody knows anybody that might like to sponsor the championship let me know and I will contact them ASAP

### **Both Sealed and Loose Championships**

I am proposing a new class for both championships,

This to take in to account the few Histories competing in this area

The class is covers by R 49 in the blue book, will give more detail at the next meeting

The Chairman can answer any Question you may have, as he's been helping me on this proposal

### **Open Navigational Rally Championship**

### **Novice Navigational Rally Championship**

### **Classic Road Rally Championship (Was Historic)**

### **Endurance Rally Championship**

Open Navigational registration for 2011, 26 down by 2 from last year, with 21 scoring point up by 1

Novice Navigational registration for 2011, 15 up by 4 from last year, with 15 scoring point up by 7

Classic Championship registration down to just 4, a drop of 3 from 2010, this year only 2 scoring points so far

Endurance Championship registration down to just 4, a drop of 3 from 2010, all 4 have scored points this year

Next year I propose to drop the Endurance Championship as it is not viable to run it

I had also plan to drop the classic championship as well, but next year sees the return of the Carpetbagger to the championship and all so The Bath Festival is running again after a 20 year absence, both of these events will encourage Classic (historic cars) to enter, so I am going to give the Classic Championship 1 more year

### **Treasurers Report August 2011**

Attached is a copy of the basic accounts up to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2011, compared with the same period for 2010. I believe notes 1,2 and 3 are largely self explanatory.

The increase of £1661 over 2010 is largely due to the increase in Club subscriptions and MSA Grants. The increase in outgoings for 2011 is mainly due to the Hydraulic Cutter the ASWMC donated to West Country Rescue and an increase in petrol costs. As of 31<sup>st</sup> July the ASWMC has a total of 81 registered Clubs, with 54 currently registered to pay by Standing Order. There are a number of Clubs who tell me they have sent their Standing Order Mandate direct to their bank for 2012's payment. The last payers were Bridgend Motor Club and Basingstoke Motor Club both of whom paid on the 18<sup>th</sup> May after a long struggle!

Championship Registrations, as can be seen from the accounts are £5,016 as against £5,306 for 2010. We are still getting some late applications, so the numbers could improve by the end of the year.

Sponsorship has proved to be a very difficult subject in 2011 with one significant sponsor not paying at all and another not paying until the 14th June.

## **Letter of invitation**

Association of West Midland Motor Clubs  
John Arnold  
Wharfe Cottage  
Longdon on Tern  
Telford TF6 6LQ

Dear Sirs,

23 August 2011

### **Jasper's Bakeries Swynnerton Stages**

Ecurie Royal Oak Motor Club Limited cordially invite your Association and its members to the Jasper's Bakeries Swynnerton Stages to be run on the 30<sup>th</sup> October 2011 at Swynnerton Army Training Grounds, Swynnerton.

The regulations and entry form are available at <http://www.eromc.co.uk/>

Yours faithfully



Nigel Bayley  
Secretary of the Meeting.

## ***Magazine Editor's 'Bit'***

Well, I am pleased to say that the wedding went marvellously, we had a glorious day and, of course, the bride looked wonderful. Now, of course, it's back to reality. Sorry if last month's magazine was really late, I'd sent it to Steve to pdf it, then forgot about it, until Jimmy put out an urgent email, explaining that the police and frogmen were looking for it in Minster - I had to laugh. Anyway, you received it in the end! It looks like it might also be late this month, which is due to the Autocross.

It's good news about "Baby Boyle" - what a lovely name (Lauren Elizabeth). Well done Helen, bet you're glad that's done and dusted.

It's interesting that "Jimmy's Rant" has evoked a response from a club member - good on you Vernon - are there any more reactions from you all? E-mail me if you feel strongly about anything actually, we can cope with some disagreement, can't we?

Sorry Craig, I didn't use your pictures last month - honest, what is the woman coming to?

For the next Autotest, the prize will be the Autobits Trophy to try for.

***Pam***