



Liverpool Motor Club

The Bulletin

2009 December

Ed-lines

Well with the Festive Season approaching at full chat I thought that it was time for some reflections on Liverpool Motor Club's year and past glories. I have pieced together some *Quite Interesting* facts from over the years as well as taking a pictorial look at 2009. On a personal front I am still recovering from a minor operation on my finger so have to triple read everything I type as I am more than usual prone to making typing errors!

Part of my reflections have dwelt on the losses suffered in motorsport in 2009. Many wonderful characters have been lost to the sport: Tony Marsh, Roy Lane & Allan Staniforth to name but three. My thoughts have been turning to their families left behind. At this time of celebration please spare a thought for those suffering family loss not just in motor sport but in our wonderful armed services, police and voluntary organisations.

So what does 2010 hold in store? I am looking forward to the new season with all those MSA changes and the new Classes & Regulations. I suspect there may be a lot of changes of class as cars go through scrutineering for the first time. I am also planning to visit several 'new' venues that I have so far missed. I haven't ruled out a return to competition but that all depends on whether I find a suitable new steed at an affordable price!

In the meantime I would like to wish our club members and their families all the very best for the festive season & look forward to meeting up again in the New Year.

Steve Wilkinson

Chairman's Chat

So here we are at the end of the year. Britain has a worthy F1 World Champion in Jenson Button, and following the Hamilton effect last year, motorsport is once again getting a reasonable amount of coverage in the British media; or is it? How many people know that this year Scotland's Dario Franchitti clinched the IndyCar Series title for a second time? (Actually, is it IndyCar or Champcar, or CART this year – I'm confused too). And how did three times World Touring Car Champion Andy Priaulx get on this year? Where did Matthew Wilson finish in the World Rally Championship? Oh, and does Joe Public know that Welsh hero Phil Mills sits alongside Petter Solberg in the WRC? I could go on. Unless they really tried hard to follow Britain's motorsport stars, other than those in Formula 1, your average terrestrial TV viewer wouldn't have heard anything about their performances; and to be honest, the national papers were not much better.

Isn't it time that Motorsport received the media coverage it deserves? When did you last see Rallycross on mainstream television? Are you old enough to recall seeing regular coverage of Autotests on TV? And do you remember those incredible "made for television" off road competitions between the Army & the London Motor Club which featured everything from Mini Mokes to Land Rovers and Alvis Stalwarts? Alright, I know that in those days there were far fewer attractions jostling for our attention on a Saturday afternoon, but equally there were just 2 or 3 channels to choose from then, yet they still managed to find time to show a whole range of motorsport disciplines.

2010 Sprint Classes.

Things have really moved on since last month and it looks as though our proposed Speed Classes will be adopted by nearly all clubs from the Midlands to the Scottish Border (Wigton MC have decided to be Scottish!). We now have the backing of the MSA so we are now pressing ahead with publishing our own regs & those for our championship.

Not everyone is going to be happy with the rules, but at least everyone will know where they stand and they will be confident that their car will be in the same class in virtually every event that they are likely to enter. Now, all that needs to happen is for the South East & particularly the South West to adopt the classes too. It may take a year or two, but I think we have a good chance of them being adopted universally in due course.

2010 Blue Book

Have you got yours yet? Have you looked at it? It has changed again, and just for once something sensible has happened and the various rules have all been renumbered into a style that most of you will recognise from a couple of years ago. There are some errors (to be expected give the enormity of the task) but the book is now far easier to refer to. Now, how does this affect you? Well, rallying is now section R, Speed is section S, Trials are section T – can you see a theme developing here?

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Changes have been made to the wording to allow alternative energy vehicles to compete (about time) and there are whole sections of red text highlighting changes in Racing and Rallying. Speed has got off fairly lightly this time, but you do need to check the book for yourself as you may well be affected by some of the changes right from the start of the 2010 season.

Check out the amendments now, not a week before your first event of the season!

Particular mention should be made of the rules regarding clothing. Everyone competing in Speed events in 2010 must wear flame-resistant gloves. Turn up without them, and you won't be allowed to start. Looking ahead even further, you need to be aware that from Jan 2012, overalls used in Speed events must be to FIA standards; the previous BS or EN standards will no longer be accepted.

Well, that's it from me; don't forget to keep looking at the LMC forum and Website, and also the [Speed Championship](#) site too. If you haven't got internet access, you really are missing out!

On behalf of the Committee of Liverpool Motor Club, I would like to thank you all for staying with us through the year, supporting our events whether as a competitor, event official or marshal.

I would also like to wish each of you health and happiness for the coming festive season and may you have a prosperous and successful 2010.

John Harden

Tricia Drucker.

It is with great sadness that I have to report that Tricia, wife of LMC Club Secretary Dr David Drucker, died suddenly on Friday 4th December. Many of you will have met Tricia as she accompanied David to events and the Championship awards nights. Our thoughts are with David and his family at this very sad time.

John Harden

In-Car Video

Have you got some in-car video that you'd like to share? We are looking for some suitable footage of Aintree for the LMC website, so this is your chance to be famous!

Please contact Ron Hunt, our webmaster if you think that you can help. Judging by the number of cars that we scrutineer with cameras these days, we should be able to find something!

Aintree Hosts the British Grand Prix

From 1955 to 1962 Aintree was used for the British GP. In '55 Stirling Moss emerged victorious beating fellow Mercedes driver Juan-Manuel Fangio. Moss won again in 1957 this time at the wheel of a Vanwall but only after taking over Tony Brooks' car when his own broke down. In 1959 Australian driver Jack Brabham won in a Cooper and he went on to be the world champion. In 1961 the Ferrari works team dominated and Wolfgang von Trips was first home. The final GP held at Aintree was in 1962 when Jim Clark won driving a Lotus-Climax.

Quiz Masters

Back in April 1970 Autosport was reporting on the Castrol Quiz Final held at the Savoy Hotel, Birmingham and chaired by the late BBC commentator Raymond Baxter. The event consisted of two semi-finals and the final. In the first semi-final the Liverpool Motor Club Team, consisting of Ian Titchmarsh, Peter Hamilton-Smith and Bill Auckland, beat local rivals Mid-Cheshire MRC and progressed to the final where they came up against Chess Valley Motor Club from Hertfordshire. In the final LMC were again victorious and as well as a 16 foot caravan to be used by the club each of the members of the team won a Heuer Chronograph; to this day Ian Titchmarsh, well known as a TV motorsport commentator, still wears his with pride.

ANWCC Events Calendar

We are now featuring a snapshot of the [ANWCC](#) events calendar each month. If you know of an event that others may want to know about, let us know via www.liverpoolmotorclub.com/about/contact-us/ or give our Editor a ring.

Nov 28 /29 - Oak Leaf Stages Rally - National B - Ecurie Royal Oak MC (ANWCC Stage Rally Champ)

Nov 28 /29 - Farrington Rally - National B - Clwyd Vale MC (ANWCC Road Rally Champ)

Dec 05 /06 - J J Brown Memorial Rally - Clubmans - Caernarvonshire & Anglesey MC

Dec 06 - Prod Car Autotest - National B - Accrington MSC (ANWCC Allrounders Champ)

Dec 06 - Autosolo - National B - Accrington MSC (ANWCC Autosolo Champ)

Dec 06 - Autosolo - Clubmans - Accrington MSC

Dec 06 - Prod Car Autotest - Clubmans - Accrington MSC

Dec 06 - Car Trial - Clubsport - Ilkley & DMC

Dec 07 - Scatter Rally - Closed - Knutsford & DMC

Dec 12 - Liz Lawson Road Rally - Closed - Druidale MC

Dec 27 - Autotest - Clubmans - Caernarvonshire & Anglesey MC

Jan 02 /03 - Y2K Road Rally - National B - Clwb Modur Cymru (ANWCC)

Jan 16 /17 - Winter Challenge Road Rally - Closed - North Wales CC

Jan 17 - Autosolo - Clubmans - Knutsford & DMC

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ANWCC 2010 calendar—continued

Jan 24 - Red Kite Stages Forest Rally - National B - Amman & DMC (ANWCC/WAMC)

Jan 24 - Red Kite Historic Stage Rally - National B - Amman & DMC (ANWCC/WAMC)

Jan 25 - Scatter 101 Rally - Clubmans - Knutsford & DMC

Jan 30 - AWARDS 2009 PRESENTATION - Association of North-Western Car Clubs

Feb 05 /06 - Legend Fores North West Stages - National B - Motor Sport NW

Feb 13 /14 - Tour of Anglesey Historic Road Rally - National B - Caernarvonshire & Anglesey MC

Feb 14 - Riponian Forest Stages Rally - National B - Ripon MSC

Feb 17 - 12-Car Scatter Rally - Clubsport - Ilkley & DMC

Feb 22 - Scatter 102 Rally - Clubmans - Knutsford & DMC

LMC Forum

Got something to say? Can't wait until the next Bulletin & want to know what's going on? Got something to sell? Want advice? Then don't forget the [Club Forum](#). It's there for you, it's running way under capacity, it's really easy to use, and it's free!

What do you know about you Club? Are we the oldest active motor club in the UK?

We were founded as the Liverpool Self-propelled Traffic Association in 1896, the local subsidiary of a national organisation that had been formed the year before to promote the new-fangled horseless carriages. The Liverpool branch of the organisation was formed to run a "trial of motor vehicles for heavy traffic" (i.e. wagons!) on Everton Brow, a steep section of roadway in Liverpool, part of which still exists today though no longer carrying traffic. The organisers thought that the winner would be the vehicle that actually made it to the top of the hill, though as it happens several did manage to complete the course, so the winner became the one that did it in the fastest time. I suppose this was an early Hillclimb competition! The winner received a prize of £100, which was a great deal of money back then, worth over £3,000 today.

The trial was held for, we think, 3 or 4 years then other events were run including "motor tours" for cars around the North West of England. All very adventurous then when virtually everything was moved by horse-drawn wagons or on railways or canals and out of towns, the few surfaced roads were maintained by local turnpike trusts.

The Club was reformed as Liverpool Motor Cycle Club in 1902, changing its name to Liverpool Motor Club in 1904 to reflect the interests of members with cars as well as those with motorcycles. We are still trying to piece our early history together as all our records were lost during WW2 when central Liverpool was virtually destroyed by Luftwaffe bombing raids. To see more about the Club's past, have a look at the recently updated [History](#) page our website. If you do have any information regarding the club, from the turn of the last century right up to the 1980's, our archivist Geoff Ashworth would love to hear from you.



Rob Wakelin at Anglesey Racing Circuit back in July



Rob Wakelin picking up the Championship Cup from LMC President, Geoff Ashworth, at our Awards night.

Membership Matters (Renewals)

The membership renewal reminders that I usually send out toward the end of November are slightly delayed this year as there have been significant changes to the Blue Book (see Chairman's notes). As I normally enclose the Speed Championship regs with your membership renewal, I needed to see the new Blue Book before going to print. As a result, your renewal invitation will be delayed late December or even January by the time I get everything back from the printers.

If you need your membership card for an event before the end of January please either download a [membership form](#) off the Club website and send it to me, or alternatively give me a call and I will send one out to you in the post. If you get my answerphone, please leave message containing your name and membership number.

Please do not forget to enter your **membership number** on the form, or mark it **RENEWAL**.

Many thanks for your patience - this is turning out to be a rather busier time than anticipated!

Ron Hunt

Out and About — were you there?



Left: Mark Wallwork's Dax shows the scars of a hard season's competition as he rounds the hairpin at Anglesey Racing Circuit during the October Longton & DMC meeting.

Right: our hard-working start-line crew get Eve Whitehead lined up at Aintree. Whilst in the far background our chairman points out a problem!



Left: Trackday Action from May. This is the hurly-burly of an early lap for the Group B (intermediate) runners. A varied assortment of cars as ever were enjoying the freedom of the full Club Circuit at Aintree.

Right: Liverpool Motor Club member Nick Algar in his Gould-NME GR55 en route to victory at the British Sprint Championship round at Mallory Park. Nick clinched the 2009 Championship and also won the Over 2 litre Racing-car Category.



People you should know!

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To reduce the amount of spam we receive we changed all LMC email addresses early this year. Please amend your contacts accordingly as the old addresses have now ceased to work.

The Bulletin and Spin-Off are the official journals of The Liverpool Motor Club Ltd.

The opinions expressed are those of the individual contributors, and are not necessarily those of the Club, its officials, members or committee.

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