



Liverpool Motor Club

The Bulletin

2010 January

Ed-lines *by Steve Wilkinson*

Let me start by wishing all our club members a very Happy New Year. I hope that the rather severe winter hasn't hit you too hard and that you have managed to avoid any tumbles. My local GP reported a 400% increase in the number of injuries due to falls!

With the new motor sport season already hotting up with the usual F1 controversy and new signings I spotted a rather interesting interview with Bernie Ecclestone. He was asked how to spice up the sport and his suggestion made be do a double-take. He thought it would be a good idea to have 'short cuts' built into the race tracks which drivers could use up to 5 times each during the race! The interviewer from the Guardian didn't ask the obvious follow-up questions such as "How do you police it?", "How do marshals cope with further points on the track where cars will be rejoining?", "What are the safety implications at having cars rejoining the track unsupervised?" What Bernie did say was that it would be better for the television audience. When will he learn that you can't go altering race tracks to "spice things up"; what you do have to do is change the cars!

On the Speed Event front I must echo what John Harden has already said and that is consult your MSA Blue Book when it drops onto your doormat. It is vital that ALL competitors familiarise themselves with the new regulations—especially those to do with safety. The Scrutineers will have no latitude and if you don't comply then you could find yourselves excluded from the meeting.

Chairman's Chat *by John Harden*

Happy New Year everyone! As I write this, Britain is in the grip of a spot of Siberian weather that is making getting about "interesting" for most of us. Last night, a temperature of -17.7°C was recorded at Bentham in Oxfordshire; the night before we had -17.6°C at Woodford near Stockport. These are genuine temperatures of course, not the sometimes dubious ones shown on the display in your car!

Is this having an effect on Motorsport? You bet it is! LMC member David Hunt advises that he was due to compete in the Exeter Trial on 8th & 9th January but it has been cancelled due to the condition of minor roads in the area. So his hope of a Gold Medal will have to wait for another year. That event will not be the only casualty by any means and I am sure that we shall soon learn of other cancellations too.

From LMC's point of view, our events at Aintree don't start until the end of April by which time the snow and ice should be long gone. However, this unusually long spell of freezing conditions will not be doing the circuit any good at all but there's nothing we can do at the moment; we can only keep our fingers crossed that any damage isn't too severe.

Salt of the earth — The press, of course, love all this bad weather. I can just picture journalists rubbing their hands with glee at the thought of being able to report schools being closed, roads turned into skating rinks, and where are all those gritters? The simple fact is that there is only so much salt to go around and, in any case, it doesn't work at temperatures below -9°C.

Get a Grip! — The current fashion for fitting wide, ultra low profile tyres on cars isn't helping either, but the biggest cause of so many cars being unable to get a grip in the snow (apart from bad driving), is today's almost universal use of low-rolling resistance tyres. Have a look at yours and then cast your mind back to how tyres looked in the 1970's - if you are old enough!!

Today's tyres have plenty of radial grooves in the rubber, some have a very pretty V pattern – great for removing water and preventing aquaplaning but, without lateral grooves or a chunky tread, they can't possibly grip in snow like tyres did 30 years ago. In fact, the tyres fitted to most road cars in the UK are not even designed to work properly at low ambient temperatures. Depending on the compound, the performance of some tyres drops off significantly below freezing and in recent tests for one of the motoring magazines, two absolutely standard big name European tyres, currently fitted to thousands of cars, lost 20% of their grip when the tyre temperature dropped below -5°C. No ice, no snow, just smooth, dry Tarmac and a serious lack of grip. The manufacturers' response? "Drivers should be fitting their spare set of winter tyres at this time of year". In fact, using winter tyres is compulsory in several European countries. Do you have a set for your road car? No, neither do I but maybe we should, but then, how often are you likely to need them? And if you change your car reasonably regularly, you can guarantee that they won't fit your new pride & joy! Be warned though, next time you venture out in freezing conditions, your tyres may not be up to the job.

2010 Speed Regs — Have you received your membership renewal reminder? If not please get in contact with Ron Hunt our membership secretary ASAP. With your reminder form you should have received the 2010 Chester & Liverpool Motor Clubs' Speed Championship regulations booklet. If you haven't received yours, please let Ron know. As you gleefully scan through the pages of the regs, you will see the updated rules that most Northern Clubs will be basing their own regs on this year. Please make sure that your car complies with the new rules, as they will be enforced almost everywhere and you don't want to turn up at an event only to find that your car doesn't comply.

ANWCC Championship — Are you are entering one of the ANWCC championships this year? If so, please tell them that you are an LMC member, even if you are also entering as a member of another club. Your championship scores will then contribute to LMC's position in the Club Championship, and I'd like to see our club a little higher up the charts this year.

2010 Blue Book — Did you check the changes that are highlighted in the 2010 Blue Book? Does your race suit comply and have you got your fire resistant gloves yet? How about your helmet, does it comply with the correct standards? Better get looking now as there are some brilliant bargains out there. Check out the amendments now, not a week before your first event of the season!

Social Meetings — Some of you already know that the Club has informal social meetings from 8pm on the second Monday of the month at the Unicorn Inn, Cronton (405 Cronton Rd, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 5QF), not far from the M62/M57 junction. Liverpool Motor Club has 200 members, of whom around 150 live within 35 miles of Aintree. Yet our social meetings attract a dozen members at the most, more usually only 5 or 6. Where are you? Why don't you come along and have a good old natter? It's a nice cosy traditional pub, very convenient for the motorway and we don't bite! At the last meeting 80% of those present had travelled over 25 miles to get there, so if they can make the effort, why cant you? I do hope I'll see you at one of the meetings in the near future. The social meeting dates for 2010 are:-

8th February, 8th March, 12th April, 10th May, 14th June, 12th July, 9th August, 13th September, 11th October, 8th November & 13th December.

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

Happy motoring!

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 dead easy

Marshalling Matters

North West Stages Rally — help wanted

We are helping Stockport 061 Motor Club run the Weeton Stage of the [North West Stages Rally](#) on 6th February. Can you help? Previous experience not required! Please contact your Chairman, [John Harden](#) if you would like to come along to help us at this busy venue that is closed to spectators. Signing on 10.30 to 11.30 Last car 18.30

Tour of Cheshire, Classic Rally — help wanted here too

We shall be helping Knutsford Motor Club with their Classic [Tour of Cheshire](#) that takes place on Saturday 7th March. This well supported event will start from The Wild Boar at Beeston and we shall be running the test at our old favourite, Chowley Oak Business Park. (just off the A41 South of Chester), which will be one of the first tests of the day. Fancy giving us a hand? Previous experience not required! Please contact [John Harden](#) or see the Club Forum

2010 ANWCC Rally Marshals' Training

The official ANWCC/MSA Rally Marshals' Training day, 5 different courses: Introduction to Rally Marshalling, In-stage Marshal, Radio Marshal, Timing Marshal, Senior Stage Officials (includes new & aspiring, plus existing Stage Mgmt Personnel, i.e. Stage Commanders, Deputy Stage Commanders, Stage Safety Officers & Stage Spectator Safety Officers)

All sessions FREE to the trainee, food excepted.

Date Saturday 30th January

Venue: Stockport College Signing on 08.15 to 08.45. Finish 15.30

Certificate of attendance provided and Marshal's record cards signed.

Contact Derek Machin on 01625 869 720, by [email](#) or by using this [form](#). More details on the [VIM](#) website.

2010 Sprint & Hillclimb Marshals' Training

This year, the excellent speed marshals' training sessions will be held at Loton Park on Sunday 7th March. These are tailored specifically to Sprints & Hillclimbs, are free and are well worth attending.

If you wish to attend, please contact [Bill Gray](#) on 01704 220 839 or [Pete Proudley](#) on 0151 920 6544.

Events Calendar

Here's this month's extract from the ANWCC calendar. If you know of an event that's not listed & others may want to know about, let us know via www.liverpoolmotorclub.com/about/contact-us/ or give our Editor a ring (see page4)

Feb 05 /06 - Legend Fores North West Stages (Multi-Venue Stage Rally) National B - Motor Sport NW (ANWCC/ANCC/NETRC/SD34)
Feb 13 /14 - Tour of Anglesey (Historic Road Rally) National B - Caernarvonshire & Anglesey MC (ANWCC/GE)
Feb 14 - Riponian Stages (Forest Stage Rally) National B - Ripon MSC (ANWCC/ANCC/ANECCC/ANEMMC/EMAMC)
Feb 17 - 12-Car Scatter Rally (12-Car Scatter Rally) Clubsport - Ilkley & DMC (---)
Feb 22 - Scatter 102 (Scatter Rally) Clubmans - Knutsford & DMC (---)
Feb 28 - Autotest (Autotest) Clubmans - Caernarvonshire & Anglesey MC (GE)
Feb 28 - Production Car Autotest (Production Car Autotest) Clubmans - Caernarvonshire & Anglesey MC (GE)
Mar 06 - Malcolm Wilson Rally (Forest Stage Rally) National B - Kirkby Lonsdale MC/Morecambe CC/West Cumbria MSC (ANWCC/BTRDA)
Mar 06 - Tour of Cheshire (Historic Road Rally) National B - Knutsford & DMC (ANWCC/HRCR)
Mar 07 - Roskirk Stages (Multi-Use Stage Rally) National B - Blackpool South Shore MSC (ANWCC/3 Sisters)
Mar 07 - Bolton March Autosolo (Autosolo) National B - Bolton-le-Moors CC (ANWCC/SD34)
Mar 07 - Bolton March Autosolo (Autosolo) Clubsport - Bolton-le-Moors CC (---)
Mar 14 - Jon MacKenzie Autotest (Autotest) National B - Hagley & DLCC (ANWCC/BTRDA/AWMMC)
Mar 14 - Autosolo (Autosolo) National B - CSMA Club NW (ANWCC/SD34)
Mar 14 - Autosolo (Autosolo) Clubsport - CSMA Club NW (BTRDA)
Mar 17 - 12-Car Scatter Rally (12-Car Scatter Rally) Clubsport - Ilkley & DMC (---)
Mar 20 /21 - Moonbeam Rally (Road Rally) National B - Telford AC (ANWCC/AWMMC)
Mar 27 /28 - VK Derbyshire Rally (Road Rally) National B - Matlock MC (WMAMC/ANCC/ANEMMC/AWMMC)
Mar 28 - Slaters Stages (Multi-Use Stage Rally) National B - Caernarvonshire & Anglesey MC (ANWCC/GE)
Mar 28 - Stockport Stages (Multi-Use Stage Rally) National B - Stockport 061 MC (ANWCC/ANCC/SD34)
Mar 29 - Scatter 103 (Scatter Rally) Clubmans - Knutsford & DMC (---)
Mar 31 - 12-Car Scatter Rally (12-Car Scatter Rally) Clubsport - Ilkley & DMC (---)
Apr 10 /11 - Danum Road Rally (Road Rally) National B - Lindholme MSC (ANWCC)
Apr 17 - Horiba D'Isis Rally (Multi-Use Stage Rally) National B - Quinton MC (EMAMC/AWMMC/WAMC)
Apr 17 - April Car Trial (Car Trial) National B - Caernarvonshire & Anglesey MC (ANWCC/GE)
Apr 17 - April Car Trial (Car Trial) Clubmans - Caernarvonshire & Anglesey MC (GE)
Apr 18 - Twyford Stages (Multi-Use Stage Rally) National B - Mid-Derbyshire MC (ANWCC)
Apr 18 - 3 Sisters Sprint (Sprint) National B - Longton & DMC (---)
Apr 21 - Autotest (Autotest) Clubsport - Ilkley & DMC (---)
Apr 24 - Aintree Spring Sprint (Sprint) National B - Liverpool MC (ANWCC)
Apr 25 - Oak Leaf Stages (Multi-Use Stage Rally) National B - Ecurie Royal Oak MC (ANWCC/EMAMC/ANEMMC)
Apr 25 - Lee Holland Memorial Stages (Multi-Use Stage Rally) National B - Pendle DMC (ANWCC/ANCC/SD34/F1000J)
Apr 25 - Bolton April Autotest (Autotest) National B - Bolton-le-Moors CC (ANWCC/MSA/BTRDA/ANCC/SD34)
Apr 25 - Dennis Wells Memorial Trial (Car Trial) National B - Clwyd Vale MC (ANWCC/BTRDA/MSA/GE)
Apr 25 - Dennis Wells Memorial Trial (Car Trial) Closed - Clwyd Vale MC (---)
Apr 25 - Autotest (Autotest) Clubsport - Ilkley & DMC (---)

In-Car Video Wanted

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!

Another Appeal for help

At well over 600 starts per event, it's no easy task lining cars up all day at our Sprints with only a lunchtime break, so we'd rather like to recruit another one or two willing volunteers to share startline duties with our existing team in 2010. We'd like to have a team of two setting up the cars for half an hour, then a second team taking over for the next half hour and so on, alternating throughout the day. Are you interested? No previous experience is required, but a sense of humour would be useful. It's an excellent way of getting close to the cars & drivers! Please contact our Chief Marshal, Bill Gray for more information. Bill is also keen to hear from you if you'd like to help to marshal at any of our events, trackside, paddock or assembly. Please give him a call.

Have we got your Email address?

Please help the Club save money & the environment!

Let us have your email address so we can communicate with you electronically.

Contributions wanted

Let us know what you are doing, what you've done, what you'd like to do, or what's causing you problems! The Bulletin is your magazine but it can only ever be as good as the contributions, so why not send something in for us all to read. It doesn't have to be earth shattering stuff (as you can see from our Chairman's missives), but let us know what you are doing, your successes, your failures, your intentions, your history.

Please! If you like what we do, tell your friends....if you think we could improve something, please tell us!

Looking For A Good Home

A collection of Military reference books that is now surplus to requirement is available free of charge from Jim Bebb. Just telephone him on 0151 523 0428 for more details.

I Did it my Way, by Edward T Lea

One way, but by no means the only way. of reuniting a Lotus Elan body with its chassis is as follows:

Step 1 Place the body on raised railway sleepers—about 3 foot off the ground.

Step 2 Locate the bare chassis under the raised bodywork.

Step 3 Jack up the chassis into place & support with more timber.

Step 4 Using a centre punch mark the body to chassis mounting bobbin positions onto the chassis. (NB the bobbins are captive nuts bonded into the fibreglass body)

Step 5 Lower the chassis onto the floor & drill out the marked holes.

Step 6 Lift chassis back in place & bolt to the body to check it fits.

Step 7 Separate the two once more.

Step 8 Lower the chassis to the floor and remove.

Step 9 Build up chassis completely.

Step 10 Roll the chassis under the body.

Step 11 Using Pallets, an old water tank, a disused washing machine and various sleepers to prop up the body lower it slowly down onto the chassis.

Step 12 Once the chassis and body are reunited bolt everything up.

Step 13 Go to the pub!

For Sale

Job lot of new boxed brake seals, clutches, oil seals, and clutch cables. 2 Riley RME chassis. Various boot lids etc. Offers or P/Ex for something interesting. Contact Edward Lea on 01925 755063 for further details.

Steve Wilkinson's Aintree Event Photos now available on-line

Currently I am in the process of uploading photos onto the PhotoBox website where they will be for sale. Please take a look at www.photoboxgallery.com/3013010 where there are lots of photos from Aintree sprints and track-days over the last few years. Why not see if your car is featured?

People you should know!

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