

slipstream



www.witneymotorclub

June 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

Sorry the magazine is late, we have all been busy

It's Motor Show time again, this year marks the 45th Motor Show, which was started by the members showing their cars. I ask you all now if you have a suitable car please bring it, I want the Club stand to be huge, so please make the effort to bring your car along...PLEASE.

If you can help out on the day that will be very much appreciated, hands many light work make, or something on those lines.

7th of July is the date put it in your diary, if you're on Facebook join the club and the show group. If you have any photos of the Motor Show especially old ones I would love to see them and maybe scan them and put them on the website.

There is the Micolew Walkbout which is on the 23rd of this month it is in Oxford, starts at the corner of Keble Rd and Banbury Rd, very near to where it becomes St Giles and will finish in a drinking establishment. 19:30 start, finish around 21:00. Keble Rd is good to park in, get to it from Parks Rd, it's 1st right after turning on to Parks Rd from the Banbury Rd.

I am busy at the moment getting my Fiesta ready for the Abingdon Car-nival Sprint everything is looking good and I am looking forward to getting out to play.

And if you haven't heard, Helen and I are expecting our first child in 10 weeks. Due August the 19th, so we are very busy buying pushchairs and baby cloths and the like.

The club's efforts in publicity are paying off with a few new people joining the club lately, so keep up the good work all.

Cheers

Steve

Club web sites, for interest:

www.witneymotorclub.co.uk

www.witneymotorshow.co.uk

www.witneyautocross.co.uk

www.witneykarting.co.uk

Social Report

Well those of us that attended the Rally Show at Cornbury Park on the 14/15th had a thrilling weekend – roll on next year.

The 22nd was the first Treasure Hunt of 2011 organised by the Davidsons – and it did not disappoint. Just sorry Mary and I could not make it.

COMING UP:

- 23rd June Micolew Walkabout, Steve arranging. Details to follow.
Watch the web site for start location unless Steve has inserted it in this issue.
- 31st July Treasure Hunt, round two. The Bradley family is arranging.
Details to follow.

Derrick

Another useful note from Derrick – How to disable your mobile phone

To check your mobile phone's serial number, key in the following digits on your phone: *#06#. Ensure that you put an asterisk BEFORE the #06# sequence.

A 15 digit code will appear on the screen. This number is unique to your handset. Write it down and keep it somewhere safe. If your phone ever gets stolen, you can phone your service provider and give them this code. They will then be able to block your handset, so even if the thief changes the SIM card, your phone will be totally useless. You probably won't get your phone back but at least you know that whoever stole it can't use or sell it either. If everyone did this, there would be no point in people stealing mobile phones, would there!!

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. It's the start of the busy period for the club. We have just had the 3rd round of the Autotest Championship with a cracking turn out again. Thanks to all that helped and took part. It was nice to meet more new faces.

We have had a treasure hunt and that went off well with a good turn out so I am told. Sorry for not attending, I had family commitments on that day. We have come off the back of the Rally Show with praise for all our hard work as a club and from Steve for sorting it all out.

It's nice to be positive about the club and to see that we are moving from strength to strength. That saying we have a busy few weeks ahead of us.

On a competitive level the next event will be the Micolew Walkabout on the 23rd of June. Meet at the St. Giles Monument in Oxford for 19.30. 17th July will be the next round of the Autotest championship at the Steam Fayre. We would love a good showing and anyone wishing to take part or help out please let me know.

This weekend we also have the Abingdon Stages Car-nival. A few members of the club will be taking part in various events so why not drop in and show your support. I will be about one of the days to lend my support and normally a hand to any of the club members.

Many thanks

Craig

Tribute to Martin Madge

As you will see, I have included the only photo we have of Martin on the front of the magazine, so please forgive the slightly fuzzy appearance.

What an awful shock it was to learn of his death - he was only just 60 as far as we can make out. He was a family man and, sadly, leaves four children: Lindsey, Natalie, Daniel and Robert. We send our sincere condolences to his family.

A few of you may not have been around long enough to be aware of Martin but in the past he was extremely active, taking part in rallying (local and national) and always writing lovely articles for the magazine. In fact I had the pleasure of typing up his articles about his & Val's trip to New Zealand - oh, I did enjoy that. Of late, it was his working hours that stopped him taking part in club activities I believe.

It is with a very heavy heart that I have to write this piece, Martin was a lovely bloke, very down to earth but he had a wonderful sense of humour. He will be very much missed by us all.

Martin joined WMC in 1974, his membership number was 462.

The Motor Club Committee

TREASURE HUNT

Six teams tackled the treasure hunt on Sunday, May 22 which started from Hopcrofts Holt Hotel, near Steeple Aston.

An interesting and quite scenic route took the crews via Steeple Barton, Sandford St Martin, Radford, Cleveley and Enstone to finish at the Falkland Arms pub in Great Tew.

Steve and Helen were first back soon followed by the rest and nobody got lost. Many thanks to all who supported the event. The results were as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 st | Daniel, Camilla and Olivia |
| 2 nd | Steve and Helen |
| 3 rd | Daniel and Jessica |
| equal 4 th | Jane and Peter |
| equal 4 th | Vinnie and Lucinda |
| 6 th | Don and Mary |

PETER & WENDY

SANDOCROSS

After last year's bumper Witney Motor Club entry, this year it was left to Jamie Davidson and Mark Bradley to uphold club honours - and didn't they do well!

Jamie's class E entry was split into two, allowing the specials and the production cars to battle on equal terms. Jamie got quicker as the day progressed and managed to win the class by about 8 seconds in his Subaru Impreza. His time was also quick enough to give him third overall behind Roger Brunt in his special Corsa and Colin Anderson's Xtreme special.

Mark was equally successful in his little Citroen AX and won the Best Junior award.

All in all it was a great day, but extremely windy and we were all glad to get on our way home and out of the wind.

Thanks to the organisers for another great event, which attracted over 50 entries.

PETER

D'Arcy Autotest – 5th June 2011

Well I had been looking for somewhere for Mark to do some testing for his Autocrossing and the D'Arcy in a grass field seemed the opportunity. I also wanted to have a go myself against Mark to see if I could beat him. What a chance to kill two birds with one stone!

We spent the Saturday beating out the dents and preparing the car including putting a passenger seat in to comply with the regs. Car sorted it was off to the event!

As Steve wanted to use the trailer to collect the club car we had some spare time so started some test starts with Mark, an area he seemed to be failing with in Autocross. We set up a few hundred metre straight sprint and I set a marker time, Mark had 10 or so goes and managed to beat my time in the end, well once so from my perspective we were already having a good day.

Steve returned so we cracked on with the Autotest. Herby also came with us and I could see he fancied a go. Herby had helped a lot last season and also has already helped us this year so I gave him the chance in Mark's car.

I was in two minds whether to use the knobbles on the rims we had and take the 4% penalty or to run road tyres on scratch. MMMmmm problem, we had no road tyres on rims so question answered!

Throughout the day, I was tending to go first, Mark second and Herby at the helm! Even if I say so myself I was setting some good times, the car was flying and all was going well. Mark was close'ish but in my mind not close enough. Herby was learning on his first Autotest, gradually getting faster and faster all day. Mark was beating Herby but managed to lose quite a bit of time on one test, fluffing the 1st run and then getting 3rd rather than 1st round a cone, stalling it and slow to restart.

Steve designed test 5 out of six, with a J-Turn. I knew the car was not going to be good with the knobbles on the front, but hey so be it! I managed it quite well but it was a bit difficult for Mark and Herby, not having had the experience.

We ran six tests and had some good fun and some very good training for Mark. Herby did beat Mark in the end and dare I say it, I romped away with the victory. How long have I been doing Autotests? 33 years rings a bell!

We took the opportunity, whilst Steve was taking the club car home to do some more training and testing for Mark, J – Turns and we tried a bit of left foot braking. A good day for the Bradley Family, me winning and good time in the car for Mark. I also believe Herby had a great time taking the award for 1st Novice.

Simon

Jimmy's Rant of the Month – No. 7

If you are going down the M5 just after the merge with the M4 at Bristol watch out for traffic suddenly pulling onto the carriageway from the slip road instead of using the length of the slip road to gently merge in. It seems to be more than coincidence how often it happens here. Most times I would probably be over the other side of the Motorway but if I am pulling the trailer or for anyone driving a truck it does present a considerable hazard if there is a speed differential.

To my thinking the best way to merge into a Motorway or dual carriageway is to accelerate quickly to match or exceed the speed of the traffic and use the length of the slip road to find a slot to pull in safely. On the positive side I find that drivers on A34 south at Weston on the Green seem to be very good at moving over to let joining traffic merge. In many parts of the A34 the adjoining slip roads are much too short to gain enough speed. Sometimes it's worth pausing at the beginning of the slip road to find a gap before booting it.

As I try to be a reasonably helpful driver I change lanes, if necessary, to let traffic in but have come up against the "it's my middle lane and I can't drive in any other lane brigade" who refuse to move into any empty outside lane then I have to use my brakes, lose speed, waste fuel, bad day!

I have been told by she who was reared on cider that I don't use enough commas so here are some to use appropriately.....

Next Month: Hmmmmm, I'm thinking, well, trying to! (Appropriate use of commas I think!)

Jimmy

Autotest Round 3

Well, after the cancellation of the last round, we made sure this event was on. It was a good turnout of 8 drivers and 4 vehicles for the grass event just outside of North Leigh. Due to a little cock up with organizing (Sorry all, my bad) we were a little delayed whilst cones were fetched. Thanks to Steve for helping with that.

Most of the drivers took it in turns to design test routes and it soon became apparent that Simon Bradley was going to be the man to beat. Using the mighty Citroen AX of his son Mark, Simon was flying and even with a 4% penalty for using knobbly tyres showed the rest of us up.

After 3 tests, Simon had a commanding lead of over 6 seconds over Russell Milligan, William Trinder was 3rd and showing well for only his 4th autotest. I was running 4th, with Mark Bradley 5th, Herby 6th, John Henman 7th and Steve Boyle 8th after some bad luck clipping the cones.

In the second half of the day, some reversing was added and this caused a mix up of the results as the drivers coped with the additional challenge. Again Simon shone above the rest, setting fastest time on all of the day's tests.

The finishing results of the 3rd Round are as follows:

| | | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 1st Overall | Simon Bradley | Citroen AX | 263.36 |
| 2nd Overall and 1st in Class (Expert) | Russell Milligan | Peugeot 205 GTi | 281.21 |
| 3rd Overall and 2nd in Class (Expert) | William Trinder | Peugeot 205 GTi | 288.83 |
| 4th Overall and 1st in Class (Novice) | Herby | Citroen AX | 291.36 |
| 5th Overall and 3rd in Class (Expert) | Craig Abbott | Peugeot 205 GTi | 292.42 |
| 6th Overall and 4th in Class (Expert) | Steve Boyle | Peugeot 205 Junior | 294.25 |
| 7th Overall and 2nd in Class (Novice) | Mark Bradley | Citroen AX | 299.46 |
| 8th Overall and 5th in Class (Expert) | John Henman | Peugeot 205 GTi | 300.60 |

Congratulations to Simon for winning the D'Arcy Miall Autotest Trophy and to Herby for the Novice Class win. Thanks to all the drivers and spectators for all your support and we look forward to seeing you at the next round on the 17th June.

Craig

Mark Bradley – Autocross Antics

Well I have completed another 3 events since my last article, and things are looking good! I did the Sandocross with Weston Super Mare Motor Club on 15th May, and the East Hill Strips Autocross with South Hams Motor Club on 28th & 28th May, this being a two day event counted as two events.

The Sandocross

Dad had threatened not to do this event as the event cuts up too bad and the only good run is normally the first one, however although we knew there was only one junior at the event – me, it would be a good event to bag 39 points in the championship.

The car was prepped and sorted and loaded on the Thursday night as we would be at the Rally Show all day Saturday, and seeing as it was at Weston we decided to drive down on the Sunday morning.

Scruitneering & Signing on soon sorted and off to walk the course. Funnily enough exactly the same as my 1st event last year, still on the beach you don't get many options. As I was the only junior they amalgamated the class with A1, up to 1600cc production saloons so I didn't hold my hopes up too much for a trophy. Practice was done, no issues, a plod around behind the 1600's, didn't want to push too hard as it was only practice.

On the first run, I was out with three Fiesta XR2's, I was hoping for a good start and get away in front of some of them, if not all. The lights changed to Green, I booted it and the front buried itself, too much wheelspin! I was still with them but the cars either side squeezed me into a sandwich so I dropped behind them. I was determined – as Dad said I must get a good run on the first run, but dam lost too much on the straight into the 1st corner and although keeping up well, I never got the opportunity to overtake so a finish 4th. No other Junior to compare with, no idea if good or bad!

The 2nd run, somehow I managed to start with 3 from the 1600cc – to 2000cc Class, expecting them to fly away in front, I was chuffed to bits to get a good get away and be first into the first corner! I managed to keep in front for a lap and a half, there was no doubt I was holding them up, but it was down to them to get past me! Then all of a sudden I was launched forward into a bend by a Mondeo ramming me from behind, this pushed me into the deep sand and struggling to get out I got passed by all the other three cars in the heat – bugger. I did

however find that I beat my first time by three seconds so although slow, it did show how much of a problem I had on the first run.

The third run was no better, 2 seconds slower than my previous run, but by this time the sand had really cut up and was really deep & loose, no chance to go quicker.

All in all not a good day, no junior to compete with, a big dent down the nearside and the front and rear bumpers both dislodged and damaged. The only consolation was that I had attained 39 points in the championship, the most you can get with only 1 in the class.

2 Weeks Later South Hams – East Hill Strips

We did this event last year and it was a proper grass field and was a good event, I was looking forward to it. It was a bank holiday weekend and a long trip, we believed even Saturday early morning traffic would be bad so we decided to go down on the Friday. Mark Tredwell was also travelling from Witney so we decided to go down in convoy. We left about 4.30pm finally to arrive about 9.30pm, yep lots of traffic!

First day

Practise went out against a Hindi which worried me a bit because he rammed me at the sandocross. I was waiting, the lights changed suddenly which caught me by surprise, but I pulled away from him and carried on leading till the end of the run. My time was 2.57.5

Run 1

Got away in the lead and did a safety run so go fast but no real chance of loss of control and did a 3.38.6

Run 2

I went out for my 2 run and I pulled away in the lead and got the time of 3.32.2

Run 3

It rained before my run and I went out and got a time of 3.46.4 due to the rain

Second day

Practise – I went out and put in a good time of 2.38.63

Run 1

I went out with Rory Denning and I got away in front and going in to the first corner he hit me, putting me sideways but I got out of it and pulled away. He hit

me a few time more (not known why) he got past me around a tight bend but I stayed behind him till the end of the run and got a 3.22.01. This run is on youtube with one more run - type in Mark Bradley autocross

Run 2

I went out with a golf which beat me off the line but tried to overtake him down a tight corner but I hit Verde off the racing line and hit a penalty marker, which got me a 5 second penalty. Then I followed it till the end, getting me a time of 3.30.07 with the penalty

Run 3

I went out by myself due to it being too dusty and just practised for the MSA round later in the year but later I got told it would be a different track but I got a time of 3.27.20

I won the class both days. So, it was good AND I extended my overall championship lead so all in all, it had been a good weekend

My thanks to Chris Hayter Transport and Spires Tyres.

Mark

Magazine Editor's 'Bit'

I am sorry that you are receiving this late this month - please forgive me. We have just been on 'holiday' to Scarborough - that's being rather unkind but you know what a visit to family is like. We did have the dinkiest little house - how we ever packed 6 large people into it I shall never know, especially when I saw our luggage accumulating ready for packing into our cars! It really was a lovely house, please let me know if you are interested in a holiday in Scarborough. Our daughter-in-law thought it was a bargain compared to Cornwall.

We seem to have been missing everything lately - it really is "happening" at Witney Motor Club lately, which is GREAT.

Coming up we have the following trophies for you to compete for:



I've put the Batts Trophy in because, if there are enough entries in the Treasure Hunts, then this is the trophy for which you strive! Well, I suppose you are striving!

Pam

WITNEY MOTOR CLUB

Membership Application Form

When complete, please return this form with the correct remittance to: **Brian Pegram**
152 Brize Norton Road, Minster Lovell, Witney, OX29 0SH

To apply for a FULL membership, a FULL driving licence must be held. Make out cheques to WMC.

Family membership covers Husband & Wife (one of whom need not hold a full driving licence) plus children who do not hold a driving licence.

| Membership type | Cost | Qty | Total |
|--------------------------------------|--------|-----|-------|
| ADVANCED FAMILY MEMBERSHIP* | £23.00 | | |
| ADVANCED SINGLE MEMBERSHIP* | £20.00 | | |
| FAMILY MEMBERSHIP | £15.00 | | |
| FULL SINGLE MEMBERSHIP | £12.00 | | |
| SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP | £ 5.00 | | |
| WMC Windscreen sticker | £ 4.00 | | |
| WMC car sticker | £ 2.00 | | |
| WMC sweat shirt | £15.00 | | |
| WMC tee shirt | £10.00 | | |
| | TOTAL | | |
| Your details | | | |
| Your full name (please state if new) | | | |
| Address | | | |
| | | | |
| POSTCODE | | | |
| Occupation | | | |
| Tel no: Home | | | |
| Work | | | |
| Mobile | | | |
| Email address | | | |
| Date | | | |
| Signature | | | |
| Are you a new member? | | | |

Your details will be held on a database to enable distribution of club information only. Please tick whichever aspects of the club you are interested in.
*THIS OPTION IS FOR NEW MEMBERS ONLY - INCLUDES FREE ENTRY TO A TREASURE HUNT, AUTOTEST & 12-CAR RALLY.

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Stage rallying | Yes / No |
| Autotests | Yes / No |
| Autocross | Yes / No |
| 12-car rallies | Yes / No |
| Treasure Hunts | Yes / No |
| Social | Yes / No |
| Karting | Yes / No |

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