

slipstream



Jimmy & Russell Milligan at recent Brean
(photo courtesy of Dan Adderley)

www.witneymotorclub

February 2013

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Contents

Chairman's Chat	Steve Boyle	5
Competition Secretary's report	Dan Adderley	6
Social Secretary's report	Roger Adderley	7
Just Another Day's Rallying	Neil Fayers	8
Jimmy's Rant No. 20	Jimmy Milligan	10
K&R Mitsubishi Rally	Jimmy Milligan	11
WMC Karting Championship Rd 1	Jimmy Milligan	12
Motorsport Quiz with Karting	Jimmy Milligan	13
Magazine Editor's Bit	Pam Pegram	13
WMC membership enrolment form		14

Club web sites, for interest:

www.witneymotorclub.co.uk
www.witney motorshow.co.uk
www.witneyautocross.co.uk
www.witneykarting.co.uk

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 – avoids the hassle!

Chairman's Chat – February 2013

Not all of you may be aware that Witney Motor club is 50 years old this year. To commemorate this landmark the club is planning a whole host of events, on top of some of the normal events, even these will have some theme to the 50th birthday. As you can imagine we want these events to be successful so they need to be well organised and well attended, therefore, we are taking the time to finalise dates venue and type of events.

We are looking at having a two week run of events starting with the Motor Show. This week also coincides with the national motorsport week

<http://www.nationalmotorsportweek.co.uk/>

The plan is to kick off the celebrations at the Motor Show with a big club stand and we need your help with this. We will need as many members and their cars there as possible at the show. We are planning to have the marquee up and a section of it with all the trophies and past photographs etc. This year's show is on the 4th July.

- There will be an open day on the 7th of July with a free BBQ along with live action, displays from rally cars, autocross cars and have a go auto test in the club car, plus more.
- Micklew walkabout treasure hunt will take place on the 11th of July on a Thursday evening.
- 20th or 21st July An Inter-club autotest, hopefully between Witney MC, Oxon MC and Thame MC at the West Oxon Country show in Ducklington
- And the big event, a 50th Birthday Summer Ball on the Saturday the 13th with live music at a venue in Witney.

I am sure everyone will agree that we only get one chance to celebrate such an anniversary so the planning needs to be perfect and not rushed so more detail will emerge in the coming months.

We are planning a commemorative badge/ stickers incorporating the 50th into the club logo, along with lots of promotion over the coming months. I will be asking OxBox Tv to film most of the celebrations as they happen. The Witney gazette will do a big article about the history of the club, so if any of you out there have any good anecdotes please let me know.

On top of this the club is looking at new events, one of them being running a Clubcross which is a simpler version of autocross where cars run one at a time. As we have lots of experience of Autocross events and many club Autocrossers it seemed a logical choice. We are in discussions about a new venue and will release details as and when.

If anyone has any more ideas feel free to get in touch, we want to make this a year to remember.

Steve

Competition Secretary's Report

Hi all

Well not much to report this year so far on the competition front apart from Brean Stages where Jimmy Milligan and Russell, in their 206, and Neil Fayers and Dominic Hodge in his Escort Mk 2 took part. I managed to go down and Service for Jimmy who had a fantastic weekend and couple of issues but have been a big issue lol!! I'm sure he will explain later in the Magazine. And a well done to Neil Fayers for a 2nd in Class and a very good finish for he has not been out competing for nearly couple of years!!!

It was a good weekend and I think the warmest it has ever been since I have been to Brean over the years!!!

Well nothing set in stone yet as far as competitive dates, as I am still waiting for some feed back ref what to put on for you all so if anyone has any new ideas please do get in touch.

Or if you're interested in any other events that we have run in the past let me know.

Dan

Social Report – February 2013

Hi everyone

May I wish you a belated Happy New Year – that’s the reason I didn’t contribute last month, I was in Scotland, celebrating Hogmanay – it was great! As you can see, I’m back in the community, in an old post I’ve done before, so some old favourites will emerge and, of course, I am looking for new ones. Although we are a “motor club” we can have social events that don’t include cars, so, if you would like to do something, or go somewhere, then let me know and I will do my best to organize. As we have some young members with children, and some of us with grandchildren, we could do something for them. Any ideas on a £50 note – hee, hee!

Coming up we have:

- First up is an old favourite on **14 February – Cupid’s Trophy**, so come along and have a go. It’s all good fun.
- In **April**, on a **Saturday night, 10 pin bowling at Brize Norton**. Saturday because it’s cheap. Please let me know so we can set a date. Suggestions are 6th, 13th, 20th or 27th – we will go with the most popular date.
- On to **June** – possible **pub day out – 20 to 30 miles**. Let me have your suggestions, please.

Anything is possible.

See you soon.

Roger



Taken at Brean - photo courtesy of Dan Adderley

Just another days rallying!!

Well, after a rest of about 18 months from rallying, due to the loss of my rock, co driver and good friend Martin, I was inspired to partake in the Regency Rally at Brean last weekend, by Dominic Hodge who last co-drove with me some nine years ago at the same venue which was my first ever rally.

The car, a MK2 escort, was rally prepared by Mark of Vauxshop, Witney and has been maintained by him ever since. So I took it straight down to them for prepping for this rally, which once again he did an amazing job.

Friday and off we went for an early scrutineer due to the weather, pitching up in the service area, off we went to noise check then scrut, which went smoothly. Next was to park up, a quick clean of the car and off to sign on. At sign on I found out that my 2013 licence was a non-competition licence by mistake, which entitled me to co-drive only and not drive! Well after a quick phone call, (bearing in mind it is now 4.35pm), to the MSA we found the problem and exchanged a small fee. We now had ten minutes before they close to get an email from them sent over to me, which I could forward on to prove I did have a rally licence, this was done with five minutes to spare!!

All signed on it was time to set up camp in the static caravan and, on opening the door, we were greeted with a warm clean and very comfortable home for the next couple of days. After a very windy and wet night we were surprised by a clear sky and a hint of sun, time for breakfast then drivers briefing and an out time of 10:21.

Stage one was good, (as I remembered what to do) stage two and three improving, stage four we inherited a misfire and found a spark plug had closed up, changed it and off out on stage five. Stage five the same thing happened the plug closed mid way around, what was going on, nothing else could be done but put another plug in and get me out there again for the last stage of the day. Stage six completed with the misfire, then straight in to parc ferme so we could not work on the car until eight the following morning.

After a shower and change of clothes it was off for dinner which was a carvery and very much appreciated by everyone and it certainly hit the spot, after listening to the evening entertainment it was back to the van for an early night ready for the following next six stages.

Thunder/lighting and a lot more wind/rain but again we woke to sun and clear sky, after breakfast it was off to beg/borrow some spark plugs, we were looking for short performance plugs to fit the pinto, luckily we found a competitor running a pinto who helped us out with some standard but shallow plugs.

Stage seven, no misfire (result) one second quicker this stage to the next class D driver. Stage Eight, five seconds quicker, stage nine five slower, stage ten four seconds slower. Stage eleven and the heavens opened just as the stage was starting (now it was interesting) as we approached the start line the rain had passed but the tarmac had the left over's of it! Off we go with more to think of, we could see other cars sliding around the stage so knew we had to try and be tidy, well that was the plan until we caught some mud which guided us off on the grass and catching the rear on a well placed rock, managing to keep momentum we got back on the black stuff. I was waiting for the sound and feel of a puncture but luckily the wheel took the force taking a chunk out of it, but we could carry on and this stage we were thirteen seconds quicker than my class D rival (not that I knew it at the time).

Stage twelve and we were going for a finish, not knowing I was close to moving up a position in my class, this stage was good, the water was dispersing and you could see some dry lines. After this, my first finish with Dominic Hodge, we loaded up and went off in search of the results, thinking I had come fourth or if we were lucky maybe third in class as we knew we were around sixteen seconds behind the next in class on stage ten. The results were in and the I think the rain had done me a favour on the last two stages as I was a clear fifteen seconds quicker overall and taking second place in class D.

What a weekend – I think Martin was looking down on me and hopefully I made him smile. I know if he had been sat next to me I would have heard these three words more than once “go on boy”!

Neil

Jimmy's "Rant" – No. 20

I will start this one by apologising to anyone who has one of these, I am sure you love it and wouldn't be without it, but I don't see the point in having one.

I mean personal registration numbers, what are they about?

The DVLA have collected over £1 billion by auctioning off Cherished Numbers – isn't motoring expensive enough for some people? I can see how some people might use a personal number to hide the age of their car but for most I don't think they are aware that no one else understands what the letters on the plate are supposed to be read as. Looking at the Ads in a national newspaper one company even spells out the name that the 2 letters 2 numbers and 3 letters is supposed to look like, example DR 51 CKO have you got it? Yes that's right Dr Sicko I bet they were running out of the JR to get their hands on that one. Then there is V 6 LMA any guesses? Yes Velma! If you are about to bring a little baby girl into the world it might be a name worth considering because there is not a lot of competition out there for this plate.

I am sorry Vince whoever you are, your registration is and always will be V 77 NCE .

I do realise that for many people a good registration plate has been a great investment and if only I'd had £1500 at the right time I could have had JMM 2 and a Rover V8, by now the former must be worth a packet and the latter scrapped a long time ago!

I must admit some reg's are clever and funny and make me laugh but for a lot of them I just don't get it.

By the way, if anyone sees JMM 1 or 2 or 3 can you let me know!

Jimmy

K & R Mitsubishi Rally at Brean Leisure Park, Somerset

It seems unbelievable but it is 17 years since Witney members helped Rod McKenna and his team to set up the first ever rally here, doubly memorable because 22 people slept in 1 holiday chalet, in the night the French doors opened behind the heavy curtain and no one could understand why it was so cold, not that anyone could have done anything about it because that would have meant walking over the others sleeping on the floor.

This time luxury and warmth with just me, Rus, nephew Ed and Danad our service crew! Saturday morning the roads of the park were wet from the overnight rain and slippery from lack of use over the winter months, so it was caution for the first couple of stages as we were running the 206 on slicks and learned counsel Rus didn't think our alternative tyres being Toyo road tyres would be any better.

8th seeded car, the rapid Escort of Kev Carr, had a mighty shunt at the end of Red road on stage 1, luckily no one was hurt but the car had a lot of damage and proceedings were held up for a while and that seemed to calm down the drivers for a bit. If you go off at Brean there is a good chance of hitting something pretty solid as there are rocks, tyre bales and concrete filled safety barrels in abundance.

A driver error (not listening to the nav and starting to follow the route of the previous stage) led to a bump with a well planted rock put there to save the precious grass, thanks to the marshals for pushing us off it! Luckily the sump guard took the strain and no damage was sustained.

Saturday evening saw 450 people sit down to what I regard as a pretty good roast dinner despite the numbers being catered for. The Cabaret was a 5 piece band who tended to play 60's and 70's music but were actually better at much more modern stuff like Kings of Leon. The singer did a couple of songs as a passable Elvis tribute but in the 2nd half came on as Tina Turner – he was certainly very versatile!

Sunday started bright and sunny and the overnight rain soon dried off the majority of the roads and grip was far superior to the day before, this is what rallying is all about. My target was to get in front of Norman Cutler an old friend from autocross days. He was 24 seconds ahead, the time taken to push a rally car off a rock! Things were going well, I felt we were inching closer and then 2 stages to go the wind picked up and the rain chucked it down, most crews were changing back to wets but once again learned counsel stood firm or rather sat firm in the dry in the rally car "you'll be fine". In truth it was the right decision as it had

started to dry a bit and we knew where the slippiest bits were by this time. We didn't manage to overhaul Norman and Pam but we finished right behind them.

Well done to Neil Fayers and Dominic Hodge for a good finish, ahead of us somewhere I haven't seen all the results yet. Thanks to Dan for his help with servicing and his driver motivational talks. Also to Rus for doing an excellent job as navigator.

Jimmy

WMC Karting Championship 2013 – Round 1 – Formula Fast, Industrial Estate, Banbury

This will be the last opportunity for us to have a kart racing evening at this venue as, due to circumstances beyond their control, Formula-fast are having to move to new premises and are closing down regrettably here on March 25th.

The good news is that they are confident that they have found a place nearby which will provide more space for a challenging track to be constructed.

The arrival time is 7pm on Wednesday 27th of February for 10 minutes qualifying and 30 minutes race for £40. Registration for the championship is £5 and is free for members of WMC.

Let me know as soon as possible if you would like to come.

Jimmy

Motorsport Quiz with Karting Challenge at Formula-fast, Banbury - Thursday, 14 March 2013 at 7.30pm

Teams of 4 people with an interest in Motorsport are invited to a quiz at Formula-fast Banbury. The difference with this quiz is that at least 1 person per team can attempt to achieve a fast lap round the track for extra points to add to their quiz score.

More details next month but I would appreciate it if you could register your interest as soon as possible.

Jimmy

Magazine Editor's 'Bit'

I do hope you are all well -hope you have survived the floods / snow / floods. I am sure that in there somewhere there was a drought. Honestly, weather!

It just isn't possible, WMC is 50 years old this year! Oh boy, are we going to celebrate the event. We are really looking forward to a wonderful time. If there are any past members of the club reading this, then, please get in touch with Steve or any other committee member you might know.

It's good to see the new committee working well - of course, they need lots of support. It sounds as if Brean was very enjoyable, and hard work too of course. It was good to hear from you Neil - let's be having some more from you. We'd like to know what members are taking part in.

Good luck in your efforts and I look forward to seeing you around.

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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