

slipstream



Well, there were no motoring photos coming in –
so we have “Carrot nose”, the snowman!

www.witneymotorclub

January 2011

Committee

President	Owen T Kernahan
Vice-President	Mick Warman Brian Fox
Chairman	Steve Boyle 33 Southlawn Witney OX28 7HY Tel: 01993 201031 Mobile: e-mail: stephen.boyle@yahoo.co.uk
Vice-Chairman	Jimmy Milligan Pond View Manor Farm Bainton Road Bucknell Bicester OX27 7LT Tel: 01869 243623 Mobile: 07810 885072 e-mail: jimmy.milligan623@btinternet.com
Treasurer	Sue Williams 11 Mallard Drive, Witney, Oxon, OX28 4EG Tel: 01993 704773 Mobile: 07880 737911 e-mail: suemotorclub@hotmail.co.uk
Competition Secretary	Craig Abbott Otters Hill, Oddington, Oxon OX5 2RA Tel: 07793 592749 Work: 07970 090653 e-mail: craig.abbott@mudie-bond.co.uk
Secretary	Derrick Jephcott 14 Pinecroft, Carterton, Oxon, OX18 3HL Tel: 01993 213348 Mobile: 07977 091510 Email: derrick.jephcott@ntlworld.com

Magazine Editor	Pamela Pegram 152 Brize Norton Rd Minster Lovell, Witney OX29 0SH Tel: 01993 775645 Mobile: 0775 487 9970 e-mail: brianpeggram@btinternet.com
Membership Secretary	Brian Pegram (Address same as Pam's) Tel: 01993 775645 Mobile: 0775 487 9970 e-mail: brianpeggram@btinternet.com
Karting Champ Co-ord	Jimmy Milligan Tel: 01869 243623 Mobile: 07810 885072 e-mail: jimmy.milligan623@btinternet.com
Webmaster and Points Co-ordinator	Simon Bradley 7 Beech Road Witney Oxon OX28 6LP Tel: 01993 702722 Mobile: 07970 134990 e-mail: Home@SimonBradley.com
Committee member	Helen Boyle 33 Southlawn Witney OX28 Helen.boyle32@yahoo.co.uk Tel: 01993 201031
Committee member	Russell Milligan Pond View Manor Farm Bucknell Bicester OX27 7LT Tel: 01869 243623 Mobile: 07866 468110 e-mail: russellmilligan@hotmail.com
Committee member (and vice Karting)	William Trinder Manor Farm, Islip, Kidlington OX5 2SQ Tel: 01865 372110 Work: 07824 794807 e-mail: willtrinder@hotmail.co.uk

Contents

Chairman's Chat	Steve Boyle	5
Social Report	Derrick Jephcott	6
Competition Secretary's report	Craig Abbott	7
Gran Turismo (part 2)	Craig Abbott	8
Congratulations ...	Peter Davidson	9
The Night Before Christmas	Craig Abbott	10
Waking up with "Alice"	Jimmy Milligan	13
Jimmy's "Rant of the Month" - 2	Jimmy Milligan	14
Magazine Editor's Bit	Pam Pegram	15
WMC Membership Application form		16

**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

Happy New Year to you all, good luck for 2011.

This is a time we all make resolutions, get fit, eat less, drink more, stop swearing at bad drivers etc, one the new committee made was to increase membership numbers. To do that we need you support at the events we organise. We are working hard to raise the profile of the club, in 2010 we have been on Witney TV several times and had a few articles in the local press.

With four websites up and running we are getting more and more interest, which will allow us to sell advertising space on the website. We hope this will make enough money to pay for the sites and eventually make membership free.

If you want to advertise or know anyone who does please get in touch.

We intend running more competitive events this year along with more motor related social events, trips to rallies, drives out etc. If you have any suggestions get in touch.

The club is having some stickers made so if you're out and about competing this year make sure you get some and help advertise the club

I am off to India in the middle of the month to Pune, east of Mumbai, so unfortunately I am going to miss Brean again this year. Good luck to those who are competing.

Steve Boyle

Club web sites, for interest:

www.witneymotorclub.co.uk

www.witneymotorshow.co.uk

www.witneyautocross.co.uk

www.witneykarting.co.uk

Social Report

- December 16th** Christmas Social, West Witney club. A good night was had by all who attended. Many thanks to those that provided all the food.
- January 2nd** **Morning After Autotest** – yep I know, but you all have the day off on Monday so it should make sense that you can all have a long Christmas and an autotest – all gain no pain.
- 2011**
7th January **Brewery Tour** Good for you all!
Ladies may have a pamper night, so please don't feel left out.
- Brean Stages** Lads weekend marshalling.
- 10th February** **Cupids Trophy**
- 10th March** **10-pin Bowling, Kassam Stadium, Oxford**
Names to me, please.
- New Forest Rally** Marshals required, call Steve for info.

Happy New Year to you all.

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 one and all. Firstly I would like to say Happy Christmas and a very good New Year to all. I'm not sure if this will be published before or after the festive period.

I am your newly-elected competition secretary. I look forward to meeting members of the club I have not yet met and working closely with the committee to grow this club we love. I will, however, need some support as I have not held or organised such events before.

A brief motor club history of me; I joined WMC in 2008 as a karting member and in 2009 joined as a full member. It was not until 2010 that I took part in other club activities which have been amazing fun. I used to be a committee member of Oxford Brookes University Motor Club running events such as WMC do. I was the elected president for one year and in that time we held several 12 car navigationals, 2 autotests, a track day at Silverstone and the Karting Team won the British University Karting Championship.

I have had a deep-set love for motorsport installed from a young age. My mother used to bunk me out of school to go and watch the Lombard RAC Rally in Grizedale Forest. I have been to several F1 races including watching the late Great Senna at a wet Donnington Park in 1993, possibly the greatest race ever.

I look forward to helping the club move forward and am available to chat to any and all members. If you need anything then don't hesitate to call.

Many thanks.

Craig Abbott

More GT Gaming

I would like to apologise if I bored you with my previous article. I know it may be of limited interest to our readers, but there is always a request for articles and I seem to enjoy speaking.

I started with a basic run through all the options within the game. Arcade mode is as good a place as any to start. You can drop straight into the thick of racing action, with two-player, split-screen racing, time trials and single races. Driving feels immediately comfortable through a standard controller, though the experience is considerably improved with a full force feedback wheel. It's strange to say that even my dad found the game easy to drive and he is control pad dyslexic.

The main aspect of gameplay is in GT mode and it's a lot. You start your 'career' with 20,000 credits, and have a choice between going for new vehicles and browsing the more varied second-hand collection. The initial 20k isn't much to play with though, and the cars you really want cost millions, but there's always the arcade mode if you want immediate access to the big stuff.

GT mode is a long game within its self though, especially if you're impatient to "own" something impressive and take it online. There is, however, a huge number of things to be getting on with like the A-spec races. These form the main racing in the GT mode and offer some open series races and some requiring specific types of car. There's the License Tests section, which teaches you racing arts like slipstreaming, cornering techniques and so on. This section can be exhaustive to us mere mortals but very useful for budding professional racing drivers.

A great addition is the Special Events section. Each event provides you with a car and drops you straight into the racing action. It's impressive how flexible the games computing engine is. NASCAR feels just as slick as dirt rallying, go-karting, or even racing VW campers on the Top Gear test track.

The second option is B-spec racing. This is a new mode in which you pick an computer controlled driver to race for you, in your car. You control the driver by telling them how to race through issuing instructions. I found it strange that so much of the game play has been given to part of a

driving game where you to opt out of driving. I have, however, played this section as it adds both money and rewards to your overall game play.

Online play has being a real selling point, which is surprising because it lacks almost all of the finesse of the single-player game. That's not to say that there are not a couple of interesting modes, such as one that randomly selects a set of cars for you to race, you can bring your customised car from the GT campaign – but there is no filter to match your car to ones of similar power or drive train. A further irritation is the lobby system which is clunky and race modes are comparatively limited. My main let down is the headlining tag that promises a thousand-plus vehicles. In reality there are only the few hundred fully modeled premium cars that do justice to the Playstations graphical capabilities. The rest have been imported from the PS2 and given a cursory brush-up. This also includes around 20 different versions of the same car, be it a Skyline or a MX5.

In summation, the game has a sheer appreciation, and love, for cars and driving that is difficult to resist. It feels less like playing a game and more like indulging in a hobby that is less costly than doing it for real. I can't say that GT can claim the title of Best Racing Game as its competitors snap at its heels in terms of graphics, driving feel, immersion and there are certainly better multiplayer experiences out there. However, there is nothing on the market with this much charm and love of real driving simulation. I would recommend this game to anyone who loves something challenging but deeply rewarding.

Craig

Congratulations to Jamie and Laura Davidson on the birth of a baby daughter on December 29th; Ella May Rose was born at 11.44am and weighed in at 7lbs 8ozs. Mother and daughter are both doing well and Jamie has already booked her entry for the August autotest in 2024!! Ella is a first granddaughter for Peter and Wendy.

THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

I don't normally forward rubbish to people but I think this is something a little different. Please spread this out as I believe we do owe something to those brave souls away from family and friends this Christmas.

IT WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS,
HE LIVED ALL ALONE,
IN A ONE BEDROOM HOUSE,
MADE OF PLASTER AND STONE.

I HAD COME DOWN THE CHIMNEY,
WITH PRESENTS TO GIVE,
AND TO SEE JUST WHO,
IN THIS HOME, DID LIVE.

I LOOKED ALL ABOUT
A STRANGE SIGHT I DID SEE,
NO TINSEL, NO PRESENTS,
NOT EVEN A TREE.

NO STOCKING BY MANTLE,
JUST BOOTS FILLED WITH SAND,
ON THE WALL HUNG PICTURES,
OF FAR DISTANT LANDS.

WITH MEDALS AND BADGES,
AWARDS OF ALL KINDS,
A SOBER THOUGHT,
CAME THROUGH MY MIND.

FOR THIS HOUSE WAS DIFFERENT,
IT WAS DARK AND DREARY,
I FOUND THE HOME OF A SOLDIER,
ONCE I COULD SEE CLEARLY.

THE SOLDIER LAY SLEEPING,
SILENT, ALONE,
CURLED UP ON THE FLOOR,
IN THIS ONE BEDROOM HOME.

THE FACE WAS SO GENTLE,
THE ROOM IN DISORDER,
NOT HOW I PICTURED,
A TRUE BRITISH SOLDIER.

WAS THIS THE HERO,
OF WHOM I'D JUST READ?
CURLED UP IN A PONCHO,
THE FLOOR FOR A BED?

I REALISED THE FAMILIES,
THAT I SAW THIS NIGHT,
OWED THEIR LIVES TO THESE SOLDIERS,
WHO WERE WILLING TO FIGHT.

SOON ROUND THE WORLD,
THE CHILDREN WOULD PLAY,
AND GROWNUPS WOULD CELEBRATE,
A BRIGHT CHRISTMAS DAY.

THEY ALL ENJOYED FREEDOM,
EACH MONTH OF THE YEAR,
BECAUSE OF THE SOLDIERS,
LIKE THE ONE LYING HERE.

I COULDN'T HELP WONDER,
HOW MANY LAY ALONE,
ON A COLD CHRISTMAS EVE,
IN A LAND FAR FROM HOME.

THE VERY THOUGHT BROUGHT,
A TEAR TO MY EYE,
I DROPPED TO MY KNEES,
AND STARTED TO CRY.

THE SOLDIER AWAKENED,
AND I HEARD A ROUGH VOICE,
"SANTA DON'T CRY,
THIS LIFE IS MY CHOICE;

I FIGHT FOR FREEDOM,
I DON'T ASK FOR MORE,
MY LIFE IS MY GOD,
MY COUNTRY, MY CORPS..."

THE SOLDIER ROLLED OVER,
AND DRIFTED TO SLEEP,
I COULDN'T CONTROL IT,
I CONTINUED TO WEEP.

I KEPT WATCH FOR HOURS,
SO SILENT AND STILL,
AND WE BOTH SHIVERED,
FROM THE COLD NIGHT'S CHILL.

I DID NOT WANT TO LEAVE,
ON THAT COLD, DARK, NIGHT,
THIS GUARDIAN OF HONOUR,
SO WILLING TO FIGHT.

THEN THE SOLDIER ROLLED OVER,
WITH A VOICE SOFT AND PURE,
WHISPERED, "CARRY ON SANTA,
IT'S CHRISTMAS DAY, ALL IS SECURE."

ONE LOOK AT MY WATCH,
AND I KNEW HE WAS RIGHT.
"MERRY CHRISTMAS MY FRIEND,
AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT."

**This poem was written by a Peacekeeping soldier
stationed overseas. The following is his request,
I think it is reasonable**

PLEASE. Would you do me the kind favour of sending this to as many people as you can? Christmas will be coming soon and some credit is due to all of the service men and women for our being able to celebrate these festivities. Let's try in this small way to pay a tiny bit of what we owe. Make people stop and think of our heroes, living and dead, who sacrificed themselves for us. Please, do your small part to plant this small seed.

Craig Abbott

Waking up with Alice!

I wake up with Alice every morning, it's alright, Anne is OK about it, it's just a routine thing Alice and I have got into.

Alice comes into my bedroom on my DAB radio on Planet Rock. That is THE Alice Cooper who is DJing on my favourite radio station (along with Jack FM that is) Planet Rock on DAB. I have always been a radio fanatic ever since "I Listened with Mother" when I was very small.

I was fascinated by Rock and Roll. Later, when I heard it on Radio Luxemburg, then when the Pirate Radio Ships came along I was in seventh heaven. The pirates played original recordings all day, not mostly covers by live musicians that the BBC was forced to broadcast at that time.

Radio Luxemburg broadcast from the country of the same name and played the hits of the day but had a big problem that the radio waves only travelled to the target audience of the UK when it was dark. Winter was OK we could listen from 7.30 pm (at 7pm an American Evangelist would spout forth on his beliefs) but in the summer it could be nearly 11pm in Scotland when the signal would be strong enough.

I did listen to the BBC at times for the Top Twenty on a Sunday and any comedy programmes, my favourite being Round the Horne. We didn't have a television at home when I was little, in fact we didn't have electricity, so it would have been stupid and a waste of money, but I used to visit my uncles house to see Top of the Pops and I remember seeing Jimi Hendrix playing *Hey Joe* which I can scarcely believe now and at the time was an earth shattering moment.

River Deep. Mountain High by Ike and Tina Turner is one I remember on Radio Caroline North from off the coast of the Isle of Man. I felt sorry for the DJs on stormy days when there wasn't a lot of banter.

Late at night I could pick up stations further away like 390 and Caroline South and London. The first time I heard *No Woman, No Cry* by Bob Marley was on Caroline South and played by Johnnie Walker. The Pirates were mostly finished in 1967 when Tony Blackburn played *Flowers in the Rain* by the Move at the birth of Radio One.

One of the most influential DJs on Radio 1 was Alan "Fluff" Freeman who would play snippets of the latest Led Zeppelin albums among the pop music which wetted my appetite for Rock music. From that time until about 5 years ago when I got my first DAB I occasionally listened to Radio 1 until they started using children as disc jockeys, then it was Radio 2 and 5 Live.

Unlike my son David, who always wants to put one of his CDs on in the car, I much prefer having the variety that a Radio provides and Planet Rock has the rockier music I like with DJs who aren't obsessed with their own importance but are genuinely knowledgeable and enthusiastic about what they play.

On the farm it's Jack FM I listen to because they have local news, play good music and most importantly play our Ads for free!

If it's not too late, ask Santa for a Pure Highway and plug it into your existing car radio, I have had one for 3years without any problems and the good news is that reception in Witney has recently got a lot better.

Jimmy

Jimmy's Rant of the Month - 2

One eyed monsters coming towards you on a country road; it looks like a motor bike so no need to run as close to the verge as you would for a car then woops you find it is a car - wow that was close!

Does that sound familiar I'll bet it does. I don't think people realise how dangerous it is to have just one headlight working but some nights you see lots of them and on Motorways as well.

I tend to let motor bikes get past me if they are right on my tail, as I would rather watch them in front of me, without the risk of them going through my back window if I have to brake hard and its annoying to find it was actually a car with one headlight I've just let past! But they are probably safer in front as they are probably not roadworthy anyway.

On the subject of motorbikes, coming onto a dual carriageway one night I looked in my mirror and saw the 2 headlights of a car a long way behind suddenly it was pretty close and was actually a bike with twin headlights so I have been a bit wary of that since.

Next Month: **Baby on Board signs!**

Jimmy Milligan

Magazine Editor's 'Bit'

Happy New Year to you all – hope you had an excellent Christmas. Don't we have funny weather – all that snow, as far as I can see, it brings out the best in people; Brian was trying to park in Waitrose car park, it was a bit difficult due to all the slush lying around and a bloke just helped him, by pushing our car. I thought "Bless him", didn't know him from Adam but hey ho, that's us British – we don't make a fuss over it (like some countries I reckon!) but, when needed, we just pile in there and help out. GREAT!

We have recently been emailed by a friend who said that Starbucks are a bit naughty; they were approached by some service people in Iraq to tell them how their coffee was enjoyed by the troops. Starbucks told them they didn't support the war nor anyone employed in it!!! It was suggested that, maybe, we shouldn't support them, so we won't be going to their cafe again!

Also, it turns out, that when the Twin Trade Towers were hit, the fire fighters and rescue workers went to Starbucks because it was close by for water for the survivors, and Starbucks CHARGED THEM!!!! It seems they are just a profiteering company and won't be serving us coffee, that's for sure!

By the way, it has been suggested to me (thank you Craig) that we put information about committee members in the mag. I am thinking on it and hope you find it interesting – it sure would make committee members more "human" to you all. I shall try to get it started next month so watch this space, as they say. Oh, and do let me have any relevant photos you would like to be printed.

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

PLEASE TICK THE BOX IF YOU REQUIRE YOUR MAGAZINE BY POST: