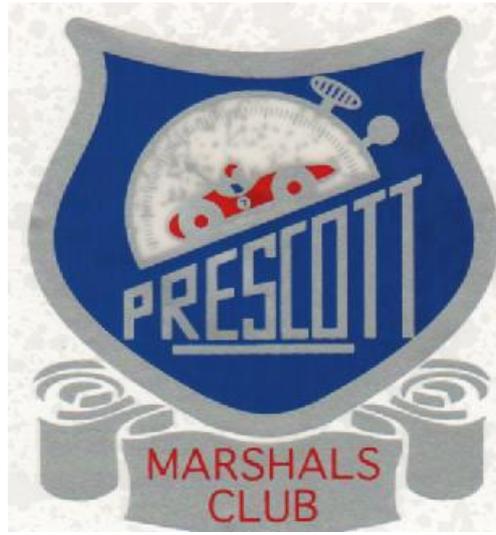
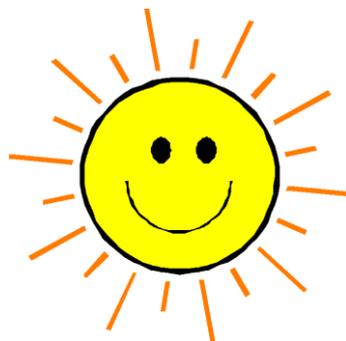


THE PRESCOTT
MARSHALS' CLUB



NEWSLETTER

Summer 2018



MARSHALS' TRAINING EVENING

Wednesday 26th September 2018
Meet in the Clubhouse for 6pm start

Please contact Kevin on 07776 254300
or e-mail kevin.cornwall@sky.com if you wish
to attend



Here's how to do it!!!

(Photo - courtesy of Allan Rhodes)

A Message from Chis Rogers, General Manager - BOC

It has been so good to see you all throughout the year. My only regret is that my new duties don't currently allow as much time as I would like to stand and chat more often. As I get more used to the routine that marches relentlessly on, then I will surely redress the balance to come over to the Pound for a chin wag more often.

Again, the professionalism that you guys and gals demonstrate both on the hill and in the paddock never ceases to amaze me. Even though you may not have seen me so much this season I have admired you from afar and thank you for everything you all do for the club.

One of the goals I set when taking over as GM was to push for more of you to step up into more senior roles, especially our talented lady marshals. The skills required are clearly there so it seemed to me that the only obstacle to this goal becoming a reality was to actively encourage at every opportunity. You can't imagine how pleased we all are that Diana has taken her Probationary Clerk of the Course licence out and will now go through the training I went through not so many years ago. She could not wish for better mentors and teachers. There are only two Clerks in the whole of the UK holding International licences, Dave Riley and John Felix, both of whom will be on hand to help and guide Diana as she progresses through the training modules. I can't wait for the day when she takes charge of her first meeting.... She will be brilliant!

For those of you resisting the move to the dark side or those actually contemplating taking out a competition licence (no names, no pack drill), the upcoming training evening will be a fun evening with a serious message. Training is everything in what we do and the evidence of this is how well all of you react to incidents without hesitation. This seamless, almost robotic, reaction only comes from putting good practice into action time after time so I urge anyone who is able to attend on September 26th at 6pm. I am assured there will be cake!

There will be a few changes around the office in the coming weeks. Greg Hunt will leave us at the end of the season but before that our very own Trish Davis will move on to pastures new. Trish has been an integral part of the Club for several years helping build the spares department into the respected Bugatti resource it is today. Trish will be sorely missed and we wish her well in her new endeavours.

So as we move into the latter part of the season we look forward to our big anniversary year. I thought we had been celebrating this year I hear you say... and so we have. The 80th Anniversary of the BOC moving to Prescott has been marked with a delightful weekend of racing and partying. Those who attended received a small token of our appreciation at sign-on by way of a limited edition. In 2019 we celebrate the 90th Anniversary of the formation of the BOC. The main celebration weekend will take place over the traditional La Vie en Bleu weekend. There will be some fantastic cars coming so I will keep you all updated as plans unveil. There will also be some new twists to our competition weekends and talks are underway to bring more variety to the hill and a family oriented feel to our events. If you have any ideas or are a member of a car club that may like to be a part of the Prescott vibe, please pop into the office and let me know what floats your boat.

All that remains is for me to wish you a safe and enjoyable rest of the season. Look after yourselves, look after each other then look after the rest as they say in the Orange World!

We received the following lovely letter from Jan and Tony Bayford who have now moved house. We will miss them both greatly and send our best wishes for a happy life "up north".

Dear All,

As many of you will know, we have decided to call it a day with marshalling at hillclimbs as we are moving north very shortly. We have marshalled at Prescott for around 20 years and have enjoyed it immensely.

We will miss the camaraderie of marshals, the light-hearted but professional approach marshals take in their sport, and the closeness of marshals, drivers and officials.

In particular, thank you to the marshals we were with on the Isle of Man. It was an excellent 3 days of hillclimbing - even the weather was good! Thank you for the surprise card and gift.

Thank you for the friendship, the banter and the hot jacket potatoes. We will miss you all.

Many regards,
Jan & Tony Bayford

BRITISH & MIDLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS
SATURDAY 28 & SUNDAY 29 APRIL

Great to see new and old faces on the hill, the weather was to say the least not on your side at all.

At least you could have a hot drink in the morning and a baked spud lunch time to help keep you warm.

Pleased that many members were wearing the 60 year lapel badge and thank you for the kind comments received from many members.

Thanks again to all our "Dinner Ladies" and Clive Smith for all the cakes over two days, Maggie & Stuart Webster sent their retirement cake on Sunday for you all to share. I returned a large slab back to the main office as I left Prescott - Jon Beard from rescue could not manage to finish it off!

Half of the 60 year sew-on badges were sold over the weekend. As they are a limited run, please find your £5-00 and see me during lunch time. When they're gone, they're gone!

MARSHALS' DRAW

And the 3 lucky recipients were:-

RUSSEL HUNT / JANET SWAIN / JOE SHINGLER

Our thanks to the B.O.C. for donating yet again

La Vie en Bleu incorporating La Vita Rossa

Sat 26th & Sun 27th May

How do I start?!! After the normal signing on and briefing, the hill/ start & paddock marshals were ready but the low cloud hovering around the Semi-Circle put paid to that.....A cavalcade left the start just after eleven to help catch up with lost time.

Considering what was on the cards the weather was kinder than what was forecast.

Sunday runs started on time but the rain just went nuts at lunch time then the sun came out - hooray !!

The marshals' draw recipients were:-

Malcolm Flippance/Roger Jobson and Rob the Tonka man.

Once again our thanks to the Bugatti Owners' Club for their support.

During signing on I sat on a chair while Phil Parkes looked after the fiscal side of the business. Someone asked me why was I sat down and I replied that I would look like a standard lamp stood in the corner. A certain Chief Marshal said "Not a very bright one then" - I cannot understand why he said that?

I would like to say that I missed Timmy Kempster, but I didn't !!

JOHN HICKS

More diary notes from John Felix whose busy life continues at a staggering pace -

Marshals training at Shelsley Walsh -date changed due to previous snow. Excellent weather and a good turnout from both regulars and novices. Well organised by Mudge and his team.

It was the weekend of the clock change and it brought back some memories. In the sixties I worked for GPO which later became British Telecom. My job on hour change was to go into Worcester telephone exchange (now a restaurant corner of Pierpoint Street), at two o'clock in the morning and change speaking clock either one hour forward or back as required. Clock in sorting office and main post office also had to be done but these could be bagged. Going forward was easy but back meant staying for the hour. Many a Saturday coming from Malvern Winter gardens dance after listening and dancing to Ted Heath or Joe Loss (old ones may remember) and changing clocks. In those days licensing laws were strict and dance had to finish one minute before midnight.

Took rescue unit to Loton Park. First event of 2018. Saturday test day and event Sunday. Very quiet weekend.

VSCC AGM-marshals meeting which allowed marshals to input to staff and directors of club and marshals dinner. Three separate events during the day which allowed plenty of interaction. Traditional marshals' dinner with VSCC is steak and kidney pudding. Over the years, wherever it has been held, menu does not change. VSCC always supply chef at venue with the individual pudding basins. Dinner is followed by marshals' awards and memories of marshals past. Very enjoyable day.

Next day should have been Bromyard Festival at Shelsley Walsh but due to ground conditions the event is moved to May, so Sunday off with a roast.

Back to Loton Park with Midland Rescue. Weather once again very changeable and with a damp track and bikes we kept our fingers crossed. Virtually no incidents and early finish on Sunday. Stayed at my usual farm and as we were on early start on Sunday, I said can I have seven o'clock breakfast. Reply was we are farmers and you can have breakfast at first light. Usual farmhouse breakfast, enough to keep me going all day.

Clerk of Course for VSCC Silverstone. First big circuit meeting for them. Excellent meeting with no incidents over the two days. Big entry with reserves. Best race for me was the Morgan race. Being born and brought up near the factory in Malvern makes me slightly biased. Track has been resurfaced so was very grippy on Saturday but the thunderstorms overnight made it less grippy on Sunday. Due to the new surface the track had to be treated by circuit staff as soon as any fluids were dropped. Again we had very little to do despite most of the cars being VSCC but well prepared. Due to the large entry, we signed on Friday evening and I did two drivers' briefings. Must be getting better at it as I had a round of applause from both.

Then to Prescott with Midland Rescue. Very cold and damp weekend. British Championship first round. Very little to do. I felt for the marshals, but as usual they were happy and well kitted for the weather.

May Bank Holiday weekend was very busy. Saturday was near Telford training rescue crews.

Sunday with Midland Rescue at Curborough. Finished at 1745hrs and then a journey to Snetterton accommodation about 190 miles and four hour journey. I stay at a lovely farmhouse and was offered supper when I arrived. After that long day, was ready for my bed. Senior clerk at Snetterton which was a great meeting. Brilliant weather and great racing. Had to keep my eye on marshals and deliver plenty of water due to extremes of heat. Curfew for Snetterton is 1830 and we finished at 1825. Good planning or luck I do not know. All races had big entries apart from one which had only four cars. We had to use the safety car in that one due to a car losing a wheel in a difficult spot. Got away at about 1900hrs and home at 2300hrs. One section of the A14 for twelve miles restricts you to forty miles an hour with speed cameras all the way. A long section of the M6 from M1 to M42 junction restricts you 50 miles an hour. That plus holiday traffic is all you need. Still that is motorsport.

My next event was to be Clerk at Rockingham for a twenty four hour race. My luck was in as I got a call from the office to ask me to go to Pembrey as they were short of crew on rescue at the two day rallycross meeting. I love the drive to Pembrey on Friday afternoons. Cross country with very little traffic and lovely sunshine. Only thing to slow me down were farmers on tractors. Excellent event with fifty races each day. Five lappers with virtually no break between them. Opposite direction on second day gave drivers plenty to think about. Nothing to do rescue wise.

Journey home was a nice as going down till I got to Leominster to find police had closed the Ludlow road due to a serious road accident. Had to divert to Bromyard and come back past Shelsley.

Next weekend was to Oulton Park for VSCC as senior clerk. Had not been clerking Oulton for a few years but typically the marshals greeted me as an old friend as if I had not been away. Excellent meeting with no problems apart from one which made me feel a bit sad. Ferrari invitation race the man from last on the grid worked his way through the pack and won the race. However we have cameras for track limit violations and as he had done this three times, I had to give five second penalty which dropped him down to third. I am afraid that, too, is motorsport.

Oulton only being a one day, I was at Curborough the next day on Midland Rescue. Lovely day in the sunshine with nothing to do. Excellent meeting run by MAC on figure of eight course.

Next weekend off to Kirkistown as Clerk. Terrible weather on M42 going to Birmingham airport. Got off plane in Ireland to lovely sunshine. Tried to get my hire car from Hertz, my usual supplier, but they said because of my age I needed a doctor's note to say I was fit to drive. Have an account with Hertz but no advance warning and no car. Went to Europcar and they let me have one right away with no fuss. You know where I will go next time.

Excellent meeting. Formula Ford twenty minute race with large field. Point zero one of a second between first two. Excellent race with no contact. Journey back to airport was made difficult by closing main road past Stormont for weekend roadworks.

Bank holiday Monday off to Mallory Park as steward. Races by Classic Sports Car Club. Large grids of cars from an era I love. No incidents and another excellent meeting.

Back to Pembrey as Clerk of Course for a round of the British Sprint Championship. Journey down on Friday was difficult due to the heavy rainstorms everywhere. Sunday evening return was just the opposite in what was a journey on a lovely summer evening. Due to curfew and trying to fit everything in, I had to move the top twelve run offs to Sunday. This meant we had four during the day. The two front runners are

Heather and Colin Calder, sharing the family Gould, Colin being her dad. Heather was last year's Champion and just beat Colin this weekend. They were leaving car down here and flying back to Scotland so I suspect conversations may have been difficult. They had brought the car down and had set out on the previous Tuesday.

Sunday afternoon was very difficult for both competitors and marshals due to high temperatures. Due to less practice required, we had finished just after 4pm much to the relief of marshals on post.

Double drivers had the complication of brake cooling during runs and drivers keeping cool.

Next weekend back to Pembrey as Clerk. Main race was a five hour race for Citroen C1's. Full grid with reserves and good close racing. Penalties had to be applied for corner cutting which made result very interesting. Best journey home ever. Cross country again. A lovely Sunday evening with very little traffic. At one point I did approx twenty miles with no car in front of me.

Took rescue unit to Shelsley Saturday - no MSA permit Saturday and permit Sunday. Weekend with no incident.

Nice to be doing a meeting near home. However it was a rescue week for me and I kept the vehicle at home.

Wednesday Prescott school, Saturday and Sunday Shelsley. Tuesday Shelsley school and Wednesday Prescott school again. Then Wednesday evening back to Chateau Impney for a rescue training evening. Whew this is retirement.

On Midland unit at Prescott with no incidents Saturday. Quick dash up motorway to Donington for a drivers briefing with VSCC at 2030hrs Saturday. Made it on time and many drivers were at briefing. Sunday was clerk for VSCC. Good meeting with no problems.

Next taking unit to Shelsley Walsh. Two days with very few incidents but nothing serious.

Clerk of Course at Chateau Impney. There from Tuesday setting up. One serious accident on Saturday with excellent response from marshals, rescue and paramedics. Driver progressing ok. Looked at some wonderful and rare cars.

Loton school next taking Midland unit.

Next MSA steward at Loton. Excellent two days with big bike entry.

Took Midland Rescue to Cadwell Park with Chris Wolverson and Simon Nettell. Excellent VSCC meeting with no incidents. Parked with no shelter so a bit hot in unit.

Had tyre blow out near Nottingham on our way home. Chris was driving and he controlled everything and now the job of wheel changing. Called RAC and job was done very quickly. Got home about 1130 to find baby hedgehog on my drive which I fed and watered. Some good comes of all. Four new tyres now fitted to vehicle.

With Midland Rescue at Shelsley Walsh. Difficult weekend. No official lunch break either day. Marshals staggered break leaving people on post allowing event to continue. Saturday finished before end of second runs due to weather.

Sunday first run finished about 1700hrs leaving no time for second runs. Incidents to deal with but no driver injury.

Big problem as I saw it was over ambitious programme which led to most problems.

Clerk of the Course at Prescott for VSCC. Very enjoyable meeting with usual problems of oil on track but many thanks to all officials who made this meeting so successful and friendly. I had one personal letter from a competitor saying how much he enjoyed it. We had problems Saturday evening so decision was made to cancel cycle race.

A difficult recovery was on return road by bridle path where car returning had gone down gulley on the right. Took a bit of time, but team managed it.

JF

That's all for now - further news from John in the next newsletter.

MIDSUMMER SPEED FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 23rd/ SUNDAY 24th JUNE

Yet another busy weekend but the weather was on our side for once. A great turnout of marshals which is what we want to see, Kevin does a great job sorting you all into a fighting force. Following practice the annual B.B.Q took place in "The Pound". Philip & Margaret Parkes took hold of the reins assisted by Bryan Williams not forgetting the ladies who helped prepare the "add-on" food. All went well, plenty of food, Prescott ale provided by Nathan Mcwattie the owner of Prescott Ales and a great turn out to boot.

The raffle was drawn with a 50/50 distribution between members and drivers. My thanks to Angie who did most of the leg work selling the tickets.

Unfortunately Janine was taken to the local hospital at Tewkesbury having been stung/bitten by a horse fly. Dave, her son drove to Tewkesbury hospital who sent them to Cheltenham hospital who sent them to Gloucester hospital!! No comment.....

Janine was kept in overnight, not sure if she was kept in Sunday also. Get well soon Janine - not your year is it??

MARSHALS' DRAW

The three winners were - Imogen Higson / Clive Smith / Simon Nettell

Once again our thanks to "The Bugatti Owners' Club" for their continued support.

The "POUND" has suffered from a spring popping up at the side of the main hut but having spoken to Chris Rogers things are looking up. Work has been done with more to follow so the ducks will have to find another pond.

Changing the subject, it's obvious that many of our members do not read what is sent out by Kevin or our Club. Also you are responsible to look after your plastic cards be it the green one from Kevin or the membership card from the P.M.C.

That's all folks

J.H.

PRESCOTT 80th ANNIVERSARY & BUGATTI
FESTIVAL
SATURDAY 14th JULY

Yet another great turnout for a one day meeting - we must be doing something right as there many other venues to choose from.

Yet another sweltering day, not a lot of fun with probans on!!

The marshals' draw winners were -

Peter Tottman - Mike Webb - Ray Cook

Once again our thanks to the B.O.C. for supplying the prizes.

Just a little reminder - please try to remember that your membership card is your entitlement to lunch time food, so carry it with you!!

If you require a lanyard with a double card holder we can supply one for a whole £1-00.

Keep smiling

J.H.

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

I'm always saying thank you to the members of the club who marshal or attend our social events but we also have many members who have marshalled in the past or have joined the club just to give us support. Without their support our membership figures would be a lot lower so "THANK YOU" one and all.

Michael Billingham has decided to hang up his probans. I'm sure we will still see him around as he has rejoined the club - it must be the tea & coffee that brings people back! At least Michael will have a little more time to polish his A.C.

John Lusty has offered to take on the position of Membership Secretary for 2018/2019. Thanks John, you will find out who can read & who can write.

T. Dixon - Smith has had a similar operation as I had three years ago. We all wish you a speedy recovery Dixon, hope you don't end up as daft as me but who can tell

As it's our 60th year the Committee said we should record the event in a photograph, Our Club member Allan Rhodes is pretty handy with a camera so we plan to take said photographs in the "Pound" area on Saturday 1st September following your lunch. We have enlisted a small team of make-up artist if so required.

The annual skittles bash will be held on SATURDAY 6th OCTOBER following practice of the American Autumn Classic event. Venue is Newlands Park, near Bishops Cleeve, as last year - tickets still only £5-00 - start time 7-30pm. Please give this your support and reserve your tickets by calling 01242 676848 or emailing hickups@btinternet.com

Tickets limited to the first 30 so it's now up to you!!

Spring in the life of a typical Club member (or taking up Ray Cook's theme 'Yellow Trousers on Tour')

Thursday 5th April IAM Talk Churchdown

My fourth rendering of my talk '70 years of my Motorsport' this time to a very supportive audience from the Institute of Advance Motorist. Was due a month earlier but had to be cancelled due to the Beast from the East as were a lot of other events. This time I added fifty odd pictures of the 70's and 80's of my Rallying and Sprinting which seemed to go down well.

Sunday 8th April MSA Steward Sutton & Cheam Motor Club Dalton Barracks Sprint.

Whilst Prescott Marshals' Club battled out to win the Masters at Chippingham, I attended a Wet, Wet, Wet Abington Long Course Sprint. A full field of 120 cars tackled the 2.1 mile circuit at Dalton Barracks ranging from the Ralt RT33/34 SRD of David Sims who took FTD in 98.90 to the Minis. I liked the rather nice Alpine Renault A110 but the Jaguar E-Type would fill my garage well. No red flags and all done and dusted by 4.00, everyone pleased by then to get out the rain. Very few marshals in Orange as the event attracted a lot of Rally Marshals and I was surprised I recognised none at the Marshals' briefing. Still a good day and hopefully will not take too long to dry and warm up.

Sat/Sun 28/29th April Club Steward Bugatti Owners Club Prescott

For the first time in many years I missed the prize presentation for as soon as Dave Lucas, the MSA Steward, stood Michael Billingham, my fellow Club Steward for the day, and myself down I headed for the car, heater full on, and headed home. If I was cold, you lads and lassies on the hill must have been frozen. The baked potato and cake at lunch time went down well, thank you ladies for doing this for us. What was new other than driver and car combinations? Well, we had a commentator on the start line that worked well and one motorcycle rider who fell off on three of his four runs. It also seemed strange not to have some regular faces present due to a clash with the classic Isle of Man, no Spencer on the start or John on Cattle grid but their replacements slotted in well. Tried to socialise with as many of you as possible and catch up after the winter, easy with Shaun with his many travel photos and Richard, on duty in the

Trident cockpit when I visited the Jetage museum. It is always great to spend time with John Hicks and John Felix. As for the hill competition itself the British looks quite open and great to see Wallace and Will, take the honours but praise must go to all those who kept their cars and bikes on the tarmac and enabled the Clerks, Stuart enjoying his penultimate day as General Manager and Andrew, to keep to their timetable. Terrible news about our regular Clerk Chris Bound being diagnosed with throat cancer and I am sure all of us wish him well. I have been there and radiation treatment is not at all pleasant - best of luck Chris.

Sat/Sun 5/6th May MSA Steward MAC Shelsley Walsh

What a difference a week makes from frostbite at Prescott to sunstroke at Shelsley. With the British Championship having an away day in Belfast it was left to the Midland Championship to open the season at Shelsley with Speed into Spring and what an excellent two days of sport we had. However despite the efforts of John Chalmers, Tony Hunt and Alex Summers the star of the weekend was Robert Kenrick in his very rapid GWR Raptor with 999cc of BMW RR power taking both run offs and a class record to boot. Walked the hill both days, it seems to get steeper each year, managed a chat with a lot of PMC marshals and it is always great to see you. Tried to get you an early bath on Saturday but the club needed to run till 5 for the paying spectators. Still we did manage to be away by 5 both days. I have thought for a few seasons Prescott's timing displays up the hill were past their sell by date but the displays at Shelsley were showing some strange figures. Found out later that the wiring and connections had not wintered well and will need a lot of TLC.

Sunday 13th May Hill Marshal Cheltenham Cleeve Valley Rotary Prescott

What post was I allocated? The one where you can spot if it is steam or diesel and the only blot on the landscape is Toddington Manor, still after many years clad in plastic, yes Semi Out. Graham Wright manned the cattle grid, Richard Ward Esses, Roger Still Pardon, John Ettore, David the Start and John and Bridget the Paddock. Our General Manager Chris kept an overall eye on proceedings. What a brilliant selection of cars entertained us from a 1934 Lagonda to the latest offerings from Ferrari, Porsche and Maserati. The hill was busy all day and accident free until at close of play when a kit-car took semi too wide and disappeared over the bank ending up gently nudging the barrier. David had to appear with the Land Rover and with the help of Chris and Graham pulled the yellow peril away from the bank and down the slope to join the return road. A little

disappointed I had hoped to look around the paddock and displays but the half hour lunch break was not long enough and at 4 o'clock the paddock and fields were deserted. Still it was a beautiful summers day and certainly enjoyable.

Sat/Sun 26/27 May Spectator La Vita Rossa

Not working this weekend so Saturday was spent at the Annual Meeting of another of my hobbies but managed to catch some of the practice for Monte Carlo. Heard that you did not get started till late due to fog. Saw some of the pictures and I cannot remember it happening before but expect someone can.

Arrived bright and early on the Sunday and spent all morning drooling in the paddock and orchard at the wonderful selection of cars. Could not make my mind up what I would like to take home from the amount of Supercars on display. Dear Bank Manager! Great to catch up with a few of you but got no further up the hill than Dave and Michael before the lunchtime downpour. Found the wife and headed for an excellent lunch in the Clubhouse where I had a chat with John Lucas, the MSA Steward for the weekend. Had an early bath due to the dog being left on his own but hear that Emergency was called during the second runs but luckily only bruises were the outcome. At least the weather almost behaved itself.

Wednesday 6th June Hill Marshal Porsche Drivers School

I was a last minute replacement but Roy beat me being a last second replacement, almost missed the final bacon roll! Who else was there? Well Graham, another sub, was at Cattle Grid, Roy slotted in at Semi Out, Phil manned the Esses with John and Jon on rescue, I had the wonderful view at Pardon, Margaret looked after Ettores, Dave had an apprentice in Spencer on the start whilst Roger and Ed looked after the Paddock. Thirty plus Porsches, never seen so many new or nearly new ones. Started the day with the only JCW Mini and a fast, well driven, well known Caterham 7 of Gregg Scott, being interlopers. Two incidents all day, a dead squirrel just before Semi in, and a fast half spin at Orchard with a very lucky Porsche driver just missing the bank and an even luckier and relieved Chief Instructor, Steve Day, who was riding shotgun. Great to see our Chairman, Charles Trevelyan, socialising and putting on display his Bugatti Type 37B. Also brilliant that the Friends of Prescott had their hut open, just hope it was worth the effort.

Sat/Sun 9th/10th June MSA Steward Loton Park

What a weekend of competitive Hillclimbing in excellent weather. After practice any one of seven was capable of occupying the top step and by the end of Sunday Wallace and Jason shared the spoils but it was still Trevor who left leading the British Championship. Quite a few class records fell but the best went to Olivia Cooper whose Force TA lowered the Ladies hill record.

So what is new at Loton? The music in the Gents has gone being replaced by three Ladies keeping a 'eye' on things, a new Marshals HQ to go with the new MSA sign on sheets which caused quite a queue with all the info required and six young Marshals doing a superb job in top paddock. Luckily the quality of marshals made up for the quantity, we could certainly have done with a few more, shame about the clash with the corporate Jaguar days at both Shelsley and Prescott. One thing amused me was the arrival of Midland Rescue for lunch Saturday lunchtime from top paddock, the side door opened and out came marshal after marshal after marshal, twelve in all making a total 'crew' of 15! Top marks to Loton with an excellent informative commentary team of Lee Corbett, Steve Wilkinson and Jerry Sturman keeping everyone informed with no period of silence. Makes the commentary at Prescott, with all those quiet moments, seem very second class. The other enjoyable spectator experience was the timing displays being complete with no missing numbers, sorry Prescott but the one at Geoff's Folly is well past its sell-buy date and yes I do know they are difficult to repair / replaced. Great to see Martin Ford as Loton's Chief Scrutineer, plus Spencer and Roger on the hill.

Wednesday 13th June Hill Marshal Refresher Drivers School Prescott

What excellent value for money this day was with 17 runs, attentive instructors, very nice lunch, photos and videos. Good take up with a range of cars from a 1925 Bugatti 35 to Gregg's Caterham R500GPR which must know its own way up the hill by now. Who was there for the bacon rolls? Pat on Cattle Grid, Malcolm on a Semi out, Richard Esses, do like his registration RA xx WBA, certainly not a Villa supporter. I was at my new home at Pardon, Roy at Ettores, Dave at the Start with Roger and Simon manning the paddock. John and Jon were on Rescue. Only one Safety call all day for a slow moving car approaching Semi. Very nice well run day thanks Aline.

Sunday 17th June MSA Steward Midsummer's Madness Shelsley Walsh

Father's Day and a one day National B following a Members' Test Day, shame it clashed with the revised date for the bikes at Prescott, one day I will get to that meeting!

Two meeting highlights on Saturday - Alex proposes to Debbie on the Start Line and Debbie accepts. Sunday Debbie takes BTM with a 26.46 - is this the first Shelsley BTM for a Lady? Only 100 car entry so four batches and an early finish even after asking the competitors if they would like a third non-competitive run to give the spectators value for money. Walked the hill up to Bottom 'S' stopping to chat where possible especially to Shawn, having his first taste on the start, Michael, on the button and a Roger on the bottle. Enjoyed the day thanks to good commentary and a laugh at the timing/speed displays until Roger marched through the undergrowth to reset. What other sport would you see two of the current top ten competitors just out enjoying themselves Alex, helping his mother and fiancé, and Will, sharing and peddling his Fathers Morgan, assisted by his wife and daughter.

Saturday 23rd June Club Steward Bugatti Owner's Club Prescott

Midsummer Melange Meeting saw Howard West, Mr. Wiscombe Down as MSA Steward and Bill Helme as my fellow Club Steward so a lot to catch up on before proceeding up the hill to have my chat with as many of you as possible. What a lovely day it was and so much to talk about including the numerous Championships enjoying the hill. Most interesting chat was with Angie, one of those lovely ladies who give up their time so we enjoy an excellent lunch, who was telling me that she has now done it lying on her front at Cadwell Park and in a 'go for it' kneeling position at Prescott, you would never get me in a sidecar! Also she managed a pillion on a Harley, all at the Bike Festival. Also had one of John's special coffees so felt very honoured. Thought it was a good day's sport, FTD to Mathew Ryder in 40.21 in his new Empire Evo 2 Hayabusa. Hope all those who attended enjoyed the barbecue and not too many hangovers. Shame not more spectators.

Sunday 24th June Spectator Midland Hill Climb Championship Prescott

Great to arrive at 11 o'clock and walk slowly up the hill via the Clubhouse for an excellent coffee and lunch, plus England's first two goals. Ron and

Ian had taken over as Club Stewards so managed to catch up with them. Ran in to Bill Pardo, now running the Midland Hillclimb Championship, before a long chat with Howard West and Campbell, who was judging Man of the Meeting and putting the MSA in to shape, not a chance. Then it was, with my wife, to meet my daughter and son in law and grandson eight days old and being introduced to Prescott, it was at three months that my parents introduced me. The grandson enjoyed it, managing to sleep during the long silences in the commentary, Prescott finishing a very distant third to Loton and Shelsey on the commentary front. Left at 4pm during the second runs as dog had been left home alone, but enjoyed the top twelve run off even though they seemed to take an age, but a great 38.56 by Robert Kenrick in his GWR Raptor 2 BMW made it worthwhile. Do hope the second runs went quicker and it was a not too late finish for you all.

Sunday 1st July Hill Marshal Pug Festival Prescott

My third year on the hill for this event and always a surprise to see so many people enjoying the camping or day out watching fellow owners take their cars up the hill. Spoke to one couple who had driven from Essex, an over three hour trip, just to spectate and they hope to return next year. Who manned the hill? Well, Graham was on Cattle grid, I manned Semi out, disappointed that the view of the trains is now hidden behind the trees, Simon on Esses, Phil on Pardon, Margaret on Ettore's, Dave, enjoying his 62nd year of marshalling, on start being joined by C of C David making the long trip from Cheshire for the day. John, looking good in orange golfing trousers and orange shirt, manned the Paddock with Bridget. During the morning Margaret called safety to examine a small fluid spill which turned out to be a major gearbox blow leaving an oil slick from Ettore's to Pardon out. All brushes were brought out and play was suspended until the oil was cleared. Then in the afternoon 20 minutes lost whilst the Paramedic attended a spectator medical shout in the paddock giving us a few minutes overtime. The highlight of the day was a fly-past of the whole Red Arrows team returning home after a show in South Wales, sorry you missed it Graham. Not a bad day thanks to the weather, nice to see both shop and Friends of Prescott open, plus Charles' Bugatti both in the paddock and on the road as I headed home.

Saturday 14th July Spectator 80th. Anniversary and Bugatti Festival Prescott

Good job it was not 1940 for I was told that the Hurricane due to fly over Prescott missed its "target" by two miles!

That aside, what a brilliant day! With Ron and Bill acting as Club Stewards, I was surplus to requirements allowing me to spectate. Arrived at 10 am and managed a quick chat to Dave and Michael on breakdown, not the best view of the hill from where they sit, before taking coffee with our Chairman, John, and Pete and putting the world to rights. Headed down to the paddock meeting many old friends on the way, had a long chat to Scott and family, great to see him take FTD, and yes he is missing it. Watched the VIP cavalcade from the start line wishing the VIPs had name tags - recognised faces but could not put names to faces. Then up the hill via the Club Shop where I could not resist a new shirt. Surprised so many spectators were on the outside and nearly every bench had someone perched. Managed a chat with quite a few of you but felt most sorry for the trainee marshal who not only had the stories from Roger, Simon and Shawn due to being on Esses also had the Rescue Crew of John, Chris and Simon to contend with, still he seemed to be enjoying himself and hopefully will return. Now for paddock and what a display of Bugattis - would hate to put a price on the display, not sure how many attended but sure a record number. Also great to see a good turnout of members competing in a wide variety of cars and great to see the support from spectators with even the overflow car park in use.

Sat/Sun 28th/29th July MSA Steward Wiscombe Park

Wet Wet Wet. After weeks of tropical conditions arrived in Seaton to rain and left Wiscombe two days later in heavy rain. Saturday National B and practice for National A morning windy but mostly dry gave me a chance to walk the hill and talk to most of the Marshals and inspect the West Country Rescue Unit. Great to see one of our regulars Pete Smith in his orange on Castle Straight and having a few words with him. Well worth visiting Wiscombe and marvelling at the top boys through the Gate and Esses One and Two, a narrow piece of road. The afternoon was wet with Nat B FTD going to the Empire Evo 2 of Ben Wheeler from Kilmington in 37.36. The highlight of the day is the "Great Wiscombe Bake Off" with

seven cakes entered this year and these then being sold by the slice to drivers, officials and spectators for charity. This year £101.85 plus being raised for West Country Rescue. Not a bad crowd for a Saturday. Sunday was rain all day and very few spectators except Stuart and Maggie watching from the shelter of the beer tent, managed a word without getting too wet. The missing spectators certainly missed two exciting British top twelve run offs. The first going to Trevor in 41.46 from Jason and Wallace, Will back in 7th after a poor start. The second run off was Jason's in 40.97, from Richard and Trevor. Will again lost out at the start to finish 8th whilst Wallace well on the nail at Sawbench but got it all wrong at Martini for a fail. South West Timekeeping displays were clear and gave basic information but the commentary keeping everyone well informed. Very impressed with roving mike Dave Pearce going around both paddock and hill interviewing competitors, officials and spectators alike during any lull in the proceedings. Prescott please note no silent periods which we have more than any other hill I have been to, even I got interviewed about how I got involved in the sport.

Maitland

MEMBERSHIP FOR 2018

As at Monday 13th the membership figure stands at 145
which is 5 more than 2017.

We lose some old faces and we gain some new faces
which is to be expected.

I don't normally mention new members but as we have
Ian Grace who lives near Seattle as our 145th member

I thought it was worth a mention

Ian is responsible for putting together the Vintage
Minor Register meeting at Prescott and always gives the
P.M.C. credit for their help.

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