

## Just Being Sociable!

Ok, Ok! I hear you! So not all of you are into motorsport, cars and bikes. Well, for those of you who just enjoy propping up the bar, or having a bit of a chinwag, there is another side to the club. Let me tell you all about it.

I guess you can't have failed to notice the pool table. At present, we have two pool teams, both of whom are doing well in their respective divisions in the local pool league. Every so often, our social secretary organises knockout competitions, which all members are welcome to take part in. On Sunday nights, you can pop down to the club for a game of pool and the table is free to members.

We have a dartboard too and many of the regulars like to partake in the odd game of arrows, (odd being the operative word sometimes) although we don't have a team at present – but we are open to offers!! Again, we have knockout competitions occasionally, which are open to all members.

Quizzes are a big thing in the club – love them or loath them, but they do bring in the crowds and our regular quiz nights are a great laugh and guaranteed to bring out the worst in anyone who takes part! We have two, or three different people who set the quizzes, which tend to take place on a Saturday night every month or so - that way, the quizzes take on different formats and some are more difficult than others. We also have two league quiz teams, who play in the local league on a Sunday night, both of whom are doing well.

If you like talking bikes, then we have a motorcycle section, which meets up regularly in the club for their social get togethers. Ride-outs are a regular feature too.

As you can see, we really are quite a sociable bunch of people really.

George

### Discounts for Club Members

The business below has agreed to give a discount to CMC Members on production of a valid membership card.

#### **ETB.**

Exhausts Tyres & Batteries.  
U15 Malmesbury Rd.  
Kingsditch Trading Estate.

CHELTENHAM MOTOR CLUB PRESENTS

## THE 2003 CHRISTMAS CRACKER SCATTER

MONDAY 29<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER

Sign-on 7:30pm

**Map 163 B2 or later**

For details contact Rich Clayton

### **Newton Abbot Audi Stages Rally**

South Hams Motor Club

17<sup>th</sup> January 2004

### **Regency Rally Brean Sands Leisure Park**

Weston-Super-Mare

31<sup>st</sup> Jan/ 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2004

1<sup>st</sup> Round of  
BP Motor Bodybuilders  
CMSG Championship 2004

### **Wyedean Rally**

Forest of Dean Motor Club

14<sup>th</sup> February 2004

CMC to run a Stage  
Marshals Contact  
Kevin Smith

## Carfax Stage Rally 2003 – Oxford Motor Club Longcross 7<sup>th</sup> December 2003

Ten stages, over 55 stage miles, including the unique opportunity of night-time running around the challenging Surrey test track, often made even trickier by the fickle influences of the weather in early December.

Last year the entry filled within a few weeks even though the event was not a round of the Rally 2002 championship. This year the event was a round of the Bigger Bites Rally 2003 Tarmac Stage Rally Championship, the Approved Car Finance Heart of England Championship 2003 and the Cotswold Motor Sport Group Stage Rally Championship (in association with Severnside Motorsport). The entry filled in less than two weeks.

Cheltenham Motor Club was out marshalling again. Four of us braved the cold, running the Start & Finish controls. Stage one got off on time, with 1<sup>st</sup> car at 09.30, but with just 16 cars into the stage, we had the call to stop. Andy Dawe had crashed, his navigator Becki Spokes had been hurt in the collision and an ambulance had to be sent in – luckily Becki was not seriously injured, but she was taken to Hospital as a precaution. The incident caused a long delay and Stage one had to be cancelled. The rest of the day went well, the other marshals were kept busy rebuilding chicanes, as the low sun on the long straights distracted the drivers. Stage turn rounds were slick all day and the event was just about back on schedule for the last two short stages in the dark. Stage 9 ran without a hitch, but another accident on stage 10 caused further delay and the 5.30 curfew on the venue was fast approaching. The organizers decided it was best to cancel the last stage too.

The uncertain future hanging over Longcross still exists, so this may have been one of the last opportunities to see a rally on this excellent venue.

The overall winners of the event were Tim Ball and Jo Simmons pictured below.



Pictured: Tim Ball and Jo Simmons taking part at Longcross

## Membership Renewals

Membership renewals for 2004 are now due. You can pick up a renewal form from the club.

Prices are as follows:

£6 - social membership

£18 - full membership

£21- family membership

Don't forget – there is a £1 discount for prompt renewal!

## Haynes on Line

Did you know that the club is a member of the Haynes Club Scheme? No? Well, since November 10<sup>th</sup> 2003, by registering with **Haynesonline** [www.haynes.co.uk](http://www.haynes.co.uk) club members are now entitled to enjoy all the benefits of club membership. All you need to do is select the club from the on-line menu and enter a four-letter code that is unique to the club. Members will not be asked for their membership number, though Haynes will occasionally check with you to make sure the system is not being abused.

Registering will bring the following benefits:

- Up to date online motorsport calendar
- Useful information bulletins
- Features on new and forthcoming books as well as the ability to get advance email notification of new titles

Look out for Christmas give suggestions and other seasonal promotions. If you have any queries about **Haynesonline**, call: 01963 442031.

## Fancy a Beer?

Well, a lot of people do it would seem. It has been noted lately that we are attracting a lot of interest from local members of CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale) and are indeed gaining quite a reputation as a place to go for a good pint! Over the past few years, our increasing repertoire and “back catalogue” has impressed many beer drinkers. Who knows? Perhaps our continued success with the choice and variety of beers may finally put us on the map, not only as a motor club, but also as a haven for the discerning tippler! Bring ‘em on.

**George**

## Marshalling

No motorsport event can take place without Marshals. It is a great way to start off in motorsport. You don't have to own a car, or even be able to drive and it's not going to cost you a lot either. Club members marshal on all sorts of motorsport events, Race, Rally, Sprint and Autotests. There are many events to choose from, e.g. you could be out on a Friday night Navigational Rally, Saturday on a Stage Rally, Saturday night on a Road Rally and Sunday on a Sprint. Don't worry if you can only afford the time to come out a couple of times a year, there is no pressure to attend, just do the type of events that you may be interested in or, just the local events. Help at events is always welcomed.

Marshalling is a varied and some say strange pursuit! You can do anything from manning a junction on a Stage Rally, gates on Production Car Trials, Passage checks on Navigational events, doing time controls on Autotests, Road events, Stage Rallies or Sprints at Club, National or International level. It maybe near where you live, or several hours drive away or even on the odd occasion abroad. The easy way to start is to buddy up with an experienced marshal or team of marshals. When the Club is running an event or has been asked to marshal on another clubs events, you can just come out and watch and just get a feel for what is involved.

If you want to get more involved there is a Marshals Registration scheme run by the Motor Sports Association, a host of training is available, from first aid and fire safety, to timekeepers and event officials.

You will need to come prepared for the sort of marshalling you will be Doing. It is an outdoor pursuit and an all year round one, so you can expect any sort of conditions from hot sunshine, to freezing rain on a windy November night, somewhere in a Welsh forest. So think what sort of protective clothing you may need to take, as well as food & drink, you maybe miles from the nearest fast food outlet.

**INTERESTED?** Then keep an eye on the newsletter or let us know at the Club. If you would like to help, let someone in the club know and you will be contacted by the member co-ordinating the event.

Rich Clayton  
CMC Chief Marshal

## What's On

### December

- 20 Trev's Quiz followed by Christmas Draw
- 26 Boxing Day (open lunchtime and evening)
- 29 Christmas Cracker - scatter
- 31 New Years Eve – disco and buffet

### January

- 1 New Years Day - CLOSED
- 9 -10 Exeter Trial – start Cirencester
- 15 Cirencester CC 12 car teach-in
- 16 CMC 12 Car
- 29 Cotswold Group Awards Night

### It's never been easier to buy a present for a rally fan

RallyGifts has been launched to satisfy the market of **what can I buy for....?** A constant problem for not only Christmas and birthdays, but also leaving presents, thank you's etc.

All our gifts come from the exciting world of rallying and our aim is not to satisfy an avid collector, but to provide a huge range of gifts, whatever age, whatever gender with prices from £5.00 to £500, toy cars for 2 year olds to driving a rally car yourself and trips to the World Rally Championship.



RallyGifts is a division of Pacenote.com who have designed and produce a range of professional co-driver equipment used by 90% of co-drivers in the World Rally Championship.

## Rally of the Tests 13 – 16 November 2003

This year saw the second running of the Rally. The Rally is for pre 1973 cars and all the competitors have to dress in period costume. This year the event started in Cheltenham on the Friday, and then went on to two overnight halts at Buxton, and Harrogate before the finish in Blackpool on Sunday.

The event prologue, on Thursday evening, consisted of two autotests and a regularity section held on the Army Vehicle base at Ashchurch. Cheltenham MC ran the first test. Later that evening Graham Ford was dragged out of the Motor Club bar to help out a competitor who had managed to break a wheel at Ashchurch, it was getting on for midnight. Graham was out in his garage with the angle grinder & Mig Welder. I bet his neighbours were happy!

Friday morning saw the official start, with the Mayor flagging off the 81 strong entry from the Pump Rooms. The first test of the day was a regularity around Cirencester Park, marshaled by both Cirencester CC & Cheltenham MC.

We had one competitor in the event, Andrew Isherwood, who was navigating in an Austin Healey. Unfortunately the crew crashed out, hitting a large gatepost smack between the headlights only a few miles from the first overnight halt at Buxton.

Thanks to all from CMC who marshalled. The regularity in Cirencester Park wasn't that exciting, but it didn't rain & the Greasy Joe's breakfast hit the spot.

Rich C.



# CMC NEWS

Cheltenham Motor Club Newsletter

Issue 2

Dec 03/Jan 04

## From the Chair

It seems quite a long time ago when George asked me to write another tome for the all new, brighter, faster, quieter, more economical, newsletter. Actually it is because like most other people, I kept forgetting to write it. Now, here we are almost at Christmas and I really cannot put it off anymore.

As many of you ladies will already know, we have lashed out and upgraded your facilities at the Clubhouse. "Not before time" I hear a lot of you cry. I just hope that you will find the décor to your taste.

Guys, don't be too put out, we intend to upgrade the Gents early next year. What with new Ladies and Gent toilets, new carpet throughout and both bars redecorated all in about 18 months, I think that you will all agree that as a Club we are progressing very well and equally I hope that you are appreciative of the hard work put in your behalf by the Management Committee and Stuart Smith, our steward. Of course, we are always open to any fresh initiatives so if you have any good ideas please share them with us.

The lager drinkers amongst you (and I include myself in that elite band) will have also noticed that we now have Carlsberg draught available rather than Castlemain XXXX. This has nothing to do with the fact that XXXX is Australian, the general consensus is that Carlsberg is a better drink.

Talking of Australia the Club bar was full of conversation about the Rugby World Cup final. From a personal point of view I am very glad we won but it was very tense to watch it live. As a friend of mine commented, it was the third time of watching it on video before he could sit back and enjoy it!

If I do not get to see you have a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

PS Don't forget your membership renewal is due on the 1 Jan 2004 and I would point out that the numbers for 2003 are slightly down on 2002. So please make sure that you all rejoin and bring your mates along as well.

All the very best

**Mike M**

## Seasons Greetings From Me (or Ho, Ho, Bloody Ho!)

Anyway just a quick waffley bit from me to let you know that we are open on Boxing Day. If you are tired of cold turkey, Only Fools and Horses for the umpteenth time and whatever other delights the festive season can throw at you, why not pop down and see us.

Boxing Day Opening Hours as follows:

**Lunchtime -12 'til 2**

**Evening – Normal opening hours**

Alternatively, if you are more of a New Years party animal; why not pay us a visit then. We will have disco, kindly provided by Bec's. Everyone is welcome and entry if free, however, there will be a buffet available on the night and those who wish to partake, may do so at a £5 charge, which is payable to Stu before the night.

For more info on what is on over the coming weeks, funnily enough, we have included a what's on bit further on in the newsletter!

**George**

For more information on anything you see featured in this newsletter, or to send in your own articles for the next issue, please drop your article into the club or contact:

George

or

Rich