



May 2004  
Number 460



**Who are they?**

*Answer on page 3*

Newsletter of the West Middlesex Group of the **csma**

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**Your Editor Speaking...**

**W**ell, after a packed and extremely rapid AGM it's all change on the officer front, but I'll let them introduce themselves later...

The main development in the Boakes saga is the sudden and catastrophic breakdown of my back, which has rather put the dampers on anything even remotely strenuous... So it was off to the quack to be told "it's only

muscular, you've done nothing serious". That's easy for her to say!

But the physio is doing a sterling job and this weekends' exertions (moving a milling machine weighing nearly 600kg and several hours driving on the Cirencester CC Economy Run) seem to have passed off without aggravating matters... Phew!

Have fun!

**Jez Boakes (Editor)**

**Ladies and Gentlemen  
 This is your Captain Speaking...**

**W**ell the AGM has come and gone and I find myself in the driving seat of West Middlesex Group. It was all change in the Officer department with Alison Durant resigning as Treasurer after having done a sterling job for a number of years. Toby Mack steps in as our new secretary and Nikki Wild takes up the post of treasurer. The "rest of the committee" being made up of Rob Gibbs, Bob Head, Paul Chamberlain, and Allan Goddard, thanks guys and gals for your continued support and Here's looking forward to another excellent year.

Some of your committee attended a special North London Centre meeting recently, where we were treated to a presentation by our own group member Stephen White, who was acting in his capacity as past Independent General Councillor and current member of the csma Board. He gave

a very interesting and informative talk about the current structure of our organisation and went on to say that there were areas that were in need of improvement, and this is what his team will be looking at. We had the opportunity to pass comment and make suggestions and there will be another meeting in due course where the team will present their proposals for approval by the membership. All very encouraging that the members will have a chance to have some input and we are assured that we will not be presented with a fait accompli.

By the time you read this our trip to the Battle of Britain control room at RAF Uxbridge will be imminent. I have had a very good response so far and look forward to what I know will be an excellent evening out. If you wish to join us please contact me as a matter of urgency.

Perry and I continue to contest the South West Road Rally Championship but due to

## csma West Middlesex Group

events being cancelled we have not done an event since January. Our next foray in the darkest Devon is over the first May bank holiday weekend and will be the resurrected Rally of the Moors run on Exmoor. That's assuming that I can get the brakes working on the rally car.....

It's an ongoing saga that's fast becoming a nightmare, but I'm sure we will overcome.....someday.

Preparations are in hand for our Barton Stacey trackday on July 11<sup>th</sup> and although it is in roughly the same area we will be using some new roads. Please note the

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date for your diaries and pass the word amongst anyone else who may be interested. Entry forms will be available soon, but please contact me if you need any information in the meantime.

That's it for the moment.

Just thought I'd have a break from working on the Rally car and get my copy to the editor before this month's deadline. (that'll be a first)

Give it beans.....

...and don't forget the rhubarb

**Big J (Chairman)**

## Mack's Mutterings

If you were at the AGM you will know that BigJ has decided he didn't like the secretaries job and that some other mug was needed to "volunteer". That would be me then!! Actually, John has gone on the greater things and I didn't need my arm-twisting too much!

As John knows what he is doing (and I don't yet...) and is more heavily involved in motorsport, I will stick to the social side of things for the moment. There are probably more things I should be doing so I am sure John will be having words with me soon. I am of course continuing to edit the groups website ([www.csmawmx.com](http://www.csmawmx.com)) so if you have any info or comments on that, let me know!

So what has been happening recently then? Well, unfortunately I missed most of last month so I hope you will find reports elsewhere. Suffice to say I heard there was an excellent Motorsports Workshop at Stokenchurch to replace the usual Noggin and Natter, and of course the AGM. Over 20 people attended the AGM and it was very efficiently chaired, being over in 17 minutes! Then there was the usual hotdog and chips followed by one of AG's excellent

motoring quizzes. A very pleasant night and completely unlike some other clubs AGMs I have had the misfortune to attend!

By the time this goes to press there will have been the Hollstar table top at Hatfield (hope you had fun!) followed by the next Noggin and Natter on the 27<sup>th</sup> April (usual venue again). The next clubnight is on the 6<sup>th</sup> May and is a visit to the Battle of Britain Command Centre at Uxbridge. From what I have heard this should be a fascinating trip!

On a personal note, things at work have got a bit busy recently, meaning I have been swanning round the world to places like Japan, Lapland etc (hard life isn't it). That, coupled with babysitting, fixing an ailing Westfield (don't ask), and trying to buy a car that has done an average of 30mph 24/7 for 5 months (you **really** don't want to know....) means that you probably haven't seen my face around too much recently. Hopefully that will change soon and I can get out more but I can still be contacted by email ([secretary@csmawmx.com](mailto:secretary@csmawmx.com) or [wmx@ghatzo.co.uk](mailto:wmx@ghatzo.co.uk)), home phone (01252 675533) or mobile (07770 365 797).

**Toby Mack (Secretary)**

## Front cover

No prize this time - it's Merv Manning and Keith Lay on the 1973 Scottish. They *aren't* the 118 118 men... ;-)

# csma NEL Juniper Autotest Sunday 6 June 2004 at Hatfield

..... for fun and support of motorsport



The csma NEL Juniper Autotest is being held on Sunday 6 June at the New Barnfield Library, Hatfield, Herts. The Juniper is a round of the BTRDA National Autotest Championship and this year we are again running it in conjunction with Maidstone & DMC as a double header over the weekend. The aim is to make the weekend attractive to those competitors from further away so they can enter two events during the weekend. The event will require plenty of marshals to deal with the large entry. Some of the best drivers in the country will be there so come along for exciting, fast tarmac action, while you time the cars and observe that they follow the correct route. Full instruction will be given and you will be working alongside experienced marshals.

Last year this event was voted 6<sup>th</sup> best in the championship, this year we intend to make it the best.

In recognition of your services a meal voucher will be given which can be used at the catering van and there will be a marshals draw after the results have been announced. So come along and join the fun and support of motorsport. If you are available, then please return the attached form. If you require further information, then please call Graham McLean, Chief Marshal, on (020) 8553 4700 (home - after 1900).

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Please return to Graham McLean, 48 Balfour Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 4JG.

I am available to marshal on:- Sunday 6 June csma NEL Juniper Autotest

Name.....Tel.....(h).....(w)

Address.....

Others in party.....

## All change at the top

The AGM has been and gone for another year. Those of you who attended will know that the business of the meeting was completed in a record 17 minutes which left plenty of time for the hot dog and chip supper followed by AG's quiz.

If you consult the committee contacts section of this Sump you won't notice much change. Instead of new faces, this year has seen a re-shuffle of responsibility. They say that a change is as good as a rest so lets hope that's true!

The only departure from our merry band is Alison Durant who, after seven years of serving the Group on the committee, felt that other commitments outside the Group meant that she could no longer devote the time to the job that is required to do it justice. That means that once again, I'm the only female voice on the committee – I'm going to miss my comrade at meetings.

Alison's departure left a gap in the treasurer's seat. As I tend to look over the records as a "second opinion" for Alison anyway, it was a natural step for me to stand for the post and I'm happy to report that I was elected unopposed.

So after three years in the hot seat I now have to stop thinking like a chairman and continue my day job as an accountant into the evenings and weekends.

I have very much enjoyed my chairmanship and would certainly consider re-standing if asked. If any of you out there think it's too big a role, please do give it serious consideration for the future, it's a lot more fun than you might imagine! A year or two spent as "general committee" to get a feel for the way the **csma** operates is probably advisable first though so I'll expect a big surge of new nominations at the next AGM.

Of course, my standing as treasurer meant that we had to find a new chairman. John Wright stepped forward and he too was elected unopposed and I wish him every success in his new post.

That brings us to the secretary's post which John vacated. Toby Mack is known to you all as the webmaster for the WMx website. After a year serving as general committee, Toby was nominated as secretary and duly elected unopposed.

That completes the election of Officers for another year.

The general committee members Allan Goddard, Bob Head, Rob Gibbs and Paul Chamberlain re-stood and were re-elected. Although the editorship is not an elected post, it is this Group's practice to co-opt the Sump Editor to the committee so that he knows what is going on!

That completes the line-up for those who will be looking after the Group for the next twelve months. Each of us has contact details in the Sump and there are email links off the website. If you have any questions, suggestions or burning issues that you think the committee should address then please to get in touch with any one of us.

As mentioned earlier, the second half of the evening was a quiz, hosted by AG. The theme was motoring and the rounds included people, car manufacturers, countries and motorcycles as well as general motoring knowledge.

AG split everybody into pairs and it certainly paid off for me. I was partnered by Chris Foxley who turned out to be a mine of information about classic car manufacturers and everything with 2 wheels and we were delighted to find out that we'd won.

I'm afraid I can't report on the success (or otherwise) of Jez Boakes, Dave & Lesley Edmunds and Malcolm & Madeleine Grubb, amongst others, as their score sheets

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mysteriously vanished at the end of the evening. However, the scores of the quiz (out of a possible 50) for those answer sheets that were available are as follows:

Chris Foxley & Nikki Wild	43
Alison Durant & Alan Smith	41
John Wright & Caroline Grubb	37 ½
Nick Palumbo & Toby Mack	27 ½
Steven Grubb & Steve	25 ¾
Rob Gibbs & Jeff Kenyon	19 ¼

Thanks to AG for another fun quiz and to all the members who turned out to support our AGM for another year!

**Nikki Wild**

# Wanted!

## Navigator for the Revival Rally 25<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> November

Ability to read a road book and follow a road atlas require, *but **no plotting skills!***

Half on-event expenses required  
(fuel / entry / accommodation etc)

The overriding intention is to have a good time...  
...a good result would be a bonus!

Contact: Drew Goodspeed  
01189 403580  
(9am - 9pm only please)

**csma North London Marshals Wanted**

..... help us to help your group ..... they need our support  
you know it pays to belong



**In order for the team to support group, local centre and headquarters csma events first of all group members must support the team.** We have a full programme of varied motorsport events for 2004 for you to enjoy, so come along and join in the fun.

Our main function is out running stages as rally marshals, timekeepers, officials, and safety radio operators. We support local club, national and international stage rallies, rallycross, various sprints, and CSMA events including the Greenacres, Juniper, Grass-hopper, Holly, Haymaker and Autumn Autotests, the annual Curtis-Bennett Road Rally & Dunlop Production Car Autotest, the Concorde Production Car Trial, and the Red Tape & Services Motorcycle Trials.

If you are interested in registering with the North London Marshalling Team and taking advantage of a yellow marshalling suit issued to regulars, a team championship, the use of team equipment, and the benefits that only come from operating as a team, then please contact Graham McLean on 020-8553-4700 (home – evenings after 7 pm), or return the form to me at 48 Balfour Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 4JG. It could be a good decision.

.....

Return to Graham McLean, 48 Balfour Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 4JG.

I would like to register with the CSMA North London Marshalling Team, please send me futher details.

Name.....Membership No.....Home Tel.....

Address.....

**MOTORSPORT CO-ORDINATORS' BULLETIN****MAY 2004**

Dates	Event (Status)	Club	Type of Event	Champ
May 15/16 *	Miglia Quadrato ()	UH&ULMC	Treasure Hunt	
Jun Sun 6 *	Juniper Autotest (Nat B)	NEL	Tarmac Autotest	BTRDA
Jun 20	Greenacres Autotest (C)	NWL	Grass Autotest	Centre
Jul 11	Stage Track Day (C)	WMx	Stage Rally practice	
Jul 25	Grasshopper Autotest (Nat B/C)	NEL	Grass Autotest	Centre
Aug 29	Holly Autotest (C)	NEL	Grass Autotest	Centre

**Licence required** : (I/Nat A/Nat B/Cm) = MSA Licence, (C) = Club Card, () = Nothing,  
 \* = Regs available

**Past Events**

**Concorde PCT** Well a right nasty day it turned out to be. A nice day on Saturday when we were setting the event up and glorious sunshine on Monday, but on the day rain and yet more rain. It eventually turned part of the course into a mud bath. A very big thank you to all the marshals that braved the weather and allowed the competitors to slide around on the hills. Mixed fortunes for the **csma** entries, Alan Thurbon/Lee Craker had a heater hose go (three times) and Dave Smith found the Tempest to be sulking and eventually stopped working altogether. He did return in the afternoon with another car, like you do, and proceeded to enjoy himself. Gill Cotton managed to keep things going further up the hills than John and picked up the win on the Bulldog event, despite bits of the car falling off during the day. The overall winner on the day was David Holmes driving a 1200cc Nova, who managed to clean half the hills despite the weather conditions.



**Hollstar Table Top Rally** North East London hosted the event but only two Groups turned up. Eight crews took part, five from NEL and three from NWL, and the event consisted of eight sections, the last one timed to the second in case of a tie. The navigation was straightforward but each route card usually covered quite a bit of the map and was followed by three questions on the route plotted. It is always better to be slow than get an answer wrong, but Dave & Cath managed to do both and got round without any fails. In the end it was NWL that took both the overall award and the team award on the night. Full results appear elsewhere.

**Future Events**

**Miglia Quadrato Treasure Hunt** Again it is that time of year when you have the chance to wander around the City of London in the middle of the night searching for treasure hunt clues. This is a unique event and you spend five hours looking for 60 answers, anywhere within the Square Mile. Entry fee is £10 and I have regs if you are interested. There are several people in the Groups who have done this event before, so if you would like to know what it is about, then give me a ring and I'll explain.

**Juniper Autotest** Please can you make every effort to support this event as it is a round of the National tarmac autotest championship. The event will again be held in the grounds of the New Barnfield Library in Hatfield and a lot of work will go into the preparations. We need a lot of people to marshal to make the event run successfully, so if you can help, please let me know. The best autotest drivers in the country will be competing and putting on a show of driving skill for your benefit.

**Greenacres Autotest** This will be the first of the series of grass autotests organised during the year and will be held at the usual site near Leighton Buzzard. Drive around a set route on smooth grass against the clock. Standard cars most suitable and non damaging as it is all forwards. Why not come along and learn what it is all about. More details available next month.

**Other Items**

**Government Threat to off-road use** It seems so many people have written to their MPs about this subject that the Government are having to re-think about the way this legislation impacts the law-abiding off-road motorist.

**Mike Biss - Motorsports Co-Ordinator Home: 01525 720299 Work: 01977 593482**

[mike.biss@bt.com](mailto:mike.biss@bt.com)

**West Middlesex Group Committee Member Contact Addresses**

<p><b>Chairman</b> John Wright</p> <p>01923 468205 (Home) 07831 687113 (Mobile) BigJ@UKRM.net</p>	<p><b>Secretary</b> Toby Mack</p> <p>07770 365797 wmx@ghatzo.co.uk</p>	<p><b>Treasurer</b> Nikki Wild</p> <p>07778 161572 (Mobile) 01256 762865 (Home) nikki@jez-nikki.net</p>
<p><b>Committee:</b> Rob Gibbs</p> <p>01908 631652</p>	<p><b>Allan Goddard</b></p> <p>agoddard@csma-netlink.co.uk 07785 903000</p>	<p><b>Bob Head</b></p> <p>020 7834 1367</p>
<p><b>Paul Chamberlain</b></p> <p>020 8933 0589 (Home) 07940 544913 (Mobile)</p>		<p><b>Sump Editor</b> Jez Boakes</p> <p>07748 766409 jez@jez-nikki.net</p>

**The deadline for articles for the *June* Sump is May 19<sup>th</sup>!**

**Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors, and not necessarily those of the csma, csma West Middlesex Group Committee or the editor.**

## Cirencester CC Economy Run

I'd been thinking of getting a car suitable for 12-cars etc for a while... And then I swapped my Lotus Esprit for a (very) modest mound of cash and a rather tired Vauxhall Cavalier SRi and lo - I had such a car. Now to find a navigator... If anyone was puzzled why I asked them if they got carsick, you now know the answer - you were undergoing the first stage of navigator selection! And then someone said no! Well done Keith - you're it!

Now we needed an event to go and practice on, when we heard about Cirencester CC's "Economy Run" - a touring assembly with the emphasis on maximising fuel economy. That sounded ideal - a gentle introduction to tulips, reading road books etc, as well as a weekend away in an extremely nice part of the country. So that was that. An added advantage was that Nikki was now free to drive her own car - fortunately Terri Jacobs was available to navigate for her. Sorted!

Things didn't go entirely to plan in the run-up to the event. I put the spare tyre from the Cavalier in to be changed and found the alloy to be best part ... wrecked ... which meant doing the event with no spare - can of tyre weld to the rescue. Then the indicators packed up. Harumph. Turned out to be the hazard warning light switch, which is now jammed in with a cable tie. Then we found that, on one of the hottest days of the year, that the passenger window didn't work.



Character, that's what it's got - lots of character...

The morning of the event dawned slightly cloudy, but with the promise of a clear warm day (curse that window...) - and saw the crew of car 29 emerge slightly the worse for wear after the previous night's excesses at two of what must be surely the most unspoiled pubs in the country - the Five Mile Inn at Duntisbourne Abbots and the Red Lion at Ampney St. Peter.

So after a good breakfast (kill or cure...) we set off for scrutineering and fuel, where we had to fill up the car to the **very** brim whereupon the filler cap was sealed. This took an age - more and more fuel went in and slowly disappeared down the filler neck. Eventually it stopped, but not before we made someone look under the car to check that it wasn't all leaking out somewhere... Then back to the Crown of Crucis in Ampney Crucis to sign on.

Some extremely nice motor cars made up the field - my personal favourites were the achingly pretty Lotus Elite and the Amilcar CGS which was driven with a gusto which belied its age... Other entries included a Bentley of epic proportions, a Dellow, several Austin Healeys, a Lancia Appia, a Ford Zodiac and two MG TCs as well as a raft of modern machinery - possibly the most unlikely being a Mitsubishi Pajero Evolution...

Another task before starting was to record an estimate of the fuel economy we expected to get on the run. A bit (ie several milliseconds) of thought went into our predicted figure

of 27.643MPG... based on a calculation of one tank-full driving to and from work on the M3. Hmm.

10:29 came and we set off for a jolly nice 47 mile pootle in the country. Some excellent roads made up the mornings drive - eventually ending up outside the **csma** museum at Bourton on the Water to have our photograph taken on the bridge outside. Then it was on to Batsford Arboretum via a weighbridge (so that the "Cirencester Efficiency Number" could be calculated) and a pub (ever so slightly off route) for lunch. Rather surprising to have the car park of the pub filled to overflowing with Austin Sevens just after we arrived - around twenty of the dinky little things turned up!



A further 53 miles in the afternoon took us back to the petrol station to refill the car, noting how much fuel went in. Which is where things started to go slightly wrong...

The chap before us in the queue drove off leaving a large puddle of petrol. Odd, we thought. But upon squeezing the pump handle it soon became apparent that the puddle wasn't through any fault of the previous user. A short blast of fuel into the car was followed by a spurt of petrol all over my hand and the side of the car. Bum. The real killer however was that no more fuel would go in. It was full to the brim - but we'd only put just over 6 litres in - *including* the addition to the puddle... We tried rocking the car, starting



it (with the filler cap back on of course), and rocking again, but we couldn't get the level to drop. So feeling rather sheepish we returned to the Crown of Crusis and the finish, where I tried to persuade the organisers to disregard my fuel consumption figure because it was so obviously wrong. 72MPG from a clapped out Cavalier isn't a very reasonable figure...

However, come the handing out of the certificates (very nice - with the picture of the car on the bridge at Bourton) they did indeed announce our 'fuel consumption' figure - there

was rather less jeering and / or physical violence than we were expecting! A testament to the spirit the event was run in and the very friendly atmosphere!

An excellent event, and an excellent weekend - many many thanks to the organisers and fellow participants for making it such a good day, and also to my new navigator who did a flawless job! A 12-car next, eh..? ;-)

**Jez Boakes**

# 50

You are cordially invited to attend the celebrations to mark the 50th Anniversary of the **Central Southern Centre** on Sunday 4th July at Wellington Country Park

All csma members, friends and families, especially those from the Farnborough, Reading, Oxford and Guildford Groups, are invited to attend

## Caravan and Camping Rally

1st - 8th July

*Organised by John Smith and Derick Pryce*

## Classic Car 'FROG' Run

A 50 mile run around the countryside starting at 2pm and open to old and modern cars

*Organised by Alan Smith*

*(there will be a small charge for the Run)*

## Motorcycle Run

Starting at the same time and place as the car run but following a different route

## Walking Treasure Hunt

An opportunity to explore the Country Park

*Organised by Dave Pegg*

## Bar-B-Q

Starting at 6pm in the caravan field

*Organised by the caravanners*

*(there will be a small charge for your refreshments)*

Everyone taking part in the Caravan Rally and the Car and Motorcycle Runs will receive a commemorative plaque by which to remember the occasion

Wellington Country Park will be found off the A33 south of Reading

Contact Alan Smith (01491 628379) or Don Gordon (01252 548829) for more details

### *Why the FROG ?*

Farnborough, Reading, Oxford, Guildford