



## NEWSLETTER No. 66 – October 2009

### Introduction

If you are new to the club, can I extend a warm welcome to you and say that I hope you have enjoyed racing with us this summer. I hope you will continue to race with us in the coming Winter Championship with its changes and additions to the classes on offer.

### Summer Championship

The quieter meetings during the Summer are always a bit of a relief to Ian and me, and probably also to the winter set up team, after the pressures of the indoor carpet racing. Despite reduced numbers there was some excellent racing from Touring Cars and Mini's. There was a Riddall "lock-out" at the front of Stock with Steve just one point behind. The Mini heat seemed to be full of Herringtons with Rhys beating his Dad and young brother Kian joining us for the first time. Well done to all those who took part, even if they didn't attend enough meetings for a trophy.

### Results – Stock

1 <sup>st</sup>	Grant Riddall	2101 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Luke Riddall	2085 "
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Steve Davis	2084 "
4 <sup>th</sup>	Simon Taylor	2050 "

### Results – Super Stock

1 <sup>st</sup>	Dave Mills	2104 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tim Fry	2077 "
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Dan Hamblin	2055 "

### Results – Minis

1 <sup>st</sup>	Team Riddall	2107 points and therefore Club Champions
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Rhys Herrington	2081 "
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Dan Hamblin	2073 "
4 <sup>th</sup>	Shawn Herrington	2068 "
5 <sup>th</sup>	Richard Hathaway	2055 "
6 <sup>th</sup>	Mike Hare	2041 "
7 <sup>th</sup>	John Hare	2039 "
8 <sup>th</sup>	Kian Herrington	2010 "

### Results – Juniors

1 <sup>st</sup>	Rhys Herrington	2081 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Kian Herrington	2010 "

The weather this summer was much kinder to us than last year when we seemed to be inside in the hall more than we were outside, and as a result we used the hall only once. Following the committee meeting, it was decided that we would change the format next summer on a trial basis. The plan is that when we finish the Winter Championship we will run a short 5 meeting indoor carpet series to gauge support. Then, weather permitting, we will run a short 6 meeting outdoor championship consisting of a practice and then five point scoring meetings. A provisional calendar is at the end of this newsletter.

## **Get Well Soon**

Sadly during the summer we heard that John Hare had been rushed into hospital and had undergone emergency surgery. The Committee sent a card with the Club's best wishes for a speedy recovery and a return to racing. His son, Mike, had also been in the wars and spent most of the meetings either in a wheelchair or on crutches. I'm sure we all wish them both well.

## **Committee**

Your Committee continue to meet regularly to debate and decide the ways in which the club is run and administered. All Committee members wear a badge to make them easily recognizable to new members, so feel free to ask them any questions that you have.

## **Club Car**

We now have a Mini that we can loan to new members who want to "try before they buy". At the time of writing Ian is building it, so we hope to have it ready for the winter series.

## **Enduro**

Following on from previous successes we have another Enduro planned for January 17<sup>th</sup> 2010. I hope that other clubs will send teams to make it every bit as enjoyable as before. The rules have yet to be finalized, but more information will appear on the web-site nearer the time.

## **Web Site**

Thanks to Dave for updating and maintaining the club's site and for all the work that has gone into preparing for on-line booking for winter. The forum remains a useful method of disseminating information about what is happening in the club.

## **Off Road Racing**

For the second year running West Kent played host to two rounds of the BRCA South East Region 1/10<sup>th</sup> off road meetings on Steve Andrews' track at Leigh. Both meetings were much better attended than the previous year and made for a couple of days of really good buggy racing. There was also an end of season meeting on October 11<sup>th</sup>, and although it wasn't a BRCA sanctioned event there was a good turn out of two wheel drive, four wheel drive and trucks that made for an enjoyable and relaxed day.

## **BRCA**

For those who don't know, the BRCA (British Radio Car Association) are the sports governing body who themselves are affiliated to the MSA. It is a requirement of racing at our club that you are a BRCA member because membership entitles you to the benefits of their public liability insurance. All BRCA memberships expire on 31<sup>st</sup> December and need to be renewed by the time we return after the Christmas/New Year break. If you are new to racing you can run at up to three meetings before you have to join the BRCA. If you are currently a BRCA member you do not have three meetings grace but must renew immediately. Tim Fry is the Committee member in charge of all BRCA renewals - if you have any questions speak to Tim.

## **Winter Championship 2009/10**

Quote from Newsletter 65:-

*"The Mini class was introduced indoors very much as a "fun" class and it would be preferable to keep it that way if possible. That is why most of the restrictions are in place. If we weren't careful the cost could easily escalate to make them almost as expensive as Touring Cars to run. The sport needs to be able to attract new blood which can more easily be done if the entry level costs are kept to a minimum. We are far more likely to get new racers driving mini's than we are 1/10<sup>th</sup> purely because of the costs involved in starting up".*

That was very much the thinking behind the introduction of Mini racing and I think in general that is how it remains. It may depend on how you interpret "fun", but it doesn't mean you can't take it as seriously as you want to, it just means to me that they are great fun to watch, particularly on the

day we had fifteen in one race indoors on carpet! It's very much a matter of individual choice how you approach your racing.

We are also introducing World GT's for the first time, partly because a number of the Eastbourne drivers who regularly join us in the winter run them. Also of course it's refreshing to see something that's new to us at West Kent and which will hopefully catch on. Personally I have always regretted the fact that the F1's didn't become more popular - I think it would have been great to see a full grid of them!

Touring cars are still catered for by two classes - Stock and Super Stock although at the time of writing this Stock is by far the class of choice. If the numbers pre booking and paying for Super Stock (or in fact any class for that matter) don't reach a level that would make a heat viable then we will drop it and give drivers the chance to change their booking if they wish.

There has been a suggestion that if we have time available then we ought to have an "open" class to allow pretty much anything not already racing to have a run. This could include 1/12<sup>th</sup>, Mardave or possibly even buggies. Post on the forum if you think this might work. In both T/C classes, brushless and brushed are now treated as one entity.

The championship will consist of eleven meetings with a practice on October 25<sup>th</sup> (clocks change that weekend) and then ten point scoring meetings with the best eight to count. The gates are usually open at 07.00 and anyone who wants to arrive early and help with laying the carpet and track will be most welcome. Full rules for this series can be found on the club web-site along with links specifically for Mini's and GT's. Now may be a suitable time to remind drivers that we intend to be firmer on issuing penalties for poor driving, late marshalling and repeated ride height and weight infringements. Last indoor season the standard of driving and marshalling was at best variable. Also the number of cars scrutineered and found to have screws hanging out or sharp body corners was unacceptably high. Race Control now have scissors and will remove sharp corners themselves if a first warning is ignored. Please read the rules for full details.

Booking-in has changed slightly so that only those drivers who have booked and paid in advance appear on the entry lists and are guaranteed a place. This year you can pay either by PayPal, Google Checkout or cheque. You can of course just take a chance on space being available and turn up and race, although you must have added your name to the visitors list held at Race Control before 09.00.

When you pit please **do not** set up in front of the notice board where the results are placed. You can use the end of the hall, the two vestibules at either end of the building or the changing rooms. A set of rules will be available there for anyone to read.

**Please can I remind everyone that the entire school site is no-smoking and that trainers must be worn by everyone going into the sports hall. Please clear up your rubbish and put it in the bin.**

### **Thank you**

On behalf of this summer's drivers I would like to thank all those who have made racing possible. Steve Hamblin who looks after transponders, Grant for track design, Ian for being Race Director and James for updating the points. Also thanks to everyone who has helped in setting up and clearing away and of course to all those who turned up and raced!

### **Contact on Race Days**

Should you need to contact the club for any reason on race days our number is **07790 625278**. The phone is off at all other times. Please don't ring home numbers.

### **Finally**

Lastly don't forget this is a hobby so do please.....**enjoy your racing.** *Brian. October 2009*

## Winter Championship 2009/2010

Practice	25 <sup>th</sup> October 2009		Round 5	31 <sup>st</sup> January 2010
Round 1 **	8 <sup>th</sup> November 2009		Round 6	14 <sup>th</sup> February 2010
Round 2	22 <sup>nd</sup> November 2009		Round 7	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2010
Round 3	6 <sup>th</sup> December 2010		Round 8	14 <sup>th</sup> March 2010
<b>No Meeting</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> December 2009</b>		Round 9	28 <sup>th</sup> March 2010
Round 4	3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2010		Round 10	11 <sup>th</sup> April 2010
<b>Enduro</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup> January 2010</b>		<b>No Meeting</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> April 2010</b>

November 8<sup>th</sup> is Remembrance Sunday, and in keeping with other sporting occasions that morning we will observe the two minutes silence at 11.00.

## Indoor Summer Championship 2009/2010 (Provisional)

Round 1 & AGM	9 <sup>th</sup> May 2010		Round 4	20 <sup>th</sup> June 2010
Round 2	23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2010		Round 5	4 <sup>th</sup> July 2010
Round 3	6 <sup>th</sup> June 2010			

## Outdoor Summer Championship 2009/2010 (Provisional)

Practice	18 <sup>th</sup> July 2010		Round 3	29 <sup>th</sup> August 2010
Round 1	1 <sup>st</sup> August 2010		Round 4	12 <sup>th</sup> September 2010
Round 2	15 <sup>th</sup> August 2010		Round 5	26 <sup>th</sup> September 2010

## Winter Championship 2010/2011 (Provisional)

Practice	24 <sup>th</sup> October 2010		Round 1	7 <sup>th</sup> November 2010
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