

Backfire

Bristol Pegasus Motor Club Magazine



Time to check torches and sharpen pencils for Dick Craddy's Navigation Exercise on the 17th.



February 2017

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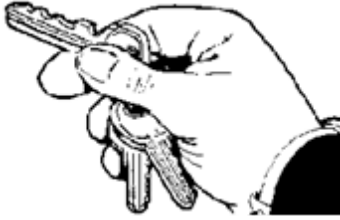
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Chairman's Chat

By Andy Moss

Our first club night of the year is on Monday the 13th so please come and join us for what promises to be an entertaining evening. We are very lucky to have James Weekley coming along to give us a talk, and with Stuart Turner already lined up for March the club night programme for the first half of the year is looking very good.

After the club night our next event is our club trip to Gaydon. This promises to be an excellent day - as we went to press the Minibus is full and we have more people joining us at the Museum.

Planning is now well underway for the Llandow Sprint, entry forms will be sent to past entrants at the end of February and will also be on the website. As always we need lots of help on the day - Saturday May 13th is the date for your diary.

I am writing this having spent the day competing in the Cotswold Clouds Trial. This was an excellent event - it is good to get out and enjoy some winter motorsport, it was also nice to see a number of club members out both competing and spectating.

Finally some news relating to the committee. Just after Christmas we were sorry to hear that, for reasons unrelated to the club, Martin Baker would be standing down from his position of treasurer and also the committee. Martin joined the committee in 1989 and as well as over 20 years as our longest serving treasurer he also spent time in the roles of Competition Secretary and Chairman. An experienced competitor he used his experience of competing in speed events to become a MSA licensed clerk of course, making a significant contribution to running our sprint events. He will obviously be very hard to replace.

In the short term the committee will cover the treasurer's duties - any financial related requests such as event expenses should come to myself until a new treasurer is appointed. We are very grateful to Martin for his hard work over the years and hope he will continue to be involved in club activities in the future.



Editorial

"February is merely as long as is needed to pass the time until March." - Dr. J. R. Stockton

The nights, at last, are slowly getting shorter and hopefully soon they will be getting warmer, after a month clocking up many hours of overtime with only a visit to the Brean Stages Rally for respite, last week I also picked up a pair of 1972 magnesium alloy rear formula one wheels which need 45 years worth of corrosion and dust removing before the next Goodwood Festival of Speed.

I am now looking forward to the BPMC programme getting off the starting blocks with an interesting night in the company of tyre expert and Paris Peking competitor James Weekley on the 13th.

Then on the 17th it will be over to Wales for Dick Craddy's navigation exercise, if anybody fancies having a go at navigating for me drop me an e-mail all you will need to bring is your good self.

The following day the 18th, I shall be taking the wheel of the mini bus for our club visit to Gaydon, which I understand has undergone a revamp since my last visit.

Over the last couple of day's I have been toying with the idea of taking part in the Class B ASWMC Autosolo Championship if I can sort out the appropriate licence I hope to be taking part in the Devizes Autosolo on the 19th with my trusty Golf !

So quite a hectic mid month before a club evening with Stuart Turner in March.

Meantime it is sad to hear that Martin Baker is stepping down from his role as our treasurer having spent 20 years in various committee roles including Chairman and I would like to thank him for his valuable contribution and I look forward to seeing him at future club events.

As an aside Martin also took on the unenviable and protracted task of getting me through the Institute of Advanced Motorists course, his perseverance was rewarded when I got top marks a couple of years ago.

My thanks for contributions to this month's issue from Bob Bull, Phil Jones and Andy Moss.

Wishing you all a safe month's motoring.

Ralph



Events Calendar

Monday 13th February - Club Night - BAWA 8pm

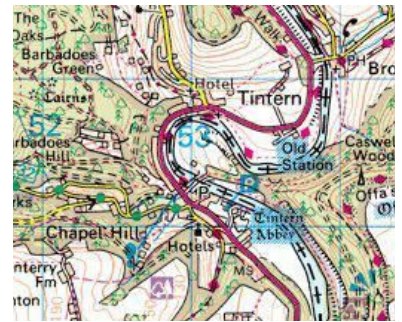
Guest Speaker - James Weekley Avon Tyres & Paris-Peking



Our first 2017 club night will feature guest speaker James Weekley. He will talk about the History of Avon Tyres and then about race tyres structures and compounds and how you can set up cars to maximise tyre benefits. As well as his work for Avon tyres his talk will cover his visit to the Club race finals in the USA and he will also talk about the Paris to Peking rally in which he finished 4th in 2016.

Friday 17th February - Navigation Exercise

Once again you are invited to enter the 'traditional' new year Navigation Exercise that will be held on Friday 17th February when, once again, we return to the area to the west of the River Wye. It will be held over an interesting 27.5 mile route.



The signing on and start location will be at the car park at Coppice Mawr on the B4235 between Chepstow and Shirenewton. Map reference 162/494.942. The required maps will be OS 1:50,000 numbers 162 and 171. It is advised that you come prepared with a clean map 162 if possible. Please bring a torch.

Route cards will be handed out at 7.25pm prior to the start time of 7.30pm.

Route cards for Beginners/Novice and Experienced crews will be available.

Entry is free and Severn Bridge tolls will be reimbursed for those who use the Severn Crossing. A receipt is requested. Dick Craddy, the organiser, will be pleased to help should you require further assistance. Dick can be contacted on 01454 414842, 07776 202 663 or craddy@old-down.freemove.co.uk



Saturday 18th February 2017

Club Trip - Gaydon



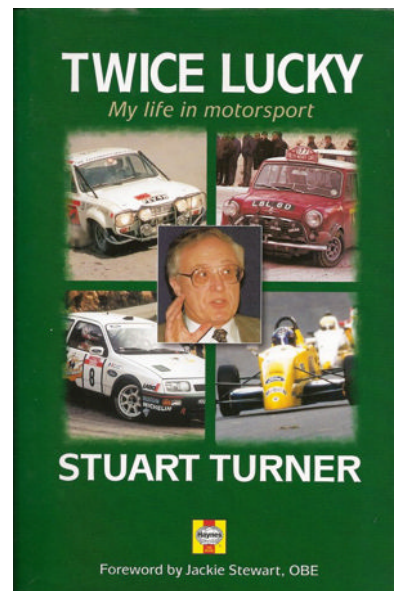
We are visiting the British Motor Museum at Gaydon. The museum features a new "Collections Centre" opened in November 2015 as a store for the reserve car collections of both the British Motor Industry Heritage Trust and the Jaguar Heritage Trust and we have arranged a behind the scenes tour. The club have negotiated a reduced rate of £9 per person instead of the normal £12 cost and we will be arranging a free minibus. Places are on a first come first

served basis - contact Nick Wood on 0778 6936941 or nickswood@hotmail.com

Monday 13th March - Club Night

Stuart Turner Talk - BAWA 8pm

We are pleased to welcome former head of Ford Motorsport Stuart Turner as our guest speaker for March. Having started as a successful rally navigator Stuart was Sports Editor of Motoring News before heading the BMC Competitions Department when Mini Coopers were winning Monte Carlo Rallies. He later headed Ford's Motorsport operation and led the company to many successes. The author of many books on motorsport he is a well known and accomplished speaker. In recent years he has also headed the Motorsport Safety Fund, a registered charity producing publications and films to help keep the sport safe.



Brecon Driving Day 07:30am 18th March Chepstow

Pete Goodman is organising a Brecon Driving day for BPMC and Bristol Group IAM members on Saturday March 18th, the itinerary is; Meet Chepstow 7.30 – Breakfast at Honey Café 8.30 – Drive Route 1 – Lunch at Honey Café 12.45 – Drive Route 2 – Tea – Home.

For more info contact Pete 0117 960 5367 / e-mail pete.1goodman@talktalk.net

Invitations

Great Western Sprint Castle Combe 25th March 2017

BPMC members are invited to take part in the Bristol Motor Club's Great Western Sprint at Castle Combe Circuit on Saturday 25th March. If you have any questions about the event please e-mail event secretary Ady Taylor :- ady_tayloruk@yahoo.com

Regs and entry forms are on the BMC website :- <http://bristolmc.org.uk/gws-notice/>

Marshals Wanted

Devizes & District MC The Devil's Tour 15/16th April 2017

The third running of "The Devils Tour" organised by Devizes & District Motor Club will start and finish at Westbury, Wiltshire.

Marshals interested please contact :- Keith and Janet Edwards on 01225 755077 up until 9 p.m. or email keithandjanet1@btinternet.com

All manned controls will receive a "goody bag" or similar, to show our appreciation.

Club Night Venue

Our regular venue is -

BAWA Leisure Centre

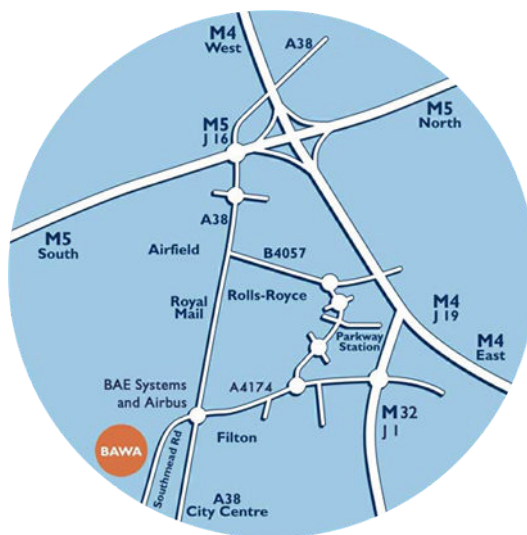
589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol, BS34 7RG



Our regular club meeting venue is BAWA Southmead Road Bristol.
All are welcome you do not need to be a BAWA member.

We normally meet in Room 7 or Room 4 - Check the board at reception for which room. Most meetings start at 8.00pm, check Backfire for details each month.

There is a public bar so members arriving early may enjoy a drink and a chat before the formal club night proceedings start, we recommend arriving at 7:30pm for 8pm starts.



**Note : Next BPMC meeting at BAWA is our AGM on
Monday 13th of February 8pm start**

It's an uphill struggle

Shovelling water uphill....

...is a lot easier than keeping a fleet of classics fit and well. But of course it's all about the satisfaction of knowing that you are preserving a future legacy. Or more accurately, it's the blind fear of 'er indoors realising that these old cars don't always work and that I am spending time and money 'on the QT...you know'.

Prior to Christmas I took 'Gordon', my 1965 GK, up to Thornley Kelham near Cirencester. My word it was magic on those roads and worth all the effort. They are well known for their epic Lancia Aurelia restorations but I had heard that their capability was much broader so went long to see them. Blimey what a set up. I won't say more than that at the moment as I am working with young Nicholarse on a visit for BPMC but suffice to say I was more than a little impressed. I left Gordon with them for his winter break (!) and he will hopefully return with a little fettling done ready for next summer. Like wipers that clear the screen and then park, for example.



Simon Thorney kindly sent me a pic that his photographer had taken of Gordon in their photo studio. Now that's a talented photographer.

Meanwhile, the Marcos Mantis has been up on jacks with its wheels off while the boys and I gave it a good clean and check over after the season. I am pleased to say that it's in fine fettle with nothing hanging off and went it on its way to Joe Cubitt down at Redline in Hilperton for its

fibreglass repairs as a first step.

Jeremy Kearns sadly passed away last July, he was a larger than life character and the boys and I miss him. However, life goes on and Joe has done a fantastic job of picking up the pieces and moving forward. He has now taken over the business and his workshop is as busy as ever. I thought he might have moved away from sales as that was very much Jeremy's field, but in fact Joe has been selling Marcos' successfully helped by recent rises in interest in the marque and hence values.

He has been supporting us unswervingly for some years and, as one good turn deserves another, Owen and I collected a Sebring Healey (Nissan straight six power and it had not moved in while...) from South Wales and transported it down to Hilperton for him. Certainly got me fit pushing and shoving it about but it has the makings of a very affordable little sports car. His little Ginetta G15 project is nice too, I just don't have room. If you have not been to Redline, I recommend a visit.



The Mantis has been at the paint shop (before and after shown below) so we should be heading for the rolling road in early March before the season starts, which is again at Croft, near Darlington, on April 17th.

The Marcos 1800 GT project is also at the paint shop. There seems to be a theme here. Much fannying about ensued whilst trying to work out what colour the Le Mans 1968 car was. It's the details that matter to me.



Joe has contacted the owners of the XP prototype racer in California and the actual 1800 GT from the 1968 Le Mans entry which resides in Sweden. It seems that the 1800 GT has been red in the mean time and now a Jaguar Green so not definitive. No one seems to have a conclusive paint code but it was known to be an Aston Martin racing green so we have gone for that and it will have a yellow nose just like the '68 car, although standard size rather than the 'beak' which is not homologated.

Meanwhile the motor is away at Mass Racing and will hopefully return in the 1st quarter. I have obtained an exchange gearbox from Amazon Cars as the original had the optional overdrive which was not going to be happy with circa 180bhp so a standard, non O/D, is the way to go. Fortunately it has a Cortina Mk1 axle so a suitable diff ratio is possible.

Back at the ranch, as it were, I collected the Abarth from Middle Barton and it's now tucked up at home for the winter and in very rude health having had some track action in 2016. Peddling the Abarth on the track is about as much fun as you can have with your clothes on. I have driven lots of supercars and sports cars and nothing comes close to the little Abarth for sheer adrenalin rush – it's always trying to kill you and the battle heightens the enjoyment (I must make that appointment

with the Psychiatrist...). Lloyd has now also had the chance to drive it (at Brands and Silverstone) so it's a pleasure shared.



Better than that, I plucked up the courage to put it back up on the ramp in the garage roof...the very ramp that I managed to fumble and get the little blighter stuck on last year. It helps that the Lotus Esprit is now underneath it and that's as high as a racing snake so there is a little more clearance than when the Porsche 928 was under it.

Nothing is ever straight forward though, so a couple of hours cleaning parts from the Marcos 1800 was needed before we could achieve anything meaningful. But it worked.

The boys and I have meanwhile been grazing knuckles...me swearing a fair bit...wrestling a new exhaust onto the Esprit. Lovely car but not really designed for easy access. With a wheel off and lots of squashed flesh you can do it, but it takes time. Trying to line up the exhaust tips and the hole in the rear valance was lots of fun. My how we laughed and it sounds quite purposeful now.

As icing on the cake I actually managed to get Mrs Jones into it – first time she has been anywhere near it – and up to see some friends in Cardiff. Parked outside their house, a small group of kids formed around it. I was thinking smashed eggs and key marks but happily they were just thrilled to see a car that looked similar to 'the James Bond one'. When Mrs Jones remarked that *'it's not that bad really'* I quickly translated it to mean that she was relieved that I had managed to find one before they become too expensive...

So Christmas came and went in a blur of trailering, phoning, pain and spannering. Still, it meant I managed to miss the crap on the telly and my 'Management' had little opportunity to shout at me. There's lovely.

Jones the Speed.

Bristol Pegasus NEEDS YOU !

The successful running of club events requires Marshals and Organisers

Get involved

Be close to the action

Meet Other Club Members



BPMC Pin Badges



Now available; Delightful 20mm diameter BPMC pin badges in black nickel, red / white enamel finish. These are a must for club members and available for £2.00 each from Alan Spencer.

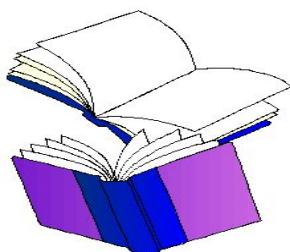
BPMC polo or sweatshirts

Pick your colour and size, state whether polo or sweatshirt and how many, then ring/email Alan Spencer with your order :- alanspencer@orange.net 01179 712587 Polo shirts £6.50 each and sweatshirts £10 - a bargain!



Sweatshirts & polo shirts are available in the following colours and sizes:
White, grey, light blue, royal blue and black - S, M, L and XL.

Help raise funds for Wiltshire Air Ambulance



**Visit the bookshop www.bristolpegasus.com
and use the Amazon link to buy books, CD's /DVD's**

New Automated Membership System

We have introduced a new automated membership system. A link has been added to the Bristol Pegasus web site.

The new system will help to ensure your details are correct, will allow you to update your own information and ensure you get timely information from the club including reminders when your renewal is due. As well as these benefits it reduces administration for the club volunteers and keeps your information secure.

All members who can use the new system are encouraged to do so, but should you not have internet access we will help update your information and provide a paper form. One significant difference is that new memberships will run for 12 months from start/renewal date as opposed to running out at year end. New members can already join using the system which is online on the club website.

UPDATE : All members are due to renew in January apart from those who joined the club post October 2016. Members are now able to renew and the system will ensure they get a full 12 months membership starting from the 1st of January 2017.

Remember When ?



*Pocono International Raceway.
November 13, 1972.*

"Maybe driving \$26,000 Ferraris has turned me into some kind of snob. Because I have to admit I was a little surprised when Fiat asked me to test drive a car that costs around \$2,700.

"Well, I spent a day driving it. And I can promise you one thing: The Fiat 128 Sport Coupe is no Formula Ferrari—but it's no slouch.

"It's one of the most forgiving cars I've ever driven. The car is so soft riding that you'd expect it to go mushy in a turn. But it doesn't. It really holds its own.

"Because of the front-wheel drive and the rack-and-pinion steering

the car will absolutely understeer. Which means that I don't have to worry about the back end leaving me. Even on wet pavement.

"And because you've got front-wheel drive instead of rear-wheel drive, it would be a lot easier to save in a turn than a normal automobile.

"Another thing that really impresses me is the braking. I had the car going near flat out and when I slammed on the brakes the car hardly pulled at all.

"Again, that's because of the rack-and-pinion steering. But it's also because of the front disc brakes and the radial tires. They shouldn't be allowed to make passenger cars without radials.

"Now, this has nothing to do with

the way the car drives, but another thing I like is in spite of the fact that it's a real workhorse, they put some finesse into it.

"I mean the way it looks. And stuff like the padded steering wheel and the clean, functional dash.


"And the way they use the space in this car is nothing short of incredible. It's huge inside. And it's even huge in the trunk.

"The only thing I wish it had is another few hundred horsepower. I'd take it out here someday and scare the life out of the guys in the Ferraris."

FIAT

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*Suggested retail price, P.O.E. Transportation, state and local taxes, optional equipment, dealer preparation charges, if any, additional. Overseas delivery arranged through your dealer.



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Cotswold Clouds Trial - Sunday 5th February 2017



2017 BPMC Fantasy F1 - Coming Soon

Details on the club website and in the March Backfire

Bob Bulls F1 facts Quiz No. 2

F1 facts quiz

Throughout 2017 we will give you some of the strangest statistics from F1 covering the years from 1950 through to 2015 we will ask 5 questions a month.

Of course you could Google the answer but where's the fun in that, so here we go:-

Quiz No 2

When, who and what team raced in 2 GPs with the same set of tyres?

Here is a different one not GP but major series, who won a championship without winning a race?

Which 2 drivers scored points in every round of one years World Championship?

Which 4 drivers achieved the most consecutive points scoring races from the start of the season?

Who started the most races on the front row without a win?

Answers next Month with quiz no 3

Quiz No. 1 Answers

Which Drivers won 4 GPs exactly ? Dan Gurney, Eddie Irvine, Bruce McLaren

What Teams entered just 1 race? Amon and Andrea Moda

Which Teams entered the first World Championship GP?

Alfa Romeo, Maserati, ERA, Talbot-Lago, Alta

First ever GP 1906

Hotchkiss, Gobron-Brillié, Darracq, Vulpes, Brasier (the successor to Richard-Brasier), Panhard, Grégoire, Lorraine-Dietrich and Clément-Bayard.

Which was the longest GP time wise? Canada 2011

Which was the shortest GP time wise? Australia 1991

We first ran this with the years 1950 through 1970 during my previous life as a Backfire editor many years ago. Yes I have updated the answers!

Deadline for Next Backfire: 23rd February 2017

We are always looking for members' contributions on competitions, club matters and journeys.

Editor: Ralph Colmar Email: backfire@bristolpegasus.com

The views and opinions printed in this newsletter are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of BPMC

Brean Stages Rally 2017



Editors 2016 Trackside Highlights



©RJ Colmar 2016



©RJ Colmar 2016



©RJ Colmar 2016



©RJ Colmar 2016



2017 Club Championships

Clubmans Championship



Points will be awarded for all BPMP events entailing the use of a car.
Points are awarded according to the formula.

$$\left(\frac{5 (\text{Number of Starters} - \text{Number of Finishers})}{\text{Number of Starters}} \right) + 1$$

- Points are awarded according to finishing position in class or if there are no classes, by overall finishing position.
- Non finishers are included in number of starters and will be classed as finishing in last position.
- For tied positions, points are averaged for the number tied (eg if 2 entrants tie for 4th place, then each is given position 4½).
- The first signed-on passenger scores for Navigation Exercises, Navigation Scatters, Treasure Hunts. For the Test Day organisers points only will be awarded.
- For club events such as Touring Assemblies, Test Days etc where no result is declared members who enter will receive 2 bonus point towards the Clubmans championship. Qualifying events are defined by the club committee.
- Points will not be awarded for Organising or Marshalling which will be recognised separately in the Marshals Championship, however note that in order to be classified in the final championship results entrants must have marshalled or organised an event.

Awards are given to the first three in the end of year standings. In the event of a tie it will be decided by the following criteria

1. The person who has marshalled or organised the most events
2. The most 1st place positions, followed by most 2nd place and so on

Marshals Championship

Trophies for 1st, 2nd and 3rd will be presented based on organising & marshalling.

3 points will be awarded to event organisers

2 points will be awarded to marshals

1 points will be awarded for setting up an event on the day before an event

- Event organisers points will be awarded to those who organise any club event including non-competitive events including Navigation Events, Treasure Hunts, or who act as Clerk of the Course, Secretary of Meeting or Entries Secretary.
- Should an event be cancelled due to circumstances beyond the organisers control, points will still be awarded.

Championship Officials Co-ordinator: TBC, Stewards: The Club Vice Presidents



LLANDOW

May Sprint 2017



Llandow Circuit, Vale of Glamorgan

SATURDAY 13th MAY 2017

The Trident Engineering Welsh Sprint and Hillclimb Championship

The Bridge Tyres & Wheels ASWMC Sprint Championship

The DEWS Speed Championship

The Vincenzo & Son Bristol MX5 Challenge

Bristol Clio Cup

SBD HSA Speed Championship

HRCR Speed Series Championship

The 2017 May Llandow Sprint will again be organised by

Bristol Pegasus Motor Club and Bristol Motor Club.

Last years event was very successful with around 90 entries.

For 2017 we have two new championships with the HSA Speed Championship and the Historic Rally Car Register joining us for the first time in 2017

We are also pleased to again be rounds of both the WAMC and ASWMC regional championships

Regulations and entry details will be available from late February on the club website and will be sent to past competitors by e-mail

BPMC 2017 Pegasus Events

Date	Event	Location
Mon 13th Feb	Club Night - James Weekley Talk	BAWA 8pm
Fri 17th Feb	Navigation Exercise	
Mon 13th Mar	Club Night - Stuart Turner Talk	BAWA 8pm
Sun 26th Mar	Spring Autosolo	Rolls-Royce
Mon 10th Apr	Club Night	BAWA 8pm
Sun 23rd Apr	Cross Trophy Trial	Dundry
Mon 8th May	Treasure Hunt	
Sat 13th May	Llandow Sprint	Llandow Circuit
Sun 4th Jun	ACE Classic Tour	
Mon 12th Jun	Bring Your Car Night	
Mon 10th Jul	Evening Car Tour	
Sat 15th Jul	Frenchay Car Show	Frenchay Museum
Sun 13th Aug	Sunday Treasure Hunt	
Sat 19th Aug	Pegasus Track Day	Castle Combe
Mon 11th Sep	Club Night	BAWA 8pm.
Sun 24th Sep	NEW - St Peters Charity Tour	
Sat 7th Oct	Combe Autumn Classic	Castle Combe
Mon 9th Oct	Club Night	BAWA 8pm
Sat 21st Oct	Pegasus Sprint	Castle Combe.
Mon 13th Nov	Club Night	BAWA 8pm
Mon 11th Dec	AGM & Prizegiving	BAWA 8pm
Sun 31st Dec	New Years Eve Autosolo	Aust

Backfire



Datsun 240Z crewed by rocketeers Graham Patten and Pauline Hale on the recent Brean Stages Rally.