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*Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year*



Best wishes for the festive season. We look forwards to seeing you all at the Annual Dinner and Presentation of Awards at the Barton Grange Hotel on January 17 and at the start of another exciting Northern Speed Championship at Three Sisters on April 12. A dinner booking form and the 2015 championship calendar are on the final pages of this edition of The Bulletin.

Continued

NEWS FOR COMPETITORS AND MEMBERS ... THE LATEST ON THE 2015 CHAMPIONSHIP AND OTHER MOTORSPORT UPDATES

By LDMC Competition Secretary, CRAIG POWERS

Anglesey two-lapper

Longton have always run a single lap event over the Anglesey National course whereas other clubs (MGCC/L&CCC, Chester CC) run a two lapper. After several request to run a two-lapper we put the matter to a vote. Competitors were overwhelmingly in favour of the two-lapper. We also intend to use the same finish line as the other clubs to standardise the length of the sprint. This is useful to some clubs and championships who use class records for scoring purposes. The results of the vote are shown below.

	One lap	Two lap	Don't Care
LDMC members	11	31	4
British Sprint	0	23	0
Lotus 7	14	13	0
Westfield SCC	3	10	5
Totals	28	77	9

Road-going classes

With the phasing out of paper tax discs there will be greater reliance on the DVLA website and underlying database to prove that a car is taxed and has an MOT. To avoid problems at scrutineering we strongly recommend that you check the DVLA database contains accurate information for your car, in particular the engine cc if the engine is non-standard, and also colour. If you have bought a non-standard car then it is worth checking that the previous owner registered the changes. Apart from problems at scrutineering, a lack of accuracy could also affect the validity of your insurance.

The DVLA database can be accessed using the following link by inputting the registration mark and vehicle make. This information is accessible to the general public and omits the confidential ownership information. <https://www.gov.uk/check-vehicle-tax>

I suggest that you visit the web site to see what information is available. An ideal job for the winter. Please ensure the DVLA database for your car is up to date.

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NIMBY – Not In My (recently acquired) Back Yard

Motorsport enthusiasts concerned by people moving near to existing motorsport venues and then complaining about the noise have launched a government electronic petition. It can be accessed here. <https://submissions.epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/72458>

For anyone not aware of e-petitions, these are an internet method of “signing” a petition to HM Government and if there is enough support then the item stands a chance of being debated in parliament. They are easy to sign. There is no registration and it takes less than 60 secs to complete. The thrust of this e-petition is that anyone who moves close to an existing venue waives the right to complain about the noise. If they are not tolerant to the noise then don't move there!

This sort of problem is happening with all sorts of industries and businesses, not just motorsport. I worked at a huge power station where a new resident claims not to have noticed the 600 foot chimney! There is much profit to be had in buying a house cheaply and then getting the offending adjacent site closed down. With tightening environmental awareness, motorsport venues are increasingly on the back foot against lobby groups. Please support the petition (below) by signing it.

Introduce mandatory noise complaint waiver for anyone who buys or rents a property close to motorsport venue.

There are innumerate cases of people knowingly moving within close proximity of motorsport venues, only to try to have their planning permission revoked or have them closed completely when they take exception to the noise.

It is extremely detrimental to the UK's motorsport heritage, when all the motorsport venues start disappearing. Motorsport and the associated mechanical/engineering business is a key British export and second to none in the world of motorsports.

As such, anyone who wishes to buy or rent a property within a determined distance of a motorsport venue should have to read and sign legislature that waives their right to complain about the noise from the nearby venue. If they do not wish to be bothered by something that was a fixture of the community long before they arrived, they should not move there in the first place.

Hans on?

Frontal Head Restraints (Hans devices) become mandatory for circuit racers in modern single seaters from 2015 and then for all circuit competitors from 2016 (except period defined vehicles).

The Editor comments: No doubt they will become a requirement for speed events within a few years. And they are undoubtedly a major contribution to driver safety. So it is probably time to start thinking about going the FHR route. New motorsport helmets now generally come 'FHR ready', or with the posts fitted. Hans devices seem to start at about £250 (although the 30 degree angle ones for single seaters appear more costly). So it's a relatively small expense for a major contribution to safety.

The new MSA regulations from January 1, 2015 are:

10.1(e) An FIA approved FHR device, fitted in accordance with FIA regulations, is: (i) Mandatory for the driver of a Single Seater Racing Car manufactured after 01/01/2000. (ii) Recommended for the driver in all other forms of Circuit Racing. This will be a mandatory requirement from 1st January 2016, with the exception of Period Defined Vehicles which will remain as a recommendation.

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LONGTON'S NORTHERN SPEED CHAMPIONSHIP 2015

10 events from 22 to count

<u>Date</u>			<u>Club</u>		<u>Venue</u>
12	April	Sunday	Longton & DMC	S	Three Sisters (Course 1)
25	April	Saturday	Liverpool MC	S	Aintree
02	May	Saturday	Auto 66	H	Oliver's Mount
03	May	Sunday	Auto 66	H	Oliver's Mount
17	May	Sunday	Mini-Cross Drivers Assoc	S	Blyton Park (2 lap)
25	May	Monday	York MC	S	Teeside Autodrome
06	June	Saturday	BARC (Yorks)	H	Harewood
13	June	Saturday	Liverpool MC	H	Barbon Manor
27	June	Saturday	Liverpool MC	S	Aintree
05	July	Sunday	Longton & DMC	S	Three Sisters (Course 2)
11	July	Saturday	Westfield SCC	S	Blyton Park
12	July	Sunday	Westfield SCC	S	Blyton Park
01	August	Saturday	Longton & DMC	S	Three Sisters (Course 1)
02	August	Sunday	Chester MC / Lancs AC	S	Three Sisters (2 Lap)
16	August	Sunday	Auto 66	H	Oliver's Mount
30	August	Sunday	BARC (Yorks)	H	Harewood
05	September	Saturday	Liverpool MC	S	Aintree
12	September	Saturday	Nottingham SCC	S	Thoresby Park
13	September	Sunday	Nottingham SCC	S	Thoresby Park
20	September	Sunday	BARC (Yorks)	H	Harewood
03	October	Saturday	Longton & DMC	S	Anglesey (National)
04	October	Sunday	Longton & DMC	S	Anglesey (International)

LONGTON SPRINT & HILLCLIMB SERIES

3 events from 5 to count

Separate Trophies & Awards!

12	April	Sunday		S	Three Sisters
05	July	Sunday		S	Three Sisters
01	August	Saturday		S	Three Sisters
03	October	Saturday		S	Anglesey (National)
04	October	Sunday		S	Anglesey (International)

FULL REGULATIONS WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE CLUB'S WEBSITE www.longton-dmc.co.uk on receipt of MSA Championship Permit No. Tbc. To register your interest email Eric Leadbetter (Championship Co-ordinator) on ericleadbetter@yahoo.co.uk

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An invitation from Longton & District Motor Club

to join us for the Club's

Annual Dinner & Presentation of Awards for the 2014 season

Saturday, 17th January, 2015

Barton Suite, Barton Grange Hotel, Barton, Preston PR3 5AA

6.30 p.m for 7.30 p.m.
Bar until 1.00 a.m

Dress Code: Lounge suits and Posh Frocks!

Tickets: £30 each

*Accommodation is available at a special rate – quote Longton & DMC when booking.
Book direct with the hotel: Tel: 01772 862551 or email: stay@bartongrangehotel.com*

Booking Form

Name _____ *please print in block letters)*

Tel No. _____ Email address _____
(for acknowledgement, tickets are not issued)

No. of tickets required _____ No. of dietary meals _____ Type _____

Payment enclosed @ £30 p.p. £ _____ *(Cheques payable to LDMC Ltd).
(Bookings can only be accepted if accompanied by full payment)*

If possible, please seat our party with

We cannot guarantee everyone can be seated with friends, but we will try our best.

Please return your completed form and cheque to: *Margaret Malcolm, 15 Kilworth Height, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 3NU. Tel: 01772 719187 Email: mgm@uwclub.net*

ENDS

