



Maidstone and Mid Kent

Motor Club

Newsletter

January - March 2023



Editors Ramblings.

With January and February usually being months when very little in the way of MMK events take place, 2023 has got off to a cracking start commencing with a full entry for the 12 Car in January. Despite this, getting contributions from members for the newsletter has taken a bit of cajoling from members. So, my plea is please write up your experiences ready for our next Newsletter.

With money obviously being tight for everyone at the moment, it has been good to see all our events well supported by both competitors and marshals. I know that event organisers much appreciate the support they get from all of those who turn up to marshal and support events. Every little helps as they say! There is a lot that goes on behind the scenes from securing venues to organising awards. However small the part, it all counts to the whole. Thank you to you all, as it would not happen without you.

We have a full calendar for 2023 with something for every discipline. The next event is the Tyrwhitt Drake Car Trial on 2nd April, followed by a full calendar of grass autotests during the summer, two sprints and finishing the year with another tarmac autotest and autosolo. The classic car polishers have now been forgotten either as the Mike Jordan Touring Assembly runs again on the 24th June. An event much enjoyed by those that took part last year. Book the dates in your diary now. (see, calendar at the end of this Newsletter).

Our Club has signed up to the Motorsport UK Streetcar initiative and become a Streetcar Club. The Motorsport UK Charter that Clubs are required to sign up to is set out below. April this year has been designated Streetcar Month for South East Clubs and all the south east clubs that are part of the initiative are running events. The intent of this initiative is to encourage new people (young and older) to take part in our sport. With the number of young people applying for their driving licences down by 20%, we need to make the younger generation aware of what they are missing out on. If they are learning to drive in an EV, maybe they can show us established players a thing or two about how the future of motorsport is going to shape up. However, fossil fuelled cars are not dead yet and won't be for some time. They currently still represent the only cost effective way into grass roots motorsport.

Nothing stands still, so we are in need of fresh blood in the club with new ideas and approaches to the way things are run. At the upcoming AGM in May, you have the opportunity to nominate yourself or another club member to serve on the committee. Send your nominations to Liz Jordan at liz@pcs-support.com before all those that have probably served too long at the helm, fall off our perches!

Enjoy your year and I look forward to seeing you all at our events.

Bruce

Club Charter

Overview

The Club Charter is a simple agreement between Motorsport UK and the prospective Streetcar

A large percentage of the items set out in the Charter will be conducted on a regular basis by most of our clubs in their day-to-day running. The main purpose of the charter is to develop a closer working relationship which sets a precedent for both Motorsport UK and the clubs as StreetCar develops and reaches new audiences.

This precedent is a commitment to using StreetCar as a campaign to attract, welcome and guide newcomers to our sport and lay the foundation for a sustainable future in club motorsport.

Your club is at the forefront of grassroots motorsport and so it is vital that to ensure this future, Motorsport UK and the club community move forward in the same direction.



Responsibilities of the Motorsport Club
You can view and read the full StreetCar charter by requesting it from our Club and Community Development Team, however a breakdown of the main responsibilities of the Clubs are as follows:

Encourage and support new participants into motorsport through: Providing a competitor liaison officer, utilising and remaining active on the Facebook group and organising taster events.

Organise and promote StreetCar disciplined events. These do not need to be in addition to your current events, but they should utilise the StreetCar branding and promote the overall message.

Promote StreetCar in your local communities and networks using your influence and channels.

Adhere to communication and marketing best principles: Keep Motorsport UK updated on events and newcomers, include 'StreetCar' into the permit request, use the lockup logo on all relevant media, use the StreetCar supplied assets when available and adhere to Motorsport UK brand guidelines at all times

Provide excellent customer service by: Treating new enquiries fairly and professionally, provide detailed information to newcomers and ensuring a fully inclusive approach for all members as they join the world of motorsport.

Keep the Club and Community Development Team informed of any new stories relating to your events, participants or volunteers.

Responsibilities of Motorsport UK

In return, Motorsport UK will:

Host and manage the StreetCar website. The [StreetCar website](#) is source of information for newcomers and provides a service where users can be matched with a club or look for events. Motorsport UK will keep this website updated, and provide enquiries to the clubs within one working day.

Digital Marketing. Using our dedicated digital media assets and social media presence we will ensure that the StreetCar campaign is marketed to effectively meet all targets, but the demand still remains manageable for the clubs.

Physical assets. In addition to the existing physical assets, Motorsport UK will aim to provide the first 50 StreetCar clubs with a StreetCar flag and 500x personalised leaflets for all StreetCar clubs.

Newsletter. The newsletter will be a rolling story and tool to showcase the StreetCar activity throughout the UK. The stories will change each month and will be to inspire and encourage newcomers to participate in motorsport.

Event promotion. Motorsport UK will be promoting upcoming events through our readership in Revolution and our growing distribution of the StreetCar Newsletter and social media.

StreetCar Forum. Motorsport UK will hold regular StreetCar forum meetings with all member clubs. This will present an opportunity for clubs to share good practice with one another, give feedback and for Motorsport UK to provide any updates.

Up And Down The A20

- The most stolen vehicle in 2022 was the Range Rover Sport.
- Some people are just borne lucky as one our members found out after leaving his laptop at Ashford Market and finding that it was still there hours after realizing it had gone missing.
- Laptops are not the only thing that go missing. One member lost his wallet on an event and spent half the night searching for it at all the locations he had visited, only to find it under his cars seat!
- Don't break the rear screen on your MG ZT as these ae no longer available.
- Are modern cars just mobile phones with wheels on?

12 Car Rally 27th January.

January saw the second running of the MMKMC organised event. Again this year Liz Jordan and her Team put on and excellent event that attracted an oversubscribed entry. Rally Head Quarters moved to the Dog and Bear pub in Lenham Square this year to provide more parking space for competitors and marshals.

The route was all on OS Map 188 and was designed to present more of a challenge to competitors this year. Despite this beginners Richard and Tom Pashley cleaned the route beating all the field the majority of whom were experts.

Results

1 st	11	Richard Pashley	Tom Pashley	GMC	0	0			B
2 nd	3	Derek Arnold	Simon Fudge	SCC/CMC	0	16			EX
3 rd	1	Clive Cooke	Kevin Ablitt	SDMC/CMC	0	17			EX
4 th	4	Graham Child	Tim Smith	SDMC/ERMC	0	30			EX
5 th	2	Wug Utting	Bob Stokoe	CDMC	1	6			EX
6 th	5	Mick Rose	Neil Aying	B18/SCC	1	24			EX
7 th	9	Geoffrey Russell	Philip Bird	NWKMC/SDMC	1	28			N
8 th	10	Andrea Sterry	Si Kellow	MMKMC	3	23			N
9 th	7	Toby Galbraith	Andy Mucklow	SDMC	3	26			SE
10 th	12	Maria McKenzie	Penelope Smy	B18	13	40			B
11 th	8	Dave Bushby	Phil Littlemore	B18/BPMC	15	22			SE
12 th	6	Richard Graham	Steve Thompson	BPMC	18	26			EX



Tim Mewett and Liz Jordan travelled to Yorkshire to compete in this closed road rally. Beverley and District Motor Club are only the second club to take advantage of the change in the law that allows this type of event to take place.

“On approaching a square left much too quickly Tim Mewett decided to go back to his farming days and take to the field! Liz’s door shows the consequence of an encounter with a straw bale on a previous stage. Tim and Liz finished 42nd overall and 5th in class on a wet and slippery East Riding Stages Rally. Thirty of the cars ahead of them were four-wheel drive and the event saw the largest entry ever from Rally 2, R5 and WRC cars. The closed road



rally was based in the town of Beverley in East Yorkshire where there was a start ceremony, mid-day regroup and finish in the town centre. Fans were able to follow live action on a large screen erected in the marketplace and the local shopkeepers and cafés enjoyed an atmosphere matching that usually only experienced in Belgium.”

Ashford Spring Tarmac Autotest 4th March.

Ashford Livestock Market

“It Happened Again !”

After the success of our first event in November 2022 we were back at Ashford Livestock Market for our second Tarmac Autotest. This time we added two extra classes, as a Production Car Autotest – Class J for Juniors, and Class P for those who want to carry a passenger, as on our popular Grass Evening Events.

This event was also the first round of the 2023 Southern Autotest Championship.

Once the regs went live we immediately received 4 entries then it all went quiet ! By the MMK Awards evening on the 21st February we were up to just 16 with none in Class J or P, with just five days before entries closed. However, it was decided to go ahead with the event even though the Club would probably make a loss. Then a last minute flurry took the entry to 24, including just one in Class P.

Set up was on the Friday afternoon, the weather was dry and Ann and I arrived just before 12:30pm, followed by Bruce with the Club trailer and all the kit. So we got started immediately in the café with sausage rolls and hot drinks !.... Then just as we were finishing our lunch, Des arrived and the conversation continued in the Cafe. Anyway we ended up setting everything up then Bruce and Des set off home and Team Cook set up the motorhome to stop the night, ready for gates open at 07:30am Saturday.

I designed the tests similar to the November event but with a few tweaks to include some different manoeuvres and make them flow even better just a bit different. There was still plenty of room for all cars, even some quite unlikely cars for a Tarmac Autotest !

“What Happened ?”

Well, the Saturday turned out to be dry, but cold all day. After a quick drivers briefing, the first test got underway at 10:30am. Competitors ran in Class and number order all day, and doing tests A, B and C in order. Lunch Break was after three runs, then two more runs in the afternoon giving a total of 15 tests, with each competitors worst score at each test discounted, so 12 runs to count.

We also had a film crew on site all dayfrom MSUK to make a video explaining Autotesting as part of the Streetcar promotion. They brought along the Streetcar Mini and had arranged for Charlie Lower to do the presenting and also some demo runs in the Mini. Watch out for the finished video on Motorsport UK !!

“How Did It Go ?”

One surprise, was a last minute change of car for Rick and Ben Sinclair, their usual Reliant TI was poorly so they used their Scimita-SE5 instead I can't think of a more unlikely car to use on a Tarmac Autotest ! However, there was plenty of room to throw the big car around on all tests and they did seem to be enjoying the challenge Brilliant !

Callum Fynamore was back for a second helping in his almost as unlikely Subaru BRZ. This time he mastered the art of rear wheel drive with a LSD !!, and ended the day with an even bigger grin
Top Job !

Josh Smith in the 1.7 KA had his usual big grin throwing the KA around the tests, with consistently fast times and only 1 penalty all day, on his way to another Class win. Also in Class A was another newcomer, Ryan Gilley, in his 1.3 KA. After a wrong test on his first go at Test A things could only get better and he was getting faster test by test and only collected 2 further line penalties on Test C on his way to taking the Best MMKMC Award What at start !

Ross McCartney, more used to Targa Rallies and Solos, was the only competitor in Class P with his grandson as passenger, and realised he could do reversing, ending the day Last Sorry, I mean 1st in Class !

Brian Sharpe had a clean run all day, but was unable to match the speed of the quite different MX5's. Charlie Lower, who took FTD, and Alistair Sutton, a former Drift Champion who gave us a fine display of drifting round the tests on his way to 4th overall and 1st in Class. Kevin Lower, sharing the MX5 with Charlie, showed that old guys can still give the youngsters a run for their money by taking 2nd in Class C..... On his Birthday !

“So..... How Did It End ?”

Results and awards were presented in the Stock Pot Café. As the ‘Experts’ in Class F, Toby Cook and Steve Stringer, were not eligible for FTD, the award winners were as follows :

Class A	1 st	Josh Smith	527.5 seconds
	2 nd	Alan Scott	616.9 seconds
Class B	1 st	Brian Sharpe	527.2 seconds
Class C	1 st	Alistair Sutton	518.3 seconds
	2 nd	Kevin Lower	530.8 seconds
	3 rd	Des Crocker	560.1 seconds
Class F	1 st	Toby Cook	449.0 seconds
Class P	1 st	Ross McCartney	703.5 seconds
FTD		Charlie Lower	483.0 seconds
Best Novice		George Sweeney	617.8 seconds
Best MMKMC		Ryan Gilley	626.3 seconds

There was also a Marshals Draw with two lucky marshals each winning a bottle of wine.

Thanks go to the rest of the organising team; Des & Helen, Bruce, Andy and Liz and of course all those who marshalled !

Many thanks also to Sam at Rosamund Resin Craftworks for making the unique FTD trophy and to Si Kellow for printing the Class award mugs.

“When’s The Next One ?”

You will have to wait till the Autumn for the next 'Tarmac' Autotest.

Autumn Tarmac Autotest 2023 Saturday 18th November.

Regs will be available on mmkmc.co.uk nearer the time.

Don't forget our Summer Grass Autotests at Headcorn and Stoneacre.

Remember Have Fun JUST DO IT !

Dave Cook – Clerk of the Course.



Charlie Lower - On his way to FTD



Ross McCartney - On his way to 1st in Class P



**The 'Spring Tarmac Autotest'
Unique FTD trophy**

MMKMC Spring Tarmac Autotest				4th March 2023 Market		Ashford Livestock								
Class	No.	Driver	Novice?	Club	Champions hip	Car	Capacity	Test A	Test B	Test C	TOTAL	CLASS	OVERALL	AWARD
								Sub-Total	Sub-Total	Sub-Total				
A	1	Josh Smith		MMKMC		Ford KA	1700	185.1	166.8	175.6	527.5	1	6	1st in Class
A	2	Alan Scott		MMKMC / SDMC	S	Suzuki	1498	218.3	190.9	207.7	616.9	2	10	2nd in Class
A	6	Ryan Gilley	Novice	MMKMC		Ford KA	1297	216.1	198.0	212.2	626.3	3	12	Best MMKMC
A	4	Nigel Newman	Novice	SDMC		Vauxhall Nova	1200	238.7	214.1	224.9	677.7	4	15	
A	5	Drew Kellow	Novice	MMKMC		Austin Mini	998	265.1	239.7	232.0	736.8	5	20	
B	7	Brian Sharpe		MMKMC	S	Nissan Micra	1275	181.4	161.8	184.0	527.2	1	5	1st in Class
D	13	Charlie Lower		SDMC		Mazda MX5	1600	160.5	145.7	176.8	483.0	1	2	Fastest Time of Day
D	20	Alistair Sutton		TWMC	S	Mazda MX5	1800	184.8	158.3	175.2	518.3	2	4	1st in Class
D	19	Kevin Lower		SDMC		Mazda MX5	1600	174.4	182.0	174.4	530.8	3	7	2nd in Class
D	14	Des Crocker		MMKMC	S	Mazda MX5	2000	197.7	173.9	188.5	560.1	4	8	3rd in Class
D	17	Jamie Woolley		B18MC		Mazda MX5	1598	189.3	182.9	188.5	560.7	5	9	
D	10	George Sweeney	Novice	SDMC		Mazda MX5	1800	217.8	201.0	199.0	617.8	6	11	Best Novice
D	11	Callum Finnamore	Novice	SDMC		Subaru BRZ	1998	224.7	205.9	201.3	631.9	7	13	
D	8	Geoff Fox		SDMC	S	Mazda MX5	1798	222.0	209.8	226.2	658.0	8	14	
D	15	Richard Seymour	Novice	MMKMC	S	Mazda MX5	1800	232.4	210.6	236.6	679.6	9	16	
D	12	Rick Sinclair		MMKMC	S	Reliant Ti	1800	235.7	225.7	238.8	700.2	10	17	
D	18	Ben Sinclair		MMKMC		Reliant Ti	1800	240.5	225.7	241.3	707.5	11	19	
D	16	Jamie Reynolds	Novice	TWMC	S	Mazda MX5	1800					Non-Starter		
F	22	Toby Cook		MMKMC	S	Nissan Micra	1275	151.3	134.2	163.5	449.0	1	1	1st in Class
F	21	Stephen Stringer		MMKMC	S	Silva Striker	1600	165.6	158.2	183.0	506.8	2	3	
P	23	Ross McCartney		SDMC / B18MC	S	MGZR	1396	248.8	213.2	241.5	703.5	1	18	1st in Class
P	24	Charlie Lower		SDMC		Mini	1600	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Retired		



Ashford Spring Autosolo 18th March



A day of two halves at our Autosolo today. It rained all morning, but it was sunny all afternoon! A field of 45 competitors in the end in all sorts of cars from MX-5's to TVR's, Micra's



to Civic's, a mix of older and newer cars.

This made for a very competitive day with the different conditions favouring different cars and drivers at different times. The two Ben's did a cracking job of designing and laying out the tests,

the intention being 4 tests run 3 times each, best 2 times from each run to count.

Test A, first involved getting out of the paddock which fast turned in to a muddy mess. The test itself was surprisingly grippy with Lloyd Covey in a classic mini posting the quickest time (114.9) with Sam Williams in a modern mini just 0.1 behind (115.0) and Steve in a Saxo (117.4)



There was a focus on juniors today thanks to Performance Automotive who sponsored the event, at this point Tyler led the juniors in an Alfa GT (122.6) followed by Oscar in a MK2 Golf (129.1) and Jack in a Citroen C2 (139.4)

Unfortunately, we had to cut the test short because the mud in the paddock was awful, so we didn't do a third run and instead all relocated to the concrete.

This meant that Test B had to be adjusted because now there were 45 cars occupying a certain amount of the space we had intended to use! Ben to the rescue with some quick thinking and a driver briefing giving a new test which we ran 3 times. Still raining at this point. Sam was quickest on this test (107.6) followed by Patrick in a Cinquecento (107.9). Overall it was now Sam (222.6),



Lloyd (223.2), Steve (225.6). The junior order remained the same, Tyler (232.7) Oscar (244.6) Jack (251.8)

A bit of lunch, another paddock move to allow the full test area to be used and the sun coming out set us up for Test C. The concrete dried quickly, and this gave the rear wheel drive cars an advantage, this time Steve was fastest (123.2) followed by Lorenzo in a MK1 MX-5 (125.2) and Des Crocker in a MK3 MX-5 (125.7). Overall, it was now very close, 0.2 seconds between Sam (348.6) and Steve (348.8) Lloyd falling behind to (349.3). The juniors had a new contender in Freddie in his BMW 318, it was now Tyler (364.9) Oscar (375.3) and Freddie (380.3)

Test D was more or less the reverse of Test C, but now drier, which meant the close competition continued. This time Lloyd posted the fastest test time (102.2) followed by Sam (103.2) and then George in a MX-5 (103.7). Overall, this changed things, Lloyd now leading and thus getting FTD (451.5) followed by Sam, just 0.3 seconds behind (451.8) and Steve dropping down after hitting some cones (455.2)



The real battle was in the juniors though, all of them driving superbly. Tyler extended his lead (470.0) but Freddie was getting quicker and moved up a spot (487.0) leaving Oscar 2 seconds behind (489). Well done



to all.

So, as you can see a very competitive day with a good spread of cars and drivers posting fast times at different points. If it had been wet or dry all day perhaps the results might have been very different and definitely some names to watch there in the juniors; they are the future. Big thanks to all our marshals who endured the rain in the morning but hopefully dried out in the sun in the afternoon!

Here's some photos we took today, thanks for coming!

Lloyd Covey

2022 Championship Awards Evening



Once again, this this year the Club Awards Evening was held at the Ridge Golf Club Sutton Valence this year on the 21st February. Thirty plus Members turned up to either receive their awards or cheer on those that did, from our Chairman Liz Jordan.

A list of the main award winners is given below with the full tables being available on the Club Website at www.mmkmc.co.uk.

MMKMC Club Driver of the Year 2022

	Competitor / Event Type	Grass Autotests	Trials	Tarmac	Rally Driver		Sprints	TOTAL
1	Brian Sharpe	148	BN/A	40	BN/A		BN/A	188
2	Lloyd Covey	116	BN/A	24	BN/A		BN/A	140
3	Des Crocker	50	8	40	BN/A		BN/A	98
4	Toby Cook	12	BN/A	80	BN/A		BN/A	92
5	Richard Olsen	16	BN/A	38	10		BN/A	64
6	Stephen Stringer	50	BN/A	5	BN/A		BN/A	55
7	Ryan Gilley	24	BN/A	16	BN/A		BN/A	40
7	Tim Ovenden	25	11	BN/A	BN/A		BN/A	36
9	Emma Olsen	1	BN/A	14	2		BN/A	17
10	Toby Groves	8	BN/A	8	BN/A		BN/A	16
11	Steve Groves	12	BN/A	BN/A	3		BN/A	15
12	Andrea Sterry	BN/A	BN/A	1	3		BN/A	4



MMKMC Marshal of the Year 2022

	Competitor / Event	Weald 12 Car - 21/01	Winter Series - Ashford Solo - 19/03	Tyrwhitt Drake Car Trial - 27/03	Evening Autotest @ Headcorn 18/05	Evening Autotest @ Otham 01/06	Evening Autotest @ Headcorn 15/06	Evening Autotest @ Otham 29/06	Mike Jordan Tour - 02/07	Evening Autotest @ Headcorn 13/07	Summer Slalom - 31/07	Evening Autotest @ Otham 10/08.	Combined Ops Parking - 13/08	Ray Heal Memorial Sprint - 16/07	MMKMC Brian Lewis Trial - 30/10	John Ashwell All Day Autotest - 22/08	MMKMC Autumn Tarmac Autotest - 20/11	TOTAL
1	Nigel Watson	10	10	10		10	10	10	10	10	10	10			10	10	10	130
2	Janet Barlow			10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10			10	10	10	120
3	Dennis Usmar		10		10	10	10	10		10	10		10	10		10	10	110
4	Emma Olsen				10	10	10	10		10		10	10		10		10	90
4	Tim Mewett				10	10	10	10		10	10	10			10		10	90
6	Richard Olsen				10		10	10		10		10	10		10			70
6	Tom Thomson					10				10	10	10	10			10	10	70
8	Peter Willing				10		10	10		10	10	10						60
8	Stanley Graham		10				10				10				10	10	10	60
10	Dave Fleck									10	10		10	10			10	50
10	Harry Mewett					10	10				10	10	10					50





Kent Driver Autotest 2009



Club Visit to Fairbourne Carriages



PCT Detling



From The



758Y

Archives



Flanders Rally 2012



Flying Proms 2010

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HAYNES

THE HAYNES GROUP OF COMPANIES



2023 CLUB FIXTURE LIST

Event	Location	Date
12 Car Rally	Dog & Bear, Lenham	27 th January
Annual Awards Evening	Ridge Golf Club	21 st February
Tarmac Spring Autotest	Ashford Market	4 th March
Ashford Market Autosolo	Ashford Market	18 th March
Tyrwhitt Drake Trial	Otham	2 nd April
Autotest Taster Day	Otham	7 th May
Evening Autotest	Headcorn Aerodrome	17 th May
Lydden Co Pro Sprint	Lydden Circuit	20 th May
Annual General Meeting	Ridge Golf Club	23 rd May
Evening Autotest	Otham	31 st May
Evening Autotest	Headcorn Aerodrome	14 th June
Mike Jordan Tour	Pepperbox Ulcombe	24 th June
Evening Autotest	Otham	28 th June
Evening Autotest	Headcorn Aerodrome	12 th July
Lydden Co-pro Sprint	Lydden Circuit	15 th July
Summer Slalom	Headcorn	30 th July
Evening Autotest	Otham	9 th August
John Ashwell All Day Autotest	Headcorn	20 th August
Brian Lewis Trial	Otham	1 st October
Autumn Tarmac Autotest	Ashford Market	18 th November

B.D. Engineering

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