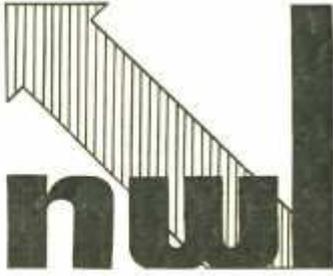


Civil Service Motoring Association

CSMA

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The Big End

CSMA CLUB

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North West London Group

NEWSLETTER

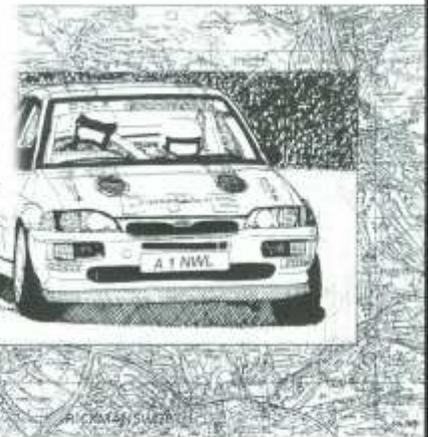


CSMA

THE BIG END



BIG END



CIVIL SERVICE MOTORING ASSOCIATION

89-97

Edition

97-99

CIVIL SERVICE MOTORING ASSOCIATION

NORTH WEST LONDON GROUP



boundless

BY CSMA

North West London Group

December 2016



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Club night Xmas Social & Quiz

Tuesday 6th December
The Red Lion PH

Starts 8pm - Food available



THE BIRTHDAY BOX !

Our Christmas birthday wishes for December go to **Robert Gregory** on the 12th and **Dolores Taylor-Keane** on the 20th.



Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributor and not necessarily those of the CSMA Club, North West London Group Committee or those of the Editor. In addition, articles on maintenance, etc. are published in good faith and no liability can be accepted by the CSMA Club, North West London Group Committee or those of the Editor for the accuracy of such contributions or for damage or malfunction arising from their use, no matter how they are used.

Visit **The Big End** on the Internet - www.csmanwl.com

Editorial

Well I've now got another car to add to the fleet and this one will hopefully replace the current Mini as the new autotest car. Have a bit of work to do on it before it is ready, as currently it is a road car, although it has had a few modifications.



The main one is that it is fitted with a Vauxhall 1600cc engine and gearbox, which means a huge power increase over the old one, but there is a lot of weight to remove from the panels like the rollcage, the metal doors and the heavy flip front with all the lights and grill. The main thing is that all the engineering work has been completed and it all works, which is the bit that would have taken a lot of time doing it from scratch. Hopefully it will get out in the early part of the season, which unfortunately is starting a month early next year, in Anglesey of all places.

Well it was certainly a shock last month when VW announced they were pulling out of the World Rally Championship for 2017, despite having built a brand new car for the new rules being introduced next year. Obviously as a result of the fallout from Dieseltgate, it also saw the end of Audi competing in the World Endurance Championship. This leaves the three current drivers looking for new seats and two of them can't make a decision until Sebastien Ogier has picked which team he wants to drive for. He has just done some testing with both the new Toyota team, coming back next year, and the M-Sport team, with Malcolm Wilson doing all he can to sign him up. It will be interesting to see what is going to happen team wise with the driver shake up and how the new, faster cars go next year.



The Winter season of 12 Car rallies will begin in January, where hopefully we will get a decent entry to make them worthwhile running. To try and get some more entries, we have introduced guidelines on the types of navigation used by organisers, to try and make them consistent and more fun to do.

Well writing this last gives me the benefit of having seen the last F1 race of the season, and it was filled with tension right down to the last lap. Hamilton did what some people thought he wouldn't do and that was to back Rosberg up into the chasing pack. It worked for awhile but in the end the Ferrari's and Red Bull's just couldn't do anything about it. So Nico Rosberg gets his first world championship title, by just 5 points in the end, but there will always be those that will think he won it on luck due to Hamilton's car unreliability this year. It would certainly have been different if his engine hadn't blown up in Malaysia.



Well it must be time to wish you all a very enjoyable Christmas and a happy New Year

Mike B.



NOTE: Deadline for contributions to the January newsletter is Thursday 22nd December



Chairman's notebook

My thanks to Malcolm Grubb for the excellent talk on his and his daughter's experience on a somewhat ad hoc classic car rally in China last month. All I can say is that he was very brave to book flights etc. without even knowing the car that he might have to drive!

Fascinating talk, with some quite scary moments described and probably a lot worse at the time, as time and memory generally heals all as they say!

This month you have me to put up with, as I am organising the Christmas quiz! By the way, a **very Happy Christmas** to you all and a **very prosperous New Year** (hopefully!) to you all as well. Food is being provided so please do try and come along, it would be nice to see you all.

If you can't make the clubnight, then why not come along to noggin on the 15th December. We start the New Year with our annual Beetle Drive contest on the 3rd January 2017.

Looks like the F1 Championship is going down to the wire, as it all hangs in the balance. Hopefully Hamilton will prevail and it's a shame we are losing Jensen Button. Oh yes, and Ron Dennis has stepped back from McLaren, apparently on gardening leave, doesn't strike me as the kind of guy who will take too kindly to gardening somehow!

Doug and I will be making the trek up to Gaydon on Saturday the 14th January for the HRCR Open Day, where hopefully we will sign up for next year's Old Stager Tarmac Championship again. Doug has already booked accommodation for the first three rounds! and the car is currently at Dave Smith's having the carbs changed to Weber's and an aluminium boot tank fitted.

Speaking of Dave Smith, I very nearly choked on my fish and chips the other Friday as he suddenly appeared as the chief mechanic on Motors TV on a report about the Heroes Cup Rally. Oh yes, and not a swear word to be heard!

The Sprite has been in the wars again, with a wiring fault under the dash which caused smoke and the complete failure of the electrics etc. under the M4 on my way to work the other Monday. Quite an experience shall we say! Britannia Rescue did an excellent job picking me up within 45 minutes and taking me and the Sprite back home.

Frontline have identified the fault, or should I say faults, as wiring rubbing against the heater outlets behind the dash. Well what do you expect, I wired it! Needless to say it will be back home soon, together with a new battery and a main fuse on the main battery feed to try and prevent a repeat performance.

Ann and I are hoping to be at Brooklands in the Sprite on New Year's Day and also out on Allan Goddard's New Year's run on Sunday the 8th January.

Well Christmas is very nearly upon us, the supermarkets and B&Q have been full of festive gifts, food and decorations since the end of September and those mince pies and chocolate Yule Log you bought have already gone past their sell by date!! But winter is here and it's getting pretty cold out there at times, so I suppose it's time to think about Christmas and what presents to buy and what one might get in return. Oh well, yet another pair of socks! I could always wrap up the Hollstar Table Top trophy as a surprise present?

See you all at Club night.

Mike H.



Secretary's spot

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Just in case you have overlooked the fact, may I just remind you that Christmas will be with us once again in just a few weeks. It seems to come around quicker and quicker each year and before long we will all be tugging at wrapping paper discovering what Santa has brought along for us this time. As usual, our December Clubnight will adopt a little festive cheer so do please pop along to discover the light hearted picture quiz and enjoy the free buffet, which last year was excellent.

At last month's Clubnight we were entertained by Malcolm Grubb who gave us a fascinating illustrated talk about an event he, and his daughter Caroline, took part in last year in China. It was one of those evenings where you had to be there to take in all the amazing antics of trying to run a car rally for classic vehicles in a country that pretty much does not allow any vehicle over ten years old to remain on the road. Many thanks Malcolm for such an interesting and enlightening talk.

I am writing these notes a few days before the final Grand Prix of the year, so by the time you get to read them the final showdown will have taken place and the 2016 World Champion will be known. Seems to me that Rosberg has a huge advantage but let's hope the last race is fair, enjoyable and the right man wins!

For the first few months of the New Year, there should be four 12 car rallies to support, either as a competitor or marshal. These events have struggled to gain support in the last few years so do please make an effort to come out and assist in making these events popular and worth all the effort of organising them. See below and elsewhere for further details and information

For the immediate future we have the following;

Tuesday 6th December – NWL Clubnight at The Red Lion, Hemel Hempstead where the Christmas festivities get underway with some light-hearted fun and games, probably a wall picture quiz put together by our Chairman, and an included free buffet. Fun starts at 8.00pm and if like previous Red Lion buffets a doggie box may be a good idea as they seem to be very generous with their food

Thursday 15th December – NWL Noggin and Natter. Why not join our few regulars at The Red Lion for an informal chat over a drink or two (it doesn't have to be alcoholic!).

Tuesday 3rd January – NWL Clubnight - shake off the post-Christmas feeling with a visit to The Red Lion for our now traditional New Year Beetle Drive where some competitive fun can be enjoyed. Shirley will be in charge of the proceedings so do come along for an enjoyable evening. As usual start time will be 8.00pm.

Friday 6th January – NWL 12 Car Rally in the capable hands of Pete Gregory and Graeme Presswell so please look out for further details elsewhere in this Big End and do whatever you can to make the event a success.

Thursday 19th January – NWL Noggin and Natter at The Red Lion, meeting time form 8.30pm onwards so why not pop along for a drink and chat.

I will not be at the December Clubnight, as a pre-Christmas break in Portugal beckons, so do have a wonderful Festive break and enjoy a prosperous and healthy 2017. See you at the beetle drive if not before

That's about it for now – hope to see you at some of the events.

Alan T



Date	Day	Event (Status)	Type of Event	Club	Champ
Jan	Fri 6	* 12 Car Rally (C)	Navigational rally	CSMA NWL	Region
	12-15	* Autosports Show ()	NEC		
	Sat 14	* HRCR Open Day ()	Gaydon		
Feb	Fri 3	12 Car Rally (C)	Navigational rally	CSMA NEL	Region
Mar	Fri 3	12 Car Rally (C)	Navigational rally	CSMA NWL	Region
	Sun 12	Charity Autosolo (Nat B/C)	Cross between autotest/sprint	Devizes & DMC	
	Fri 31	12 Car Rally (C)	Navigational rally	CSMA NEL	Region

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

Past Events

Future Events

12 Car Winter Series The new Winter season gets underway in January and runs for four events through to the end of March, each four weeks apart. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us and we get a decent number of entries to make it all worthwhile. The first event is on the 5th January and Pete Gregory/Graeme Presswell are in charge.

New for this year is the introduction of Standard Navigation Guidelines for organisers to make sure all the events are set at the same level. These will also reduce the difficulty of the navigation, especially for the novices, so hopefully more of you have a fun time out there. The entry fee has also gone up to £12, just to help the organisers balance the books due to the cost of fuel these days. If they all get full entries, then we will be able to put it down again, if required.

Other Invites Please see the calendar above for other events we have an invite to. I can get regs for any of these, just contact me if interested.

Mike Biss: NLR Motor Sports Coordinator

Tel: 01525 720299

E-mail: mike.biss@btinternet.com

NWL 12 Car Rally

Friday 6th January

The John Bunyan PH, Colman Green, Herts AL4 8ES, MR 166/189125

There will be three classes:- Beginners / Novices / Experts - £12 entry fee

Navigation will be tailored to suit the classes - Map 166 FEB 2016 required

Standard Navigation Guidelines introduced for organisers – see regs for details

Pete Gregory / Graeme Presswell organising - Marshals/Competitors required

Arrive before 8pm, first car starts at 20:31

Regs available from the website www.csma-nlr.org.uk or contact Mike B

**never let your
friends feel lonely!
Disturb them
at all times!**



I hate it when
you have to
BE NICE
to someone
you really
want to
throw a brick at.



WEBSITE PROBLEMS

Please note that the server that hosts our website has gone off air permanently, with no advance notice. We are currently looking for a replacement site but in the meantime, the newsletter (and back issues) plus regs for events, will be available on the North London Region site at:- www.csma-nlr.org.uk

Here we have a little Christmas Quiz (nothing to do with Christmas and all about cars)

Can you work out the makes and models of each snippet of British car shown?

1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10



11



12



Answers to the Editor by the 22nd December



Diary NWL 2016



CLUBNIGHT Venue
The Red Lion,
London Road,
Hemel Hempstead
HP3 9TD

NOGGIN Venue
The Red Lion,
London Road,
Hemel Hempstead
HP3 9TD

December

Tue 6th NWL Clubnight - Xmas Fun & Games - The Red Lion
Thu 15th NWL Noggin & Natter - The Red Lion, Hemel Hempstead



January

Tue 3rd NWL Clubnight - Beetle Drive - The Red Lion
Fri 6th NWL 12 Car Rally
Thu 19th NWL Noggin & Natter - The Red Lion, Hemel Hempstead
20th-22nd WRC - Monte Carlo

February

Tue 7th NWL Clubnight - Quiz Night - The Red Lion
Fri 3rd NEL 12 Car Rally
10th-12th WRC - Sweden
Thu 16th NWL Noggin & Natter - The Red Lion, Hemel Hempstead

Dates to reserve: