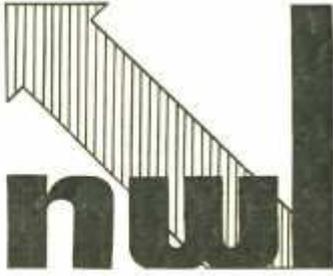


Civil Service Motoring Association

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newsletter

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The Big End

CSMA CLUB

Civil Service Motoring Association
North West London Group

NEWSLETTER



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BIG END



CIVIL SERVICE MOTORING ASSOCIATION

89-97

Edition

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CIVIL SERVICE MOTORING ASSOCIATION

NORTH WEST LONDON GROUP



boundless

BY CSMA

North West London Group

May 2021



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Club night



Speaker - Mark Lewis
The Amazing History of Lighthouses

Zoom call (host Mike H)

(see page 6 for details)

THE BIRTHDAY BOX !

This month it's happy birthday to the following people: Sara Austin, Shirley Baldwin and Gill Coghlin - congratulations all round!



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Boundless North West London Group

Editorial

We have another small edition this month, but at least we are starting to see live events on the calendar. It was nice to meet up with those that came out for the last Chat and a Drink at the Red Lion, although it was a bit cold.

Elfyn Evans so nearly beat Sebastien Ogier, in the latest round of the WRC in Croatia but when he ran wide on the last stage and lost traction, he lost his lead and finished just 0.6 seconds behind. He did a lot better than Kalle Rovanner, who was running first car on the road as current championship leader, but only got a few hundred yards into the first stage before sliding off and out of the rally.



Did you see the accident between the Williams of George Russell and the Mercedes of Valtteri Bottas at the last grand prix in Italy? As they are both under Mercedes driver management, it was a bit of a nightmare to manage, but as one person said, Bottas shouldn't have running that low in the first place and especially in a position of being overtaken by the Williams!

We had four group members out, with Colin Stickland making his autosolo debut and finding it a lot of fun. I had a slight problem with a water leak at the back of the engine somewhere and had to keep topping the radiator up, but at least it held out and the pipe didn't split. Subsequently found out which hose it is and it is not going to be easy to change it, but at least it isn't a rotted out metal pipe! I had the bad luck to be in the first group out and lost a bit of time clearing the gravel out the way for the later groups. When it was my turn to run later, we didn't have the same advantage, as the gravel was not as bad, but I managed to claw my way back up the leader board and on my very last run had to find a 0.8 second improvement. Unfortunately for me, for the last test the organisers had shortened the course to avoid the now cut up gravel bits, which made it a third shorter. I managed to improve but fell short by 0.4 of a second



from the win! I actually seemed to have gone better in the dry here for quite some time, so perhaps the change of rear springs and a different tyre pressure setup had made the difference, as it was fun throwing the car around, which is a different style to the other MX5 drivers, who are all neat and tidy (boring)..... They had so many entries who didn't get a run, that Oxford MC are putting on another event, just for non championship people this time.

Progress is now being made on our grass autotests front, as I have managed to speak with the farmer, so we should know the situation in the next couple of weeks. Hopefully we can then run all the events we have planned.

Keep safe.

Mike B.

NOTE: Deadline for contributions to the June newsletter is Thursday 20th May



Chairman's notebook

A very large thank you, to Alan Thurbon for his excellent quiz last month, needless to say I came last and Doug came first! Well you can't win them all and it was good fun and which most importantly, everyone enjoyed.

Also last month saw us meeting up at the Red Lion for a chat and a pint, yes you are correct, we actually met with fellow members of the club at a pub, for a pint and a chat, unbelievable! I even had trouble remembering what to order!

Well it does at long last seem that things are slowly getting back to normal; if normal will ever be quite the same again that is. Certainly if traffic is any kind of gauge, things are getting back to normal as the journey of 11 miles to work is now taking the pre-Covid one hour and a bit most mornings now, where as in lockdown it was only taking 30 minutes!



For this month's clubnight we have a guest speaker, Mark Lewis, who is going to provide a presentation on Lighthouses, on Zoom for us all to enjoy, so please do make the effort to attend and of course please encourage others to email me for the meeting code and password etc. If you don't get an invite in the next couple of days, please remember to drop me an email asking for the invite.

Last weekend was "Drive It" day, where all of us with classic vehicles are encouraged to take them out on a run. Ann and I took the Sprite to Brooklands on the Saturday where they were open for a limited number of visitors (500 people including staff). The various buildings and hangars weren't open, but the doors were open and you could see in as well as walking around the interesting collection of civil aircraft which are parked out in the open and this includes Concorde. We also had the very varied collection of visitor's cars to look at, which were lined up on the finishing straight and in front of the clubhouse. Visitors with modern machinery were asked to park elsewhere.



Tickets were only £5.00 per person, so good value and we even managed a bus ride on the Green double decker for an extra £4.00 each. The ride took us out of Brooklands and into Byfleet and lasted just under 30 minutes. It was great fun even though we had to wear masks and it certainly brought back happy memories from our younger days! Apparently I now have to take the grandchildren on the bus ride, which is great as I get to go back again!



Malcolm and Madeleine Grubb were there and we had a good chat over a coffee making up for lost time as one might expect. We eventually left about 2pm and then drove over to Doug's for an afternoon tea and eventually getting home about 7pm, having also dropped in on Sarah on the way home and now suffer from sun/wind burn having kept the roof down all day! Brooklands is now open every Saturday, but please check on line for entry details and restrictions etc.

Chairman's notebook - continues on page 7

Secretary's spot

.....

Our April clubnight took the form of a multi choice quiz via Zoom and was incredibly well supported. It was my turn to put the evening together so the multi choice format was put together with three answers to each question so even if you had no idea of the correct answer there was a one in three chance that a wild guess would be correct. It was also intended that many of the questions would be reasonably easy so good scores could be obtained. I think this came out about right with Treasurer Doug topping the scores with 64 correct out of 80. Second place was shared between Trevor and the Graves'. It seemed that most enjoyed the challenge and had a good evening.

On the evening of Thursday 15th April a few of us took advantage of the re-opening of pubs and met up in the garden of the Red Lion for a chat and a drink. It was a little bit cold but all arrived with a big coat and/or jacket and we were socially spaced around a couple of tables in the huge pub garden. The staff were incredibly attentive and served drinks to the tables with speed, a smile and great efficiency. It seemed the Triumph car club were also in attendance as the car park contained a number of TR's and Stags but most of their members departed around the time of our arrival, meaning there was plenty of space for all visitors. I assume we will once again support The Red Lion garden on Thursday 20th May, providing no drastic changes are announced to the 'get out of lockdown' road map.

We will remain in the 'virtual online' mode for our clubnight in May, on Tuesday 4th where we will have a guest speaker joining us to talk about lighthouses. Our speaker's name is Mark Lewis and I am told the talk is very interesting. It would be great to get a good number of members to attend this meeting, so please do put a note in your diaries and join us if you can. You will need to contact Chairman Mike to gain the call information to be allowed into the Zoom call.

We are hoping that our June clubnight will return to the wonderful outdoors when Anne and Steve are planning a walking treasure hunt for our enjoyment – please watch this space for further details of location and start time etc.

It is also hoped that we may be able to run the Greenacres Autotest on Sunday 13th June but we are awaiting a decision from the farmer to agree to the use of our normal field just outside Leighton Buzzard. Please take note of Mike B's competition bulletins for the latest situation or contact Mike or myself for the latest info.

Our very **provisional** programme is as follows, but please watch out for changes and/or give me a call for further information/confirmation.

- Tuesday 4th May** – **NWL Clubnight via Zoom – guest speaker - History of Lighthouses**
- Thursday 20th May** – **NWL Chat and a Drink hopefully in The Red Lion garden**
- Tuesday 1st June** – **NWL Clubnight – walking treasure hunt**
- Sunday 13th June** – **NWL Greenacres Autotest**
- Thursday 17th June** – **NWL Chat and a Drink hopefully at The Red Lion**
- Tuesday 6th July** – **NWL Clubnight – Two Brewers Scatter**
- Thursday 15th July** – **NWL Chat and a Drink hopefully at The Red Lion**

***That's about it for now!
Please keep safe and well and hope for further gentle easing in the restrictions!***

Alan T

Date	Day	Event (Status)	Type of Event	Club
Jun	Sun 6	* Brooklands Autosolo (Cm)	Cross between autotest/sprint	Farnborough DMC
	Sun 6	* Bolero Autosolo (Cm)	Cross between autotest/sprint	Oxford MC
	Sun 6?	Gravel Autotest (C)	Loose surface autotest	Bedford CC
	Sun 13	Greenacres Autotest (C)	Grass autotest	CSMA NWL
Jul	Sun 11	Grasshopper Autotest (C)	Grass autotest	CSMA NEL
	Sun 18	Summer Autosolo (Cm)	Cross between autotest/sprint	Farnborough DMC
Aug	Sun 8	Paddock Autotest (C)	Grass autotest	CSMA NWL
Sep	Sun 12	Chiltern Autotest (C)	Grass autotest	CSMA NWL
Oct	Sun 10	Autumn Autotest (C)	Grass autotest	CSMA NWL

Licence required: (I/Nat/Inter/Cm) = MSUK Licence, (C) = Club Card, () = Nothing, * = Regs available

Past Events

Future Events

Summer Grass Autotests Our aim is to plan for these events to be running this year, as other clubs have run them ok under the covid restrictions. It will just be down to getting the ok from the farmer. I have spoken with the farmer, but he is awaiting a reply from the pony club, as that has a major bearing on what he uses the field for. Hopefully we will know in the next couple of weeks what our options are, but we should at least have some events to run this year.

Running Events With Covid safety requirements still in place, all organisers will need to be aware of the following things that need to be in place. 1. A Covid Officer needs to be appointed for each event, who will have to complete a risk assessment form (available from MSUK) and return it to MSUK. This is in addition, and separate, to any stewards report forms. 2. The government limit on the number of people allowed at an event is not applied if the event is running under a MSUK issued permit. 3. All paperwork/results is to be electronic only, so no cheques/cash or paper entry forms, plus all competitors/marshals to print off their own paperwork for the event. None to be issued on the day. 4. Self declaration of signing on and scrutineering is now done.

Other Events Clubs are planning on putting on various events, but they are all dependent on current lockdown/Tier situations.

Mike Biss: NLR Motor Sports Coordinator

Tel: 07753 137415

E-mail: mike.biss@btinternet.com

Clubnight Tuesday 4th May @ 8pm

Speaker (over Zoom call) - Mark Lewis

Sentinels of the Sea – The Amazing History of Lighthouses

Due to the current restrictions in place, we are having another Zoom clubnight this month.

It would be nice to see as many of you as possible on screen.

Guidance notes on connecting with Zoom are available on request to the Editor.

Please just let Mike Harrison know if you are able to make the clubnight, so that he can send out the call details. You will need to have the Zoom app on your computer/tablet/phone beforehand.

Chairman's notebook - continued from page 4

There is a very interesting article on the future of liquid fuels in this month's Octane, written by Nigel Elliot of the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs, where he talks about the challenge of net zero by 2050 and the implications this might have on classic car owners. From reading it we shouldn't have to worry until around 2032 and even then we should be ok as liquid fuels for aeroplanes and HGVs will still be required and it seems Porsche are developing a green synthetic fuel as well which should run traditional engines, so there is hope yet!



So, hopefully I will see you all at the Zoom clubnight on the 4th May and if not then in person at our drink and a chat at the Red Lion on the 20th May.

Mike H



April Clubnight Quiz Results

	Music	History	GK1	Sci & Tech	Geography	GK2	Local 1	Local 2	Total	Pos
	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8		
Doug	10	7	7	9	9	7	8	7	64	1st
Anne + Steve	10	6	6	8	9	8	8	7	62	=2nd
Trevor	7	9	8	7	7	6	9	9	62	=2nd
The Robins	6	9	7	9	9	7	8	5	60	=4th
Suze	9	6	6	6	8	8	10	7	60	=4th
John + Jean	7	9	7	10	7	6	5	7	58	6th
John + Gill	10	7	7	8	8	5	5	7	57	7th
Ian + Lorraine	10	5	6	7	8	5	6	6	53	8th
Claire	5	6	8	6	8	6	7	6	52	9th
Mike B	8	5	5	8	8	7	4	5	50	10th
Mike H	7	6	6	5	8	7	5	5	49	11th
Pete	7	6	7	7	5	3	6	4	45	12th

Organiser: Alan T



Diary NWL 2021



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

DRINK & CHAT Venue
 The Red Lion,
 56 London Road,
 Hemel Hempstead
 HP3 9TD

May

Sun 2nd F1 - Portugal
Tue 4th NWL Clubnight - Speaker about lighthouses (virtual)
 Sun 9th F1 - Spain
Thu 20th NWL Chat and a Drink - The Red Lion, HH
 20th-23rd WRC - Portugal
 Sun 23rd F1 - Monaco

June

Tue 1st NWL Clubnight - Walking Treasure Hunt
 3rd-6th WRC - Italy
 Sun 6th F1 - Azerbaijan
Sun 13th NWL Greenacres Autotest
 Sun 13th F1 - Canada
Thu 17th NWL Chat and a Drink - The Red Lion, HH
 24th-27th WRC - Kenya
 Sun 27th F1 - France

July

Sun 4th F1 - Austria
Tue 6th NWL Clubnight - Two Brewers Scatter
 Sun 11th NEL Grasshopper Autotest
Thu 15th NWL Chat and a Drink - The Red Lion, HH
 15th-18th WRC - Estonia
 Sun 18th F1 - Silverstone

Dates to reserve: