

Civil Service Motoring Association



newsletter

CSMA

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The Big End



CSMA CLUB


Civil Service Motoring Association North West London Group



NEWSLETTER

CSMA

THE BIG END




BIG END




CIVIL SERVICE MOTORING ASSOCIATION

89-97

Edition



CIVIL SERVICE MOTORING ASSOCIATION NORTH WEST LONDON GROUP

97-99



boundless

BY CSMA

North West London Group

March 2024



# NWL Group Officers & Committee 2023/24



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Vacant

## Club night

### NWL AGM (followed by a quiz)

Notice of North West London Group AGM

Tuesday 5th March @ 8pm, (AGM starts at 8:30pm)

At our clubnight venue: The Red Lion PH  
56 London Road, Hemel Hempstead HP3 9TD

### THE BIRTHDAY BOX !

In March we have several celebrations - starting with **Steven Harrison**, followed by **Alan Thurbon** and **Pete Gregory**. Happy birthday to you all!



Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributor and not necessarily those of the Boundless by CSMA, 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 Boundless by CSMA, 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 - <http://news.boundlessevents.uk>

**Boundless North West London Group**

# NWL Editorial

.....

We have a large edition this month, as we have all the paperwork for the AGM available. Hopefully we will see a lot of you for the event, which doesn't take long (usually) and then we have a quiz evening.

There was no lack of snow at the recent WRC round in Sweden, but the snow banks caught a lot of crews out. There were several 360 degree spins between the banks, but I think only one crew got away without causing enough damage to retire that day. Elfyn Evans kept out of trouble enough to finish second and has now moved up to second in the championship, just three points off top spot. Esapekka Lappi was the one who kept it the most clean and when his last challenger disappeared, he could almost coast to the finish. He has dropped down to a part time season this year, after several poor results last year.



Following on from my poor parking bit last month, on another part of my route to the paper shop the other day, I saw a young(ish) woman try and turn right into a road by cutting the corner, only to find a car coming up to the junction. They then used one hand to move the steering wheel to correct the car and then turn into the road, whilst at the same time using the other hand to put a vape in their mouth! Must have been the stress of having to drive properly! There is very little hope for us all, if this is the type of driver allowed on the road....

Shock news since last month was Lewis Hamilton saying he has signed for Ferrari in 2025, even before the 2024 season had got underway. That leaves Carlos Sainz without a seat, but there are eight teams going to have a vacancy for 2025, so he will have plenty of choices.

In the recent three day F1 test in Bahrain, ahead of the first race of the season this upcoming Saturday (note, not Sunday), Red Bull seemed to have the fastest car again, even with a very much changed design. Seems they have gone down the adventurous route, rather than just upgrading the championship winning design of last year. Mind you, they most likely started the design of this car about three races into last years championship!



Had another competitive drive of the MX5 last week and more driving tuition, but I think a gremlin has taken up residence in Cath's barn, where the car resides. Cath drove the first run and the cars exhaust sounded louder than I remembered from last time. On the second run it was definitely blowing, so after the run I had a look underneath and found the cat to back pipe joint only had one bolt left and that had no nut on it! Cath sourced a couple of nuts and bolts, only for me to find they didn't match when I tried tightening them up (different threads). Another nut and bolt was found, only one this time, but when tightened up (without the gasket), it was enough and was a lot quieter, and got the car home.

Keep safe.

Mike B.

**NOTE:** Deadline for contributions to the April newsletter is Thursday 21st March



# Chairman's notebook

.....  
A big thank you to Alan and Ian for combining together to provide us with a highly enjoyable evening of darts for last month's clubnight. Alan provided the dart board and darts and Ian provided the polystyrene surround, which prevented us all from destroying the surrounding walls and furniture with our off target darts, of which there were many!!

Mike Biss won and no doubt the results will be found elsewhere in the newsletter.

Please remember that we have our Annual General Meeting (AGM) this month, so do make a special effort to attend. I know it might not be the most entertaining clubnight of the year, but it is the most important and I will try as usual to entertain you all and I will try and keep the formal business as short as possible and we will have our usual short quiz afterwards.

If you can't make it for whatever reason, please advise Alan Thurbon accordingly and if you have any ideas on possible events or clubnights, please also advise Alan accordingly, or even better, come along and tell us in person!

I had to miss the last 12 Car, as Ann and I were invited to see our oldest granddaughter take part in a nationwide school choir concert at the Wembley Arena on the same night. It was very good, but also very loud! However, I believe the 12 Car had a good entry and was a success as well.

Ian and I are running the March 12 Car on the 1st March and there are still places available if you want to enter and you can also marshal if you want to. Just email or call me. Next month, Alan Thurbon is running the last of this year's 12 Cars and it is on Friday the 5th April. Next year we are considering splitting the four 12 Cars, with two this side of Christmas and then two in 2025, avoiding the January one, which is often cancelled due to floods or snow etc.

If you go on the club website, you will see that a new interest group has been formed called the Aviation Group, with the first event being a visit to Tangmere Military Aviation Museum and Ann and I have already got tickets to attend on the 12th March. The next planned event is a visit to the Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre on the 10th April, but Ann and I are in Disney Paris that week with the family, so are unable to attend.



I must also mention the Motorsport Group's visit to the Jim Stokes workshop on the 30th July, which only has room for 20 spaces, but you get a personal tour of the workshops and a buffet lunch afterwards all for the sum of £30 per person. I believe there are a few spaces still available and contact Bernard Ward at [bernard.ward3@btinternet.com](mailto:bernard.ward3@btinternet.com) for any entry form etc.



We have a talk by Alan Smith for your enjoyment on the 2nd April, about the history of the Peking to Paris marathon rallies.

Well here's looking forward to the AGM on the 5th March and if we don't see you there, then perhaps we can catch up at our normal drink and a chat on the 21st March at the Red Lion PH.

Mike H

# Secretary's spot

.....

It's almost March and we can all look forward to some nice spring weather and a little less rain. It seems I've only just finished unwrapping Christmas presents and the first F1 grand prix is about to happen – certainly 2024 is speeding along!

The February clubnight saw a return to an evening of dart throwing! Ian O'C once again turned up with huge sheets of polystyrene foam to place around the dart board which certainly seemed to save a few holes in the surrounding furniture and the floor. The adapted version of the 'round the clock' game worked well and everybody had a fun night. Winner on the night was Editor Mike, with Trevor second and yours truly third.

Please do your best to attend our next clubnight on Tuesday 5th March at The Red Lion, where the first part of the evening will be devoted to the Group's Annual General Meeting. I am sure our Chairman will take total control of the proceedings as usual and the formalities will not take too long to cover. This is of course your opportunity to voice any comments to steer the activities to what you might like to see organised or alter the format of what we promote. The prime intention behind our programme is for everybody to have fun and enjoyment which we hope we do achieve. It is anticipated that a quiz will occupy the second part of the evening so bring your thinking caps along.

The next 'Chat and a Drink' will be held on Thursday 21st March back at The Red Lion so do please join us if you can for an informal and sociable evening normally commencing around 8:30pm.

Early April sees a couple of events which would both benefit from your full support. First of all on Tuesday 2nd, Alan Smith will once again be coming along to The Red Lion to provide us with another of his fascinating and interesting rally talks. This time it will be about the 2007 Peking to Paris rally where Alan marshalled in Russia!! A short dvd film will be shown and questions will be addressed where possible.

On Friday 5th April, I will be organising the last 12 Car rally of the winter series, so please get an entry in as soon as possible. If you are a complete beginner, then do please think about having a go, as you will be given a marked map with all the locations to be visited and correct route to be taken clearly shown. Further details and full information can be had by contacting Mike B or myself.

***Our planned future programme is as follows;***

- Friday 1st March – NWL 12 car rally**
- Tuesday 5th March – NWL Clubnight – AGM and quiz**
- Thursday 21st March – NWL Chat and a Drink at The Red Lion**
- Tuesday 2nd April – NWL Clubnight – Alan Smith illustrated rally talk**
- Friday 5th April – NWL 12 car rally**
- Thursday 18th April – NWL Chat and a Drink at The Red Lion**

***Take good care and hope to see you at some of our events***

Alan T

Date	Day	Event (Status)	Type of Event	Club
Mar	Fri 1	* 12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	CSMA NWL
	Fri 8	* 12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC
	Fri 15	* 12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Chelmsford MC
Apr	Fri 5	* 12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	CSMA NWL
	Fri 12	* 12 Car (Cm)	Navigational rally	Blackbird AC
	Sun 28	Autosolo (Cm)	Cross between autotest/sprint	Oxford MC

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

### Past Events

**February 12 Car Rally** The second winter season round got a reasonable entry of eight crews, for the start over at Tewin. Ran by Graham Robinson, the route was back to the right hand side of map 166, but the route nearly had problems with fibre broadband installations causing a lot of traffic lights on the route survey, but thankfully they weren't in place on the night, although another set of roadworks had the road still closed after they were supposed to have finished. This caused a note to be sent over the system to crews on how to get round it. Results are found elsewhere in the newsletter.

### Future Events

**March 12 Car Rally** Starting from The John Bunyan PH, Colman Green, Herts AL4 8ES, MR 166/189125, it will use map 166 (edition FEB 2018) for the 45 mile route, with first car starting at 8:31pm. There will be the usual three classes:- Beginners / Novices / Experts and the navigation will be tailored to suit the classes. Regs are currently available. Entry fee is £16 per car. The organiser is Mike Harrison and is contactable on [mlh.bhm@btconnect.com](mailto:mlh.bhm@btconnect.com).

**April 12 Car Rally** Starting from The Farmers Boy PH, 216 Common Road, Kensworth, Dunstable LU6 2PJ MR 166 / 028182, it will use map 166 (edition FEB 2018) for the 45 mile route, with first car starting at 8:31pm. There will be three classes:- Beginners / Novices / Experts and the navigation will be tailored to suit the classes. Regs are currently available. Entry fee is £16 per car. Organiser is Alan Thurbon and you can contact him on [alanthurbon@yahoo.com](mailto:alanthurbon@yahoo.com).

**Future 12 Car Rally Season** We are planning to change the 12 Car Rally dates for next season, due to the January event is the most likely to be hit by bad weather, so it is planned that the events will now run in Nov, Dec, Feb and Mar. The existing January event will move to Nov and the existing April event will move to Dec, with the existing February and March events staying as is. This also allows for the two uses of the John Bunyan PH start to be better separated. Just need to sort out the Nov and Dec dates with the other clubs.

**Grass Autotest Season** Unfortunately, we still currently have no venue for these events.

**MSUK Clubman Licence** Almost all these events in the calendar require you to have one of these licences as a minimum to compete, either as a driver or passenger. If you go to <https://rsclubman.motorsportuk.org>, you can order your free licence, but please make sure you don't leave it to the last minute. The 2024 renewals became available from the beginning of December.

**Other Events** 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. Most of these events are entered via the Sapphire System, so regs, etc. can be found there. We will be invited to all the Anglian Motor Sport Club autosolos/autotests throughout the year.

**Mike Biss:** NLR Motor Sports Coordinator

**Tel:** 07753 137415

**E-mail:** [mike.biss@btinternet.com](mailto:mike.biss@btinternet.com)



### RS Clubman Licence Renewal

<https://rsclubman.motorsportuk.org/>

Remember, to enter any MSUK permit event these days, you need the above licence as a minimum (which is free).

If you had one in 2023, you can now go onto the above site and renew your licence.

You will get an email with a digital version of your licence (in a nice yellow colour).

## NWL 12 Car Rally

Friday 1st March

The John Bunyan PH, Coleman Green, Herts AL4 8ES

Map 166 / MR 189125

There will be three classes:- Beginners / Novices / Experts - £16 entry fee  
Navigation will be tailored to suit the classes - Map 166 FEB 2018 required

Standard Navigation Guidelines for organisers – see regs for details

Mike Harrison ([mlh.bhm@btconnect.com](mailto:mlh.bhm@btconnect.com))

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

<https://rally.sapphire-solutions.co.uk/register.php?sitename=boundless>

Regs now available from Mike Biss or website

## NWL 12 Car Rally

Friday 5th April

The Farmers Boy PH, 216 Common Road, Kensworth, Dunstable LU6 2PJ

Map 166 / MR 028182

There will be three classes:- Beginners / Novices / Experts - £16 entry fee

Navigation tailored to suit classes - Map 166 FEB 2018 required

Standard Navigation Guidelines for organisers – see regs for details

Alan Thurbon ([alanthurbon@yahoo.com](mailto:alanthurbon@yahoo.com))

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

<https://rally.sapphire-solutions.co.uk/register.php?sitename=boundless>

Regs now available from Mike Biss or website

## NWL Clubnight - 2nd April

100 years of the Peking to Paris Motor Challenge

There will be a talk and film by Alan Smith describing how the competitors managed to reach Paris in 1907 when there were no maps, no roads nor petrol and his experiences marshalling in 2007 from the Russian border back to the finish in Paris.









**Boundless by CSMA – North West London Group**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday 5th March 2024**

**AGENDA**

***Agenda for the Annual General Meeting to be held at The Red Lion,  
56 London Road, Hemel Hempstead HP3 9TD and commencing at 8:30pm***

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the 2023 AGM
3. Matters arising
4. Chairman's report
5. Secretary's report
6. Treasurer's report
7. Election of Officers and Committee
8. Boundless by CSMA – Group's Charter
9. Open Forum
10. Any other business

**BOUNDLESS by CSMA**

**NORTH WEST LONDON GROUP**

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the North West London Group of Boundless by CSMA held on Tuesday 7th March 2023 at The Red Lion, London Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, commencing at 8.30pm.

Present were Mike Harrison (Chairman), Alan Thurbon (Secretary) and 14 other members and 2 guests,

**1. Apologies for absence**

Doug Harrison (Treasurer) and Suze Endean

**2. Minutes of the 2022 AGM**

These were circulated to the meeting, and along with all other reports were published in the Group Newsletter. The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed.

**3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising that would not be discussed later.

**4. Chairman's report**

This was presented to the meeting in written form and also circulated via the newsletter. The Chairman commented on the general good health of the Group and thanked his fellow Officers and Committee making special reference to Mike Biss for publishing our newsletter each month.

The Chairman also mentioned that CSMA will be celebrating its' centenary in 2023 and was very much looking forward to the many events and activities that are to be organised throughout the year. He was especially looking forward to the North West London Group celebration at the end of September.

**5. Secretary's report**

The Secretary's written report was also published in the newsletter and circulated to the meeting. As usual the tone of the report was very similar to that of the Chairman.

Thanks were extended to the tremendous work and support that our professional Member Communities team were providing and the superb programme of online Member Events that were being promoted for the entire Association membership to enjoy.

**6. Treasurer's report**

The Group accounts were circulated via the newsletter and made available to the meeting. They were accepted without comment.

**7. Election of Officers and Committee**

No written nominations had been received.

The following nominations were received from the 'floor':

- Chairman – Mike Harrison, proposed Pete Gregory, seconded Dave Smith
- Secretary – Alan Thurbon, proposed Mike Biss, seconded Ian O'Connor
- Treasurer – Doug Harrison, proposed Dave Robins, seconded Alan Robins

The following were proposed as Committee members for the coming year;

Mike Biss, Pete Gregory, Anne Graves, Ian O'Connor and Lorraine O'Connor.

It was proposed by Dave Smith and seconded by Trevor Miller that the above Committee members were voted 'en bloc'.

**8. CSMA Club Groups Charter**

The Charter was made available for all to view and was signed by the Chairman

**9. Open Forum**

Various suggestions for future Group visit and/or support included;

- Heritage body shells and parts at Whitney (Going ahead 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023)
- Tring Brewery
- Karting event – possibly investigate a different venue
- RAF Museum at Hendon with guide
- Mosquito Museum
- An Old Warden visit separate from the Centenary Celebration event
- Kew Gardens – making use of free admission
- Regents Park Open Air Theatre – not visited for many years
- Trial gliding evening
- Canal / boat trip to be investigated

**10. Any other business**

There was no further business

The meeting closed at 8.52pm

**Chairman** ..... **Date** .....

# **BOUNDLESS by CSMA**

## **NORTH WEST LONDON GROUP**

### **CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2023/2024**

Can I take the liberty and thank you in advance for attending our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday the 5th March 2024.

Well Covid is unfortunately still with us, although thank goodness not to the severity that it was during the pandemic.

However, I am very pleased to report that the group continues to go from strength to strength with clubnights well attended, although we could do with some younger members, although that seems to be typical of all clubs these days, be it motor clubs or a knitting club!

I must give my thanks and appreciation to my fellow committee members, with a special thanks to Alan Thurbon our secretary and to Doug Harrison our treasurer and not forgetting Mike Biss, our newsletter editor. All three are ably supported by the rest of the committee, Pete Gregory, Anne Graves and finally Ian and Lorraine O'Connor.

It falls to me, to remind you that without the committee, we wouldn't have a group and I thank them publically on your behalf, for all their hard work and commitment to the group over the past year.

I believe that the majority of you will agree that we manage to provide a varied and interesting series of clubnights and events that cater for most of you. As with previous AGMs, we will attempt to keep the formal proceedings as short as possible, followed by a short break to refill your glasses and then continue with a quiz to finish off the evening.

I am delighted to confirm that all current committee members have agreed to stand again this year, but we are always looking for new faces on the committee, especially as we have a vacant position at this time and of course this may well allow some of us old faces to stand down. Even if you are not interested in becoming a committee member, or can't for whatever reason find the time, if you have any new ideas etc., please do make these known to us. Your views and ideas are important to us.

Mike Biss has as ever, continued to do an amazing job with the newsletter and I must take this opportunity to thank Mike once again for the time and effort that he puts into what is an amazing group newsletter.

Mike would of course welcome articles on any subject for inclusion in the newsletter. The newsletter is still the most effective and best way of communicating to both the active and none active members of the group and of course the wider general membership, who are perhaps looking for something interesting to read.

Last year's 100 birthday celebrations were, in my opinion anyway, a huge success, with the celebratory dinner in Stratford upon Avon well attended, as were the special centenary events such as the flying day at Old Warden aerodrome. Unfortunately, our own weekend away in Bourton on the Water was cancelled due to a fire in the hotel kitchens. However, Alan our amazing Secretary managed to arrange us an alternative, a meal for all of us at very short notice at his golf club, which was enjoyed by all of us who managed to attend.

The 12 Car Rally series went well last year, although our first one this year in January had to be cancelled due to flooding. These 12 Car Rallies are still proving to be very popular.

Sadly, our series of grass autotests are still a problem; the one event we did manage to run, had to be stopped halfway through because of the farmer's concerns about the ground beginning to get badly cut up. So, if you know of a venue we might be able to use, please get in touch with Mike Biss.

The group visit to the Mosquito Museum at Hatfield was very well attended and we will be looking to run a similar event again, if we can this year.

Lastly, can I say a big thank you, to all of you, the ordinary members who manage to attend our activities and clubnights etc. Let us not forget that without your support, there would be no group and of course without the group, there would be no club.

I look forward to seeing you all face to face at the AGM on Tuesday the 5th March at the Red Lion at 8pm.

**Mike Harrison**  
**NWL Group Chairman**

## CSMA North West London - AGM Accounts for 2023

	2023		2022		
	Receipts	Payments	Receipts	Payments	
Balance brought forward	1,606.30		Balance brought forward	594.82	
Imprests	500.00		Imprests	600.00	
Volunteers Payment	600.00		Volunteers Payment	600.00	
Events Income	1,526.00		Events Income	2,317.70	
Travel & Meals		527.38	Travel & Meals	297.35	
Events Costs		2,115.65	Event Costs	2,157.93	
Room Hire		60.00	Room Hire	40.00	
Postage		8.00	Postage	4.95	
Stationery		0.00	Stationery	5.99	
Computer Supplies		0.00	Computer Supplies	0.00	
Balance carried forward*		1,521.27	Balance carried forward	1,606.30	
<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,232.30</b>	<b>£4,232.30</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,112.52</b>	<b>£4,112.52</b>
Budget for 2023 - £1,202.00			Budget for 2022 - £960.00		
Imprests claimed - £500.00			Imprests claimed - £600.00		

**Doug Harrison NWL Treasurer 03/23** \* Note Includes £600 Vol payment + £475 members Centenary dep



# **BOUNDLESS by CSMA**

## **North West London Group**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024**

#### **Secretary's Report**

With another year passing it is time to reflect on the happenings of 2023. The year was recognised by many as the centenary of our wonderful Association and many special events were held up and down the country to celebrate the occasion.

Most of these special events were organised and promoted by Nick Hoath and his team of Member Communities staff although many of the local Groups also put on their own celebrations. The really positive outcome of the organised events is that it has enhanced the Member Events programme for future years and is seen as a huge benefit for the members at large. This can be seen by the number of Member Events that get sold out in a very short period of time.

During the year our Chairman Mike has once again worked tirelessly to organise and provide activities for our continued enjoyment as well as keeping the rest of us on our toes. Doug continues to make a good job of Treasurer and has ensured we have always been financially viable. We would certainly be lost without the huge input from Mike B who not only publishes our Big End newsletter each month but also acts as our motorsport co-ordinator and normally helps organise many events along the way. The rest of the Committee, namely Anne, Lorraine, Ian and Pete are always around for committee meetings and contribute to the running of events and activities.

On the motorsport front we managed to organise and promote three 12 car rallies during the early months of 2023 and these were fairly well supported and favourably received. The events mostly used the wonderful 'Rally App' superbly put together by John Clavey and now seems to be the norm for our 12 cars, although it can eliminate the requirement for marshals which is currently being addressed so as not to lose the social aspect of these type of events.

We struggled once again to find a suitable field to run our grass autotests and whilst we did manage to find a venue that hopefully may have been suitable it had to be stopped at lunch because the land owner thought the field was cutting up too much.

Clubnights followed a very similar pattern to previous years and proved to be enjoyed by all who attended. We seem to have a very strong nucleus of regular supporters who come along to our functions and activities and have fun! That is the intention so let's hope it continues.

The 'Open Forum' section of the AGM Agenda is your chance to make some comments on the running and composition of our events and activities so please come along to the AGM with a few ideas that may help to inject some new active life into North West London Group.

Alan Thurbon  
NWL Group Secretary  
March 2024



# Diary NWL 2024



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

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

## March

**Fri 1st**     **NWL 12 Car Rally**  
**Sat 2nd**     F1 - Bahrain  
**Tue 5th**     **NWL Clubnight - AGM and Quiz - The Red Lion, HH**  
**Sat 9th**     F1 - Saudi Arabia  
**Thu 21st**    **NWL Chat and a Drink - The Red Lion, HH**  
**Sun 24th**    F1 - Australia  
**29th-31st**   WRC - Kenya

## April

**Tue 2nd**     **NWL Clubnight - Alan Smith Talk - The Red Lion, HH**  
**Fri 5th**     **NWL 12 Car Rally**  
**Sun 7th**     F1 - Japan  
**Thu 18th**    **NWL Chat and a Drink - The Red Lion, HH**  
**19th-21st**   WRC - Croatia  
**Sun 21st**    F1 - China

## May

**Sun 5th**     F1 - United States (Miami)  
**Tue 7th**     **NWL Clubnight - Walking Treasure Hunt - TBA**  
**10th-12th**   WRC - Portugal  
**Thu 16th**    **NWL Chat and a Drink - The Red Lion, HH**  
**Sun 19th**    F1 - Italy (Imola)  
**Sun 26th**    F1 - Monaco

Dates to reserve: