



# The Welsh Association of Motor Clubs

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## **SOUTHERN CENTRE General Meeting – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2014**

Held at the White Hall Hotel, Llandovery

**Present :** Paul Loveridge – WAMC Chairman, Neil Fuller- Southern Centre Chairperson, Jimmy Jones/Heather Rees-Jones – Forest Clubman/Club, Rebecca Richards – Southern Centre Secretary, Dorian Evans – Junior Championship, Chris Summerfield – DSO, Fran Davies Tarmac/KoE Championship Secretary, Ryland James – Go Motorsport, John Surridge – Road Rally Secretary, Rob Baldwin – Historic

**And representatives of the following clubs:** Ecurie Cymraeg, HOVAC, Forresters C.C, Lampeter & District MC, PTMC, GVMC, Amman & District MC, HRRCR, Ross & District MC, Ammanford MC, Sirhowy Valley MC, Brecon MC, Principality Automobile Club, Camarthern MC.

1. **Apologies:** Gethin Rees, Phil Jones, Geoff Field, Andrew Thomson, Jerry Herbert, Mike Taylor, Neil Henderson, Bath MC
2. **Minutes of last meeting.**  
Proposed Chris Summerfield Seconded Paul Loveridge
3. **Matters Arising**  
None.
4. **Road Rally Championship (John Surridge)**

The 2014 Championship has attracted 102 Registrations, 51 Drivers and 51 Navigators Following the Breidden, nine rounds of the Championship have now run and dropped scores come into play. The current leaders are Dude on 780 points followed by GT on 772 points. Wyn Owens is currently third with 747 points. Leading Navigators are Gwawr Hughes on 779 points, Dylan Jenkins, on 769 points, followed by Jenny Evans on 744 points

The annual Road Rally Organisers meeting was held at Llandrindod recently and was very well attended by Clubs from the Southern Centre. A report of the points discussed is being prepared and will be circulated to Clubs.

A competitor was excluded for a Give Way infringement on the Breidden, so lessons still need to be learned. The police presence on the event was well received and all seems to have gone well

### **5. Tarmacadam Championship (Fran Davies)**

Eight rounds of the Championship have now run, and leading the Drivers is Rob Tout with 173 points, Richard Merriman with 121 points, and Steve Davis with 119 points. In the Navigators we have Kath Curzon & Ian Meakin with 133 points and Sherryn Roberts with 129 points. With only

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the best 8 scores to count, dropped scores will come into play. The Under 25 Driver is been lead by Aaron Jones, and Sherryn Roberts is leading the Ladies award. The next round will be The Patriot Stages at Caerwent on the 28th of September

## 6. Forest Championship Clubman (Jimmy Jones)

The fifth round of the championship was the Woodpecker Stages run by Sixty & Worcestershire Motor Club on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> August with slightly over 50% of the championship contenders entering the event.

A couple of leading championship contenders had the misfortune to retire on the event which could well result in the championship not being decided until the final round.

James Nicholls and David Allman had a good run and have moved up the points table. They are a crew to keep a look out for as they don't need to drop any scores whilst the crews in front of them now have to start dropping their lowest scores.

Current Championship positions

|                    |                 |               |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Overall Leaders    | Simon Pickering | Colin Jenkins |
| Front Wheel Drive  | James Nicholls  | David Allman  |
| Rear Wheel Drive   | Simon Pickering | Colin Jenkins |
| Class 1            | Sion Ellis      | Tudur Rees    |
| Class 2            | Damian Thomas   | Tudur Rees    |
| Class 3            | Simon Pickering | Colin Jenkins |
| Class 4            | David Jones     | Glyn Price    |
| Class 5            | Graham Thatcher |               |
| Class 6            | John Baker      | Emyr Jones    |
| Under 25 Driver    | James Nicholls  |               |
| Under 25 Co Driver |                 | Tudur Rees    |
| Senior Driver      | David Jones     |               |
| Senior Co Driver   |                 | Glyn Price    |

David Jones & Glyn Price have won Class 4, Graham Thatcher has won Class 5 and Glyn price has also won the Senior Co Driver award in the championship.

## Remaining Championship Rounds

|                            |                   |                 |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 20 <sup>th</sup> September | Red Dragon Stages | Port Talbot M C |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> October   | Cambrian Rally    | North Wales C C |

## 7. Forest Championship National (Dave Evison) Chairman gave report.

Registrations for 2015, now closed stand at 86 (45 Drivers, 41 Co Drivers)

After 7 Rounds

Leading Overall Driver Luke Francis Co Driver John H Roberts

Grp N Driver Wug Utting Co Driver Chris Williams

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Leading Two Wheel Drive Matthew Robinson Co Driver Sam Collis

Leading Under 25 Driver James Hamer Co Driver Siobhan Pugh

Please visit the Championship Website for full details of points allocated to date.

The last championship round The Woodpecker had an entry of 158, leading championship contenders were Luke Francis/John Roberts taking their 4<sup>th</sup> maximum score of the year. The event started at Ludlow racecourse and featured stages in Hays Park, Wigmore & Radnor.

In August the championship returned to South Wales for the first time since 2011 for the Neath Valley Stages. The stages and format were well received by competitors, based in the Rheola Estate, the event featured stages in Rheola, Bryn and Margam.

Leading championship contenders were Luke Francis/John Roberts.

Note the event will be featured on Motors TV, 7:25 Special Stage Extra Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup>

September. You can also catch up with any championship rounds on "You Tube" Special Stage Extra.

The Overall Championship, Group N, 2WD and U25 categories will all be decided on the final round the Cambrian, in Llandudno, on the 18<sup>th</sup> October.

## 8. Historic Rally Championship (Rob Baldwin)

The Woodpecker round 7 of the championship took place last weekend and still has the TR7 V8 crew of Peter Jones and Graham Joseph leading the championship. As dropped scores now come into play (best 6 to count) crews are working out all the various combinations to see what can be achieved over the last 2 rounds

Top 5 positions overall

| Drivers             | Co-Divers         |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Peter Jones 162     | Graham Joseph 162 |
| Simon Pickering 139 | Colin Jenkins 140 |
| Jason Gardner 121   | Mike Crawford 104 |
| Steve Ward 101      | Graham Cox 100    |
| Ken Davies 95       | Alan Jones 95     |

Next round will be the Red Dragon on 20<sup>th</sup> September

## 9. King of Epynt (Fran Davies)

The final round of this championship was The Old Forge Garage Mewla Rally. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsor Dan Holley of Quantum Tuning, the clubs who have organised the events, and lastly the competitors who registered. Without these there would be no championship. The final results are provisional and the overall winning Driver is Rob Tout, with Ian Godney in second place and Stuart Bliss in third place. The overall winning Co-Driver is Jamie Vaughan, Sue Underwood in second place and Richard Suter in third place.

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## 10. Club Championship (Jimmy Jones)

|                          |     |                             |    |
|--------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|----|
| Swansea M. C.            | 343 | Clwyd Vale M. C.            | 39 |
| Forresters C. C.         | 284 | Newtown & Dist. A. C.       | 39 |
| Port Talbot M. C.        | 252 | Harlech & District M. C.    | 35 |
| Teify Valley M. C.       | 224 | Sixty & Worcs. M. C.        | 32 |
| Forest Of Dean M. C.     | 206 | Ecurie Cymraeg M. C.        | 31 |
| Welsh Border C. C.       | 186 | Weston-Super-Mare M. C.     | 31 |
| H. R. C. R.              | 176 | Cannock & Dist. M. C.       | 27 |
| Ammanford M. C.          | 165 | Ystrad Mynach M. C.         | 26 |
| Lampeter & Dist.M. C.    | 156 | Whitchurch M. C.            | 25 |
| B. A. R. C. (Wales)      | 119 | Matlock M. C.               | 20 |
| Dovey Valley M. C.       | 112 | Caernarfon & Anglesey M. C. | 18 |
| Maesteg M. C.            | 107 | Ross & District M. C.       | 18 |
| Carmarthen M. C.         | 106 | Taunton M. C.               | 13 |
| Ludlow Castle M. C.      | 99  | Bridgend A. C.              | 12 |
| Aberystwyth & Dist M. C. | 95  | I R D C                     | 11 |
| W. & S. S. C. C.         | 89  | Bristol M. C.               | 8  |
| Amman & Dist. M. C.      | 81  | Potteries & Newcastle M. C. | 8  |
| Chester M. C.            | 76  | Bala & District M. C.       | 7  |
| Heads of Valley A. C.    | 68  | Epynt M. C.                 | 7  |
| Llandysul M. C.          | 64  | Broughton & Bretton M. C.   | 6  |
| Brecon M. C.             | 63  | Pembrokeshire M. C.         | 5  |
| Gwendraeth Valley M. C.  | 63  | Warrington M C              | 4  |
| Kidwelly M C             | 63  | Quinton M. C.               | 2  |
| Herefordshire M. C.      | 59  | Stockport 061 M. C.         | 2  |
| North Wales C. C.        | 55  | South Hams M. C.            | 1  |
| Three Counties Car Club  | 53  | Tavern M. C.                | 1  |
| Southern C. C.           | 46  |                             |    |

## 11. Sprint & Hillclimb Championship (Wyn Edwards) – No Report

## 12. Junior Challenge (Dorian Evans)

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Sunday 19th July saw BARC's round of the WAMC Junior Challenge 2014 take place with their Sprint at Llandow.

Regular contenders Charlotte Phelps and Rheinallt George were joined by Claire Tooth in her Austin Mini.

Claire took second place points in her Junior Challenge class behind Charlotte, whilst Rheinallt took maximum points in his Challenge Class.

Charlotte again took maximum Team points for the day, but this time with her father John and not her brother Adam.

Following the cancellation of Bristol Motor Club's Autosolo at Mendips raceway the next event in the WAMC Junior Challenge will be Lancashire and Cheshire Car Club's Ty Croes Sprint on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of September, which will be a double header weekend.

The number of registrations stands at 11 for this year, which is down from last year, although 2 of the contenders have competed against each other more regularly so far this year than last.

The results are as follows:

## **Overall:**

|                  |    |
|------------------|----|
| Charlotte Phelps | 30 |
| Rheinallt George | 28 |
| Dafydd Evans     | 10 |
| Osian Davies     | 9  |
| Daniel Jones     | 8  |
| Claire Tooth     | 8  |
| Fiona Moss       | 7  |
| Gareth Parry     | 6  |
| Lewis Morgan     | 1  |
| Daniel Petrie    | 1  |
| Harry Whiting    | 1  |

## **Class JC2 1001 - 1600cc**

|                  |    |
|------------------|----|
| Charlotte Phelps | 60 |
| Daniel Jones     | 20 |
| Fiona Moss       | 19 |
| Claire Tooth     | 19 |
| Gareth Parry     | 18 |
| Harry Whiting    | 1  |

## **Class JC3 1601 - 2000cc**

|                  |    |
|------------------|----|
| Rheinallt George | 60 |
| Dafydd Evans     | 20 |
| Osian Davies     | 19 |
| Lewis Morgan     | 1  |
| Daniel Petrie    | 1  |

## **Team Championship**

|             |    |
|-------------|----|
| Team George | 28 |
|-------------|----|

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|                 |    |
|-----------------|----|
| Team Phelps     | 20 |
| Team Phelps (2) | 10 |
| Team Whiting    | 1  |

## **13. Pembrey Liaison Officer (Gethin Rees) Chairman gave report**

All good at Pembrey, the Motorsport Festival over the August Bank Holiday appears to have been a success. Kidwelly MCran their Motorkhana last weekend and again appears to have been well received. Next event for Pembrey is Camarthern MC Stage Rally on 12<sup>th</sup> October.

## **14. Epynt & Caerwent Liaison officer (Phil Jones) Chairman gave report**

No problems at present, waiting for a proposed date for the annual meeting in Sennybridge (October). The commander is looking closely at the damage to the loose road surfaces which is being maintained by the MOD and the cost of reinstatement. This may have implications for loose surface events on land under the control of the MOD in 2015.

Next event Caerwent: Patriot Stages 28<sup>th</sup> September

Next event Epynt: Rally of the Tests 1<sup>st</sup> November

## **15. Forestry Liaison Officer (Neil Henderson) Chairman gave report**

Quiet in the Forest of Dean at present and therefore nothing to report. The chairman added that there is a proposed Rally Time Trial for 5<sup>th</sup> October to be held at Chepstow Park Wood.

## **16. MSARLO (Andrew Thomson) chairman gave report**

We have had a number of events over the past few months and the new type of format for the Dyfed Powys area has been working well. A number of clubs have seen the benefits of this new structure.

Sadly the Barcud Road Rally was far from acceptable and there are issues from this event which are still ongoing but will be sorted out one way or another !!

The Principality Clubs "For the love of Dylan" Tour has now been cancelled due to a lack of entries.

The only other issues I have had is with the Woodpecker and the lack of paperwork and a strong lack of cooperation from Pete Wood himself !! Again this will be sorted one way or another.

Everything else seems to be going well in my area.

The annual Police meeting will be held late in October, so this is your chance to contact me if you have any issues or ideas which you may like brought up in this meeting ? Please contact me via email.

## **17. Cross Country (Jerry Herbert)**



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Round 4 of the MSA Britpart Cross Country Championship took place in Radnor Forest over the weekend 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> July. Good weather, a terrific service area and close racing promises a closely fought last two rounds.

Round 5, at Epynt, has been turned down last week by the MOD despite jumping through all their hoops in choosing Epynt. Our alternative venue had to be declined to avoid an MSA penalty, so another venue is being sought urgently. Unless the FLO/MSA can help out, we may be penalized for not running a round of the championship !! Round 5 in Cornwall on MOD land.

LARA update. Section 33/ Forestry LARA will be there to support clubs-in respect of Parliament. The WAMC will be making a donation and request that clubs also make a donation of £10 made payable to the WAMC. This will be added to the contribution that the WAMC will make as LARA is self funding. If the Bill goes through not only will motorsport be affected, but individuals will also. The Bill is at the 'reading' stage currently.

## **18. Go Motorsport (Ryland James)**

A number of clubs have run shows over the summer with a reasonable response. Congratulations to the clubs for doing this. If clubs are promoting motorsport activities in the future, please contact Ryland for some promotional literature.

NF- the best recruiting tool is to hold Autosolos to bring people into the sport. This is something that the Association does not do.

## **19. Correspondance**

Bob Long gave a report which he has also submitted to the MSA – Are there too many Stage Rallies.

After reading the topic in the summer 2014 magazine, page 18, I must agree with Mike Broad. There is far less volunteering making events within the UK. As an event organizer, mainly requesting marshalling assistance on the Epynt Hill Climbs, S&G Harry Flatters Rally & The Event Signs Woodpecker Stages over the last 10 years, it has been a massive task to get suitable safety cover for all three events.

With the added fuel and living costs, volunteers are not so forthcoming. As an event coordinator for marshals, rescue, recovery & medical cover, the task of event chief marshal and event safety officer, it brings much bigger problems when teams of marshals that like to stay together are asked to cover far more locations.

But when Wales Rally GB comes to the UK, marshalling cover is somewhat an easier task to allocate and manage, where you have many large teams assisting, but my following comments not only don't surprise me, but I beg to differ if the 2000+ marshals don't volunteer throughout the year, hence why I use the term 'Tabard carriers'.

I was once and not so long ago a stage commander for many years on WRGB, I have witnessed such 'carriers' and felt very unsatisfied with their efforts. Out of the some 500+ marshals that assisted on my stage, I would strongly advise, that only half that amount showed that marshalling was a role and not a free entry to the stage.

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I feel that the MSA, along with local associations should take heed of the very so growing 'lack' of marshal attending. Within the MSA, there are many departments that support, promote and assist competitors, but yet there neither is very little nor support for the ever so bigger problem that us event organisers face each event.

Over the many years that I have been involved within motorsport, I have a large database where I call off friends' assistance, but that list is getting much smaller due to commitments outside of motorsport. We have many events cancelling due to lack of entry's but I'm sure events will get to the point where a stage or the event will be unable to run due to the lack of marshalling cover. So what then?

JJ- more marshals will turn up for tarmac events rather than forestry so that they don't damage their cars. Competency – a marshals licence shows evidence of this.

PL- the marshals have to drive through the stage post event which can damage their cars with ruts etc.

NF- The MSA are asking what training marshal get in light of recent problems in motorsport. Costs are a problem for clubs as there are high costs involved in organizing and running an event. Marshals at Forrester's CC buddy up to use one car to get to events, the club will cover the cost of fuel for 1 day @ 30p per mile.

MW- Brecon have something similar

DT- MSA don't do enough

NF- clubs to approach training officers for either the North/South to deliver training. Clubs can make an application to the MSA to cover the cost of this training.

JJ- WAMC offered to run events for marshal training, but there was no uptake for this.

NF- clubs need to take responsibility for training of their marshals. The clubs can contact relevant specialists to bring into clubs to train people.

DE- at the last main meeting it was discussed that in the North West they hold a marshals draw.

SH- Goodwood require specialist marshals (trained). WRGB marshals register, the onus is in the individuals, not the clubs. Different for circuit marshals where they are required to undergo training (their details are held on a database)

PL- may need to be a financial incentive as the competitors are unaware of the costs involved with running an event (radios etc). MSA are looking into more events to use tracking, but this is not wholly the answer.

## 20. Club Official Changes

Lynwen Williams is now secretary for Ammanford MC

## 21. MSA Reports

PL- At the recent MSA regional meeting bringing marshals into the sport was discussed and is an ongoing issue. Tenders for championships are still ongoing. Radio tracking – 'Rallytrack' is also



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ongoing. Looking at the Australian system (cost per car). For more information [www.rallysafe.com](http://www.rallysafe.com). There is also a phone app for this.

## 22. AOB

JJ- Rescue and Recovery Units.

There are a large number of clubs, event officials, Stage commanders etc who do not know that the Rescue and Recovery Unit are manned by volunteers and should be treated in the same way as marshals. There is a slight difference in that these personnel have undergone specialist training to man these units. They have undergone the additional training in their own time and at their own expense in most cases. Please don't say to them 'you get paid for doing the job' as this is not correct.

Please give them the same respect as marshals and radio marshals. If there are event memorabilia etc, please include them in the distribution of such items.

The charge for the relevant unit is used to cover the running costs.

- a) Vehicle insurance and maintenance
- b) Replacement and updating of equipment
- c) Annual service and certificate of worthiness of equipment for insurance purpose
- d) Replacing equipment which has an expiry date

DE- different costs for forest events. Main meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> November Rob Jones will be there to answer questions.

BL- felt deflated after the last main meeting as his new club received very little support. The 4x4 club received more support.

Next round of seminars will be for Clerk of the Course and Stewards. Feb/March 2015 to be held in the Vale Hotel.

9<sup>th</sup> September there will be an officers meeting to discuss championships for 2015. There has been very little uptake (long standing events have not submitted any information to date). Clubs need to submit information to Jimmy Jones prior to the meeting September 9<sup>th</sup>. Other events are also to be submitted for next year's calendar.

Lack of representation at the main meetings from clubs at Llandrindod.

LW- need more information regarding workshops on roadrallying. Need to speak to Andrew Thomson on this matter.

DE-DSO training is needed for roadrallying.

Next Southern Centre meeting **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 20.00hrs.**