



OXFORDMOTORCLUB.CO.UK



News from your Committee

You may be aware that following our AGM the club is lacking a Chairman and Vice Chairman. Enter yours truly (Brian) who against his wife's better judgement has put himself forward as Acting Chairperson.

Our March meeting was held via Zoom once again and we were pleased to welcome four members as guests. If you wish to become involved with the committee or to assist with any of the club events, please make contact, brian@top-specs.com. The committee is in need of new blood, ideas and your assistance; the old guard can't serve the club to the best of its ability without your help.

Our guests took an active role in the meeting which went on to discuss many items including the following:

Sustainability in Motorsport

This big green issue is upon us and we have a small sub committee who are looking into this and will help to guide the club forwards.

The Way Forward

Under this heading we discuss the future of the club, its events and how we can progress. It is generally accepted that once we are allowed the club social evenings will include an event or

activity of some kind. There are several ideas and suggestions and even some volunteer organisers, so keep an eye open once we are allowed out to play.

Forthcoming Club Events

The club has three major events planned for 2021 as well as several others for your enjoyment and we are hopeful that restrictions will be lifted to allow them to take place.

<i>Bocardo Autosolo</i>	<i>25th April</i>
<i>OMC Clubnight</i>	<i>5th May</i>
<i>Bolero Autosolo</i>	<i>6th June</i>
<i>Grass Autotest</i>	<i>25th July</i>
<i>Akeman Road Rally</i>	<i>22nd August</i>
<i>Boanerges Autosolo</i>	<i>3rd October</i>

The Bocardo Autosolo has a full entry (with reserves) and any volunteers of assistance will be welcomed.

Further details will be forthcoming or available on the club web site.

– Brian Cammack

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Forthcoming Club Events

Bocardo Autosolo & Production Car Autotest – Sunday 25th April.

With the event being rounds of several Association Championships we expected this day to fill quickly and we were not disappointed – just over 24 hours to get a full entry of 45 and 7 reserves.

Unfortunately a lot of competitors, including Club members, were disappointed and this is likely to be repeated on all similar events as the season goes on. There will be more on this later.

As Brian said earlier, these events can only run if we get help from volunteers.

With careful Covid-19 management we can marshal the event with competitors but our main need will be for timekeepers although help on the Saturday afternoon set up would be appreciated.

At our last event, in October 2020, we tried out the Sapphire Solutions electronic timing system and it worked very well. The weather in the morning was atrocious but dried in the afternoon and a big thank you went to those who stood out in the rain.

The Sapphire system uses mobile phones and we are able to start, stop and record any penalties at the click of a button which does away with the need for physical timecards [another Covid regulation] and we can produce live results for organisers and competitors.

The system uses very little data on individual phones to operate and we have mains power on site

to recharge any failing batteries.

If anyone is able to help on the day even just for a few hours we would be extremely grateful, you can register your interest by logging onto

<https://autotest.sapphire-solutions.co.uk/marshalreg.php?sitenam=oxford>

In appreciation, we are giving registered helpers a meal voucher from our catering outlet.

Oxford Motor Club social evening 12 Car Rally – Wednesday, 5th May

Still in the planning stages this event will be a change from the usual Friday night bash and an attempt to generate interest in the monthly Club social evenings rather than just sitting in the pub – assuming one is open!.

A shorter route than the traditional rallies is planned for a 12 Car Navex (Navigational Exercise) and more details will be available as we progress. Keep an eye on the Club web site.

Bolero Autosolo & Production Car Autotest – Sunday 6th June

Some of you will remember the “Bolero” name from the Rally Time Trial we ran a few years ago at MOD Arncott and this event is an opportunity to keep the name alive.



With the CAR-nival events at Abingdon being postponed, apparently so Tom Hanks and Steven Spielberg can make a movie there about the Flying Fortress planes during the war, an opportunity arose to run another Club Autosolo and PCA.

As I said earlier non-championship competitors are finding it hard to get a drive so we are running this event purely for the benefit of those members and regular competitors on our events and it is not intended to be part of any championships.

Apart from that, all the same requirements for volunteers mentioned for the Bocardo apply and if you can help then register your interest in the same way.

Invitations to competitors and volunteers will be made immediately after the Bocardo and a reminder will be sent out at that time.

For the benefit of new members who may be unsure what it is all about or who may be wanting to dip a toe into the waters of competitive motorsport.

Our Autosolos are all forward timed tests around a course which is defined by numbered cones. Each test has three runs with the fastest two counting.

Classes are determined, not by experience, but by engine size and type [i.e. saloons, sports cars etc], and are suitable for all road going [and road legal] cars.

Minimum age for drivers is 14 but they must be accompanied by an experienced adult. Passengers are optional and all cars must be driven to the venue. Fortunately for a lot of people there is no maximum age

The PCA [Production Car

Autotest] allow younger members to take part [14 for drivers, 12 for passengers]. Passengers are compulsory. The PCA tests are the same as the Solo but the cars can be brought to the venue on a trailer.

Twisted Arms Grass Autotest - Sunday 25th July

Another regular event on the Club calendar which is well supported and greatly enjoyed.

Planning is still under way and details will be available as soon as possible.

For members who have not taken part before this is loosely based on an Autosolo but runs on grass. As you can imagine the weather is our main concern and is something we cannot control.

We run two simultaneous tests with drivers taking two timed runs each time then they are reversed giving a total of eight runs and it is a very enjoyable and, for some, a very competitive day. Again, we use the Sapphire system to time the event.

Before the pandemic this event also hosted the Club Barbeque as an appreciation to Club

members. We wait to see if this will be possible again this year.

Akeman Road Rally – Sunday 22nd August

A change from Autosolos and Autotests and another event that has become a regular part of the Club calendar.

A step up from a normal 12 car rally this event now runs as a 20/20 Road Rally. This is 20 cars, 20 controls and several special tests.

Brian is busy planning this for your enjoyment and as always details will be available nearer the date.

Boanerges Autosolo and Production Car Autotest - 3rd October

Repeat all I have written for the other Autosolos.

Another event that is part of several association championship and as we come towards the end of the competition year this one is usually well subscribed as drivers try to score those elusive points.

All these are set dates for your diaries but as well as volunteers to set up, marshals and

timekeepers we need event organisers to take on running some of these, and maybe more varied events for the enjoyment of members. Events such as 12 Car Rallies, Scatters, Navex's are always a welcome part of the calendar as are suggestions for the monthly social evenings.

We have experienced people who can mentor you in any discipline you favour so why not get in touch and get involved.

– John Blackwell

Club Championship



Now we are seeing the resumption of motorsport events don't forget to claim your points towards the Club Championship.

All the details of the scheme, a

list of all the nominated events for each discipline and a link to a claim form are on the web site.

During April we start with the Bath Autosolo on the 11th followed by the 'Get it Sideways' stage rally on the 17th and the Dolphin round of the CMSG Roadsport 12 Car on the 23rd.

Also, one aspect that is often overlooked, is that you can claim points for a whole host of Club activities so why not take a few

moments to get involved and join in the fun.

– John Blackwell