

MARSHALS POST



ISSUED BY SCOTTISH MOTORSPORT MARSHALS CLUB

No. 83 MAY 1997

OUT TO GRASS

Seeing young Birrell's letter on his retirement from rescue units has prompted me to write to the publication of which I was the Editor some 20-odd years ago! I too am retiring from rescue crew duties for similar reasons and with some regret. The years spent in the 'Old Transit' back in the late 1970's were a lot of fun and the camaraderie amongst all members of the crew over the years has been superb.

When you consider that the original Transit had an

equipment list the length of your fingernail rather than the length of your arm — it carried a toolbox, a grappling hook and rope — you can see the huge progress that the Club has made in the last 20 years. The SMMC units are recognised throughout the UK as some of the best-presented and always appear with an enthusiastic and thoroughly professional crew. Such professionalism is only achieved, for example, through the efforts of Frazer and my old sidekick, Andy

Main whose joint event attendances should be approaching 1000 in almost 25 years of SMMC — quite remarkable dedication to the cause.

After the Transit came the Sherpa in its garish orange and white livery, which really set the motorsport fraternity talking, particularly when the lads emerged from the van with their shoulder length locks, looking more like a rock band than a rescue crew (*see photo*). Once everyone realised that we were there in

the interests of safety and not just being a bunch of poseurs, many of the competitors became great supporters. I always remember the late Norrie Galbraith coming up to me with his subscription at the first sprint each season and saying "I hope that you're going to Rumster because if you're not, I'm not!"

With the Mitsubishi and the succession of Renaults, the Club has gone from strength to strength and the prospect of a continuing programme of replacement of rescue units shows how far it can go in the future.

As most of my time is now spent on SMRC activities, both as a Committee member and Clerk of the Course, I am glad that SMMC has forged strong links with SMRC. Co-operation between the Clubs is vital as they are far and away two of the most organised and forward-thinking Clubs in Scotland and working together can only be to the betterment of both.

I will always be a staunch supporter of SMMC and look forward to some sort of celebration of the first 25 years — how about a reunion dinner and a replay of the "Dingle Dangle" committee meeting. Ask Mike Gascoigne about that!

All the best for the next 25 years.
Mike How



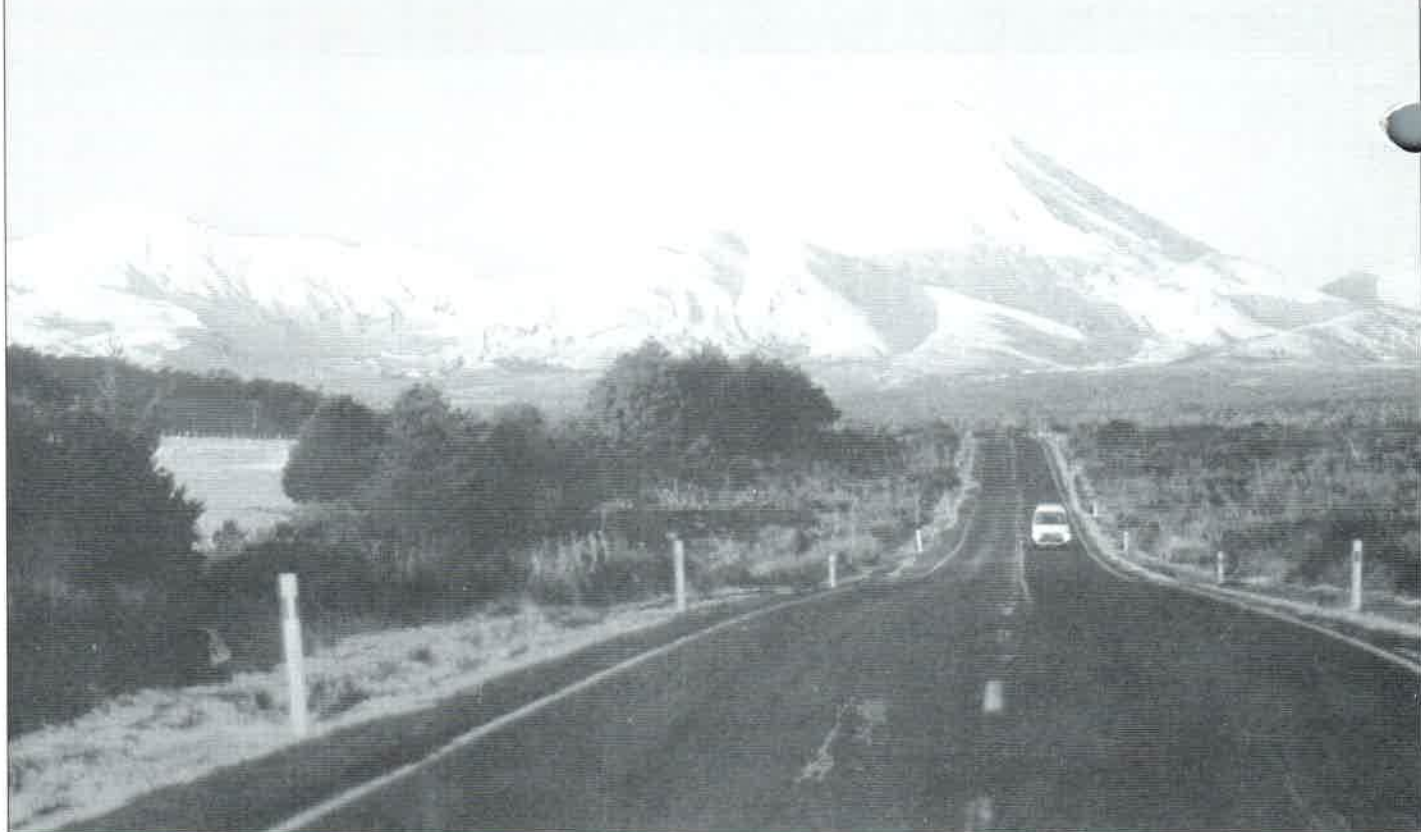
From our Antipodean Correspondent

Way back in MARSHALS POST No. 66, August 1991, a report was carried on the first stage of a world tour being carried out by Simon and Lorraine Lord. They had left Scotland just before the 1990 Scottish Rally and fourteen months later had reached New Zealand, from where Simon sent a fascinating article on motor sport in the southern hemisphere.

Two issues later and they were still there, having found the Cardrona Hotel at Otago but reporting that it had very little connection with forest stages. Now, five years later, they are . . . still there. It appears that the world tour has faltered just a little! Simon has sent the Club a postcard showing

Mount Ngaruhoe and Highway 47 with what at first glance looks like a rescue unit in the middle distance. But no, there's no light box and blues, so the Channel Islands remains the furthest point currently achieved by the Club.

Simon tells us that two children, re-building a house and a flourishing business have kept him off the stages and away from the circuits for a couple of years now. He still enjoys being kept in touch with the Club's progress through MARSHALS POST and would like to pass on his best wishes to other members. Many thanks for your continuing interest, Simon and don't be shy about letting us have a further article for the Club magazine!!



1997 Season Club Calendar

A number of alterations have been made to scheduled events by organising clubs since the SMMC Calendar was issued in February. The events list, set out by category, is now accurate at the date of publication of MARSHALS POST 83 but of course is still subject to change if the event organisers so decide.

The dates of the amended events or those which have been added are shown here in italics.

Would members note also that the closed Hill Climb at Doune, due to have been held next Sunday, 11 May 1997 has been cancelled.

RALLIES

18 May	Stobs Stages
6 Jun	Scottish (Int.)
7 Jun	Scottish (Int.)
14 Jun	SV, Charterhall
4 Jul	Jim Clark Memorial
5 Jul	Jim Clark Memorial
6 Jul	Jim Clark Memorial
16 Aug	McRae Motorsport Stages
13 Sep	Elgin Stages
14 Sep	Kingdom Stages
4 Oct	Alno
17 Oct	Tour of Mull
18 Oct	Tour of Mull
19 Oct	Tour of Mull
22 Nov	Network Q RAC
23 Nov	Network Q RAC
24 Nov	Network Q RAC
7 Dec	Galloway Hills

TEST SESSIONS

10 May	Knockhill (SMRC)
30 May	Knockhill (BRSCC)
31 May	Knockhill (BRSCC)
14 Jun	Knockhill (SMRC)
1 Jul	Knockhill (TOCA)
2 Jul	Knockhill (TOCA)
3 Jul	Knockhill (TOCA)
4 Jul	Knockhill (TOCA)
30 Jul	Knockhill (TOCA)
31 Jul	Knockhill (TOCA)
23 Aug	Knockhill (SMRC)
20 Sep	Knockhill (SMRC)
11 Oct	Knockhill (SMRC)

SPRINTS

18 May	Jurby, Isle of Man
1 Jun	East Fortune
28 Jun	Knockhill
29 Jun	Alford
15 Aug	Kirkistown, N. Ireland
17 Aug	Nutts Corner, N. Ireland

HILLRALLIES

Jul 11)	GKN Drive Line Scottish
Jul 12)	GKN Drive Line Scottish

RACE MEETINGS

11 May	Knockhill (SMRC)
31 May	Knockhill (BRSCC)
1 June	Knockhill (BRSCC)
15 June	Knockhill (SMRC)
6 Jul	East Fortune (SMRC)
10 Jul	Silverstone (British G.P.)
11 Jul	Silverstone (British G.P.)
12 Jul	Silverstone (British G.P.)
13 Jul	Silverstone (British G.P.)
1 Aug	Knockhill (TOCA)
2 Aug	Knockhill (TOCA)
3 Aug	Knockhill (TOCA)
24 Aug	Knockhill (SMRC)
6 Sep	Croft (BRDC)
7 Sep	Croft (BRDC)
21 Sep	Knockhill (SMRC)
28 Sep	Jurby, Isle of Man (SMRC)
12 Oct	Knockhill (SMRC)

HILL CLIMBS

11 May	Fintry
15 May	Lerghy Frissel Moor, I o M
16 May	Lerghy Frissel Beg, I o M
17 May	Lerghy Frissel Beg, I o M
25 May	Rumster
8 Jun	Durris
15 Jun	Fintry
21 Jun	Doune (Nat.)
22 Jun	Doune (Nat.)
24 Jul	Bouley Bay, Jersey (Nat.)
26 Jul	Le Val des Terres, Guernsey (Nat.)
10 Aug	Forrestburn
16 Aug	Craigtlet, N. Ireland
24 Aug	Fintry
7 Sep	Durris
14 Sep	Forrestburn
20 Sep	Doune (Nat.)
21 Sep	Doune (Nat.)
27 Sep	The Sloc, Isle of Man

SUPER BIKE MEETINGS

8 Aug	Knockhill (Int.)
9 Aug	Knockhill (Int.)
10 Aug	Knockhill (Int.)

Glenrothes Motorsport Club

Crail Stages — 22nd March 1997

Many thanks for attendance of the SMMC Rescue unit at yesterday's event. As you will no doubt have heard, we did have an incident which required the attendance of the Unit, although we were fortunate that the injuries were not too serious. Please pass our thanks to Andrew and Geoff for their assistance. I believe the Scottish Ambulance Service crew were impressed at their professionalism when they met the SMMC Unit at the agreed Rendezvous point.

We were generally happy with the running of the event, although we recognise that there is always room for improvement. If you, Geoff or Andrew have any comments to make regarding the running of the rally, then we would be pleased to take these on board prior to our next event.

We will be running the Kingdom Stages at the same venue in September. However, the originally planned date of the 14th apparently clashes with an event being run by 63 Car Club near Elgin, so we may have to move our event to a more suitable date. We would like an SMMC Rescue unit to attend if possible, and will be in touch as soon as we have fixed the date.

Yours sincerely,

Paddy McKay,
Safety Officer.
Kirkliston.

Ed. Note — The revised Club calendar, printed this issue, shows that the Elgin Stages now is on 13 September with the Kingdom Stages on 14 September.

Items for publication to MARSHALS POST do not have to be formal articles or letters. The Editor would like to keep a type of regular 'notice board' column for all sorts of mixed topics.

Suggestions might be: ideas for discounted goods, clothing or services that the club could arrange, marshalling tips or experiences, articles for sale, personal snippets about relevant job, home or family changes and so on.

MARSHALS POST is here to cover and reflect everything that affects the Club, its Members and the sport — please broaden its scope by contributing even in a small way.

Opinions stated are contributors' own unless otherwise indicated.

The deadline for the next issue is the first week of August 1997 so there is ample time to send material to the Editor at Club HQ, at the address below.

Fancy Kart Marshalling?

Two years ago, members were invited to consider helping trackside, at a Pro-Kart 24 hour endurance event. We have no feedback on the interest shown at that time, but in the spirit of bringing a variety of motor sport events to the Club membership, MARSHALS POST can give details of request made by Kingdom Kart Klub (sic) for members to consider helping at their monthly kart meetings which are held at Crail, Anstruther, Fife.

The remaining dates for the season are 18 May, 22 June, 20 July, 24 August, 21 September, 19 October and 16 November. It should be noted that several of these Sundays contain events which are well established in the SMMC calendar and for which trackside marshalling is required as a matter of course — and preference. At Crail, sign-on is at 0930 with practice starting at 1000 and an anticipated finish time of 1800/1830.

If any member is interested in helping at a kart meeting, please contact KKK's competition secretary Mrs Kath Taylor, 4 Nobel Place, Roslin, Midlothian, EH25 9NN (Tel: 0131-440 1601).

MARSHALS POST is the Club Magazine of

SCOTTISH MOTORSPORT MARSHALS CLUB

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