



Newsletter



Issue 07 Oct 2006



2007 Calendar Options Considered

At the recent meeting in Luton, the M7RC committee agreed a clear brief for next year's race calendar.

As in previous years, Bill Sollis will coordinate with the various stakeholders to pull together a calendar that will ideally include:-

- 10-12 rounds over 8 weekends,
- Season to start in April and end at the end of September.
- One international event. Spa, Zolder or Mondello are options.
- Long distance races to be at the start of the season to help maximise grids.
- Cadwell Park should be considered as feedback from members indicates strong interest in this circuit despite some safety reservations.
- Bill Sollis will hopefully be able to provide an update on the calendar at the ATD.

Contacts

Mike

Jackson

0121 707 5881

Thejackson7@hotmail.com

Jeff

Carter

Motion Works

01327 856024

jeff@motion-works.co.uk

www.mini7.co.uk

MSV AUTUMN TROPHY

We have been invited by Dave Scott / MSV to two meetings in November, as part of their Autumn Trophy races.

Snetterton – November 4th & 5th
Brands Hatch – November 11th & 12th

The races will be either Saturday or Sunday. 15 minutes qualifying and 2 x 15 minute races with a split grid of 7's & Miglias.

The entry cost would be:

Snetterton: Entries £185 each – if we get 35 or more cars (38 allowed) competitors get £35 back on the day)

Brands: Entries £210 each – if we get 28 or more cars (32 allowed) competitors will get £25 back on the day)

Please indicate your level of interest and we will advise MSV accordingly and send out entry forms in late October

Chairman's Chat.....

Another *Chairman's Chat* and it only seems like yesterday when I was writing the last one. Croft has been and gone and now we are looking forward to the double header at Rockingham. This should be the highlight of the Club's social calendar (besides the racing of course) with the 40th anniversary BBQ. A big thank-you to Ralph and his 'band' of helpers for making this happen. Please, please, please.....support it. If you haven't already pledged your interest in buying tickets, then contact Ralph at PITSTOPRALPH@aol.com. Not only has Ralph organised a great 'spread', but drinks and music are included in the ticket price. We are still looking for raffle prizes, so yet again please support by donating something ~ bottle of whatever, free graphic design, accountancy services, whatever is your 'forte'. Let's hope for good weather and a great evening.

Since the last chat, the Committee have met to discuss various topics, some of which were mentioned previously i.e. the S class and the 'one point for early entry'. I decided to invite Ralph, not only because of his assistance in organising the BBQ, but because of his involvement in preparing cars for the S class. It was agreed that in principal the idea behind the S class was still sound, namely encouraging newcomers to the Club by offering a less 'fragile' engine format but with still a competitive 'edge'. Ralph and others agreed that some facets of the S class, mainly the 7 S class, needed some revision and a separate working group was formed with this in mind. It must be remembered that this is the first year for the S class, so it's not surprising that some things need to be reviewed, also it must be remembered that four cars have been prepared ~ successful when compared with other new formulae that were introduced this year! The results of this working group will be announced at the Annual Technical Meeting (ATM) on 18 November. Details of this event, along with the Annual Awards Ceremony, will be sent out (if not already) in the next day or so.

On the subject of the 'one point for entry on time', it was decided to continue with this in 2007. Although difficulties have arisen, it was decided to amend the 2007 regulations to improve the understanding. Another suggestion was to set up a system for one postal address for entries to then be forwarded to the organising Club. I'm sure that there will be more on this subject either in AOB at the ATM or at the Annual General Meeting in early 2007.

The topic of Communication within the Club was also discussed at length ~ the main issue being incorrect e-mail addresses. It is up to the Club Members to inform Mike Jackson or Sharon if their e-mail address has changed (common sense really) ~ the Committee are not telepathic! To send out newsletters by e-mail obviously saves on time and postal costs, but it is understandable that some Members haven't e-mail facilities and posting is the only solution. So when you join in 2007, please make sure your details are correct. More again on this subject in the future. Social Membership has also become a concern, Jeff Carter and Steve Whiteley have some ideas to introduce a Supporters Club.

Race reports have been a concern recently and Roy Sisley has returned to help us on a hopefully permanent basis ~ thanks Roy. So please give Roy time in the paddock when he asks for some details of 'this, that and the other'. It does make the report far more interesting to know why race number X pulled off on lap three. Talking about race members, it is good to see Sarah on the Rockingham entry list again.

Just two more items before I 'close down' ~ the distribution of Headers and Door squares has been looked after by Genny Gunn in the past. This is not totally ideal, especially if something happens at the circuit when these items are required. So Mike and Alan Jackson will also carry Se7en and Miglia Headers and Doors Squares. Genny will also send these items out if required, say over the Winter period when a rebuild might take place. Genny's details are available on the forum.

Finally I received a letter from Jill Bray thanking the Club for the donation to Mickey's chosen charity. Jill also thanked the Club for the wonderful years that Michael spent racing. Jill said that he was 'tickled pink' to receive the Spax Trophy last season. As a result, Mickey asked that a donation of £500 should be given at a rate of £100 per year to the winner of the Spax Trophy. With the Annual Awards Ceremony approaching, it is probably a good idea to return any trophies that require returning, Spax Trophy being one such Trophy, to Mike or Alan Jackson.

See you all at Rockingham.

Nick Cooke



Contacts

**Mike
Jackson**

0121 707 5881
Thejackson7@hotmail.com

**Jeff
Carter**

Motion Works
01327 856024
jeff@motion-works.co.uk

Round 10 / 11 - Rockingham

7th/8th October 2006

A return to the UK's fastest race circuit for the final Thunder Sunday event of 2006. As well as the high speed oval races for the SCSA Stock Cars and the Pickup Trucks, the new 1.949-mile International Super Sportscar Circuit, first used in August for the Avon Tyres British GT Championship will once again see action this weekend.

The new circuit essentially uses the International Circuit layout but incorporates the bike link so the cars rejoin at the bottom of Turn 4 and then run round Turn 1, missing out the Turn 1 Chicane. In August the new layout got the thumbs up by the British GT competitors and British F3 are looking to do a full test of the new layout with a possible return to Rockingham in 2007 if successful.



Other championships taking to the track this weekend are the BRSCC Formula Jedi, VSR V6, Silhouette and Super Silhouette championship and, of course, the stars of the show the Dunlop Mini Miglia and Mini Se7en Challenges.

Testing at Rockingham

A 30 minute session has been added to the Rockingham timetable for those wishing to get used to the new layout. The cost is £35 and if you plan to participate, please ensure your payment is made direct to Mike Jackson who will be situated in the paddock

Contacts

Mike Jackson
0121 707 5881
Thejackson7@hotmail.com

Jeff Carter
Motion Works
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PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Saturday 7th October

09.00-09.30 Open Mini's untimed
09.40-10.00 Jedi's qualifying
10.15-10.35 Mini Se7ens qualifying
10.45-11.00 VSR qualifying
11.15-11.30 Mini Miglias qualifying
11.35-12.05 LUNCH
12.10-12.40 SCSA untimed
12.45-13.15 Pickups qualifying
13.25-13.55 SCSA untimed
14.00-14.30 Pickups qualifying
14.40-14.55 SCSA qualifying
Race 1 VSR, Silhouettes 15 mins
Race 2 Mini Se7en 20 mins
Race 3 Jedi's 20 mins
Race 4 Mini Miglia 20 mins

Sunday 8th October

10.00-10.20 Jedi's qualifying
Race 5 VSR, Silhouettes 15 mins
Race 6 SCSA 25 laps
Race 7 Pickups 35 laps
12.40-13.20 Lunch and displays
Race 8 Mini Miglia 20 mins
Race 9 Jedi's 20 mins
Race 10 Mini Se7en Race 20 mins
Race 11 VSR, Silhouettes 15 mins
Race 12 ASCAR 35 laps
Race 13 Pickups 35 laps

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE M7RC COMMITTEE WORKSHOP

13th September 2006 – Swallow Hotel, Luton

A full committee discussion on "whats working, whats not" was held on the evening of Wednesday 13th September.



Positives: On the positive side, grid sizes up 2% year on year, high quality of racing and car prep, internal communication, website and Dunlop support were highlighted as some of the positives as we move forward into 2007.

S Class: Much discussion was held on the S Class, there was general agreement that we have the concept right (a lower cost / complexity formula Vs Mini7 targeted to attract new members) and a "great car to drive" there was agreement that some tweaks to the regulations that would help us better achieve our aims.

Owen, Ralph and Andy Ruthven will prepare some recommendations and send out for discussion ahead of the ATD on November 18th.

Newsletters: Next up for discussion was the distribution of newsletters and race reports. On newsletter distribution issues we are looking at improvements here to make sure as many of the members are reached electronically to reduce the costs involved. Part of this discussion included the possibility of being able to join online.

One point for entering on time: Agreement here was that the concept had worked but the admin could be improved if all entries could be sent to one person and the list of entries received on time made public. We will aim to deliver this improvement in 2007.

Social membership: The issue being how to increase our membership base. Jeff Carter presented some initial ideas that would deliver better value and create more excitement. These will be presented at the ATD.

Other items identified as "not working" included the lack of big money sponsors, for many, another was the opportunity to better define roles and process to deliver the year.

O Plate was felt not to have been a terrific success. There was also a view that the website could be improved with a non members forum.

Finally, race programmes and trackside commentary could be improved, including clearer distinction and stand out for the S Class.

The meeting finished at a very reasonable 11.30pm!

Contacts

**Mike
Jackson**

0121 707 5881

Thejackson7@hotmail.com

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Carter**

Motion Works

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jeff@motion-works.co.uk

October Caption Competition



Who can come up with the best caption for this picture?

Post your captions on the Mini 7 forum or email them to Jeff Carter at the address opposite and keep them clean!

(Picture by Paul Vickers / Racing Line Photography)

See more of Paul's images in the gallery section at www.mini7.co.uk.

TV Update

The two races at Croft were filmed by Greenlight TV and edited highlights will be aired on a 30 minute programme on Motors TV.

The club has also received confirmation that the races at Donington will also be filmed and again aired on Motors TV.

Dunlop has also agreed to put together a promotional DVD that the club can use to attract sponsors for 2007.

Testing at Donington

The Club have arranged for a 15-minute test session for Donington.

The cost is £35 and if anybody wants to participate they should send a cheque to Sharon Smith prior to the event or Paul Mike Jackson on the day.



Contacts

Mike Jackson
0121 707 5881
Thejackson7@hotmail.com

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Mini Miglia Championship Table After Round 9

1	Bill SOLLIS	164
2	James HALL	158
3	Kelly ROGERS	133
4	Mark SIMS	132
5	Tim SIMS	130
6	Colin PEACOCK	124
7	Tony LE MAY	122
8	Ralph SAUNDERS	113
9	Paul WOODBRIDGE	108
10	Gordon POCOCK	79
11	Philip LEE	76
12	Phil HARVEY	63
13	Gerald DALE	56
14	Paul SIMMONDS	49
15	Andrew HACK	43
16	Paul BAIRD	37

Mini Se7en Championship Table After Round 9

1	Andrew DEVINY	181
2=	Paul THOMPSON	173
2=	Geoff LETTS	172
4	Max HUNTER	155
5	Paul CLARK	131
6	Alan LETTS	103
7	Paul SPARKS	98
8	Graeme DAVIS	92
9=	Damon ASTIN	90
9=	Dick HUNTER	90
11	Kane ASTIN	73
12=	Ian DEVINY	50
12=	Ricky HORNE	50
14	Lee JONES	49
15	Mark SMITH	48
16	Anthony TOWEY	45

DUNLOP MINI MIGLIA CHALLENGE

Round 9

CROFT – Sunday 10th September 2006

Hall Celebrates Maiden Win as Sollis is Penalised

James Hall recorded his first Miglia victory after the race stewards imposed a time penalty on Bill Sollis for bypassing the chicane on two successive laps.

Sollis made the best start to lead into Clervaux ahead of pole man Hall, Colin Peacock, Kelly Rogers, Ralph Saunders and Paul Woodbridge. Bill Sollis and James Hall were soon dicing in close company, with Rogers in pursuit after he passed Peacock exiting the Hairpin for 3rd on lap two. Behind them Mark Sims rose to 5th ahead of Saunders and Tony Le May.

The leading quartet had closed up, with Sollis finding himself under considerable pressure. Exiting Hawthorn on lap 6, Sollis opted to bypass the chicane leading on to the back straight, a manoeuvre he repeated a lap later.

The 5th place scrap saw Sims fending off Le May, who had passed Saunders, without being able to shake him off his tail. The close dices continued all the way down the order, with Philip Dale, on his Miglia debut, holding onto 10th despite the close attentions of Paul Simmonds and Steve Whitely.

Likewise Paul Baird and Phil Harvey were providing great entertainment as they diced over 14th place, with Baird eventually triumphing by just 0.146 of a second.

Sollis crossed the line two tenths ahead of Hall, with Rogers and Peacock close behind. However Sollis, by missing the chicane twice, was judged to have gained an unfair advantage and was handed a half second penalty which reversed the top two placing in Hall's favour.

POS	NO	DRIVER	TIME	LAPS	GAP	MPH	BEST
1	21	James HALL	16:23.130	10		77.88	1:37.203
2	3	Bill SOLLIS	16:23.330	10	0.200	77.87	1:37.271
3	2	Kelly ROGERS	16:23.779	10	0.649	77.83	1:37.055
4	83	Colin PEACOCK	16:25.090	10	1.960	77.73	1:37.310
5	6	Mark SIMS	16:36.944	10	13.814	76.80	1:38.299
6	69	Tony LE-MAY	16:39.050	10	15.920	76.64	1:38.369
7	7	Ralph SAUNDERS	16:40.075	10	16.945	76.56	1:38.427
8	39	Paul WOODBRIDGE	16:46.155	10	23.025	76.10	1:39.227
9	15	Gordan POCOCK	16:47.724	10	24.594	75.98	1:39.061
10	18	Philip DALE	16:56.244	10	33.114	75.34	1:40.250
11	42	Paul SIMMONDS	16:57.623	10	34.493	75.24	1:39.898
12	17	Steve WHITELEY	16:59.613	10	36.483	75.09	1:39.929
13	28	Phil LEE	17:05.419	10	42.289	74.67	1:40.881
14	33	Paul BAIRD	17:28.730	10	1:05.600	73.01	1:42.861
15	13	Phil HARVEY	17:28.876	10	1:05.746	73.00	1:42.668

Fastest Laps

2	Kelly ROGERS	1:37.055	7	126.97kph	78.89
13	Phil HARVEY	1:42.668	2	120.02kph	74.58

Contacts

Mike

Jackson

0121 707 5881

Thejackson7@hotmail.com

Jeff

Carter

Motion Works

01327 856024

jeff@motion-works.co.uk

DUNLOP MINI SE7EN CHALLENGE

Round 9

CROFT – Sunday 10th September 2006



Andrew Deviny maintained his impressive run to record another victory at Croft, a circuit he won at on the championships last visit in 2003. Paul Thompson and Max Hunter dived throughout the race for the other podium positions, with Hunter gaining the upper hand by the chequered flag.

Deviny led the field away at the start ahead of Thompson, Max Hunter, Dick Hunter, Alan Letts, Ian Deviny and Paul Spark. Geoff Letts, who had experienced some problems in qualifying which left him back on the 6th row, was quickly rising up the order and was in 6th place by the end of lap 2. Thompson recorded the fastest lap of the race as he defended 2nd place from Max Hunter on lap 4.

Behind them Dick Hunter was being reeled in by Geoff Letts, with brother Alan holding off Paul Spark. On lap 7 Max Hunter finally got a run on Thompson at Tower to move into second place only to lose the place at the same place the very next lap.

Geoff Letts gained another place, moving ahead of Dick Hunter at Barcroft but Hunter fought back as he found Alan Letts and Paul Spark attached to his boot lid. These four battled in close formation over the closing stages of the race.

At the front Deviny continued to pull away from the chasing pack as Max Hunter mounted a last lap challenge on 2nd place. Hunter passed Thompson on the entry to Sunny only to drift wide which allowed Thompson to draw alongside his rival. Hunter claimed the advantage by holding the inside line into the Complex. Spark briefly held 6th after passing Alan Letts at Hawthorn only to see his rival fight back and regain the place at Barcroft.

At the flag it was Andrew Deviny ahead of the battling duo of Max Hunter and Paul Thompson, with Geoff Letts securing 4th, an impressive fight back from a lowly start position.

POS	NO	DRIVER	TIME	LAPS	GAP	MPH	BEST
1	2	Andrew DEVINY	17:44.110	10		71.95	1:45.334
2	46	Max HUNTER	17:47.298	10	3.188	71.74	1:45.236
3	1	Paul THOMPSON	17:48.275	10	4.165	71.67	1:45.185
4	3	Geoff LETTS	18:03.978	10	19.868	70.64	1:46.775
5	71	Dick HUNTER	18:04.499	10	20.389	70.60	1:47.189
6	7	Alan LETTS	18:08.381	10	24.271	70.35	1:47.104
7	35	Paul SPARK	18:09.854	10	25.744	70.25	1:47.248
8	50	Ian DEVINY	18:17.349	10	33.239	69.77	1:48.160
9	5	Kane ASTIN	18:18.483	10	34.373	69.70	1:47.467
10	23	Ricky HORNE	18:34.768	10	50.658	68.68	1:49.025
11	77	Tristen KNIGHT	18:35.444	10	51.334	68.64	1:48.455
12	22	Graeme DAVIS	18:40.773	10	56.663	68.32	1:47.662
13	26	Lee JONES	18:51.847	10	1:07.737	67.65	1:50.408
14	34	Anthony TOWEY	18:52.420	10	1:08.310	67.61	1:49.388
15	99	Tim JOSLYN	19:17.258	10	1:33.148	66.16	1:52.083
16	8	Damon ASTIN	18:56.177	8	2 LAPS	53.91	1:50.300
Not Classified							
	20	Darren THOMAS	7:50.734	4	D.N.F.	65.06	1:52.110
	24	James BOWERS COULSON	5:56.028	3	D.N.F.	64.52	1:51.599
	21	Paul CLARK	3:52.762	2	D.N.F.	65.79	1:49.036
Fastest Lap							
	1	Paul THOMPSON	1:45.185	4	117.15kph	72.79	

Contacts

Mike

Jackson

0121 707 5881

Thejackson7@hotmail.com

Jeff

Carter

Motion Works

01327 856024

jeff@motion-works.co.uk



Annual Trophy Award Dinner and Technical Discussion

DATE
Saturday 18th November

VENUE
Paramount Hotel in Daventry

TICKETS
Tickets will be available from Sharon Smith at Rockingham

Pictures of the Month



Contacts

Mike Jackson
0121 707 5881
Thejackson7@hotmail.com

Jeff Carter
Motion Works
01327 856024
jeff@motion-works.co.uk

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RACE REPORT UPDATE

Roy Sisley has kindly agreed to supply race reports for this newsletter and the website for the rest of 2006 and for 2007.

A media pass will be sorted out for Roy for each of the events and please continue to give him your full support.

2006 Racing Calendar

Round 1	April 1 st & 2 nd	Snetterton
Rounds 2 & 3	April 29 th , 30 th May 1 st	Brands Hatch Castle Combe
Rounds 4 & 5	June 2 nd – 4 th	Spa, Belgium
Round 6	June 23 rd – 25 th	Silverstone International
Round 7 & 8	July 16 th	Brands Hatch
Round 9	Sept 9 th & 10 th	Croft
Rounds 10 & 11	Oct 7 th & 8 th	Rockingham
Round 12	Oct 21 st & 22 nd	Donington Park

PARTY TIME

PLACE: *The Race Paddock, Rockingham Motor Speedway*

DATE: *Saturday 7th October*

COST: *£5.00 per head*

Remember it is the 40th Anniversary Bar-B-Q at Rockingham this Saturday.

If you haven't already got your tickets contact Nick Cooke or Ralph Saunders. Alternatively you can buy your ticket on the day but please buy in advance if you can so we can a better idea of numbers attending.

Nick Cooke on 07850 454826

OR

Ralph Saunders - PITSTOPRALPH@aol.com