

October 2007

South Hants Model Car Club

www.shmcc.org

Racer's Edge- The SHMCC newsletter

Welcome to your new look newsletter. Each month (or thereabouts) we'll be bringing you news and info about your club.

First up you'll notice the brand new SHMCC logo which has been kindly designed by one of our members, Mike Young. Many thanks to Mike for the hard work he's put in to create the new logo. Those of you who know Mike and his son Mark, will have seen them both sporting the new logo on their T-shirts. If you want one as well just let us know and we'll get hold of them.

Secondly, the more eagle eyed of you will have noticed our new web address. The new address has dropped the .uk suffix and is now simply www.shmcc.org. Once again it is down to the hard work of club members who maintain the website and have organised the new address. Martin and Adam Smith thank you for the exciting new look and constant updates. In fact I get in trouble with Martin if I don't send him the weekly race results!

OK, so new logo, new website, new newsletter, what else? Well we've run two major race meetings over the summer (in between downpours!) Firstly the Southern League Challenge Cup (SLCC) came into town way back in June. The weather was very kind to us and we were all in shorts and t-shirts for the first time since April. The famous South Hants BBQ proved its popularity again with burgers and sausages provided by Mark "chopper" Jones and expertly cooked by our team of volunteers led by our very own naked chef Owen Isaacs. As part of the racing, the cars for the bigger meetings, must be scrutineered, that is to say they must conform to strict weight, motor and tyre rules. Just like in F1, and not dissimilar to the slick teams of McLaren and Ferrari, Col and her team of scrutineers did a fantastic job in some very hot conditions.

So how was the racing? Well lap records fell in qualifying in 27T and 19T. 20 laps in stock was the norm for the top boys and 21 laps in 19T. It was only a couple of years ago that I broke the 20 lap barrier with a 19T motor, now the stock drivers are doing it! It goes to show the advances in motor, battery and car technology as well as the increase in driver ability in a very short stretch of time. All the details are available on the SLCC website and some photos of the event are available on our new website. Did I mention we had a new website?

After the cancellation of the Southern Touring Clubmans Cup (STCC) in July due to some horrendous rain, it was decided to move the date to September in the hope that it would be drier. So a couple of weeks ago saw the STCC circus arrive for a great weekends racing. Hot weather, more BBQ food and more racers breaking the lap records set at the SLCC and quite a few personal best times falling by the wayside as well. Once again the South Hants volunteer force did us proud and it was great to see some of our newer members competing in the event, well done Colin York and Craig Campbell. Both coming on in leaps and bounds and were grinning from ear to ear most of the day.

I'd also like to say well done to Liam and Bryce Cuff who competed in the Tamiya Eurocup and managed to come 12th and 19th overall. Good work for a nice couple of lads who have to support Chelsea!

With both of the race series we support it is important to remember it is aimed at the club racers and is open for all drivers of all abilities. It's a great atmosphere and allows you to see how you do against lots of other drivers and learn a trick or two along the way. Even if you don't fancy racing why not come along and see what it's all about and cheer on the local drivers. Especially Rob as he needs a bit of encouragement these days, thumbs aren't quite as sharp as they once were!

Sometimes we even have fun!

Team South Hants competing at Eastbourne earlier this year.



On the whole the weather has been against us for most of the summer but hopefully the Indian summer we've been promised will see more of you venturing out on a Sunday. In fact the weather was so bad on Wednesday nights we barely managed to run a series over the summer nights, but we did and I will be presenting trophies to the lucky racers who competed in at least 7 of the 10 rounds.

Which leads me quite nicely onto the new indoors series. We're back in the memorial hall every Wednesday night racing touring cars with 27 or 19 turn motors and the ever popular Mini series. The Mini series sees some changes this season, with the introduction of the faster sport tuned motors and the all singing 4WD M1 Express mini. Classes are split depending on the motor you're running either the normal silver 540 motor for stock minis, or the more powerful Tamiya black Sport Tuned motor. We tried running 27T motors in the 4wd minis and they were no faster round the track than the sport tuned which has the advantage of near zero maintenance and a more level playing field. As ever we're having great fun and if you fancy joining us either chassis is available for around £90 from your local model store.

The rules for the touring cars are the same as last year- slick rubber tyres and a 27T motor or a 19T motor with rubber or foam tyres. Additive is allowed as long as it doesn't smell.

Once again we do have to allow the blood donors in once in a while so the unavailable dates in the hall will be October 10th, November 14th and December 12th. Keep a note of the dates and feel free to donate a pint to keep the NBS running.

Speaking of pints if anyone has a willing wife, partner, friend or son that can make tea I'm sure Graham would be very appreciative on a Wednesday night. Unfortunately Ann Garner is unable to run our tea room so if anyone can help out mines white with no sugar.

That's all I've got time for in the new look newsletter so it just leaves me to say Hope to see you racing Sundays and Wednesdays and check out the new website for up to the minute info.

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Did I already mention that?