

# TTMA NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2016

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Hello and welcome to the August Newsletter and the last one before the Manx Grand Prix and Classic TT gets underway.

It doesn't seem such a long time ago since we were marshalling the TT but by the time you read this we will only have a few days left before the first practise session for the MGP and Classic TT commences and at the time of writing, we still need more marshals for that day. If you haven't already completed your form yet or returned it to the TTMA office, now is the time to do it!

A lot of people spend a lot of money coming to see the event and a lot of riders spend a lot of money to race here so it would be great if we could ensure the races and practices all get away and, hopefully, get away on time so please help if you can. As always, the first night is a problem so if you are local and can marshal on Saturday the 20th, sign-on as soon as you can. Even if you have never marshalled before, you will be helping and you will never be left on your own while you are new to marshalling.

We have a new leader in Sector 2! Howard Allison has stood down and Helen Withers has kindly accepted the role of Chief Sector Marshal. I would like to thank Howard for his work over the past year and wish Helen all the best in her new role. I am sure everyone will welcome and support her during her first event (& in the future!)

If you are travelling over to the Island for the event, have a safe journey getting here and getting home and I wish everyone a safe and incident-free event and hope to see you during the two weeks.

Robert Crane

## SECTOR 1

Well where have the last few weeks gone? The Festival of Motorcycling is now less than 2 weeks away. We are still short of marshals so if you're coming over with a friend please encourage them to sign on as a marshal. I am looking forward to seeing you all back for the Manx. I hope we have good weather as it makes all the difference and I am looking forward to the Jurby day which is always a fantastic day. Well some people have started arriving in the paddock, I love the build up to both events. For those of you that just do the Manx we have a new person in the office (Deana) and a new office layout, it works well and is much more professional. All the equipment is starting to be put out on the course in preparation for the racers, happy days. One thing I must mention, it may be necessary at times to ask some marshals to move to another post within the sector to ensure the practice and races go ahead. If you are asked to move, it would be a massive help and is really appreciated.

Well folks, have a safe journey over and take care.

Alan Blaney

## SECTOR 2

Hello Everyone,

I would like to introduce myself as this will be my very first race fortnight being a CSM. For those of you that don't know me, I have been marshalling in Sector 2 since I can remember, so I am familiar with most of what goes on in our sector (I am sure not everything though). In saying that, I have definitely seen a lot of change over the years, most of it positive & I know this is mostly to do with the good work all the marshals do.

I am sure when this goes to print I will have been in contact with some of you about the plans for the sector. I am looking forward to catching up with you all & will be doing my best to get around to seeing as many of you as I can over the fortnight.

As it stands today we are currently short of marshals. However, I am sure some of you have maybe not signed on yet & it would be great to see you back, so please get signed on via the website ([www.iomttma.com](http://www.iomttma.com)) or pop into the office to complete your forms. If anyone is willing to marshal at any point throughout the sector (I have a handful already) then please state this on your form.

In the meantime, if you do have any questions or even concerns please send me a message on [helswithers74@gmail.com](mailto:helswithers74@gmail.com)

Helen Withers

## SECTOR 3

Hello all marshals, paramedics, first responders and everyone who helps with our racing. After an horrific accident at the Billown Circuit in the pre-TT racing this year, I am delighted to report that the two marshals who were injured – John and David are on the mend and David, who is from the UK and working on a contract basis on the Island, has just returned to work and is signed on for marshalling at the MGP. He still has a way to go to recover from very significant leg injuries but his spirit is strong and positive so hopefully he will eventually make a full recovery and he is very welcome back into the marshalling family.

Oftentimes accidents can bring about positive things and after the Billown incident, steps have been taken to make the racing safer both in terms of marshals' safety around the course but also the behaviour of racers responding or not to warning flags. This was also something highlighted in the very unfortunate incident in the sidecar race two in the TT where a number of outfits seemed to ignore the waved yellows, putting our marshals in potential danger. If any of you observe any machines ignoring warning flags, please make sure you report them to me and race control can deal with them. The marshals' safety is paramount and it is imperative that we are all safe and feel safe when carrying out our duties.

Thank you very much for everyone who has signed on for the Manx Grand Prix and I look forward to seeing you during the fortnight. If anyone has any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me on 481958.

Dave Dentith

## SECTOR 4

Well here we go again, only seems like a few weeks ago from TT but racing is about to start again on the mountain circuit. Thanks to the kind people who offered to move to alternative locations during TT we were able to start on time and many of these new marshals have asked to come back as they were made welcome by all on sector 4. This is a credit to you all and shows what a good team we make.

We are currently short of marshals on our sector and I am aware that some of you have not yet signed on, so please if you are available and willing to marshal sign on through the website or return your forms as soon as possible.

If anyone would like to join our own response team, please sign on sector 4 and select anywhere and we will ensure you are supported by our team to ensure racing starts on time. Everyone will be made welcome. I look forward to seeing you all soon and I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable time.

Regards  
Neil Smith

## SECTOR 5

Hello and welcome to all the regulars that help us in Sector 5. We saw a number of new faces at the TT, some of which are coming back for the Manx they enjoyed themselves so much!

If you would like to see somewhere different or are fed up of going to places that seem over-manned, you would be made very welcome at the outlying, more rural areas on the west of the Island such as Sector 5.

As always I would like to thank my Deputies for all of their invaluable assistance without which the sector couldn't run as well as it does and I look forward to meeting as many of you as I Can during the fortnight.

Best regards  
Robert

## SECTOR 7

Well here we are the FOM/MGP is upon us and let's hope we all have a good one, most of the stuff in Sector 7 is now out on course and ready for the start. If you are coming over to the Island why not try marshalling, or even if you are a local everybody is welcome. In case you don't know Sector 7 runs from Alpine House through to the Ginger Hall Hotel, including some very fast sections.

May I take this opportunity to wish James Crowe a speedy recovery after having a knee replacement. James was and hopefully will be again my DSM at Ballacrye.

As we approach the last few days if you have not yet signed on try your best to assist the CSMs to fill their rotas and get every session started on time like we managed in the TT.

Eddie Christian

## SECTOR 10

Hi All

We are now a week away from the start of this year's Manx GP. The sector has just about enough marshals to man the event, some positions are still below minimum manning, but with your help I am hoping I can ask some of you to move around to achieve the necessary cover. Those of you across the water have a safe journey and I'll see you all soon for some great racing.

All the best

Mike Brown

## SECTOR 12

Hi everybody, there are not many days to go as I write this.

After a great TT, numbers are currently very short for the MGP, please everybody if you have not signed on yet get down to the office and sign on for all that you can do, even if it's only for one session. All the help that you can give goes to getting the boys and girls that are racing out on the track as much as possible. The more laps they can get the faster they can race and entertain us all.

Please also bear in mind when you do sign on that as numbers are limited we have to ask people to move around so that minimum numbers can be met and sessions can take place. We know that you all have your favourite places but please help us to get the sessions safely covered. Your co-operation is very much appreciated by us all.

Have a safe journey to the Island for all our visitors and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in a few days.

John Walsh.

## TRAINING REPORT

Our next event is almost here in just over a week's time with the first practice on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August, I can't believe where the time has gone since TT. Training will be in full swing again during practice week and there are still spaces left so if you need to renew your IMC get in touch with the office on 01624 618191 and speak to Deana.

There are also spaces on all the other courses left this year, so please check if you are due to renew your IMC. Pick one which suits you and e-mail or speak to Deana in the office.

The planning is currently being carried out for where and when the courses will take place next year. A couple of years ago a course was arranged for Belfast but only a few people signed up so unfortunately this had to be cancelled. If anyone is regularly visiting either the TT or FOM from Ireland, and you would like us to try to arrange a course in Belfast again, please let us know so that we can gain an idea of numbers. This will be dependent on responses as it has to be financially viable for the TTMA to send

the trainers across. So if you travel over for either event please let us know, I will be contacting various clubs to try and drum up support too.

We really do need marshals to be IMC trained its vital when there is an incident and the training stays with you where ever you go. We know people use these skill because they tell us, all the time. Please check out our website [www.iomttma.com](http://www.iomttma.com) for all the dates available.

So until we see you again, look after yourselves and each other

Brett Hammonds  
Training Director

## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Once again we had the fantastic assistance of the 1<sup>st</sup> Malew Scouts to assemble the marshal's packs. They set themselves a challenge to beat their own time of 1.5 hours for the packs and they completed the packs in a record time of 58 minutes! On behalf of the directors I just want to say a huge thank you to everyone who assisted with the bag packing on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August as it made a large task into a much more manageable one.

Here are a few of the team that helped out



By the time you read this, we will have started distributing packs and warrants. A list of venues for the rest of the week is below but we have already held our first one in Laxey on Sunday afternoon. Sadly, it wasn't very well attended with only 8 people coming along which is very disappointing given the amount of publicity we gave it both on the local radio stations and the major websites, including our own...

Pack nights are as follows;

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August Ramsey Masonic Hall 6.30-8pm  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> August Tynwald Inn, St Johns 6.30-8pm  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> August George Hotel, Castletown 6.30-8pm  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August Sulby Hotel, Sulby 6.30-8pm  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> August TTMA Office 9.30am – 8pm

Please note the office will be closing 4.30pm on Monday to Thursday for the above week to allow set up at the pack nights.

The **Marshal's Supper** is changing from its usual night due to other events occurring, so this will now be on **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August at the VIP tent at the Grandstand**. If you are attending, please ensure you bring your warrant card for entry and we look forward to seeing you there.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, the date of the AGM is changing to **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2016**. There are currently 3 director vacancies so if anyone would like to join the board, please contact the office after the Manx to obtain a nomination form. This needs to be proposed and seconded by other marshals who are life members. You will need to be available for regular meetings and events all year round (not just the two race meetings!), assist with IMC courses, organisation of social events, liaise with other event organisations and government departments etc.

The next newsletter will not be until October as unfortunately I will not have time to put this together during the Manx! If you would like to share any of your experiences or photos from the TT or the Manx, please submit these by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September to the newsletter address.

Amanda Wightman

## [CONTACTING US](#)

You can contact our office by various means;

### By Post

TTMA Office  
The Grandstand  
Douglas  
Isle of Man  
IM2 6DA

### By Telephone

+44 (0) 1624 618191

## By Email

Please help us by using the proper email address so that it gets delivered to the person most able to help. These are:

General Information [info@iomttma.com](mailto:info@iomttma.com)

Training [training@iomttma.com](mailto:training@iomttma.com)

Newsletter Articles [newsletter@iomttma.com](mailto:newsletter@iomttma.com)

Website issues [admin@iomttma.com](mailto:admin@iomttma.com)

Our website address is <http://www.iomttma.com> where you can find details about our training opportunities and links to other sites