

Cirencester Car Club
2005 Annual General Meeting
Chairman's Report by Martin Saunders

I would like to this opportunity to thank the Members of Cirencester Car Club for supporting myself and the Cirencester Car Club Committee during the last 12 months.

During the last 12 months the Club has built on the successes of 2004 and is now back as a prominent Club within the Cotswolds.

The 12 Car Series, exceeded all expectations during the 2004/2005 season with one event actually starting 12 cars and a 12A! This is excellent news for the Club and saw many new faces with Novice Crews improving and coming to the fore at the close of the season resulting in the series being won by Novice Navigator, Vicky Mead and another Novice Navigator Katy Rowe, winning the final event of the series. The series consisted of six events all organised by different organisers which gave event its own character.

I would like to thank Ben Jefferies for taking on the role of 12 Car Series Co-ordinator for the 2005-2006 series.

The Winter Series was resurrected after many years absence and proved to be a great success. This series was run by kind permission of Mr Bill Limbrick at the Windrush Airfield. The surface at Windrush has proved challenging and has produced many different winners. The Winter Series attracted a good number of competitors and although similar to the Summer Series, gave a more relaxed atmosphere for those taking part.

The Summer Series ran to the same format as last year, although interest seems to have waned slightly on the later events. The Committee are now looking at some small changes to improve the format for 2006 which will hopefully rekindle the levels of entries previously enjoyed. I would like to thank Richard Clayton for acting as co-ordinator for this series. These Gymkhana type events are quite specialist and novice drivers take a while to hone the skills required to compete at this highest level. This aside Chris Roberts has come to the fore this year and took a well deserved Championship win.

The Club ran two social events this year, the first being a trip organised by Kevin Smith to the Ford Bridgend Engine Plant, this was well received by those attending. The Second was a Marshal's Training Evening, organised by Simon Marks and myself, this event filled Turpin's Bar and resulted in a fabulous 18 new MSA Licensed Marshals, which is a credit to our Club and everyone who signed up on the evening.

The Corinium Run ran for the second time and attracted a full entry of 70 vehicles. This event is a great credit to the organising team and the Club and has raised the profile of the Club to national levels while gaining well deserved credibility. I would like to thank Mike Webb for his sponsorship of the weekend and to the organising team for their hard work behind the scenes. Running this event has helped to make the Club financially stable but does mean we can rest on our laurels.

The Club's communication has also improved with the email group and the improvements to the Website. I would like to thank Richard Clayton for his help with the improvements to the website and to Terri Jacobs for managing the final closure and redirection of the co.uk website.

In the absence of a dedicated editor the Club's newsletter has been produced by myself during the past year and has enjoyed ten editions. We are seeking an editor for the newsletter and anyone who would like further details of what is involved is invited to approach me later for an informal chat.

The Club now has new publicity banners which you can see placed around the room tonight. I would like to thank the individual sponsors for their kind donation and continued support of the Club.

I feel the Club has reached a level of events that are appropriate and to run anything bigger at the present time would potentially stretch the Club too far. Requests to run a road rally have been voiced but my concerns are illustrated by a request to help Oxford Motor Club PR their Bullnose event could only produce two volunteers and myself to help with this project.

Looking to the future the Club now has a solid base on which to build and the future is very much in the hands of the members and the Committee can only organise events in which Members wish to participate.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sam, John and the staff at the Highwayman Inn for making us so welcome during this past year.

Martin Saunders
Chairman Cirencester Car Club
3 November 2005