

1 September 2018

89th EXETER TRIAL 5th. & 6th. JANUARY 2018

Dear MCC Members and Friends

The organising team, Roger Ugalde and I have been joined again by Verdun Webley as Chief Marshal for the 2018 event and we look forward to your entry for the Exeter Trial. Entries open immediately and close on the 21st October 2018. Please read the Additional Supplementary Regulations and fully complete the online Entry Form. Should you not be on-line then contact me at the address above and I will send you a paper entry form. If you enter using paper please ensure your form is fully completed and arrives with the entry taker by applying the correct amount of postage for the size and weight of envelope you use.

The 2018 Exeter Trial will also include a Class "R" route that roughly follows the routes of the main trial and Class 0 but will be **ALL TARMAC** and suitable for any road going motorcycle or two wheel drive car. The route will include controls, non damaging tests and observed sections with the start and finish as Class "0". This is to encourage competitors who wish to experience the atmosphere and challenge of an MCC long distance trial without the need to specially prepare a vehicle – and no mud!

The Clerk of the Course, Roger Ugalde, has decided that there will again be no Touring Assembly from the starts for the main trial with Popham starters being first away at 20:01; competitors from Cirencester will be away second followed finally by the starters from Sourton Cross. There is therefore a compulsory route from the 3 starts to the Haynes Motor Museum with Observed Tests en-route. Competitors found off route will be penalised one failure of a section. At Haynes there will be a compulsory rest halt; hot refreshments will be available. You may also wish to visit the museum on the night at a reduced entry fee. Class "O" and "R" will start from Haynes. The main Trial will continue from Haynes at 00:01, Class "O" will start at 02:01 and Class "R" at 03.01

For the 2018 event we are continuing with cover from Locktons for **ALL** cars at £6 per vehicle; no exceptions. We realise that some entrants arrange their own insurance for the trial but for cover at this price there are no exceptions. This does not affect the M/Cycle entry as the ACU, to which all riders must belong, already provides RTA cover for their members on trials. I am hoping that those with cover already will understand that this move has to be for the greater good.

Members entering on-line will have their membership renewed automatically. Members entering on paper please complete the enclosed Membership Renewal Form and send it, with your Entry Form to the entry taker. Non competing members should either renew on-line or complete and send the Membership Renewal Form, with their subscription direct to the Membership Secretary, John Childs, 57 Ash Grove, Wheathampstead, St ALBANS, Herts, AL4 8DF. If you have moved since you renewed your 2017 membership and have not already done so, please advise John Childs of your new address straight away otherwise you may not receive your route book and final instructions. Do not rely on us deducing you have moved from your entry form. New members entering may send their application form to the entry taker with their entry form.

If this is your first MCC Trial please ensure your vehicle is properly prepared for the event. You may prefer to enter in Class "R" that will be all Tarmac, or Class "O"; which includes off road sections but avoids the rough "stoppers". If you have any doubts about the suitability of your vehicle please discuss this with the Clerk of the Course, Roger Ugalde, Oaklands, Mincombe Post, Sidbury, Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 0QW. Tel. 07788 411161 or 01395 597789.

The main trial route is approximately 240 miles. Much of the off-road route can be very rough, for this reason a substantial sump guard and good ground clearance is essential, as is a reversing light in working order. More importantly a substantial tow rope attachment is mandatory [see SSRs] for cars and 3-wheelers; this must be capable of withstanding a snatch from a tractor tow on a steep gradient as its failure can result in a serious accident which the MCC wishes to avoid.

The MSA requirement for car competitors to carry a small spill kit, which is defined as one being capable of dealing with spillages up to 1.25 litres capacity (T1.3.24 refers); a minimum 1.75 litre capacity AFFF fire extinguisher, compliance will be checked at scrutineering.

Our Headquarters for the 2018 event will be The Derwent Hotel, Belgrave Road, Torquay, Devon, TQ2 5HS. The Club Supper is still £20.00, and will be held at the Riviera Conference Centre opposite the hotel.

One final point: if you are not competing, please consider offering your services as a Marshal; our Chief Marshal, Verdun Webley, will make you most welcome; a Marshals invitation, with section location, approximate opening times and contact details is included. Marshals may also like to join us at the Club Supper, as many did in 2017, book your tickets (£20.00 ea) through Verdun.

Have a good Trial.

Yours Sincerely,

Nick Jones Secretary, Exeter Trial