

## Chairman's Viewpoint 01.11.

Hello, Fit like, an foo are ye a dein as they say in these parts and welcome to the first meeting of another action packed season of racing here at Crimond raceway. I hope you all are recovered from the wild winter we just had.

Thankfully the wild weather did not cause any damage to any of the track buildings and stands. The Norman Cowie stand was blown over one winter not that long ago due to high winds, so drastic measures were called for to prevent it from happening again and these seem to have worked.

I keep saying it every year but time seems to fly past these days, it certainly does not seem like six months since we were last here at a race meeting. After last season finished the annual trophy presentation was held at the Ban Car Hotel, another good night again !! and this left the AGM to finish of the 2010 season. The weather did its part again and it was in December before we managed to hold it, but it was well attended and after a lot of discussion, very little changes were brought in.

Long time committee member and Vice Chairperson Lynne Anderson, stepped down from the committee and is taking a while away from the stock cars. Her replacement on the committee is Jim Cowie, father of Hot rod driver Stuart, # 308. Jim has been on the committee before, but a while ago when he was the Hot rod driver to beat around Crimond.

For those who could not make the AGM and all other info related to the racing here at Crimond raceway, details can be found on our web site, WWW. Crimondraceway.co.uk.

During the closed season changes were planned about the racetrack, but with the dreadful weather and one thing and another, only some of them have taken place. The new commentary / Race control box is now just about ready to be installed, receiving a good coat of paint before arriving on site. The final location of said box is still under a bit of debate, we were going to move it to the other side of the track along with the start / finish line, but we might still leave it on the original site, but a lot higher up.

Whatever we decide, it will be in place during the first few meetings of the new season.

The inner Armco at the track shop end of the track was in need of some repair, but when we started to remove damaged sections we found that almost the complete corner was requiring replacement. This has just been completed, with the weather making repairs difficult sometimes !!. At the same end of the track, the water that keeps appearing on the track from an under ground source has been resolved by the placing of a drain in that location. This should now stop the small weeping of water on to the track on a supposedly dry day.

A new track shop has been purchased by the club and is on site along side the existing one. It is a bit smaller than the old one, but it will do the job required. Robert has been busy over the last few weeks swapping things over, so all should be in place for today's meeting. The old track shop will be removed when everything is changed over.

The club has also purchased some more toilets for our lady users. This is in the shape of a cabin the same size of the track shop but with 6 cubicle's and 1 disabled cubical. This should be on site today but will not be usable till we get it in its new location.

We are going to remove all the old Dr Who type toilets and place the new one in the same location. This should be done over the coming weeks.

As I reported earlier on, not much changes in the formulae's for this season. The Saloonstox have now adopted a control tyre, two of which must be used on the inside of the car from the start of the season and the outside two must be fitted from July onwards. This new tyre is still a Yokahama tyre, but a standard road one not a super sticky one !. Testing done by the club last season showed this tyre to be quite good and you can buy three for the price of one of the sticky one's.

Drivers will now have to drive their cars a bit more and not rely on the sticky tyres to get around the corners.

After our season finished last year, our Saloonstox were invited to race at the new track at Lochgelly along with the GMP national Saloons. This meeting was a tremendous success and a new championship has been

created between Lochgelly and Crimond. The new Northern Saloonstox Championship is to be run over four meetings at each track, with the driver with the most points scored at these eight meetings, being crowned the Northern Saloonstox Champion.

Some extra prize money will be available during each round and this will go to the highest grade driver in each grade across the line in the final race of the afternoon. The final meeting in November will see quite a bit of extra prize money available for the champion.

The Saloon Stock Car association, (Gmp etc), has given permission for their drivers to compete in this championship so plenty action is on the cards.

There is also a Ladies championship at four of the eight rounds, so they get their shottie as well.

The first round was held at Lochgelly on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March, where 10 of our drivers attended putting on a fine show. Our first round is on the 24<sup>th</sup> of April, our next meeting, so a meeting not to miss. The next round after that is at Lochgelly on the 29<sup>th</sup> of May, where it is rumored that some English drivers are to attend after racing at Cowdenbeath the night before !!!

The points chart for this championship is on the web site, alongside our own domestic championship tables, so you can see how our drivers are doing.

Also at Lochgelly this year, our Hot Saloons have been invited to race at Four meetings, the first one being on the same May 29<sup>th</sup> date as the Saloon's, so go along and support our formulae's. All the dates for all these away meetings are on the web site and also in our new fixture's list, which is available at the track shop or the sign in office.

Well that's enough for today, I will no doubt have missed something that I was supposed to put in, but it will wait till next time. Enjoy your racing and see you all next time.

Bill Barrack  
Chairman / Promoter  
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