

VINTAGE SPORTS-CAR CLUB LIMITED
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)



2016 ANNUAL REPORT

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COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors

R L Ballard (Past, Past President)
T M Brown (Chair of Trials Sub-Committee)
A S Couper (Chair of Marshals Sub-Committee)
T J Dutton
D J Furnell (Chair of Speed Sub-Committee)
J P Ghosh
M F Holt (Chair of Communications Working Group)
T P Kneller (President)
K T Lee (Vice-President)
J A Lees (Chair of Rallies and Tours Sub-Committee)
A N Lockhart
R B Patten (Chair of External Affairs Working Group)
G F Smith (Treasurer)
I Standing (Chair of Race Sub-Committee)
J R C Staveley (Bulletin Editor)
A K Stephens (Past President)
N J Topliss

Club Staff

Chief Executive – Dave Salmon
Competition Secretary – Gemma Price
Speed Secretary – Rachael Watkins
Non-Speed Secretary – Andrew Tarring
Competition Administrator – Jenny Moore
Finance Manager – Sally Duckett
Communications Manager – James Taylor
Club Services Administrator – Alexandra Elliot
Office Manager – Gill Batkin

Registered Number

00446083

Registered Office

The Old Post Office
West Street
Chipping Norton
Oxfordshire
OX7 5EL

ACCOUNTS SUMMARY

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Income	£	£	£
Membership Subscriptions	433,940	440,003	(6,063)
Competitions	615,499	593,333	22,166
Advertising	78,920	86,895	(7,975)
Sponsorship	63,663	50,480	13,182
Miscellaneous	39,509	31,500	8,009
Investment	2,844	4,500	(1,656)
Total	1,234,375	1,206,711	£27,664
Expenditure	£	£	£
Competitions	460,815	461,040	225
Membership Publications	162,889	165,155	2,266
Administrative	526,087	492,621	(33,464)
VAT	47,167	56,750	9,583
Depreciation	16,043	14,895	(1,148)
Total	1,213,000	1,190,461	(22,539)
Net Margin Profit/Loss	21,375	16,250	5,125

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This is my third and final report to you as President, because at the close of the AGM I will hand over to my successor, Geoff Smith, who is known to many of you and will, I am sure, make an excellent President.

Rather than concentrate on the financial results for last year, which will be dealt with more than adequately by the Treasurer and the Club Secretary in their respective reports, I would like to reflect on the journey the Club has made over the last three years.

Shortly before I took over as President, Mike Stripe our Club Secretary for the past eight years announced his intention to leave the VSCC and return to a job in the military, close to home, which allowed him time to pursue interests outside the Club. Sadly, he only had a couple of years to fulfil that desire. We were determined to find the right candidate; in particular, someone who could bring some management vigour and financial acumen and so it took us until December to find a replacement, when Dave Salmon joined us. It is a decision I certainly do not regret, despite the inevitable pressures that came from running the Club without a Chief Executive and much of what we have achieved subsequently is down to Dave and the way he works with the Directors, Staff and Members. Since Dave's arrival we have seen a substantial change in staffing, but I am delighted with the team that now operates our Club from The Old Post Office.

At the first Race Meeting of my Presidency we were reminded in a very cruel manner that motorsport can be dangerous, with the terrible accident that befell Garry Whyte. Coming so quickly after Stephen Jewell's fatal crash we felt we had to be seen to be doing everything possible to minimise the chances of accidents happening at our meetings. Initially there was an attempt to tightening up on driving standards generally, not least by the introduction of mandatory Drivers' Briefings at all of our Race Meetings and many of our Speed events. Following ongoing attempts over the next two years to improve safety, we set up a Working Group to look specifically at safety last year, initially looking solely at racing but subsequently added Speed events, and their recommendations are being felt in our events now. It is anticipated that similar moves will be evident in other disciplines, trialling in particular, in the near future.

The concerns about the approach of the DVLA to the registration of historic vehicles have been a constant concern over much of the last three years and we have been actively involved in trying to protect the interests of our Members, so that we can continue to enjoy the unfettered use of our cars on the public highway. This has largely, although not uniquely, been through our working with the FBHVC, who, I am pleased to report, appear to have made significant progress over the last few months, particularly with the thorny question of replacement bodies on cars with separate chassis.

During 2014 it became painfully obvious that there were not enough of our Members who wanted to participate at our Race Meetings to fill the grids. As entry fees are almost the sole source of revenue to cover the enormous cost of putting on Race Meetings this made us question the ongoing viability of the Club organising five Race Meetings each year. Having looked at many options, including reducing the number of Meetings, the option of selling grids to appropriate clubs was decided upon. It is a great testament to our team in TOPO that this approach has been so successful that we will be running an extra day of racing in 2017.

Early in 2015 the Speed Sub-Committee came up with a proposal to run a Speed and Hill Climb Championship. As a precursor to a full-blown Championship this was run as a Series in 2015 and a full MSA registered Championship in 2016, which was a resounding success, attracting entries from over 450 different Competitors. We have also added a one-day meeting on the long course at Prescott and for 2017 a second day at Shelsley Walsh, underlining the appetite from Members for competing in hill climbs.

Trialling continues to be a very popular pastime, with most of our Trials oversubscribed and we owe a great debt of gratitude to those who organise these events for our enjoyment. After a toe in the water at the 80th Anniversary in Peterborough, AutoSolos have become a fixture in our calendar, generally held as an adjunct to our Race Meetings. Rallying is still challenged for entries, consequently several initiatives have been tried to encourage more interest in this discipline and this remains work in progress.

Of course not everything we did was met with universal approval. Our campaign to prevent the destruction of saloons to create touring or sports cars resulted in much correspondence, most of which was not particularly complimentary. The move to a digital Newsletter met with an even fiercer reaction. Committee listened and reinstated the print version, although a digital one is still available. Subsequently, as you will read elsewhere, we have instituted a survey of Members to better understand your wants and desires and formed a Communications Working Group to look at the ways we communicate both internally with Members and externally.

As always there is more to do, not least to replace the out-dated and disparate IT systems in TOPO and we are currently facing the potential challenges regarding motor insurance. We also need to be mindful of the reliance we have on an aging population of Marshals to run our events, who also need to be ever better trained. However, the Club is in good heart and it is my fervent hope that my children and grandchildren will be able to get the same pleasure I have had from vintage motoring when they reach my age.

Tim Kneller
President

With special thanks to Bonhams, Hagerty Classic Car Insurance and St James's Place who were our Principal Associates in 2016.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Further progress has been made on financial controls in general and the application of individual event budgets has contributed to another stable year. Members can see the relative impact of the various types of activity from Racing through Trials to Tours and Concours. Each individual event has a financial plan and the results can be quickly compared.

The accounting practice within the Club is now in line with the latest standards and the Auditor's Report, available elsewhere is encouraging with the fundamental changes in controls recognised for their significance.

The treatment of major investment has been inconsistent over the years and in 2017 there will be a significant spend on IT. This will be financed from some surplus income in 2016 and the transfer of some reserves. The budget for the work will be managed in the same way as all the other spends and will be regularly reviewed by the Directors. In future years, the surplus income can be diverted to reserves again and the Directors will take a view on the relevant level of reserve required for a club like the VSCC.

Investment income has changed over the last few years and the Club has reviewed the individual holdings on a regular basis. There is no prospect of a significant change in return but the Directors will continue to consider any prudent changes that would benefit the Club.

Dave Salmon and the team have worked well over 2016 to give enjoyment to a large number of Members within a structure and plan agreed by the Directors. 2017 has great promise and I am confident that the level of commitment will help the Club deal with any problems as they occur.

Geoff Smith
Treasurer

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

On the advice of our Auditors we have separated the Annual Report and Accounts this year, which has allowed us to include more content in the Annual Report with updates from the Sub-Committees and Working Groups. I hope Members will find these to be of interest and will welcome the even greater transparency.

The Accounts have become quite technical as we have finally been required to fall in-line with the latest Financial Reporting Standards. Therefore, a Summary of the Accounts, showing performance against the budget, has been included within the Annual Report - which hopefully will be a little easier to digest.

I am delighted to report that events remain at the heart of the VSCC and that in 2016 the Club organised some 37 permitted events of one description or another, which commenced on the weekend of 16/17 January in Thirsk (Measham Rally) and concluded on 3 December at Bicester Heritage (Winter Driving Tests). In 2017 we will organise 43 permitted events and so it is going to be another very busy year as we seek to offer as wide a selection of events to our Members as is reasonably possible. I believe that we are now perhaps at the maximum that the 'market' will bear and most definitely at the maximum we can safely organise with the current resources. It would be wrong of me to single out any individual event highlights and so I thought that Members may find of interest the net contributions from each discipline over the last 3 years:

Discipline	2014	2015	2016
Race Meetings	£1,400	£18,992	£70,912
Speed Events	£39,217	£65,885	£80,853
Trials	£10,544	£17,337	£12,340
Rallies	£2,361	£1,320	£2,716
Driving Tests	£3,787	£2,581	£3,461
Tours and Concours	£1,670	£1,165	£733
Total Events Contribution	£58,979	£107,280	£171,015

The table shows a significantly improving financial position and this has only been possible through better planning and a firmer control of the costs both of which have ensured that

we made the very most of what each event has to offer. This has been achieved without any compromise on any safety or, we hope, the enjoyment of the Competitors. Certainly, the post event feedback surveys we now routinely send out indicate growing levels of satisfaction amongst both Competitors and Marshals. We must do all that we can to maintain this, whilst continuing to strive to improve the overall running of our events. The immediate future of our events calendar is bright, which is why we have more events planned for this year, but we must not rest on our laurels as it would be very easy to let this slip and run events that lose money. None of these events would be possible without the brigade of Officials, Marshals and Volunteers who continue to support the Club in all conditions throughout the year no matter the location. We remain indebted to you all and we will continue to look for ways to better recognise and reward your selfless commitment.

Whilst events remain at the heart of the Club they are by no means all that we are about. For many Members, the events calendar is very much secondary and so we must continue to ensure that we cater for their needs. To help us improve our understanding of what our Members want from the Club we have just completed a Membership Survey - the results of which will help inform our priorities for the future. There is much more work to do on this, but it has already acted as a timely reminder of the importance that Members attach to the hard copy version of the monthly Newsletter and the award winning quarterly Bulletin. The details of the Survey will be shared with the Members in due course as well as our plans to address any areas for improvement that are not already being looked at by one of the Working Groups.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank my Team at The Old Post Office who have worked tirelessly (and mostly in good humour) to help effect the changes which I believe the Club is now benefitting from - whilst still delivering a most challenging calendar of events. They should all be very proud of what they have achieved and I have no doubt that they are the right people to carry us through the new President's term of office. On that, I would like to close with a special note of thanks to Tim Kneller our outgoing President. After a very difficult first year as President, when it seemed as though everything that could go wrong would go wrong, Tim did not buckle and through his unwavering commitment, strong leadership of the Committee and steadfast support of the Staff he ends his tenure with the Club going from strength to strength.

We look forward to an exciting 2017 and to working with our new President.

Dave Salmon
Chief Executive

RACE SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

The 2016 Race programme was successful, offering our regular range of races at five events, complemented by invited grids including HGPCA, HRDC, Morgan Challenge, F3 500, MTWC and Classic Formula Ford. Competitor support was strong in general and Spectators enjoyed a diverse racing programme throughout the season. The Pembrey Meeting, whilst popular with those who attended, was not supported with full grids and it was concluded that we would not return in 2017. Sold grids provided valuable income, with the result that the programme delivered a significant net contribution.

For 2017 the programme includes Silverstone, Oulton Park, Cadwell Park, Mallory Park and Snetterton. 'Formula Vintage' is to be launched at Silverstone, more clearly to brand VSCC events as the pinnacle of Pre-war racing and to give a consistent title at each circuit, under which our traditional trophy races can exist. Silverstone is working with us to develop the event and MSV Group has offered enhanced promotion and share of ticket income for the Club's three events. In a return to previous custom, Silverstone will be a two-day event with the High Speed Trial and Team Race to run on Sunday. As in 2016, invited historic grids at all events will complement our regular VSCC Races and mitigate financial risk.

The Sub-Committee supports the Chief Executive and Staff who put immense effort into the promotion and development of the Race programme. In addition to its work on the Race calendar, it has established a Safety Working Group encompassing Speed and Trials events; a 'Safety First' initiative was launched at the Winter Driving Tests. MSA Regulations are monitored and relevant change disseminated as appropriate. It continues to work closely with Race Officials, Scrutineers and Marshals to ensure the safe and efficient operation of the programme.

Ian Standing
Chair

Members: Colin Ayre, Andy Baker, Alan Couper, John Gill, Colin Prest, Nick Topliss, Dave Salmon and Gemma Price

With thanks to Tom Hardman Limited for sponsoring the live timing at our Race Meetings and to Louis Latour for sponsoring the podium presentations.

SPEED SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

The main aim of the Speed Sub-Committee, was to build on the success of the 2015 Series, with the introduction of the inaugural VSCC MSA Speed Championship for 2016, by making our Speed Championship more competitive and fun throughout the 16 classes and the overall Championship to be hotly contested with friendly and clubby rivalry throughout the Hill Climb and Sprint season.

With nearly all of the 10 rounds of the Championship being over-subscribed and thus making it one of the best disciplines that the VSCC offers, promoting the spirited competition throughout the classes for the 453 different Competitors taking part in 2016.

Our congratulations go to all 16 class winners, along with our Top Newcomer and Top Under 30 Competitor and especially to Tony Lees in his 1925 AC/GN Cognac as the Overall 2016 Speed Champion.

A few changes for the 2017 season include the introduction of the Longstone Trophy open to all Competitors driving their Competition Cars to and from events, a new Sprint at Snetterton, a two-day event at Shelsley, a date change for Loton Park to 27/28 May and the Long Course Hill Climb at Prescott in September.

We would like to thank all Competitors, Marshals and Supporters, but most of all the Staff at Chipping Norton for their expertise in making the Championship the success we believe it has been and will be in the future.

David Furnell
Chair

Members: Tania Brown, Gary Clare, Geoff Smith, Ian Ferguson, Mark Ballard and Rachael Watkins

With thanks to our Trophy Sponsors, M&P Insurance Solutions.

TRIALS SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Over the last 12 months we have completed the Consultation with Competitors about a potential change to classes to 'level' the playing field. It was apparent during this that many Competitors were not happy with the idea and so it was abandoned. A common thread that emerged was the increasing tyre width seen on many cars. This was felt to potentially offer an advantage but, more importantly, to adversely affect the aesthetics of the cars competing. As such, Competitors must be aware that existing eligibility rules for tyres and wheel rim widths for Modified cars also applies to Specials as well, although only for Trials.

In the year ahead our main focus is the safety of our sport, although succession planning is always important and will continue to be at the forefront for years ahead. In conjunction with our volunteer organising teams, who continue to put so much time and effort into running these exceptional events, we will look at training needs for both Drivers and Marshals so we can make suitable provisions as and where necessary. We often underestimate our core of youngsters and they have turned out in droves for recent Trials, we will continue to support them so the next generation can continue the work already started.

I may be biased but I firmly believe Trialling offers some of the best value for money sport available today.

Tania Brown
Chair

Members: Guy Spollon, Duncan Pittaway, Paul Tebbett, Graham White and Andrew Tarring

With thanks to Subaru for supporting our Trials.

DRIVING TESTS SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

2016 has been a very busy year for the Club's newest Sub-Committee. The addition of AutoSolos increased the number of events in this discipline to eight. Our aim has been to make the Club's Driving Tests into social and enjoyable events for all Members - whatever their car or experience level.

The range of venues means that each event has its own character and we believe that the programme for 2017 offers something for everyone. In particular, the AutoSolo format (simple all forwards slalom style tests in a half-day event) makes for a perfect entry-level competition, while also being particularly kind to both the car's transmission and the driver's memory.

We've worked to gently improve the event and test formats of these events, while incorporating the big changes of MSA Blue Book regulations and not forgetting the social aspect. In addition to improving the four traditional events at Brooklands, Madresfield and Bicester we introduced the AutoSolo format at some of our Race Meetings and in Scotland.

This year we will build on the success of 2016, with the AutoSolos at Silverstone Spring Start, the Scottish Weekend, Oulton Park, and Snetterton, and plans are afoot to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of Madresfield. To crown the year, the Club will award the Tony Jones Trophy as its first ever Annual Aggregate Driving Test Award.

Kevin Lee
Chair

Members: Clive Hamilton-Gould, Mark Elder, Dick Wilkinson, Martin Jelley and Andrew Tarring

RALLIES AND TOURS SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Rallies: The VSCC has a long and honourable history of Rallying and we are looking to take that history with us as we go forward with our programme of events for 2017 and 2018.

The numbers of entrants in Rallies over the last few years has dropped, and we wish to address this issue and once again make a Rally the perfect introduction to Pre-war motoring and competition with the most standard car perfectly eligible.

If you feel that the whole process is too complicated do not panic, we are this year offering a Rally School Session on 21 May, where the route instructions will be taught and made clear in the morning and then in the afternoon there will be a practical session on the road to put all you have learnt into practise.

This year we are offering a selection of Rallies for you to try. In the Spring, Dick Patten is organising the classic Spring Rally in Sussex, showcasing some of the loveliest areas of the South Downs. Then we have a wonderful new initiative 'The Mid-Summer Night Rally' run out of Oulton Park on the Saturday of the VSCC's Historic Race Meeting. This new Rally is in the capable hands of Martin Jelley who will bring to you a wonderful evening of relaxed but competitive sport. If the Measham is on your list of 'must do' events I would suggest that this is a very good introduction to Night Rallies.

We then head to the Far East for our Suffolk Rally and Piers Hart is a past master of the mind testing. Come and pit your wits in this Rally challenge. Finally, at the end of the season we have Tom Pellow's Scatter Rally which will run on the Saturday of the VSCC's Welsh Weekend. This will be a marvellous opportunity to see some of the loveliest countryside and also enjoy a gentle challenge.

By the time you have tried your hand at this selection of events you will be raring to have a go at the 'cherry on the top of the Rally cake' the Measham Rally, it will be run in January 2018 and we are again going to be based in the Midlands at Bruntingthorpe Airfield. A challenge for crew and car. To get to the end of a Measham is a true achievement for anybody.

RALLIES AND TOURS SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Tours: All our VSCC Tours are designed to be non-competitive, sociable events that will allow Members to discover some of the most lovely areas of the country with like-minded vintage enthusiasts.

This year there will be difficult decisions to be made, mainly 'which Tour shall I choose?' The season starts with the Cornish Tour, a new initiative that is being developed by Maxine and John Fack, it will start at Trebetherick on the Camel estuary and guarantees some fabulous views. On that same weekend in May we will also have the Derbyshire Tour which has moved to May rather than March to give you the opportunity to enjoy some of England's most spectacular scenery in what must be one of our loveliest months.

Everything moves north for June, starting with the Scottish Tour based in the Scottish Borders. Then on the following Monday we have the newest addition to the VSCC Tour family, The Scottish Highlands Grand Tour based at the Crieff Hydro in Perthshire. This five-day event is a must for those with a love of spectacular places.

We move back to Hertfordshire for the Herts (3 Counties) Tour in July.

We are off to the East of England in late Summer; on 3 September we have the Suffolk Tour 'From the Waveney to the Stour'. Followed by 'Betjeman's Broadland' which will run from the Snetterton Circuit on 16 September journeying out to Norfolk's iconic Broadland and returning in time for tea in the Drivers' Club on Saturday afternoon. Our Tours are designed to give the best of Vintage driving, good routes, good scenery, good food and drink and above all good company.

We look forward to seeing you on a VSCC Rally or Tour or both this Summer.

Jenny Lees

Chair

Members: Tim Cork, Dick Patten, Martin Jelley, Robert Ellis and Andrew Tarring

With thanks to Halo Financial for sponsoring our Tours.

MARSHALS' SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

We have some outstanding Marshals who are so dedicated to supporting the Club's event programme. There are about 20 Marshals who year on year commit to marshalling in all weathers; they are the real heroes of the Club. Last year 25 Young Members marshalled the Trial hills in Hobcarton Forest in the Lakes, however the unassailable fact is our Marshals are getting older and we are not attracting new Marshals.

Conscious of this, the Committee set up a Marshals Working Group chaired by Tania Brown to look at how to retain Marshals, attract new Members and consider succession and training needs. One idea to improve communication with younger Marshals via social media is a Facebook page linked to the Club's website, which will be run by the Marshals for the Marshals.

With John Williams on the MSA's Marshalling Sub-Committee, we have a direct link to the MSA. Its focus has been on Stage Rally Marshal Training, which has led to an online training module, recommended to all Club Marshals whether registered or not.

Like other sports, MSA has set guidelines on concussion following an incident, setting out five identifiable levels of symptoms which Marshals need to be aware of. We have also been paying attention to spectator safety on Trials and from this Martin Jelley will be attending an MSA course on spectator safety.

A training programme focusing on safety awareness especially for Trials Marshals including training for Club Stewards, unlicensed Clerks of the Course and Rally Competitors was submitted to the MSA for grant funding. As the fund has been oversubscribed and the level of grant dropped, the Committee has agreed to a higher level of support for training in 2017 and to try and do more in-house with our own resources. The MSA has asked us to reapply for grants in April.

Alan Couper
Chair

Members: Tania Brown, Ray Edge, Martin Jelley, Angela Jones, Gemma Price and John Williams

With thanks to Longstone Tyres for supporting our Marshals.

ELIGIBILITY SUB-COMMITTEE

The team processed over 200 Forms during the year with a significant number of cars new to the Club. The policy of leaving classifications unchanged during current ownership and reviewing specifications at point of sale has continued with the resultant work load with an application from a new owner.

The increase in applications for DVLA registration has placed a significant work load on the VSCC and ESC members have helped a number of Members with cars not covered by recognised one-make clubs. This service is currently free but the Club will consider whether a charge is reasonable in future.

The online system for “Buff Form” application has taken a huge amount of time during the year. There are still some issues to be resolved but we are looking to have these determined so that we can go live in the coming months.

The ESC continues to work on consistent treatment for all makes of competing cars and good progress has been made this year with agreement on oversize engines and the resultant classification of the relevant cars.

‘Planning Permissions’ are increasing and we are keen to promote Members applying early in the life of a project to avoid disappointment at a later stage.

Finally, we need to remind Members that entry to any event is dependent on the car having the relevant paperwork. This will become even more important as the Club moves towards online entries and a “first come, first served acceptance”. We are still processing Buff Forms as late as 24 hours before an event in order to help any Member. This is a real struggle and should be the absolute exception. Help us to help you and plan ahead with that new car you want to exercise.

Geoff Smith
Chair

Members: Roy Adnams, Simon Blakeney-Edwards, Barry Clarke, Steve Jones, John Staveley, Peter Wigglesworth, Andrew Tarring and Alexandra Elliot

MEMBERSHIP WORKING GROUP

VSCC Membership remains close to the 7,000 mark, this figure fluctuates but generally reflects the Membership over the last few years. The recent Membership Survey gave us plenty of information to work with when looking at taking the VSCC Membership policy forward. From that survey, 91% of those who responded thought that the Membership was good value for money and 86% thought that we had the balance of events correct.

So, should we sit back and congratulate ourselves on having got it right? I don't think so, over the coming months the Membership Working Group will be looking at ways to attract new and younger Members which was thought to be a key priority for the Club. We will also be looking at the current Membership categories to consider if they are they still appropriate for the Club today?

Also we will be asking our International Members what they expect from the Club and how we can make sure that they get as much support from the VSCC as our UK Members.

When asked to give three words that reflected what Members wanted from their VSCC, there was a clear winner. The word most commonly used was 'friendship' which was closely followed by 'fun' and that is what we must concentrate on when looking at our VSCC. It is a great Club and your Membership is important. We will do our best to enhance and enrich your experience of the VSCC.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with Membership queries.

Jenny Lees
Chair

Members: Julian Ghosh, Tania Brown, Alexandra Elliot and Dave Salmon

COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP

Last September, the Communications Working Group submitted their report to the main Committee. The key points included the following:

- That, at present, the Club is focussing most of its attention inwards, towards our Members, through the Bulletin, Newsletter and the website.
- That, we need to address the relationship between our internal and external communications and make more resources available to reach out to the thousands of historic motoring enthusiasts currently not engaged with the VSCC.
- We need to embrace the 21st century, Digital Age of Social Media, Content Management and Marketing and further develop media plans for our events and membership marketing campaigns, with a Digital Communications Delivery Plan.

These aims are dependent on committing to a budget for external communications and the restructuring of the IT hardware and software of the Office, now ongoing. Since then, the Committee has decided to form a further Group to address concerns on the lack of space in the Bulletin to properly report on all of our events. The two areas of communication, internal and external will now be reviewed together and a proposal put forward.

Mike Holt
Chair

Members: Kevin Lee, Julian Ghosh, Dave Salmon and James Taylor

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS WORKING GROUP

At the Committee Strategy Day in 2015 it was agreed to set up a small Working Group to look at how External Affairs are handled by the Club's Committee and what, if any, changes may be appropriate. However, since the Working Group was set up the main external affair has been in respect of the DVLA's approach to the registration of historic vehicles and the perceived threat that posed to our Members' continued unfettered use of their Pre-war cars. This subject was considered of such importance that it should not be discussed by a Working Group but rather by full Committee, and generally the resultant actions have been the responsibility of The President. As a result, the External Affairs Working Group has not made any significant headway in pursuing the aims originally set for it. Nevertheless, Committee has been actively involved with a number of organisations, including the following:

- The Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs (FBHVC) on a range of topics, not least the DVLA issues and more recently the potential issues relating to insurance due to a judgement in the European Court of Justice.
- The Land Access & Recreation Association (LARA) of whom we remain an active member.
- The All Party Parliamentary Historic Vehicle Group.
- Association of British Motor Racing Clubs onto whose committee the President was elected in 2016.
- MSA. Whilst we retained our seat on the MSA Trials Sub-Committee our nominations for the Historic Sub Committee (to replace the late Mike Stripe, who sat on this for some years), the Speed & Hill Climb Sub-Committee and the Autotest Sub-Committee were unsuccessful.

Dick Patten
Chair

Members: Tim Kneller, John Staveley, Tania Brown and Dave Salmon

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WORKING GROUP

Information technology is the 'engine' that powers VSCC administration, marketing and communications. Its capabilities, performance and efficiency to a large extent define what, how much and the quality of operations the Club Staff and volunteers are capable of achieving internally and externally.

Following several years of underinvestment in this area, the Club is now faced with significant catch-up. So the Committee has formed an IT Working Group to identify, plan and implement a full IT re-structuring.

During 2016, Accounts have successfully adopted Sage software. Meanwhile the Office has started to benefit from some hardware updates. The Club's website has become central to its communication with the Membership, with the great majority of event entries submitted online and other popular features such as its active Members' Forum, photo galleries and news updates. We are currently reviewing the website to improve the navigation, accessibility and compatibility with today's mobile devices. The plan is to launch a new look website during 2017.

Planning and consultation has started for an overhaul of the Competition Department's ageing bespoke database and other essential systems. In co-operation with the other Working Groups, we are seeking to provide the tools necessary for good Members' communications and the Club's external marketing.

Kevin Lee
Chair

Programme Delivery Board: Dick Patten, David Rolfe and Dave Salmon

COMMITTEE REVIEW WORKING GROUP

The VSCC Committee currently comprises five Officers, being The President, the two most recent Past Presidents, The Treasurer and The Editor, and not more than twelve elected members, all of whom are Directors of Vintage Sports Car Club Limited.

At seventeen members, the size of Committee is perceived to be at its absolute maximum to be effective in making decisions, if not a little too large. On the other hand there are occasions when there is a lack of specific expertise on the Committee to adequately and fully deal with some of the issues and challenges faced by the Club.

The Directors already have the ability to co-opt additional members with specialist skills, but to do so would further increase the size of the Committee, possibly beyond that which is workable. At the Committee Strategy Day in 2015 it was agreed to set up a small Working Group to consider whether changes are necessary or desirable and, if so, what those changes might be.

The Working Group has concentrated on how best to enable specialists to be co-opted without increasing the overall size of the Committee. In doing so they looked at both the Officers of the Club and the Elected Members of Committee, referring to the relevant Articles of Association at all times to inform the discussion.

Proposals have been developed by the Working Group for debate by the full Committee, all of which fully comply with the existing Articles of Association.

Tim Kneller
Chair

Members: Tony Stephens and Dave Salmon

2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Weekend 21/22 Jan	Measham Night Rally	Bruntingthorpe, Leicestershire
Saturday 28 Jan	Brooklands Film Night	Brooklands Museum, Surrey
Sunday 29 Jan	New Year Driving Tests	Brooklands Museum, Surrey
Saturday 18 Feb	The Pomeroy Trophy	Silverstone, Northamptonshire
Saturday 25 Feb	Exmoor Fringe Trial	Exebridge, Somerset
Saturday 4 Mar	John Harris (Derbyshire) Trial	Ashover, Derbyshire
Weekend 18/19 Mar	Herefordshire Trial	How Caple Court Herefordshire
Weekend 25/26 Mar	LC&ES Welsh Weekend	Llandrindod Wells, Powys
Friday 31 Mar	VSCC Awards Dinner	Hilton Hotel, Warwick
Saturday 1 Apr	VSCC AGM / Marshals' Dinner	Hilton Hotel, Warwick
Saturday 8 Apr	Scottish Trial	Biggar, Scotland
Weekend 22/23 Apr	Silverstone Race Meeting	Silverstone, Northamptonshire
Saturday 22 Apr	Silverstone Autotests	Silverstone, Northamptonshire
Saturday 22 Apr	Spring Concours	Silverstone, Northamptonshire
Saturday 29 Apr	Spring Rally	Surrey
Sunday 30 Apr	Curborough Speed Trials	Nr Lichfield, Staffordshire
Sunday 7 May	Wiscombe Park Hill Climb	Nr Honiton, Devon
Saturday 13 May	Cornish Tour	Trebetherick, Cornwall
Sunday 14 May	Derbyshire Tour	Belper, Derbyshire
Saturday 20 May	Daylesford Concours	Nr Kingham, Gloucestershire
Weekend 27/28 May	Loton Park Hill Climb	Nr Alberbury, Shropshire
Saturday 3 Jun	Harewood Hill Climb	Nr Harrogate, North Yorkshire
Saturday 10 Jun	Oulton Park Race Meeting	Nr Tarporley, Cheshire
Saturday 10 Jun	Oulton Park Autotests	Nr Tarporley, Cheshire
Saturday 10 Jun	Cheshire Life Concours	Oulton Park Nr Tarporley, Cheshire
Saturday 10 Jun	Targa Oultonian Night Rally	Oulton Park, Cheshire
Saturday 17 Jun	Brooklands Sprint	Brooklands Museum, Surrey
Weekend 17/18 Jun	LC&ES Summer Weekend	Defford, Worcestershire
Sunday 18 Jun	DI2 Driving Tests / Concours	Brooklands Museum, Surrey
Saturday 24 Jun	Scottish Tour	St Boswells, Roxburghshire
Sunday 25 Jun	Scottish AutoSolo	St Boswells, Roxburghshire
Mon 26–Fri 30 Jun	Scottish Highlands Tour	Crieff, Perthshire
Weekend 1/2 Jul	Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb	Nr Worcester, Worcestershire
Saturday 8 Jul	Hertfordshire Tour	Hertfordshire
Saturday 15 Jul	Eastern Rally	Suffolk
Sunday 23 Jul	Cadwell Park Race Meeting	Nr Louth, Lincolnshire
Weekend 5/6 Aug	Prescott Speed Hill Climb	Nr Gotherington, Glos
Saturday 12 Aug	Mallory Park Race Meeting	Nr Hinckley, Leicestershire
Sunday 20 Aug	Summer Concours	Woodland Grange, Leamington Spa,
Sunday 3 Sept	Suffolk Tour	Suffolk
Sunday 10 Sept	Madresfield Driving Tests	Nr Malvern, Worcestershire
Sunday 10 Sept	Madresfield Concours	Nr Malvern, Worcestershire
Saturday 16 Sept	Snetterton Sprint	Norwich, Norfolk
Saturday 16 Sept	Norfolk Tour	Norwich, Norfolk
Sunday 17 Sept	Snetterton Race Meeting & Autotests	Norwich, Norfolk
Weekend 16/17 Sept	LC&ES Autumn Weekend	Norwich, Norfolk
Saturday 23 Sept	Prescott Long Course Hill Climb	Nr Gotherington, Glos
Saturday 7 Oct	Castle Combe Autumn Classic	Nr Chippenham, Wiltshire
Weekend 7/8 Oct	Welsh Weekend Trial & Scatter Rally	Prestigne, Powys
Saturday 21 Oct	Autumn Sprint	Goodwood, West Sussex
Saturday 11 Nov	Lakeland Trial	Lorton, Cumbria
Saturday 18 Nov	Cotswold Trial	Prescott, Gloucestershire
Saturday 2 Dec	Winter Driving Tests	Bicester, Oxfordshire
Sunday 17 Dec	Dunstall Park Christmas Concours	Wolverhampton, West Midlands