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March 08

CRA Events – Going where driving is still a pleasure

Welcome to the first Newsletter for the 20th Classic Marathon. Plans for the event are progressing well and we are delighted with the quality of the entries we have received.

Anthony Preston and Chris Bruce have just returned from a highly successful recce trip. They were able to survey most of the route apart from some of the highest passes which are currently deep in snow.

The provisional route plan includes over 30 regularity sections (ranging from the maze of lanes around Ypres to the mighty passes of the Dolomites) and around 10 exciting special tests at a variety of venues.

We'll see you here on June 17th



CES

We are delighted to confirm that the 20th Classic Marathon and the 8th Rally of the Tests will be supported by CES. They have been involved in rallying for as long as the Marathon has been running and thankfully in the last couple of years they have developed a passion for classic rallying. Directors Howard Warren and Charles Colton have both entered Porsche 911's on the event and brought along Graham

Walker to make up our first team entry – Team CES.

Priority Registration

Some entrants who completed the priority registration form have not yet completed a full entry form, if this applies to you please complete the enclosed form as soon as possible. Without it we are missing a lot of information about you.

Reserve List to be Established

There has been a tremendous response and we are now setting up a reserve list. If you have previously submitted a Priority Form and are now unsure whether you will be able to compete please do let us know as soon as possible in order that we keep those on the reserve list advised.

Ferries

Due to the wide variation in ferry / tunnel services required we have not been able to negotiate any special arrangements. Currently there are very good rates available so we'd recommend you make your bookings as soon as possible.

Hotels

Included within the entry fee is eight nights hotel accommodation in a twin or double room. A limited number of single rooms are available on payment of a supplement. Should you wish to upgrade please return the enclosed form as soon as possible. We can also make arrangements for additional rooms at the finish in Cortina d'Ampezzo. These will need to be quoted on an individual basis so please get in touch with details of your requirements.

In some locations we will need to use more than one hotel, if anybody would like to volunteer to be in the non HQ hotels they will receive a reduced rate entry fee. All the alternative hotels will be within walking distance of the HQ.

Transporter Service

We are pleased to confirm that two companies will be offering transporter services to return cars to the UK from Cortina d'Ampezzo. Cars Europe will be providing a service using enclosed transporters, you can download a booking form from www.carseurope.net or give Niki Langley a call on 01284 850950. Regular competitor Peter Rushforth will also be providing a service utilising open transporters which of course is a cheaper option. Peter can be contacted on email as Peter@lhdplace.co.uk or 01256 461173. In order to offer competitive rates both companies need to ensure full loads so we'd recommend you register your interest as soon as possible in order that you can be allocated a space.

Flights

For those of you who are having their cars transported back from the event there are a couple of airport options for getting back from Cortina d'Ampezzo. The closest are Venice (Trevizo or Marco Polo) and Milan is not much further. Closer to the event we'll see if we can pair people up with regard to getting to the airport.

FIA Historic Regularity Rallies Championship

The 20th Classic Marathon will be a round of this prestigious championship and we have provisional notification that the 8th Rally of the Tests will be the final round. Don't forget that to score points you now need to register. Details of the Championship including current positions can be found on the FIA website - www.fia.com.

Regulations

The Supplementary Regulations are included with this mailing. Please take the time to read them prior to the event and don't be afraid to raise any queries.

Tyres

WE are pleased to confirm that once again Vredestein will be offering Classic Rally Association competitors a discount on their

tyres. A tyre order form is enclosed and must be used to take advantage of discounted rates.

Route Information

We'll be providing tulip style route instructions, these will be issued as a daily pack along with the Regularity and Test Information for the day. If some of the passes are not opened by the time of our final route survey we may have to substitute marked maps for some sections of route. Please read the Supplementary Regulations carefully with regard to which additional maps may be used. Please remember that in 1988 imagery downloaded from the Internet was not freely available and we don't want it used on this anniversary event!

Scrutineering

Scrutineering will take place on Friday evening between 17:30 and 19:30 and Saturday between 08:30 and 11:30.

Mechanical Assistance

The observant amongst you will have noticed that our usual sweep - Peter and Betty Banham will be competing this year - they are one of our pioneer crews having taken part in the 1988 event. Andy Inskip will be out in one vehicle and in another we'll have Bill Price and Graham Rood. They are also highly experienced at this role. They will do their very best to keep your car running should you have any mechanical problems. This service though is no substitute for good car preparation and you should remember to try the car out when it is fully loaded with a week's luggage and spare parts.

Baggage Van

If you want space on the baggage van please remember that it must be pre booked - if you don't pre book we will do our best but there is a limit to the weight we can carry. A booking form is enclosed.

Any Questions?

If there is any further information you require please don't hesitate to get in touch, contact details are shown below.

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