

areas. Please come prepared to work and bring along anything you can provide in the way of shovels, brooms and hedging gear.

The following is contributed by a member of the Club at present in exile:-

MOTOR SPORT IN DARKEST AFRICA

The 1955 Season of the 'Sport' is just getting under way out here - last Sunday (20.3.55) saw the first meeting which was held on rather a pleasant small circuit. This is a "kidney-shaped" course, of just under one and a half miles in length, the surface being hard packed mud, which apart from the surface is a little reminiscent of "Brands". - The car entries were rather disappointing, consisting of a couple of rather pretty looking M.G. Specials which managed about four laps between them; a couple of fairly standard M.G.'s which did not do much better (definitely an opening for Don Moore!) and a couple of 500s - all of which were beaten by a very standard looking Singer! Actually, this course does not really attract the car entrants, but provides some really excellent motorcycle racing - the fastest lap being at approx. 62 m.p.h. - which isn't bad on mud. This is the course on which Ray Amm started his career, and his record has been quite substantially beaten, so I needn't tell you that there are some really good riders here.

Apart from this course we have a true road circuit which is just under three miles in length, and is almost rectangular with some rather tricky corners - the first meeting will be in May and should provide some interesting racing, over fifty laps of the

course being the main event. In the absence of winning the top stake (top £25,000) guess I shall be waving the odd flag! (picking the odd infant off the course, as the spectator control is definitely not as per Goodwood etc.)
(Bushmead! - Ed.)

A further circuit is in course of construction, which being built round the perimeter of the local flying club has a small hill (or kopje) at either side, which will make for excellent spectator facilities - altogether not far from a town only fifty years old! Maybe it can be expected that everyone should be reasonably "motor conscious" - Rhodesia has the highest car-to-population proportion anywhere in the world at one car to every 2.3 people; judging by some of the drivers it is the .3 that is doing the driving.

I have just joined the local club (The Mashonaland C.C.) which recruits its members from quite a wide field, the next big town to Salisbury being Bulawayo, which is just under 100 miles away! Was quite surprised to find a very comprehensive programme embracing all the usual, such as Hill Climbs, Speed Trials, Navigation rallies and the rest - quite comprehensive in their requirements for a Scavenger Hunt too; amongst the articles "required" to be obtained" were a pair of Madu skins, a live chameleon, a dead guinea fowl, a live fly (willing to roll its eyes at the "judges"...) - but certain mutterings of protest were heard from the M.G. and T.A. owners at being asked to collect a double mattress, a baby's wheel chair and a riding saddle complete with stirrups and leathers! (Obviously an opening for the Dornobile!)

During the wet season (just coming to a close), Navigation rallies can be a bit hectic, as it is not uncommon for up to four inches of rain to fall in a couple of hours (as I found coming up from Johannesburg) which can quite easily catch you between a couple of itchy-bitsy streams, which turn into raging torrents in a few minutes - (I hear rumours that a certain P.A. owner and navigator wished they'd taken their motor-wings with them even in England...) but it all adds to the hazards.