



HRCR MIDLANDS NEWSLETTER : NOVEMBER 2016

This edition is being distributed later than usual owing to the HRCR Secretary's rallying in the Alps with other HRCR Midlands members - and so he should!



A TR3A tackles the Tissington Ford Wet Start Test during the inaugural 'modern' Rally of the Tests in 2001. Fifteen years later, the event comes to JCB's World HQ in Rocester where HRCR Midlands Members will be marshalling one of the tests.

FORTHCOMING HRCR MIDLANDS EVENTS

November 5 RAC RALLY OF THE TESTS : Day 2

The ROTT stops overnight halt in Stoke-on-Trent after a day in Wales, Shropshire and the Midlands. Regrettably, the test at the MoD's Swynnerton Camp is closed to spectators.

Where and time : see HERO website for spectator details

November 6 RAC RALLY OF THE TESTS : Day 3

The Sunday route takes in more of the HRCR Midlands area and skirting south of Manchester and the lanes of North Wales before the Finish in Chester.

Some Members have already offered to marshal at special tests at JCB's World Headquarters in Rocester. The first is in the very large main staff car park so needs both cone watchers and persons who can operate Liege clocks. But they will have to make early starts, the HERO organisers wishing the test to be set up by 0720hrs!

Those who are willing to assist should contact David Yorke via 07767 412919 or yorkesport@btinternet.com so that further information can be issued once it becomes available.

Where and time : JCB World Headquarters, Rocester. Staffs : marshals should arrive at 0630hrs to allow for setting-up the test by 0720hrs.

Nov 19 / 20 **DANSPOORT RALLY, DERBYSHIRE**

This Matlock Motor Club-organised event is Round 37 of the 2016 HRCR Premier Rally Championship and one of three such rounds taking place on the same night.

This is the one in the HRCR Midlands area and so offers 'local' Members opportunities for entering, marshalling and/or spectating. See last month's issue for further details.

Contrary to what was said in the last issue, the special test will be at the same venue as the Start, not at Steve Perez' place.

Where and time : Start and Finish at the Bakewell Showground. Look out for updates posted on the Matlock Motor Club website, Facebook page and Forums or contact DansportRally2016@hotmail.com.

December 5 **POSSIBLE CHRISTMAS QUIZ AND GET-TOGETHER**

Please not the date change and new venue.

The room available to us can accommodate up to 25 people.

The evening will include another quiz for single contestants rather than teams and will be in the format used last Christmas, being a lap-top based for single contestants rather than teams.

Meals will be available, but to help with the catering arrangements, prior notice is needed.

So please let Peter Haynes know by 25 November if you wish to join those of us who will be eating there. (0115 928 6595 and lotus@peterehaynes.plus.com)

Where and time : Royal Oak, 55 Green Lane, Ockbrook, Derby DE72 3SE : the social side of the evening will begin around 2030hrs to allow for with dining beforehand.

December 27 **CHRISTMAS TREASURE HUNT**

As mentioned in the last issue, Carlton and District Motor Club has invited HRCR Midlands Members to its Christmas Treasure Hunt. Vince Orme has updated us on progress as follows.

Well Christmas comes around once a year and what does it bring? The Carlton Motor Club Christmas Treasure Hunt!

This year the route will [sort of] be familiar to those who did the "Stewart chip run" in August. It was such a good route I had to use it again [with variations].

This year, I can promise the usual straightforward route instructions with a few less questions to answer and treasures to collect. All to be completed within 2 ½ hr, so in time for your excellent lunch.

More details will be on the flyer next month once route & finish venue have been confirmed. Please get your entries in early. Any questions please get in touch

Where and time : Further details should be available next month, but those who are interested should put the date in their diaries / phones now and/or contact Vince Orme.

January 14 **HRCR OPEN DAY**

The usual alternative to the NEC's Autosport Show with its greater focus on historic rallying and no entry charges. The new extension is worth visiting but you will have to pay to do so.

HRCR Midlands' input will be the launch of the 2017 Derbyshire Dales Drive. As ever, volunteers are wanted to man / woman / person the stand during the day.

Details of HRCR events in 2017 should be available

Where and time : British Motor Heritage Museum, 11 Banbury Rd, Gaydon CV35 0BJ

January 16 **AN EVENING WITH GUY SMITH**

Guy Smith does historic rallying as an antedote to driving Bentleys in the Works' GT racing series, his most significant success being a winning driver in the 2003 24hrs Le Mans race.

At the time of writing, he is still available to come and talk to us, subject to his ongoing international racing commitments with Bentley.

A venue has now been booked provisionally which has room that can accommodate 40 to 50 people. Carvery meals are also available.

Clearly, a decent turn-out is required so other motor clubs are being invited and

Again, a reliable pre-indication of interest is needed, so please let David Yorke (yorkeposrt@btinternet.com) or Peter Haynes (lotus@peterehaynes.plus.com) know as soon as possible if you wish to attend.

Where and time : Coopers Arms, Weston-on-Trent DE72 2BJ with a 2030hrs start (subject to confirmation which will be given in later Newsletters).

March 19 **AGBO RALLY : WESTON PARK**

This stage rally is both local and likely to be the first round of both the HRCR *Old Stager* Rally and Mini Cup Championships (or their successors). Consequently, HRCR Midlands will be offering its support to the organisers, Owen Motor Club.

The event is expected to be effectively a single venue rally in the delightful grounds of this country house off the A5.

Where and time : Weston Park, Staffs : times as yet unknown

April 28 -30 **7th DONINGTON HISTORIC FESTIVAL**

Donington Historic Festival has announced a number of exciting changes following the latest redevelopment at one of the UK's most iconic racing tracks. With a restored infield and a refreshed paddock now up and running at Donington Park, the event plans to capitalise on the new facilities that have been made available for 2017.

Following feedback from spectators and competitors, who come from all over Europe to compete, the festival is now running from Friday 28 – Sunday 30 April. This allows all the excitement of qualifying to take place on the Friday, and even more action-packed racing on Saturday and Sunday. See also <http://www.doningtonhistoric.com/the-event/>.

The theme of this year's event is 'get involved' and organisers have invested in a diverse range of entertainment both on and off the track in which families and fans can get immersed. This means that the popular rally car stage returns, together with a new stunt driving arena and other new attractions soon to be announced.

Richard Grafton, commercial director of Historic Promotions – which organises Donington Historic Festival – comments that "*There is nothing like getting close to the action and experiencing historic racing cars in all their glory. Donington is a great venue for allowing visitors to become part of the story and, now that the site has even more space available, we have an exciting opportunity to expand what we can offer. (For 2017) we wanted to create an immersive experience and so we've secured more content in which people can participate. It is an event that gives visitors close access to exhilarating entertainment, so we want people to leave Donington Historic Festival with a sense of delight and amazement at what they have experienced.*"

Whilst HRCR Midlands is likely to be back at the Festival, it is unlikely to be for all three days, for which the previous six time slots took a lot of filling. It is also unknown just what the Register's contribution to 'an immersive experience' and the insurance implications might be.

Where and time : Donington Park Racing Circuit : exact times yet to be confirmed

June 4 DERBYSHIRE DALES DRIVE

This will be the fifth running of our own round of the HRCR Scenic Tour Series which continues to be developed using the experience and entrant feedback gained from the previous events.

Where and time : Abbotsholme School, Rocester for both the Start and Finish with a picnic lunch at another location. The first car is likely to depart at 1001hrs.

July FIELD DAY AND GYMKHANA

Following the success of last year's inaugural event, for which the overall winner received the Andy Gibson Trophy, it is intended to return to the Prosser farm. One development is that Richard and Ann have offered to provide a barbecue at lunchtime.

Farming considerations and fickle British weather understandably mean that the actual date cannot be decided until nearer the time.

Where and time : Waste Farm, Hurley, Atherstone, CV9 2LR, easily located just off J10 on the M42. Signing On and Scrutineering probably at 1:00pm.

OTHER EVENTS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST

As ever, please confirm details with the relevant event organisers

Key to HRCR Events			
1	<i>HRCR Scenic Tour Series</i>		Series now finished
2	<i>HRCR Hagerty Insurance Clubmans Road Rally Championship</i>		Series now finished
3	<i>HRCR Augment Automotive Speed Series Hill Climb + Sprint Championship</i>		Series now finished
4	<i>HRCR Old Stager Historic Rally Championship</i>		Series now finished
5	<i>HRCR Stage Masters Historic Rally Challenge</i>		Last event this month
6	<i>HRCR Premier Rally Championship (road rallies)</i>		Last events this month
HRCR	Date	Event	Contact
	1-4 Nov	10th November Sun Run : From Eclance in the Champagne-Ardenne region to near Cannes	Auto Club Eclance
	8 Nov	November Scatter 12 Car Rally	Carlton + DMC
5	12 Nov	Wyedean Rally : Forest of Dean <i>HRCR Stage Masters Historic Rally Challenge Round 8</i>	www.wyedeanrally.com
	12 Nov	Donington Winterseries : Round 1	http://www.loughboroughcarclub.co.uk/
	12/13 Nov	Lancaster Insurance Classic Motor Show : NEC Birmingham	http://www.necclassicmotorshow.com/
	15 Nov	12-Car Rally	http://www.loughboroughcarclub.co.uk/
6	19/20 Nov	Peak Revs Road Rally : Shropshire <i>HRCR Premier Rally Championship Round 38</i>	email premier@hrcr.co.uk
6	19/20 Nov	Guy Fawkes Road Rally : Devon <i>HRCR Premier Rally Championship Round 39</i>	email premier@hrcr.co.uk
	19-21 Nov	Beaujolais Classic Tour	http://www.classicrallytours.com/beaujolais-rally/4591281899
6	26/27 Nov	Ed Instone Memorial Road Rally : Isle of Man <i>HRCR Premier Rally Championship Round 39</i>	email premier@hrcr.co.uk

	3-6 Dec	LE JOG : from one end t'ut t'other See Snippets for further details	http://www.heroevents.eu/Events/lejog/
	10 Dec	Donington Winterseries : Round 2	http://www.loughboroughcarclub.co.uk/
	13 Dec	The 12 Days of Christmas 12-car rally	http://www.loughboroughcarclub.co.uk/
	2017	Calendars of events awaited	
	21 Jan	Donington Winterseries : Round 3	http://www.loughboroughcarclub.co.uk/
	18 Feb	Donington Winterseries : Round 4	http://www.loughboroughcarclub.co.uk/

REPORTS

Reports and articles with historic rallying interest are very much welcomed. The views expressed are not necessarily those of either HRCR Midlands Management Team or the HRCR Committee. All rights are reserved by the respective contributors and their particular permission is required for reproduction of any material in this Newsletter.

THE DEVIL'S OWN RALLY : 8 OCTOBER 2016

This was the penultimate round of the 2016 HRCR Clubmans Road Rally Championship and the only one that ran into the evening after a late morning start. It was based at the Crooklands Auction Centre near Kirby Lonsdale and was 50 years since the first running but revived for a round of the HRCR series this year.

There were five tests, the first behind the auction centre itself, followed by "Harry & Ivy's Place" (a test around the farm yard buildings with a couple of tight 360s). It was then on to a quarry (fortunately not wet limestone this time!) and another farm yard one quite close the where we stayed for the weekend before the final one, "Willans Weave". just south of Kirby Lonsdale.



A selection of White Cars starting the first test behind the Auction Buildings

Two regularities followed. "Barbondale" was a series on spot heights with six speed changes that took us up above Kirby Lonsdale and "Killington" was on tulips, taking us over to Kendal. Test 6 was just above Kendal off an industrial estate (which was nothing like the map and hard to find!!) before joining Saturday traffic through Kendal and down to coffee at the Heaves Hotel. Here we got the evening plot so a quick coffee before heads down for plotting. A transit section went along the A590 following the coast to two tests, "Baubles & Tinsel" and "Its Christmas Time", round a small pine forest and past several little lakes.

Regularity 3 started near Cartmel on the road then turned into a forest for three slightly different loops, each time exiting the forest onto the highway but all entering on the same section of track which was great fun. I had to stop Clive from following other cars on different loops (I think we got it right!!) and the regularity finished near Newby Bridge. The supper halt was at the Lakeland Motor Museum with soup and sandwiches, and I even got 'Anji-friendly' soup made especially for me.

The evening section of three regularities was run at an average of 30mph throughout, on tiny Lakeland roads some not used for a long time. Quite a few of the competitors were not used to night rallies with several reporting sickness!.

Marred only by a couple of irate locals complaining that competitors were speeding, we were doing 12mph at that point and apparently one competitor had his window smashed by a man who blocked the road with his company van.

Anji Martin

PALLADWR RALLY : 23 OCTOBER 2016



Harvey Steel and Martin Pit "playing".



Yellow Escort drivers to the rescue.

Palladwr is the Roman name for Glastonbury and the rally is one that Clive had been looking forward to as it was partly run through Worthy Farm, better known as the home of the Glastonbury Music Festival. It was also the last round of the HRCR Clubmans Road Rally Championship.

A test in the car park preceded the first Jogularity which was around Worthy Farm, being 7.15 miles at 30mph. 'Maisie' again had to be restrained a few times

Unfortunately, being keen to put our overnight bags in the van and claim a delay allowance before the start, I didn't clock that the route continued on the public highway and there were two grid references I should have plotted. It took a few minutes to identify where we were and a couple of wrong slots before we got on the right route and picked up the controls.

Instructions for Regularity 2, "Dimmer Dump", were handed through the window at the start of Regularity 1. They comprised just five spot heights with no passing of others and travelling at 4536 miles per week. A quick long division calculated it to be at 26mph - but it should have been 27. Then came two farm tests run twice, both of which we had done on previous Bustard Endurance rallies.

Regularity 3, "Somerset Vales", was two minute hands on coloured roads, arriving by the first and departing by the second(38:56 30:03 etc.) then using a map extract, travel via spot heights to cross the River Brue three times. This entailed at blast up and down a white to Colinshays Manor, just north of Bruton, in front of the house to a control just before rejoining the main road. The next section was a herringbone before moving on to coloured road junctions. All of this was in just one regularity with 11 changes of speed!

Another jogularity and two tests at Hallets Farm took us to a picnic lunch at the Udder Shop near Gillingham. Quite a few crews were working on their cars in the bright sunshine. Fortunately we were OK so Clive helped Mike Tanswell in one of the other yellow Escorts doing the event.

Another test at Church Farm run twice and one at Slait Barn (another Great Bustard favourite) followed lunch before we were heading north to Regularity 5 "Whitham Park" which was mainly a descriptive with "under one railway line, one electricity line and one A road and over one white". This meant ignoring a T going up a long white, slipping on o the A road going over the "white" before slipping off again and going under it on the white road, quite hard to see on the map.

One more regularity took us back to Worthy Farm for the last test of 3.54miles.

Unfortunately, we had been baulked at about half of the controls but it was still a good result for us as we finished 11th overall and First in Class, but just two points short for Clive to beat Harvey to take the Drivers' Championship in Class N2.

Since I had done one more round than Clive and Harvey had had a different navigator earlier in the season on the first two rounds, I'd already secured the Navigator's Award for N2.

So with two class wins this season, I think we will have to become Experts next year.

Anji Martin

Many congratulations to both Anji and Clive on their excellent performance this season. We now expect great things on the Rally of the Tests – Editor



The Type 14 Elite and "Baby" Elan both made it round, the Elite taking several fastest test times!

WRGB NATIONAL RALLY : 27 - 30 OCTOBER 2016

Historic rally cars formed a significant proportion of the 82-car entry on the WRGB National Rally and showed that older cars (and in some cases, crew members as well) can still acquit themselves very well against more modern machinery.

o/a	No Driver/Co-driver	Class	Class Pos'n	Vehicle	Total Time	Diff. Leader
1	207 Bruce McCOMBIE/Michael COUTTS	B4	1	Mitsubishi Lancer Evo	1:56:17.7	
9	210 Rudi LANCASTER/Guy WEAVER	H3	1	Ford Escort RS1800	2:04:26.6	8:08.9
10	231 Chris SKILL/Tom JORDAN	H2	1	Ford Escort	2:06:49.5	10:31.8
13	221 Mike TOMKINSON/S.WHITEHURST	H3	2	Ford Escort RS1800	2:09:17.2	12:59.5
14	223 Gary SMITH/Bryan THOMAS	H2	2	Ford Escort	2:09:46.2	13:28.5
16	222 Jimmy McRAE/Pauline GULLICK	H2	3	Vauxhall Firenza Can-am	2:09:59.8	13:42.1
18	220 Mark BENTLEY/Ed BENTLEY	H2	4	Ford Escort	2:11:19.6	15:01.9
21	233 Andrew SIDDALL/Chris PATTISON	H2	5	Datsun 260Z	2:12:52.0	16:34.3
24	259 Arwell JONES/John JONES	H3	3	Ford Escort	2:13:48.8	17:31.1
25	254 Simon PICKERING/Siobhan PUGH	H2	6	Ford Escort MkI	2:14:25.5	18:07.8
29	240 Tom COUGHTRIE/C. COOLEGGE	K2	1	Ford Escort RS1800	2:15:49.3	19:31.6
30	241 Dave WATKINS/Brian HODGSON	H2	7	Ford Escort MkI	2:15:57.9	19:40.2
47	249 Rikki PROFFITT/David ALCOCK	H2	8	Datsun 240Z	2:25:54.5	29:36.8
48	238 Nick DANKS/Martin CORBETT	H2	9	Ford Escort MkI RS2000	2:27:13.0	30:55.3
55	273 Ron HALL/Phil SPILSTED	H3	4	Ford Escort MkII	2:44:22.4	48:04.7
57	275 Robert BEALES/Mike LEFLAY	K1	1	Volkswagen Oettinger GT	2:49:55.9	53:38.2

Not all of the Historics made the finish, however, retirements being as follows.

218	Ben FRIEND/Cliff SIMMONS	H3	Ford Escort MkII	Mechanical
227	Mark HOLMES/Craig SIMKISS	H2	Ford Escort	Did not start day 2
236	Barry JORDAN/J. GRATTON-SMITH	H2	Hillman Avenger	Did not start day 3
239	Aziz TEJPAN/Tim SAYER	H2	Ford Escort MkI	Did not start day 3

SNIPPETS

LE JOG : DATES AND BASIC ROUTE DETAILS

Unfortunately, LE JOG does not seem to be visiting in the Midlands this year, but those keen to see the event may be interested in the timetable

3 December 2016	08:00 to 12:30	Lands End to Okehampton:
	13:30 to 15:00	Okehampton to Tiverton
	18:30 to 23:59	Chepstow to Llanidloes
4 December 2016	00:01 to 03:00	Llanidloes to Chester
	09:00 to 12:30	Chester to Bentham
	12:30 to 18:00	Bentham to Gretna
5 December 2016	08:00 to 14:00	Gretna to Cumbernauld
	14:00 to 17:30	Cumbernauld to Balloch
	17:30 to 20:30	Balloch to Fort William
5 – 6 Dec 2016	22:00 to 01:00	Fort William to Inverness
6 December 2016	01:00 to 04:00	Inverness to Evanton
	04:00 to 10:00	Evanton to John O'Groats

A WIDER HISTORIC CATEGORY 4 FOR 2017

The MSA has published the motor sport regulation changes that come into effect in 2017 and amongst them, at last, is the inclusion of two categories of recognised Historic Rally Cars within Category 4.

This category already accepts cars registered and homologated from 1 January 1982 to 31 December 1985. However, such cars will now be recognised as Category 4A.

Category 4B is quite new, being for cars registered and homologated from 1 January 1986 to 31 December 1990.

This will suit those who have been speculating on cars falling into the latter category. The various BMW E30 3-Series and Peugeot 205 models come to mind, both having recently been the subjects of one-make rally series.

At the time of writing, it is not known what is to happen with the Group B cars of that period. Even so, the new category does mean that cars that are 25 years old can be officially classed as Historic

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

All contributions for next month's newsletter to be sent to David Yorke at yorkesport@btinternet.com **by no later than Friday 25 November**