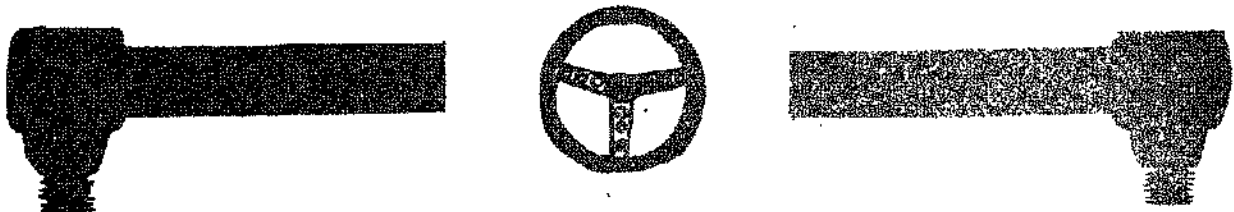


TRACKROD

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF TRACKROD MOTOR CLUB,

R.A.C. REGISTERED No. 1230



PHOTOGRAPHY BY R. SPURDENS



JOHN FAIRWEATHER / RAY SUTCLIFFE STARTING
"CWR" STAGE, MARINE DRIVE, ON THE 1975
SCARBOROUGH STAGES RALLY UNDER FOUR
VERY WATCHFULL STATION EYES!!

JANUARY 1976 - No. 63

TRACKROD MOTOR CLUB

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TRACKROD MAGAZINE

JANUARY 1976

NO. 63

EDITORIAL

Have you all made your New Year resolutions yet? Like resolving not to beat the wife any more now that the Sex Discrimination Act allows her to retaliate. Perhaps we are going to see an influx of women into the supposedly mens world of motor sport where only a few brave female souls venture at present. I for one would welcome such an influx (besides, if I said anything else, the girlfriend would thump me). There now. I've fulfilled my new year resolution; if that doesn't stir up some heated correspondence for the magazine's letters column I don't know what will!

I always find that it is easier to think up resolutions for other people than to think of any that I might keep. For instance, how about Ken Goodall resolving to finish an event behind us instead of in front of us for a change? Or the BBC resolving to televise a full season of 12 car rallies? The list is endless and I'm sure that you can all think of any number of resolutions for me to keep. Most of them not fit for publication no doubt! I think I'll stick to being my normal, over loquacious self, enjoying life and boring you all as much in 1976 as in 1975_

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Ed.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 11th January - Closed Joint autotest at Woolley Edge service station on the M1. You c'an't miss it - there are great big signs! Regs from Steve Mills or Bob Chapman. Wheel spin begins at 11.00 am. So plenty of entries this time please.
- 13th January - Noggin at the Wharfedale, Arthington. MR 104(m) 2594484
- 16th January - Dinner Dance at the Post House Bramhope. MR 104(M)/238435. Only a very few tickets left, so if you still want one (or two) contact a committee member as soon as possible. Bar extension until 1.30 and disco until 2.00.
- 20th January - Third round of the indoor rally championship to be held at the Duke of Wellington East Keswick MR 104(M)/362441. This round organised by Nigel Drayton and the map required will be 1" sheet 91.
- 27th January - Noggin at the Shoulder of Mutton, Kirkby Overblow MR 104(M) 3264933
- 3rd February Noggin at the Square and Compass, North Ripton, for which the map reference is 104(M)/342525.
- 19th/20th Feb The Mintex International. Martin Kemp informs me that we have a stage at Cropton on the Saturday and that we are as usual on the look out for as many marshals as possible. More detail within the mag.

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT.

The end of the year means that another RAC rally has come and gone, and Trackrod members were once again very much in evidence on many of the Yorkshire stages (and a good few others too - Ed). In fact, it seemed that wherever one went in Yorkshire that day, red and black car stickers and anorak badges were to be found. Indeed, thinking back to one particular corner in Staindale, it appeared that there were more Trackrod members than members of the organising club!

On the Wednesday morning, we had our stage at Boltby and what a terrific turnout there was? There was! We had about fifty carloads of marshalls ready and waiting to go into the stage at 6.30 am. I understand that one or two cars were eventually taken right through the stage to the finish and then, left to their own devices, the occupants had to walk back into the stage and find themselves a marshalling point. I extend our apologies to those marshals concerned and hope that this did not spoil their mornings enjoyment.

The stage as a whole ran extremely well and I would like to extend my thanks to all those who were in attendance. Whether you were timekeeping, recording, gatekeeping, marshalling a corner, or assisting with the communications, you carried out your jobs in a most professional manner. Jim Porter and our area organiser, Gordon Forster were delighted with our stage and had conducted international stewards from Portugal, Greece, Italy and Sweden through it before the competitors began to arrive.

On now to more recent things; our Christmas Party was an outstanding success, thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended. Regrettably I was not able to be there, having a more pressing engagement.....with the bottom of a Lincolnshire dyke! Our ladies worked hard and the result was a first class party, which was followed by a no less successful Boxing Day Autotest with no less -han 18 entries. 'Handbrake' Ineson set Ftd. and everyone went home satisfied with a good mornings sport spent trying to catch him.

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Our next competitive event will be the Co-promoted autotest on January 11th. With memories of having to cancel the last one for lack of entries, I must point out that a good entry is essential for the success of this type of event. We have a fine new venue at Woolley Edgedand I am assured that none of the tests are of the particularly mind-bending type. So put in an entry and have a go - you could be the next autotest ace. Bob Chapman and Steve Mills are in charge, so get in touch with them and reserve your entry right now.

Hardly a month seems to go by without members scoring successes in other club's events. On the Berwick Trophy, Ed Baker and Marcel Girardier were 14th overall, took the award for the best twin-cam car and also the team award in company with the White Cross Motors outfit, who seem to be making a habit of collecting team awards these days. Meanwhile, on the Bently Trophy Rally, Ken Goodall/Hugh Edwards were 2nd overall and Vincent Girardier/Jack Coulthard were 4th o.a. This was the event on which Roger Blamey's Firenza attempted to go skin diving in a dyke and very nearly succeeded. Ken's result should give him 2nd place in the ANCC championship behind Geoff Birkett, which is a fine result indeed. Keep up the good work Ken.

And now for a final word. The Dinner Dance is closing on us fast; the 16th January is the date and there are very few tickets left, so if you still dont have any, this is your last chance - see Rod Parkin Immediately!

KLMC BULLOUGH TROPHY RALLY.

After running this event as a high quality road event for some years, Kirkby Lonsdale decided to convert it into a 'low key' stage event in order to give themselves some stage organising experience, so that it was on a cold and frosty November morning that crews lined up for scrutineering at Peter Kirk's Kirkby motors garage.

There were three Trackrod crews entered for the event; at number 10 were the brothers Girardier, Vincent and Marcel; at 44 the Team White Cross Mexico of John Fairweather/Ray Sutcliffe, while rounding off the team was the similar car of Peter Germaine/Ronnie Moore at 49. An hour was adequate to plot the stage references given in the road book, especially as three of the stages were unfortunately cancelled.

Stages one and two were two of those cancelled, so the first cars departed at 9.30 for stage 3, Crag Hall. Here there was a short hold-up while the farmer removed some of his machinery from the road. This narrow and slippery stage was followed by Halton Camp, a fast concrete and loose stage with tight 90's and hairpins in places. One 90 very nearly caught out Vince on this stage (Didn't he remember it from the Illuminations? - Ed.), while John and Ray suffered a puncture, though they carried on to the finish of the stage before changing it.

On stage 5, Wild Duck Hall, it was our turn for a small off, but with no serious consequences, we carried on through a couple of extremely rough stages where we gave flying demonstrations to stage 9, Borwick Hall. This stage should have had two fords on it, but the finish was moved to just after the first ford as the second one was rather too deep. The first ford was almost a foot deep and caused quite a few problems itself. John was held up for a while when a mini decided to go sailing, while we got through ok, but scattered a few marshalls when the brakes decided not to work properly at the flying finish. Never knew that marshalls could run so fast!

We had a puncture on the way to Capernwray Hall, which was stage 10, so we had to tackle it on 3 ultragrips and one G800. Not good for the handling! Melling Hall was the lunch halt, and as we were leaving for the second half, John and Ray arrived with a tale of woe and a borrowed radiator from a twin-cam with a blown engine, his own having made sudden contact with the fan. We had now managed to balance up the car by fitting another G800 to match the one already on the front, so that by the time we arrived at Stage 12, Salt Eyre (rather like a council tip, but a lot of fun) the car was handling much better. Then came Kallett stage, a quarry with a very slippery uphill hairpin that hardly seemed wide enough for a car, though we somehow managed to get up it, before a return visit to some of the morning stages. On Borwick 2, slightly shortened from the morning, there was a holdup when car number 7 managed to collect a gatepost on a fast left and comprehensively banana his escort.

By the time we tackled the last stage, it was beginning to get dark. We had another slight off, again without losing much time. (Try feeding the driver more carrots - Ed.) To our surprise, Vincent and Marcel were still at the finish of this stage, busily changing a wheel which they had smashed on a large stone. They had completed the stage on three wheels and a brake drum, causing them to lose some valuable seconds.

The finish was also at Melling Hall, where we found that John and Ray were well ahead of us in tackling the Bar Stage - They had been there since being pulled up by a radar trap whilst running late after fitting their borrowed radiator. This had proved too much for the time schedule, so they had retired on the spot.

Perhaps this was not such a bad thing, since the rally had been pretty hard on cars, with many examples of body damage being visible at the finish, despite the organisers tag of 'non-damaging'. When the results were announced after only a short wait, it transpired that stages 16 to 14 had been cancelled, along with stage 10, much to the relief of messrs Girardier. After a second look at the score sheet, It finally sunk in that Peter and I had come home first novice! With us on 12.71 penalties, this also gave us 15th overall, while despite their troubles, Vincent and Marcel recorded 12.16 to come home in 8th place.

Ronnie Moore

INDOOR RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP 2ND ROUND

The pace is really beginning to hot up now in the Championship, with no less than 12 crews starting the second round. Clerk of the Course was Hon. Sec. Rod Parkin, who soon had the start well organised and all the crews plotting furiously.

The experts were soon well into the route, with the championship leaders battling away at the front. Some of the competitors who were competing in their first indoor rally were having a little difficulty with the sometimes devious instructions presented to them (what does UDUDD stand for for instance?) but help was always forthcoming.

With penalties being handed out for taking over the 90 minute allotted time period, several people elected to stop on time, but this proved to be their undoing. Experience told here and those astute souls who carried on found that they were able to amass enough extra points to more than cover their time deficit. After a hard fought battle therefore victory went to John Richardson by a very short head from that team of up and coming newcomers Ian Gurnett & Frank StuartBrown. Third place went to Martin Kemp & Steve Holden who just managed to get a nose in front of the hard challenging ladies crews of Mary Lloyd who was 4th followed closely by Sue Broadbelt & Pauline Phillips. After 2 rounds therefore, the championship points stand as follows:-

	1st	Frank Stuart-Brown/Ian Gurnett	39 Points
Equal	2nd	Mary Lloyd	36 "
"	2nd	Martin Kemp/Steve Holden	36 "
	4th	Bob/Joyce Chapman	31 "
	5th	Ronnie Moore/Peter Germaine	28 "
	6th	John Richardson	20 "
	7th	Andrew Roddy/David Lee	17 "
	8th	Sue Broadbelt/Pauline Phillips	16 "
	9th	Jim/Janet Thirsk	15 "
	10th	Mike Swan/Dave Brabiner/Nigel Latimer	12 "
	11th	John Fairweather/Ray Sutcliffe	10 "
	12th	Andrew Tesseyman	9 "

Remember though that some of these crews have competed on two rounds while others have competed on only one, and as crews who manage to compete on all five rounds will have to drop one score, anything can happen yet. Watch this space

Richard Spurdens

DINNER DANCE

Just another quick reminder that the dinner dance tickets have nearly all gone, so if you wish to have a real good doo at the Post House on the 16th, you had better get in touch with a committee member pretty sharpish

Ed.

STOP PRESS:- Will all those people who have expressed interest in the navigation classes please give their names to myself or John Richardson, as we hope to run the first class at the Square on 3rd Feb. Map 104 (M) pencils, romers & rubbers will be required.

MINTEX INTERNATIONAL

The Mintex is drawing closer folks and as usual, we have a Yorkshire forest to marshal. Let's hope that it will be as successful a stage as it has been - so we need lots of marshals. The stage this year will be Cropton, which is I think a new venue for Trackrod and the Stage Commander will be Martin Kemp who will be very glad of all the assistance that you can give him, so contact him forthwith (or fifthwith in the days of inflation).

Ed.

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to take this opportunity of welcoming the following new members

Mike Fisher
Hugh Edwards
Jean Ambler
John C D Rennie
David Marshall
Steven J Palmer

We hope that their association with the club will be a long and happy one.

IT'S SUBSCRIPTION TIME!!!!

Yes folks! Once again it is subscription time, so dig deep and let us have your subs as soon as possible to make our job as easy as possible. Unfortunately inflation has struck at us as it has at everyone else, so that the sub this year has been raised by 50p to £2.50 for full membership. Our membership Sec is Steve Holden, whose address can be found on the inside cover of the Mag, and who would be very grateful if you could let him have your subs straight away.

MUTTERINGS

Thanks to all those people who have offered themselves, wives/girlfriends, mothers etc. to do the typing for me. Hopefully this is the last time that you will all have (there! another mistake) to suffer my fumble fingered offerings at Magazine time

Fickle Finger of Fate Award, Clanger of the Month must go to yours truly again (Thinks - this is becoming monotonous). Guess who forgot two of the clues in last month's crossword? - Hmm. Anyway, I gotta witness who sez that it can be completed without the missing clues as long as you are a Mensa member, so here are the answers:

ACROSS: 1) Father Christmas, 2) Rural 10) easel 12) Evening 13) Yellows
14) Inc 16) Beam 18) A non-gambler 19) Nave 21) Woe 25) Neath
26) Tassels 27) El 28) Inept 29) On ice 30) Gasket 31) Crescent

DOWN: 1) Farmer 2) Turkey 3) Eclair 4) Changing a wheel 5) Rally Competitor
6) Shell 7) Misnomer 8) Selfsame 15) One 16) Bed 17) Engaging 18) Avengers
20) Rattle 22) Ascots 23) Device 24) Assent

Next month, when your tired brains have had a chance to recover, there will be another chance to stretch them, this time provided by Richard Spurdens, but rest assured that it will be rather less difficult than the last one.

Guess who has done it again? Yes. None other than the flying butcher, who, with Hugh Edwards, brought home the bacon on the Bently Trophy rally when he finished 2nd overall. Close behind (Curse you Red Baron! - we'll have you yet) were Vincent Girardier/Self in 4th place. Poor Roger Blamey/John Richardson very nearly took pride of place (not a typing error) when they investigated a very deep dyke. Fortunately for them, drought had set in, so they stayed dry-footed.

Eds.

Photo copy by CLC B CLARKSON



"LIVE HICKER, GIVING JAM COUNTRY A THRILL ON THE 1974
OUR CH LING"