

TRACKROD

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ELVIN GARNETT / STEVE MILLS ON THE 1975 COSTA
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TRACKRCE MOTOR CLUB

1976 - 1977

OFFICERS

Chairman -- John Richardson, 67, West Park, Selby
Tel. H- Selby 2048; B- Ossett 6718.
Secretary Rod Parkin, 'Craigsides', 15, Holly Drive, LS16
Tel. H- Leeds 671918; B- Pudsey 77731
Treasurer Bob Chapman, 19, Devonshire Ave, Leeds LS8 1AV
Tel. H- Leeds 663004; B- Leeds 459631

COMMITTEE

Steve Holden, 7 Cross Flatts Row, Leeds 11
Tel. H- Leeds 663714; B- Leeds 821918
Richard Ineson, 4 Moseley Wood Drive, Leeds 16
Tel. H- Leeds 679329
Martin Kemp, 185 Stanningley Road, Leeds 12
Tel. B- 37287
Steve Lloyd, 18 Lairum Rise, Clifford, Wetherby
Tel. H- B.S. 843574
Steve Mills, 36, Hilton Road, Roundhay, Leeds 8
Tel. H- Leeds 625294; B- Bfd 73501
Richard Spurdens, 14, Beech Spinney, Partridge
Wood Hill, Wetherby
Tel. H- Weth 4015; B- Harr 2126/7
Frank Stuart Brown, 15, St. Mary's Close, Leeds 17
Tel. H- 620163

Competitions Secretary
Richard Spurdens

Assistant Competitions Secretary
Martin Kemp

Trophy Points Secretary
Steve Mills

Membership Secretary
Steve Holden

Editor & Deputy Chairman
Steve Lloyd

Merchandising Officer
Frank Stuart Brown

Assistant Editor & Shell
Team Captain
Richard Ineson

Public Relations Officer
Steve Hazeldene

FEBRUARY 1977FUTURE EVENTS

- 4th February - Dinner Dance - Post House, Bramhope. 7.30-8.00
Dancing 'till 2.30 a.m.
- 8th February - Noggin, The Wharfedale, Arthington (104/258449)
- 15th February - Indoor Rally Championship, Round 5, The Duke of
Wellington, East Keswick. (Map 104)
- 22nd February - Noggin, Shoulder of Mutton, Kirby Overblow
- 24th/25th Feb. - Mintex International, Start Yorkshire Show
Ground, Harrogate. Contact Martin Kemp for
details of our stage, lets make it a good one!
- 1st March - Noggin, Square and Compass, North Rigton
- 6th March - C/J P.C.T. - Details from Steve Mills
Round One of our P.C.T. championship and our
renewed friendly rivalry with those ace mud pluggers
from Ilkley. Don't miss it.
- 8th March - Film Show - Old Corinthians Clubhouse, Seacroft
Details from Rod Parkin
- 13th March - Elcar Trophy Stages Rally - David Brown M.C.
Probably a Shell League round, certainly a past
airfield and farmtrack event, but good value
within those limits. Great for Porsches.
- 15th March - Final Round, Indoor Rally Championship, The Duke
of Wellington, East Keswick (Map) The finish
promises to be very close indeed, so keep going,
all of you. Its not won till its lost!
- 22nd March - Noggin, Bingley Arms, Bardsey
- 29th March - Noggin, Shoulder of Mutton, Kirby Overblow
- 3rd April - Trackrod/Leeds Junior Chamber of Commerce Stages
Rally. Being finalised as we go to press, full
details will be circulated shortly, and be in
the next magazine. BUT PLEASE KEEP THE DATE
FREE. WE NEED ALL OF YOU, either to enter, or
to marshall. THIS is YOUR event. Look out,
Mintex, here we come!
- 5th April - Noggin, Square and Compass

1977 MINTEX INTERNATIONAL RALLY (25/26/27th February)

Yet again we will be running a stage on this event. At present, all we know is that it is DALBY on the Saturday Morning (26th Feb.) and opens at, would you believe 05.30 hrs. It is possible that we will be running the same stage on Friday evening also which will give you keen marshalling time to get your heads down before the competitors arrive for the second run.

As there are some 250 stage miles on the event there should still be ample time for you to take in spectating on other stages after "ours".

you
Should/be interested in marshalling at Dalby (and hundreds! of
volunteers are needed) please contact:-

Martin Kemp Tel. 37287 (B)) or at any
or Rod Parkin Tel. 577731 (B)) club night

FUTURE EVENTS FROM OTHER CLUBS

- 12/13th February - South Shore Blackpool, Roskirk Rally (Restricted)
26/27th February - Mini Miglia Rally. Knowdale C.C. Rest. A.N.C.C.
5/6th March - Wakefield & D.M.C. Povice Rally (C.J.)
Trackrod invited (Map 110)
19/20th March - Lindholme Thompson Trophy Rally
Trackrod invited (Maps 111, 105, 106)
26/27th March - Alwoodley M.C. Rally Closed Joint
Trackrod invited
27th March - Shipley & D.M.C. Stages Rally Rest. (Maps 93,
94, 99, 100)

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

It seems rather a long time now since the Boxing Day Autotests, but one must mention the Woodhouse Moor extravaganza!! Again it was a well supported event ably conducted by Ian Gurnett and assistants who produced a somewhat loose and muddy venue to finish our years competitive events.

The start to this years events was suprisingly little better. Steve Mills Autotest was going to be at Pudsey Civic Centre, but a Pakistani wedding interfered with that (honestly!) so a rapid change of venue to Tockwith was required. Those who competed last time at Tockwith and remembered the dry, hot and dusty venue of last June were in for a shock as an icy cold wind, some rain and a liberal coating of mud all over the tarmac made the going decidedly dodgy, but very amusing for the Marshalls, talk about slight understeer!! Despite the conditions (or perhaps partly because of them) a very good days sport ensued. The Halfway Garage Mini held together for Richard Ineson to take FTD and Tony Marshall a class win, very satisfying for them. David Taylor won the small Mini class while Gerald Taylor, in of all things an MG B, beat all our Escort experts in the big car class.

Many of you will now be aware that our major event of the year, the "Costa di Plenti" road rally, is a qualifier for the "Motoring News" championship this year. This is something that we have all had in mind as a target for some time, but the fact that the event has achieved this in only its fourth year is a tremendous compliment to all who have been involved in the formative years of the event. Martin Kemp has been joined by Steve Mills as Assistant Clerk of the Course this year and they are already out "on the road", sorting out the route for this year. DO NOT arrange anything for the weekend of September 17/18th. Your services will be required on Costa duty!! If you would like to be involved at an earlier stage, have a word with Martin or Steve now.

With the turn of the year the ANCC Road Rally championship has now been finalised and Ken Goodall has finished in third place. This is the third year in succession that Ken has finished in the top three, a tremendously consistent performance. Our rallying year has started with a very snowy Riponian in which we had four crews in the top ten finishers. Steve Rothbone and Frank Stuart Brown were again in the top three and Dave Lawton, Steve Hazeldine, Alan Powell and Ron Mackinnon and Martin Kemp, Steve Holden all made the top ten. These are very fine performances from all of you, keep up the good work.

JMR

Darts and Doms

We have been challenged to a return Darts and Doms match with Ilkley M.C., at their clubnight on Wednesday, 30th March. We have a defeat to avenge, so lets have plenty of volunteers for this do, to Eddie Baker, please, venue to be decided.

Also, on Friday, 1st April, we will be having an All Fools Disco (but the only fools will be those who don't go!) again, venue to be decided, but make a note on't.

SHELLSPORT LEAGUE

Perhaps the time is opportune to recap the Club's ventures in this inter-club competition during 1976. For those who are unaware, the "League" only takes place through the generosity of Shell Marketing and is organised on their behalf by the Yorkshire Sports Car Club. The competition is open to all Yorkshire based motor clubs and was first run in 1972 to encourage friendly and sporting rivalry between clubs. Since 1972 the League has grown from strength to strength and in 1976, no less than twenty clubs took part. The general idea is that each club enters a team of 5 cars in each of ten rounds (rounds being organised by the top ten clubs from the previous year) and points are scored equal to the number of starters in the respective classes plus 10 points for actually starting.

Each round carries cash awards to the successful clubs, (1st £10, 2nd £5 during 1976) i.e. those teams scoring the most points, added to which is the Shell League Trophy and £75 to the club with the highest points score after round 10, £50 to the second placed club and £25 for the third.

Round 1 in 1976 was the Elcar Trophy Rally (David Brown M.C.) on which Trackrod kicked off to a fine start scoring 488.74 points and netting £10 for the kitty for first club on the day. This was achieved by a rather fortunate choice of Team including R. Jackson (2nd Overall/2nd in Class) D. Lawton (1st in Class) R. McKinnon (5th) M. Kemp (6th) and V. Girardier (8th). I shall be forever grateful to these lads for performing so well, this being the first time I had acted as Team Captain, and they boosted my morale (and their own) no end! (Ilkley finished in 5th Place, 200 pts in arrears).

After the Elcar came a P.C.T. (Ilkley & D.M.C.) for which we had a potentially strong team but, alas, it didn't somehow work. Steve Lloyd retired his Mexico with a duff clutch, Richard Spurdens always seemed to get the worst of the conditions in his class and finished a lowly 22nd, Tony Marshall in his BGT, was in a small class and had terrific opposition finishing 5th. Steve Mills in the large mini class finished a respectable 11th. Our one performer who did excellently was Steve Waddington (a recent signing from Ilkley after much arm twisting!) who finished 2nd and was our highest scorer with 97.50. Our total for the day was 242.90, only good enough for sixth position (no £!) - Ilkley, of course won with 488.95 which put them 1st overall with us 2nd.

Elation followed by comparative disappointment on my part led to much head scratching prior to the next round, another P.C.T.

(Sheffield & Hallamshire M.C.) in the Sheffield area. However our team, Steve Mills, Tony Marshall, Steve Lloyd, Andrew Roddy and Steve Waddington, came shining through just like the sun to score 327.80 pts, enough for 2nd on the day (£5) - 120 points behind Ilkley (again!). Steve Lloyd started his run of body mods to his Mexico on this event with a hefty ding in his wing!

Round four, an autotest (Slaithwaite M.C.) saw the rise of York M.C. into the fray, prior to this round they were a close 3rd behind Ilkley and us but their fine performance on this day took them into 2nd spot nudging us down to 3rd. However, we came 2nd on the day (25) thanks to Steve Mills, David Taylor, Steve Lloyd, Ken Goodall and your Team Captain who collectively scored 342.2 to York's 460.6. Round five, another autotest (York M.C.) and what a mind bender by all accounts, long complicated tests and lots of hanging about! Steve Mills, David Taylor, Steve Lloyd, Ken Goodall and Philip Cartwright collected 213.3 points which was only good enough for 5th. Ken unfortunately invented his RS2000 resulting in, the need for much body beating and an effective team of four. York won the day (who else? - had they been practising those awful tests?) Overall though we were still 3rd and the contest had clearly developed into a three horse race!

Round six, a hillclimb (Huddersfield M.C.) at Scamsonden, never a Trackrod strong point in the league and our team of David Taylor, Steve Mills, Steve Zen and Richard and Sue Jackson added 194.6 to our tally being 4th on the day, of the top two only York beat us - by 25.9 points! Ilkley were 6th, 100 behind us! This put York in the overall lead and Ilkley 2nd.

Round 7, the Costa Di Plenti Road Rally (US!) and did we have a fantastic team?? - we sure did - Vince Girardier; Ken Goodall; Mike Fisher; Dave Lawton and Steve Lloyd - Unbeatable? - we thought so, but by god we were, by Ilkley! Mike Fisher retired when his exhaust fell off at 1/1. Dave Lawton lost his gears and Steve Lloyd continued the body rods to his Mexico! Only two left! and those two scored 240.0 Vince 1st O/A and Ken 3rd, 2nd on the event on points and another 25 but Ilkley were still in front of us overall and York 1st. The gap between us (3rd) and Huddersfield (4th) was now 585.0 points and it was now definitely a 3 horse race for the final run in of 3 rounds.

Round eight, another P.C.T. (Ripon M.S.C.) where Tony Marshall, Steve Tazeldine, Richard Spurdens, Steve Lloyd and Steve Waddington tried once again to wrest the P.C.T. laurels from Ilkley - again we were unsuccessful - bridesmaids again and 2nd on the day with another 25 and a closed gap with the top 2 who had now reversed positions - Ilkley 1st York 2nd.

Round nine, autotests (Y.J.S.C.) and we had to keep in touch with the Leaders, David Taylor, Steve Mills, Ken Goodall (undeterred by his earlier autotest exploits). Steve Lloyd and Team Captain did a fine job but were again 2nd (25) to York who beat us by a measly 4 points!

With one round to go, The Moonraker Rally (North Humberstone M.C.) and it couldn't be more tense. Would I be able to pick the right team? 342 points separated the top 3 - could we do it? - we certainly had a chance of catching York - just, but it was doubtful if we could catch Ilkley. Of course, its all history now, we only had five entries so the team picked itself and saved me a lot of sweat, and they:- Steve Rathbone; Dave Lawton; Bob Chapman; Ian Brown and Elvin Garnet, all played a blinder, Steve Rathbone being 1st O/A, and the others all finishing in the top 25, scoring 467.5 points and getting us our 2nd 1st on the day (£10) but Ilkley finished a close second and retained the overall lead, winning the Championship for the 2nd year running by 322 points and WE DID beat York to 2nd place by a meagre 6 points - what a fantastic finish!! For our efforts we received £40, won on individual events added to £50 for being 2nd club overall which gave us £90 for the Club funds, probably going towards the new caravan we are buying from Shell.

It is interesting what facts emerge when one reflects on a season long competition like this, looking at it coldly, if everyone who had started an event had scored 50 points, which means beating approx. 20% of your class (which I don't think is too much to expect) we would have scored an additional 396 points - sufficient to win us the league and that trophy and the extra cash!! Unfortunately, motor sport is motor sport and retirements do occur at the most infuriating times and we can't foresee them so we have to accept them, so to those of you who did retire on Shell League events (or any other event for that matter!) my sincere commiserations. To those of you who scored less than 50.0 points - pull yer flippin' socks up because in 1977 we're going to win this Shell League!!!

My sincere thanks to all those who have entered on our behalf and are you available for 1977? because I may just be calling on your services/ability again.

Finally, the 1977 League looks like being better than ever with similar competitions in Lancashire and the Midlands - more details next month when, I hope, the calendar of events will be published.

Thanks to you all again.

Richard Ineson
Team Captain

As one of those team members who scored just 10 points on two occasions, I hang my head in shame! But I am pleased to announce that Richard will be Team Captain again for this year. After his sterling efforts in 1976, we couldn't have a better man for the job. All he needs is your support (he'll wear it with pride!) and we will win in 1977. Many thanks, Richard, for last years magnificent efforts.

LIST OF A.N.C.C. ROUNDS
AT PRESENT TIME (JANUARY)

15/16th January	Riponian - Ripon M.S.C.
26/27th February	Min. Miglia - Knowl'dale C.C.
23/24th April	Burgess Bowl - Glossop
11/12th June	Bury 100 - Ripon M.S.C.
25/26th June	10 of Clubs - S.D.34
23/24th July	Calderford - Wakefield
6/7th August	Devils Own - Kirby Lonsdale
17/18th September	Costa-De-Plenti - Trackrod M.C.
1/2nd October	Midnight Rally - Bolton-Le-Moors
15/16th October	Tour of Mull - 2300 C.C.
12/13th November	Snowdrop - A & P
3/4th December	Hall-Trophy - Clitheroe

Vehicle Regulations Changes 1977

There are several changes to the "Blue Book" of R.A.C. rules for 1977. They are detailed in the back of the 1977 Year Book, and should be studied by all regular competitors. However, the following extracts apply to Rallies and are worth noting.

1. An emergency red warning triangle to be carried.
 2. Carry a minimum of 5 kg. of BCF or BTM fire extinguishers in not more than two units. BTM is not available in the UK yet (!) but BCF is, and Nigel Drayton can arrange favourable terms with Chubb for the purchase of same.
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