

# TRACKROD

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF TRACKROD MOTOR CLUB LIMITED

R.A.C. Registered No. 1230

150 April, 1983



## **TRACKROD MOTOR CLUB LIMITED**

### **Officers and Committee - 1982/83**

<b>Chairman</b>	Rod Parkin, 15 Holly Drive, Leeds 16 Tel. Leeds 671918 (H)
<b>Secretary</b>	Keith Bowen, 107 Poplar Way, Leeds, LS13 4SU Tel. Leeds 792047 (H) 509957/9 (B)
<b>Treasurer</b>	Richard Spurdens, 442 Stonegate Road, Leeds 16 Tel. Leeds 694805 (H)

### **COMMITTEE**

<b>Editor</b>	John D. Bean, 58 Moseley Wood Gardens, Leeds 16 Tel. Leeds 611132 (H)
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~~Membership Secretary - Michael Ogden, 78 St. Charles Drive, Leeds 6  
Tel. Leeds 786286 (H)~~

<b>Competition Secretary</b> <b>Trophy Points Secretary</b> <b>A.N.C.C. Rep.</b>	Ronnie Moore, 61 Henshaw Avenue, Yeadon, Leeds 19 Tel. Leeds 507780 (H)
<b>H.M.S.G. Rep.</b>	Stuart Marsh, 30 Chestnut Avenue, Leeds, LS15 8ED Tel. 644674 (H)
<b>Equipment Officer</b>	Derek Lee, 16 Coppice Wood Avenue, Guiseley Leeds 20 Tel. Guiseley 75231 (H)
<b>Merchandise Officer</b>	Nigel Latimer, 1 Swarcliffe Bank, Leeds, LS14 5LD Tel. Leeds 734697 (H) 450225 (B)
<b>Joint Events</b> <b>Co-ordinator</b>	Dave Turnbull, 10 Congreave Way, Bardsey, Nr. Leeds Tel. Collingham Bridge 73010 (H)
<b>Joint Events</b> <b>Co-ordinator</b>	Graham Kellet, 24 Cowley Road, Rodley, Leeds Tel. Leeds 792205 (H)
<b>Social Secretary</b>	Caroline Nutter, 18 Kirkdale Terrace, Leeds 12 Tel. Leeds 792205 (H)
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	Mark Dawes, Sadler Hall, Adel, Leeds 16 Tel. Leeds 671088

# TRACKROD MAGAZINE

No 150

APRIL 1983

## Editorial

Something of a landmark, this being the 150th issue of our illustrious magazine. To commemorate this, I thought it right to commission an article by two of our most 'senior' members as regards the progress (or otherwise) of TRACKROD over the years. Needless to say, their views are not necessarily those of the Committee, but nevertheless they speak with the voice of experience....

On a rather different note, may I draw your attention to the A.G.M, scheduled for August 1983. I believe that some senior positions will become vacant at that time, and I'm afraid one of them is the post of Editor. Needless to say, a replacement will need all those qualities of determination, reliability etc, that you would expect, but the job is not as demanding as you would expect. Can I ask anyone who fancies a try to contact me IN ADVANCE, so as to gain an insight to the job before taking it on?

John Bean.  
Editor.

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## Cover Picture

This month shows John Renny/Ronnie Moore on the 1982 Three Swans Rally, when they finished a splendid 7th c/a in their 1300cc Escort.

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## Chairman's Chat.

After last month's 'chat' we followed up the general feelings of your committee with a mini 'open Forum'.

My apologies for the late start of that forum but if anyone did not get a chance to air their views, we're available every Tuesday night, and we shall, as promised, be holding more meetings of the 'Open Forum' type.

Interest in the various activities was encouraging and below (Overleaf) you will find a list of people who were interested in the specified areas. PLEASE CHECK THIS LIST. If your name is not on it, and should be - please let me know.

We shall now start to organise training/discussion evenings and events, and as soon as the dates are fixed we shall let you all know. Probably the best time to do this will be the first Tuesday monthly whilst we have the private room at the Crown, Boston Spa. Please try to attend, even if you already know about the subject, you will be able to participate in the discussion!

The football match between ourselves and Alwoodley was a very friendly affair - even if they did win! We hope to extend our 'rivalry' between ourselves and other Motor Clubs - any suggestions?

Please don't forget our Autotest on April 17th, either enter or please marshal - we shall need quite a few marshals on the day.

After the March Committee meeting we decided to order some new TRACKROD 'T' Shirts - see Nigel Latimer or Caroline Nutter. Also to be arranged

/2...

will be a Rally Championship, probably based on the cheaper rallies (stage) and single venue events. We may even run our own single venue stage Rally - anyone know of a good venue? See Graeme Kellatt for details and/or suggestions regarding the Championship, etc.

The Lookout Rally is now well underway, and WILL run on July 30/31st. Please see John Westmoreland, Stuart Marsh or Derek Lee with your offers of help. Assistance with PRO work is urgently needed.

Rod Parkin.  
Chairman.

At the recent open forum, the following people indicated their willingness to organise/compete in the events shown :-

#### P.C.T's.

Alan & Caroline Nutter	C
Mike Ogden	O/C
Bob Leeming	O/C
Stuart Marsh	O
Phil Sykes	O/C
Mark Dawes	O
John Renny	O/C
Peter Stanhope	O/C
Keith Hunn	O
Gez Waters & Anne	O
John Bean	C
Steve & Chris Sanderson	C
Dave Harrison	C

#### Radin's.

Rob Buchan  
Peter Stanhope  
Phil Sykes  
Mark Dawes  
Alan Nutter  
Andrea Hunn  
Keith Hunn  
Mick Ogden  
Chris Sanderson  
Steve Sanderson  
Tony Lee.

#### Autotests.

Bob Leeming	O
Nick Gillett	O
Gez Waters & Anne	O/C
Keith Hunn	O
Graham Bradford	O/C
Alan Nutter	C
John Westmoreland	O/C
Ken Goodall	O/C
Alan Sunley	C
John Renny	C
Ronnie Moore	O/C

#### Timing.

Alan Sunley  
Chris Sanderson  
Phil Sykes  
Mick Ogden  
John Bean.

#### Scrutineering.

Ian Watt	Mark Dawes
Stuart Marsh	Alan Sunley
Dave Harrison	Bob Leeming
Nick Gillett	Elaine Longhorn
Mick Ogden	Peter Stanhope

O = Organise      C = Compete.

I would suggest that prospective event organisers may wish to retain this list, in view of the number of possible 'contacts' therein.

Rod Parkin.

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

#### Social Diary.

12.4.83	Indoor Rally, 5th & final round, at the Horsforth Club, New Road Side, Horsforth. Organisers Team Sanderson, Map O/s Metric 105, Latest Landranger series. 8.00pm to 8.30pm.
19.4.83	Noggin, Old Starr, Collingham. Bring your video <del>nesties</del> goodies!

26.4.83 Noggin, Shoulder of Mutton, Kirby Overblow.  
 3.5.83 Noggin, etc, Crown, Boston Spa.  
 10.5.83 Noggin, Horsforth Club, Horsforth.  
 17.5.83 Noggin, Beehive, Thorner (Private Room)  
 24.5.83 Noggin, Old Starr, Collingham.  
 31.5.83, Noggin, Shoulder of Mutton, Kirby Overblow.

#### Competition Calendar.

9/10.4.83 Alwoodley M/Club, Alwoodley Lawn Mowers Ridings Rally.  
 Starts Motel Leeming.  
 10.4.83 Wakefield M/Club Single venue stages Rally.  
 9/10.4.83 111 M/Club Nocturnal Trophy Rally.  
 16.4.83 Knutsford M/Club Plains Rally (BTRDA) (N)  
 17.4.83 TRACKROD Autotest (R) Shell League. Wellington Street  
 car Park, Next to Yorkshire Post Buildings. Marshals  
 AND ENTRIES needed. See Dave Turnbull.  
 23.4.83 Lincs/Louth MC Tour of Lincs rally. Trackrod invited.  
 23/24.4.83 62 CC Anniversary Rally. Maps 99,100,104,105.  
 Trackrod invited.  
 24.4.83 Bolton Le Moors CC Autotest (RAC/BTRDA/ANCC)  
 23/24.4.83 Springhill CC Rible Rally. (ANCC) Maps 97,98,103.  
 30.4.83 Otley M/C Coleman Tyres Rally, (ANCC/M/News).  
 8.5.83 Slaithwaite M/Club Single Venue Stages Rally,  
 Lindholme Aerodrome, Nr Finningley. Trackrod invited.  
 8.5.83 Airedale & Pennine MC Autotest. Shell League.  
 8.5.83 Sheffield & Hallamshire Autotest. (ANCC)  
 15.5.83 TRACKROD MC PCT (CJ)  
 15.5.83 Ilkley MC Autotest (ANCC)  
 22.5.83 South Shore MC Autotest (RAC/BTRDA/ANCC)  
 5.6.83 Bolton Le Moors MC P.C.T. (ANCC)  
 5.6.83 Y.S.C.C. Hillclimb, (Shell League)  
 5.6.83 Slaithwaite MC Autotest (ANCC)  
 14.6.83 TRACKROD MC Clubnight PCT.  
 18/19.6.83 Leeds MC Midnight Rally, Maps 99,100,105,106.  
 Trackrod Invited.  
 26.6.83 TRACKROD MC June Jesters Autotest. (RAC/BTRDA)  
 25/26.6.83 Shipley MC Road Rally. (Shell League)

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#### "Willie Wonka" Indoor Rally Championship 82/83

#### Round 4, March 8th "The Oscar Tango Fandango"

This round, held as is now usual at the Horsforth Club, was organised

by the "elderly" gentleman of Team Oscar Tango.90. The round was contested by 7 crews and threw up a surprise.

Before going further, I would like to say how good the Horsforth Club is for these indoor activities. With the large room upstairs, and the small room for overflow downstairs, the contestants can get on with the job in peace and quiet, whilst other members can partake of the ale and jollification in the main bar. The only drawback is a lack of communication between upstairs and down, perhaps, if a member owns 2 hand-held CB's this problem could be overcome. How about a trial on April 12th?? Otherwise the Horsforth Club is ideal, my compliments to the Committee.

Back to the job in hand. Oscar Tango put on a deliberately difficult event, using all their vast experience and cunning to give the experts something to sweat over, and give the beginners the chance that their inexperience would prove a help. Indeed, that is exactly what happened with a surprise winner.

The route was planned out on sheet 111 and started off with a non-conventional tulip section laid out top to bottom, chinese fashion. This caused the reigning champions no end of trouble as they cursed and swore over it for 20 minutes before they were given the necessary simple clue that got them going. Bearing in mind my previous paragraph, all the novices saw the trip immediately and were well into the second section before the champs got going. To make up for lost time, the champs decided to go over into penalty time, working with speed to gain more points than they were losing, but gave it best after 15 minutes. All other teams finished on the hour, but with no one completing the full route.

There is always one team which battles against all odds, this time it was team Bird Brains, whose map was so old that not only were half the roads missing, but so were the ROMAN ANTIQUITIES. They really did live up to their name!! It was indeed excessively hard work for them and consequently they finished last. Despite these comments, it was a close battle with only 28 points separating Bird Brains at the end, and winners Team Goodall/Tempest.

Now we come to surprise winners, Ken Goodall and Mike Tempest. Whilst, experienced rally men, indoor rallying is a different ball game altogether, and on previous rounds Ken and Mike were having a tough time. But now they appear to have cracked it with a new system I have never seen used before. Mike, the map man in the car, set about plotting the route solo. A few minutes later, Ken, the one who is supposed to look where he is going, sorry Ken, followed on answering the route questions on his own. For them the system worked and brought them home no. 1, I am tempted to try this system myself, next season perhaps.

To all of you who took part, very well done. It was a tough route, it was intended to be, so my thanks to you for not complaining, although I think you were too busy to do so.

Team Oscar Tango 90  
(John Westmoreland/Mike Knowles)

#### Round 4 Results

<u>Position</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>C'ship Points</u>
1	Goodall/Tempest	68	27
2	Sanderson	58	21
3	Pappa Siera	56	16
3	Champs	56	16
5	Steggles/Smyth	48	12

6	Nuttall/Latimer	42	9
7	Bird Brains	40	7

Championship Positions after 4 Rounds

\* Teams marked thus have completed 3 or more rounds, and are now on the best 3 scores to count system.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Round 1</u>	<u>Round 2</u>	<u>Round 3</u>	<u>Round 4</u>	<u>Total</u>
1 *	Oscar Tango 90	12	27	27	0	66
2 *	Champs	27	16	0	16	59
3 *	Sanderson	9	12	16	21	49
4 *	Papa Sierra	6	0	21	16	43
5 *	Goodall/Tempest	0	9	5	27	41
6 *	White Rankers	9	21	6	0	36
7 *	Backtrackers	21	7	7	-	35
8*	Bird Brains	16	6	9	7	32
9	Nuttall/Latimer	0	0	12	9	21
10	Steggles/Smyth	0	0	4	12	16
11	Whitlock	5	0	0	0	5
12	Watson/Ingham	4	0	0	0	4

As you will see from the above scores it could be a very close finish to the championship after the next round and final round on April 12th. Oscar Tango and the Champs are the only teams than can win outright. Oscar Tango will either win or finish second, in three years of competing they have never won, but have finished second each time. Champs could win if they win the next round and Oscar Tango finish 4th or lower, but they could well slip down to fourth place depending on the performance of teams Pappa Sierra and Goodall/Tempest, both of which could claim 2nd and 3rd places. They both certainly have the capability to do so. What of team Sanderson you say, well unfortunately, as they are organising the last round they cannot improve their position and could drop down to fifth. IT ALL DEPENDS!

TO ALL COMPETITORS, DO NOT MISS ROUND 5, THE FIGHT IS ON

"Willie Wonka Trophy" Indoor Rally Championship

ROUND 5 THE FINAL

TUESDAY, 12TH APRIL 1983 - HORSFORTH CLUB, NEW ROAD SIDE.

ORGANISERS - TEAM SANDERSON, MAP O/S METRIC 105, LATEST LAND RANGER SERIES.

TIME - 8.00 - 8.30 p.m.

John Westmoreland  
(Oscar Tango 41)

Reflections of Trackrod Motor Club Ltd's  
Progress through 150 Editions of the Club Magazine

Trackrod began in October 1969 and by the first two gatherings, had attracted 50 members. The membership fee was 25/-. Our first event was called a Table Top Rally and was entered by no less than 40 members, (things have certainly changed). The Club then progressed to organize various other events, one of these being the first Autotest at Acaster, in which 75% of the Club entered (not one or two like now).

Generally speaking all members (ladies included) were keen to either take part in, or organise (or both) motor sport at a level commensurate with a new club.

We were obviously keen to impress upon more established clubs that Trackrod was here to stay and was more than capable of organising a quality event and fielding worthy competitors in other clubs' events.

The club, originally did not have an abundance of "older generation members" (it still hasn't!) to guide it and provide the steadying hand and it is to the club's credit that it acted in a totally competent and professional manner - being very keen on the image projected.

Regular competitive events ensured a healthy growth in membership and it was with a great sense of achievement that the club obtained "restricted" status for a P.C.T. and an autotest after perhaps only one to two years.

Instigation of Shell League provided the platform for our competitors and organisers to prove themselves worthy of the task and those were the days when our Shell League Team Captain had to pick a team from our total club entry!!

Motivation for events always came from the Committee and any event always had one Committee Member as either Secretary of Meeting or Clerk of Course. Obviously, the days of delegation had not then dawned and the old adage of "if yer want owt doin do it yersen!" still ruled.

A great deal of effort went into getting the Costa Di Planti off the ground and practically every member was involved in some aspect - those that weren't going to be competing anyway!! - How many members now take part in our rallies these days? and I mean regular members, or any other event for that matter!

After the success of the Costa, attentions turned towards a stages event and after a fairly long gestation period it happened first in 1976 and was the forerunner of today's Forest Stages Rally.

What about Noggins every week? - do we all see too much of each other??, better to compete once a month or drive a bar stool four times a month?? Take your choice!

For the early years the Committee had great ambition and perhaps that has been its downfall. Maybe success came too quickly, leaving present successive committees little to achieve - it's all been done- how about having the ambition to restore a competitive nature to our membership - and NOT FOOTBALL OR KNITTING RACES!!

National events, particularly rallies, take an enormous amount of organising energy and perhaps the time is ripe to divert some of this energy back to the club competitions. It's all been said before but don't



complain - do something about it and that is the problem - everyone is complaining about the apathy and lethargy amongst the ranks and this applies to Committee members as well as the rank and file member - but NONE of them want to do anything about it!

Then we went through the "It's a waste of my time doing that if so-and-so's doing it, I can't beat him" period. Where would we be if we'd thought that about Argentina?? If you don't try, you don't succeed. Anyway, then so-and-so stops doing club events because of aforesaid whingers and what happens - nobody turns up to compete after weeks of searching for an organiser, who quite justifiably is fed up with the lack of support for his/her event vowing "never again" - hence where we are now.

How about a forum to stir up the muck, with the writers of this article being the panel to receive your questions and tell you what they really think because we've done our bit and are perhaps more qualified than any members to point the finger - but don't disappear for years or for ever when the finger has been pointed at you - chances are nobody will turn up anyway!! It seems to be a case of "apathy rules - so what"!!

The answer lies with the Committee and yourselves - firstly, the Committee to set the example by not delegating everything - they were elected to do it - well most of it, and secondly, the membership to follow their Committee's example of enthusiasm.

It's interesting that clubs who have a very active and competing membership run no major national rallies and those that do - do little else - witness De Lacy and Trackrod amongst others.

Okay, so we've said plenty and come up with little in the way of solutions to our present problems and to be truthful, many clubs are experiencing similar problems to Trackrod's. To be honest, we don't want to see the members pull the plug on the club, but by the same token commitments overtake us all and we don't feel that we can devote the time to a rescue attempt as we are both basically competitors (one just returned and one just entering a temporary withdrawal!) As it is all we can do at present is to keep the old Trackrod flag flying on at least one or two events, and hope that others will some day do likewise. Don't get us wrong - we know a handful of members do compete but they are by no means enough from a membership of perhaps 100. Good grief - it's not long since we considered limiting the membership to 300 as we couldn't cope with 250+!!

Ken Goodall  
Richard Ineson

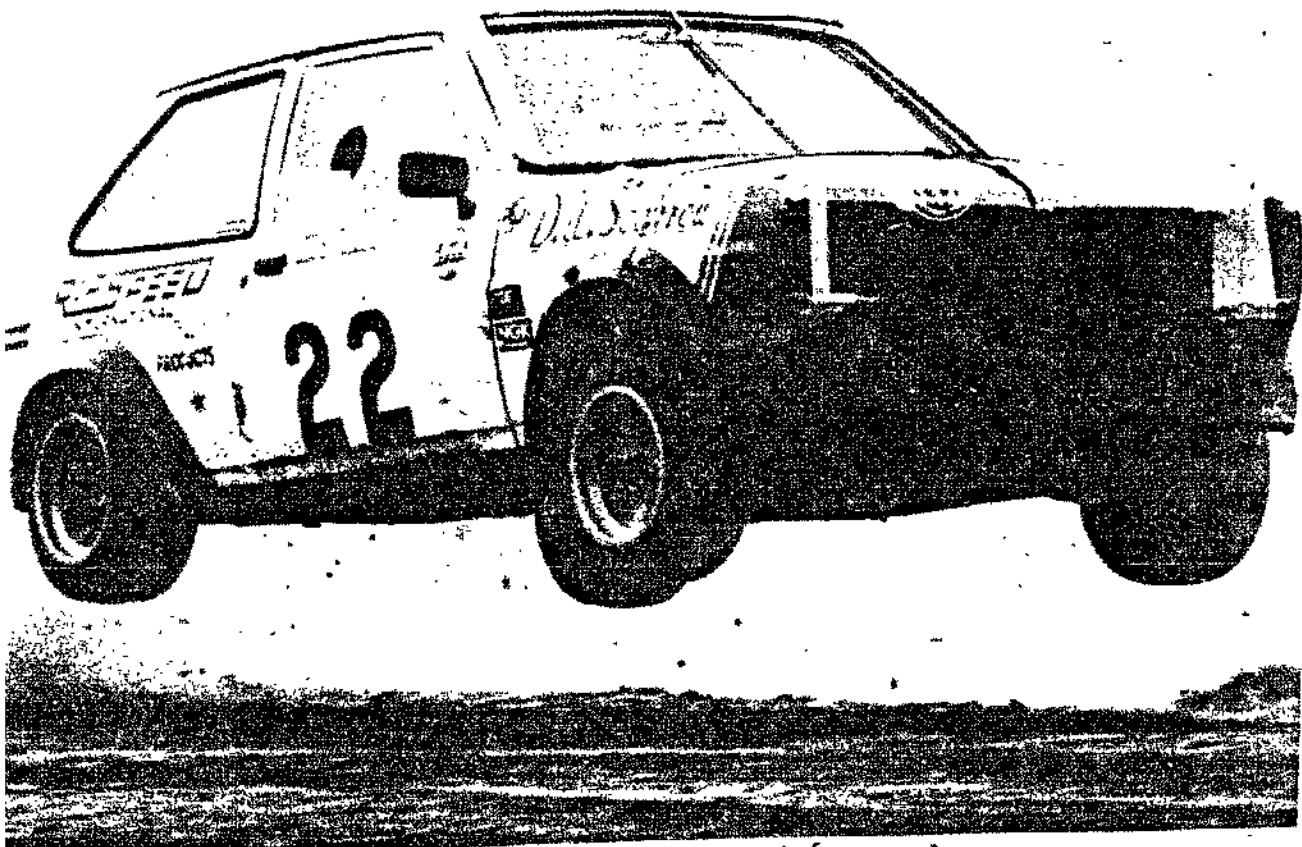
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### " PICTURE PAGES."

The usual 'Picture Pages' that usually grace the rear of our magazine have now recieved some added interest, in the way of a small 'D.I.Y.' contest. Each picture has its own 'degree of difficulty', and answers will be given each following month..

ED.

# PHOTO PAGE



↑ WHO? & WHAT? (2 POINTS) (1 EACH)

↓ WHO (DRIVER & CO-DRIVER) WHAT EVENT (6 POINTS) (2 EACH)

