



February 2004

www.trackrodmotorclub.co.uk

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF TRACKROD MOTOR CLUB LTD
RAC MSA AFFILIATED, NO. 1230

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT – FEBRUARY 2004

Hopefully you all have had a good time at the Annual Dinner Dance – I know how much work goes into organising this and I am sure it will have been a great success.

Most of you will know by now that we were privileged to receive the British Rally Championship “Rally of the Year” award at the recent BRC dinner, for Rally Yorkshire. Many thanks to everyone who helped make this event so successful; certainly I have received many complimentary comments about the friendly atmosphere and professionalism of the Marshals. I am also sure that the new partnership with Ryedale and Malton helped create a super environment. No doubt the nice weather put everyone in a good mood as well!!

Lots of events in the coming months for all Trackrod members to get involved with – see our “Rolling Calendar” in every edition of the magazine, and/or take a look at the ANCC web site (www.ancc.co.uk) which has a fuller list for all ANCC clubs.

Once again we are promoting the Rally Championship with cash awards as well as a trophy – split between Single Venue (Multi use) and Multi Venue events – all well organised rallies, and in our region. Details were in an insert to last months magazine, and are included again this month.

Remember also our EGM to be held at the Conservative Club, Gildersome, on Tuesday 2 March 2004. We will follow this with an “open forum” as usual so you may ask any questions in an informal atmosphere and also let other club members know of events or other information of interest.

Whatever you plan to do, have fun

Rod Parkin
Chairman

FORMAL NOTIFICATION

Trackrod Motor Club Ltd will hold an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) for the sole purpose of accepting the Club Accounts to the end of March 2003 as follows:

**Tuesday 2 March 2004, at 21:30hrs
Conservative Club, Gildersome**

Ed's Bit

Well done to all the winners of awards at the dinner dance and to Rally Yorkshire at the BRC awards.

Thanks to all the people who sent in articles this month, keep them coming. Some ideas for articles are tell us what your plans are for 2004, any technical queries that someone might be able to help you out with.

Could you please send all articles for March to me by 16th February or by 22nd March for April

Andrew

Lookout Regs

Regulations for The Lookout Stages Rally are available now.

To request for a set contact Katy Lee (details on the back cover)

Alternatively log on to www.trackrodmotorclub.co.uk. Which has information about the rally.

Success in the East Midlands Championship 2003

Following the efforts of Graham Wride 2nd Overall Co-driver Michael Moore and Arthur Heaton 1st Class 5 Driver and Co-driver.

Trackrod Motor Club finished 3rd overall in the East Midlands Stage Rally Club Championship.

Scottish Correspondent

January 2004

Seasons greetings from Scotland. Well, the year is finished – another one passed!!! Been quite a busy one has 2003, with a whole new role on the Scottish, as you will have read a few months ago. So what has been going on over the last few months?

Trackrod Rally Yorkshire

This was an excellent opportunity to meet old friends (and make new ones) in the lovely locations of Malton and Pickering, oh and the forests!! Great weekend, great rally, with great help from Richard Webster. The only thing to fail on the RR this year was the ABS/brake pump – I had to do 3 stages with manual brakes, was rather taxing on my right leg!!! We found that a 30Amp fuse had blown, replaced and now all sorted – thanks for the help from 4Plus4.

34th Tour of Mull 2003

This was to be the usual format of closed roads with stages on the Friday night, Saturday afternoon and Saturday night. We (Tim Sunderland and I) had been asked to be Road Opening car again, so running at the back of the pack. We had decided last year that this year, our 8th, would be the last doing the role – many reasons for this, plus an opportunity for others to give the job new energy. We had agreed to take one of the new team in the back of the car, to give them a flavour of what we do. At the end of the Friday night and Saturday afternoon they commented that they didn't appreciate there was so much to the job! It's not just driving around and posing, lots of equipment and paperwork to collect, plus account for all the cars, both within a stage and on the road sections.

Stage 1 and 2 were running well for us when we heard about the very unfortunate incident on SS3, we were devastated, along with everyone else involved. All emergency services worked as they should, team work under very sad situation. The rest of Friday night was cancelled, with the rest of the event unknown.

The organizers took input from all interested parties, and it was agreed that the Saturday afternoon would be a single loop, and that the night stages would be as planned – the correct decision in my mind.

The rest of the event passed without any incidents to note, but I must say it was very subdued. After 8 years doing the role it was a pity to finish on such a low, but that's life I guess.

Sunday was a day of leisure, visiting the beach at Calgary Bay (if you have never seen the place you must) and having fun there with Susanne, Erin, Ewan and Duddly who had come across as foot passengers just for one night. On the Sunday night we had organized to have a table for 15 at Glen-gorm Castle, soup, main course, pud and coffee and only £15 – plus it was excellent quality!! A very sociable evening was had.

Our accommodation is booked (12 beds) again for next year, plus Nick Hood has another cottage booked, and Tim Sutherland a cottage for his service crew – he plans to compete if he can get an entry!!!

Thanks again for Tim's help over the last 8years, who knows what next year will bring on the 35th event – start radio on Tobs 1 & 2?????

Kingdom stages – Crail near St Andrews

1st November

Was asked again to be Safety Officer (SO) and help sort that side of things out. Alan Dalziel of Dumfries/Baldoon fame was given the challenges of Spectator Safety Officer as well. The venue is an old WWII airfield, very similar to Melbourne but in mint condition. Its right on the coast, just down from St Andrews – so fine as long as the weather is OK!!! I took our caravan over, so Ewan, Alan and I had dinner in there on the Friday night, slept, and then ready nice and early on the Saturday morning. A lot of work had been done by the organizers and landowner over the days prior, so it was just a matter of handing out radios, making sure marshals were in place, emergency services on station and we were ready to start at 08:30.

The event has the usual 4 pairs of stages, 2 pairs in the morning, then full reversal at lunchtime. All was going well until on SS4 car 29 took out his N/S front wheel/suspension in a fast chicane, braked hard on a fast straight, rolled three times and finished upside down in the field. Emergency vehicles were quickly on the scene, with the navigator carefully removed and off to meet the county ambulance. Whilst all the personal were working hard on their duties, as the SO I was on the scene making sure the area was safe, and feeding back 'high level' details to the organizers, so that decisions could be made. After being involved in an incident like this I feel it's even more important that we clearly identify what the 'Stage Safety Officer' role must be. It must be an 'independent' person who's sole duties are to secure the area and feedback to the SC/organisers.

The rest of the event passed without incident, and we were all able to go home just as it was getting dark. A good day out, and well recommend to all. Did I mention, the weather was great as well, with great views across to Edinburgh and the North Sea.

Planning for 2004
RSAC Scottish Rally
10th to 13th June 2004

You might have seen different dates, but as of now the Scottish in 2004 will be the second weekend in June – **10th to 13th June 2004**. The format has still to be clarified, but in outline it will be:

Thursday 10th - media stage (good fun in 2003!)

Friday 11th – scrutineering etc, plus stage(s)

Saturday 12th – full day of stages

Sunday 13th – morning/early afternoon more stages.

Watch this space for more details, or contact Simon Marston since I am sure we will be contacting him very soon!!!

The caravan site is booked again, plus B&B is available in the area, so that over the weekend we can have a BBQ or 2 – with a few company products (Guinness etc.) being consumed along with some good meat from Scotland! Accommodation can be found in the region, but book early since it is near HQ.

If anybody would like more details on any of the above, then please contact me on 01259 760611H, 07793 662444 M – but not after 22:00! (eMail peter.stanhope@diageo.com)

Safe motoring.

Peter Stanhope

Report on the last three years rallying!

It is about three years since I contributed anything to this illustrious magazine and I feel you have been spared long enough from my thoughts. So what has been happening and what have we learnt from the experiences?

For those people who do not know us, Jon Neale and John McNichol (me) are the Trackrod crew that have been competing on stage rallies for just over three years in a Diahatsu Cuore Avanzato – this is one of those little cars you have been laughing at when you saw it. For those of you interested have a look at the website for pictures and more details.

www.jonnealemotorsport.moonfruit.com

In 2001 we contested the ANCC championship and were 2nd o/a driver and 1st o/a navigator.

In 2002 we contested some of the BTRDA rounds and were 11th in the raceand rally.com championship from 48 scoring crews.

In 2003 we have not been able to commit to a full championship but have enjoyed the seven, mainly local events we have done and won TMC Championship awards for the year.

Since we have now sold the Daihatsu it seems a good time to reflect on the last three years. Firstly, we have done 22 events (mostly good quality, national championship forest events) and finished every one. The car has never let us down and needed no replacement parts at all. Jon has cleaned it, put petrol in it (but not much) and that's about it! He even got most of his money back when he sold it.

So who is laughing now?

I hope that our experience of modern day rallying and my previous 25 years involvement in the sport qualifies me to comment on some of the aspects of our sport and I'm sure others will have other views they wish to air – good, get writing!

Rallying in this country is booming at clubman level. Events are attracting a high number of entries; even new events are well supported (witness Delacy November Rally and Malton's in December). Even single venue events are oversubscribed and while I don't understand the wish to wreck a car in places like Melbourne, many people do want to do so and venues are at a premium. Perhaps the most significant success in clubman rallying is the BTRDA series. Entry lists are full weeks before the events with 150 crews and it is not unusual to have 40+ entries in the 1400 class alone.

Why is this such a success? It is because they give competitors what they want (and can afford). Excellent organisation, minimum road mileage, no need to be away from home more than one night, events run by enthusiasts, for enthusiasts. Probably one of the best improvements over the last 5 years has been the documentation given to crews and their service crews. Marked maps and/or route notes mean you do not have to spend hours sorting out maps. As someone who enjoys reading maps I surprise myself to say this but at the end of a hard week's work I want to go for a pint – not give myself a headache with plotting and organising!

The other "boom" area of rallying is the historic. Again, the competitors are getting what they want and support the events accordingly. Likewise, the Khumo series is successful.

If anyone reads Motoring News you would believe that rallying is in crisis and in need of a thorough overall. This is not so. Certain parts of it are not having a good time and these are at the top levels and their embarrassment tends to be exaggerated and more public.

The WRC needs to stop and look at itself. Our round of this world championship is now tucked away in a corner of South Wales. We recently had the new world champion crowned on the event and there was ZERO mention on the BBC or any of the main broadcasters. I actively TRIED to find rally coverage and struggled so what chance the man in the street of being exposed? Did you see rallying featured on the Sports Review of 2003? We now have no Colin McRae in WRC (or any other Brit) and manufacturers withdrawing their support or threatening to do so. Why? Because rallying doesn't sell cars anymore – well no, it won't if it is tucked away in a cul de sac in Wales. They got more publicity for being caught speeding than for winning the world championship!

The British Rally Championship also has problems that won't go away. I'm sure Rod and his team are doing all they can to maintain the Trackrod Rally and I wish them well but wonder if they don't long to return to the BTRDA or ANCRO fold.

We did not compete on the Trackrod this year because there are better rallies for us to do. Double used forest tracks are no fun when you run behind all the powerful cars that rip up the road. I reckon we actually flatten the bumps down! The major gripe we have about any event is when we feel we are there just to make up the numbers. Do a BTRDA round and you are valued – 1400 class actually run at the front so we get smooth roads and they are STILL smooth after we have been over them for the big boys. Why don't all rallies do this? I know why – do you?

It is interesting that the successful series; ANCC, BTRDA, Khumo are all organised by unpaid volunteers. WRC and BRC employ people to run them. Is there a message here?

My real concern is that the powers that be (in the form of the recent recommendations by Mike Broad) are trying to resolve the problems at the top by diluting the success of the clubman series and may do untold damage.

Do we need “franchises” to run our sport?

Are the “rich boys” exercising more influence than is healthy?

Is there too much “self interest” at work?

Do you care? It would be good if we could have some healthy debate in this magazine on the state of rallying and its future – but please keep it sensible and not personal!

Happy New Year to all members.

John McNichol and Jon Neale

May I offer my congratulations to the organising team of Rally Yorkshire. Some of the membership may not be aware yet that the event was voted by the competitors and officials of the British Rally Championship as their best round of the 2003 Series.

Rod rightly deserves this recognition for bringing the rally from its origins in the late 1970's, through BT&RDA and ANCRO to the BRC. However, it is surely a much greater accolade for all the organising team of the rally over these many years, who have put in a huge amount of work to bring it to where it is today.

The named officials in the regulations are the core team, but this credit also goes to the many Yorkshire (and other) clubs who commit to assisting both before and on the weekend. They contribute hugely to making the event what it is, surely one of the best and most prestigious special stage rallies in the UK.

Well done all! This reflects the standing of Trackrod Motor Club Ltd. within the corridors and the (now not so) smoky rooms of motor sport management throughout the country.

It's a bit like the common cold really, Trackrod pop's up everywhere! Long may that continue!

I presume the organisation of the 2004 Rally Yorkshire is well under way and firmly in place already.....?

John Richardson



Wedding Bells

May I congratulate our club secretary Alison on her recent marriage to David.

May I on behalf of the club wish them the very best

“Perfect 10”

Stage Rally Championship 2004

Yes folks it's back for 2004 the club sponsored rally series with awards as follows:

1st O/A Driver & Co-Driver Trophies + £100 cash each

2nd O/A Driver & Co-Driver Trophies + £50 cash each

3rd O/A Driver and Co-Driver Trophies + £25 cash each

£12 TMC Membership Fee = Free registration

Points must be claimed in accordance with the current TMC rules (based on ANCC principles). Remember the one month time limit for claims.

Events are a mixture of Single venue and Multi Venue.

Trackrod Motor Club decals and/or sunstrips to be used.

Your six best results will count from the following events;

22nd February	Kall Kwik	N.Yorks
14th March	Lookout Stages	Melbourne
27th March	North Humberside	N.Yorks
29th May	Proflex	Leyland
19th June	Dukeries	Clipstone
17th July	Opposite Lock	Manby
14th August	Phoenix	Fulbeck
5th September	Wolds Rally	Swinderby
2nd October	Rally Yorkshire	N.Yorks
31st October	Premier	Clipstone
(Events are subject to change)		

Have fun and good luck, we'll see you at the 2005 Dinner Dance to collect your awards and prize money!!

Jim Plevey

Jim@plevey.com

Tel: Mob 07779 582 588 Home: 01937 530 963

LOOKOUT STAGES RALLY 2004

SUNDAY MARCH 14TH

TRACKROD MOTOR CLUB NEED HELP ON THE LOOK-
OUT STAGES RALLY 2004

THE RALLY IS SET AT MELBOURNE AIRFIELD NEAR
YORK MAP REFERENCE 105/730428

WE ARE LOOKING FOR MARSHALS AND RADIO
CREWS TO HELP RUN THIS EVENT

AS ALWAYS WITHOUT THESE A RALLY COULD NOT
BE RUN SO IF YOU CAN HELP PLEASE CONTACT US

CHIEF MARSHAL KEVIN PATRICK ON 07799460022 OR
KP31@BTINTERNET.COM

OR

DEPUTY CHIEF MARSHAL RICHARD GOLDIE ON
07961968274 OR RICHARDGOLDIE37@AOL.COM

ALL THE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS RALLY IS ON
OUR WEBSITE

WWW.TRACKRODMOTORCLUB.COM

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU

JOIN US AND HELP US KEEP MOTORSPORT ALIVE

Trackrod Motor Club Merchandise

Round neck T-Shirt	Black, White, Navy, Green or Royal.	£5.50
S(38) M(40) L(42) XL(44) XXL(46)		
Man's Polo Shirt	Black, White, Navy, Green, Royal or Orange.	£10.50
S(36) M(40) L(42) XL(44) XXL(46)		
Ladies Polo Shirt	Black, White, Navy, Green or Royal.	£10.50
XS(8) S(10) M(12) L(14) XL(16)		
Sweatshirt	Black, White, Navy, Green or Royal.	£11.00
S(38) M(40) L(42) XL(46) XXL(50)		
Shirt L/S	Black, Natural, Navy or Green.	£16.50
S(36) M(38) L(42) XL(44) XXL(48)		
Shirt S/S	Black, Natural, Navy or Green.	£15.50
S(36) M(38) L(42) XL(44) XXL(48)		
Fleece half zip	Black, Navy, Green or Violet	£17.50
XS(36) S(37) M(41) L(44) XL(48) XXL(50)		
Fleece Jacket	Black, Navy, Green or Violet	£18.50
XS(36) S(37) M(41) L(44) XL(48) XXL(50)		
Motorsport Jacket	Black/Red, Navy/Red or All Black	£39.00
S(38) M(41) L(44) XL(47) XXL(50) XXXL(53)		
Fleece hat	Black or Navy	£5.00
Fleece Scarf	Black or Navy	£5.50
Fleece Accessory set	Black or Navy	£11.00
Knitted Pull on Hat	Black or Navy	£4.50
Baseball Cap	Black/Red, Navy/Red or White/Navy	£5.00
Navigator's Bag	Black, Navy or Green	£7.50
Holdall	Black, Navy or Green	£12.00

Kid's Stuff

T-Shirt	Black, White, Navy or Green	£4.00
XS(1/2) S(3/4) M(5/6) L(7/8) XL(9/10) XXL(11/12) XXXL(12/13) XXXXL(14/15)		
Sweatshirt	Black, Navy, Green or purple	£8.00
S(3/4) M(5/6) L(7/8) XL(9/11) XXL(12/13) XXXL(14/15)		
Fleece Jacket	Black, Navy, Green or Violet	£14.00
XXS(3/4) XS(4/6) M(8/10) L(10/12) XL(12/14)		
Other items are available on request. Please note that all items must be paid for prior to ordering.		

TROPHY POINTS CLAIM FORM

Members Name

Competitors tick [✓] appropriate boxes below and provide evidence (results)

Event Name

Event Date

Event Type:

Autotest []

Economy Run []

Hillclimb []

Organising Club:

Trackrod [] PCT []

Other [] Road Rally []

Type of Claim:

Stage Rally M/V []

Stage Rally S/V []

Driver [] Treasure Hunt []

Navigator [] 12-Car []

Marshal [] Other -

Service Crew [] state type

Organiser :

state position

Event Status

Clubman CM [] National "B" [] ANCC Round []

National "A" [] International [] LARKSPEED Round []

Other

For Official Use Only

RESULTS

Date received

Your Entry No

Processed by

Position Overall

Awards eligible for

Position in Class

No. in Class

ALL claims to be made within 1 month from the date of the event and must include a copy of entry list and final results sheet.

Rolling Calendar 2004

February 2004

1 st	Riponian Stages Rally - ANCC
6 th -8 th	Swedish Rally – WRC
14 th	Wydean Forest Rally, Chepstow – BTRDA
21 st	Legend Fires North West Stages – Preston – ANCC
22 nd	Kall Kwik Rally
28 th	Thurlby Motors Cadwell Park Stages
28 th	Rally Sunseeker, Bournemouth - Ancro

March 2004

6 th	Malcolm Wilson Rally, Cockermouth – BTRDA
6 th -7 th	Robin Hood Stages, Mansfield – BHC
12 th -14 th	Rally Mexico – WRC
14 th	**** Lookout Stages at Melbourne ****
20 th	Binbrook Stages - Binbrook
21 st	BRC Live! – Nuneaton
27 th	North Humberside Forest Rally, Hull - BTRDA

April 2004

3 rd	Astra Stages, N. Wales – BHC & Ancro
11 th	Harewood Hill-Climb - BARC
23 rd -24 th	Pirelli International Rally – Gateshead – BRC
24 th	Somerset Stages, Minehead - BTRDA
30 th -2 nd	Rally Of Argentina – WRC

May 2004

1 st -2 nd	Welsh Rally, Epynt – BHC
2 nd	Bloodhound Stages – Swinderby - ANCC
7 th -8 th	Roush Manx Rally, IOM - Ancro
14 th -16 th	Cyprus Rally – WRC
15 th -16 th	International Rally Of Wales – Dolgellau – BRC
15 th -16 th	Harewood Hill-Climb - BARC
16 th	John Overend Stages - Melbourne
22 nd	Red Dragon Forest Rally, Port Talbot - BTRDA
28 th -30 th	Acropolis Rally – WRC

June 2004

5 th	Mutiny Rally, Builth Wells – BHC & Ancro
6 th	Harewood Hill-Climb - BARC
11 th -12 th	RSAC Scottish Rally – Dumfries – BRC
19 th	Dukeries Rally, Mansfield - BTRDA
25 th -27 th	Rally Of Turkey – WRC
27 th	Mid-Wales Stages, Newtown - BHC
27 th	Lightning Stages – Binbrook

Chief Marshal's

HI EVERYONE HEAR WE GO AGAIN THE START OF ANOTHER SEASON. THANKS TO EVERYONE HOW TURNED OUT OVER CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR. JUST TO PICK UP ON WHAT ROD SAID ABOUT SHORT RALLY'S IF YOU HAVEN'T TRIED ONE TRY ONE YOU'LL BE SURPRISED REASONABLE SINGING ON & EARLY FINISH A LOT BETTER FOR COMPETITORS & MARSHALS.

- (1) 1ST FEB RIPONIAN STAGES
- (2) 21ST FEB NORTH WEST STAGES
- (3) 7TH MARCH ROBIN HOOD STAGES
- (4) 14TH MARCH LOOKOUT STAGES
- (5) 27TH MARCH NORTH HUMBERSIDE FOREST STAGES

IF YOU WANT TO GO OUT ON ANY EVENT SEE ME AT CLUB NIGHTS OR E-MAIL ME THANKS SEE YA PHILL

Club Nights

February 2004

- 3rd Gildersome Con Club
10th The Old Star – Collingham ****NEW****
17th The Yeoman Pub – Otley – BYO Videos!
24th Admiral Hawke – Boston Spa

March 2004

- 2nd Gildersome Con Club ****EGM****
9th The Old Star – Collingham ****NEW****
16th The Yeoman Pub – Otley – BYO Videos!
23rd The Travellers Rest - Harewood ****NEW****
30th Admiral Hawke – Boston Spa

Please note the change to the usual venues we are now going to The Old Star at Collingham on the 2nd Tuesday of the month and The Travellers Rest at Harewood the 4th Tuesday in March.

Don't Forget the EGM at Gildersome 2nd March

Your 2004 Committee

<u>Chairman/Assoc. Rep</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>	<u>Secretary</u>
Rod Parkin 15 Holly Drive Tinshill Lane LS16 6EF 0113 2262422 (h) 07850 783555 (m) rod.parkin@virgin.net	Michelle Plevy Rose Farm House Church Fenton Lane Ulleskelf LS24 9DW 01937 530963 (h) 07881 518604 (m) michelle@plevey.com	Alison Beaven Whinmoor Nook Farm York Road Leeds LS15 4ND 0113 2188031 (H) Alison.Jennings@leedsth.nhs.uk
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