

PACENOTES

Whickham and District Motor Club



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WWW.WDMC.ORG.UK



Photos by Alastair Knox

RAC RALLY STAGES - OVER THE PLACE FROM YORKSHIRE TO ECOSSE 23rd-25th NOVEMBER

The 2012 Roger Albert Clark Rally was settled by just 17 seconds when Marty McCormack/ Phil Clarke overhauled a charging Steve Bannister and Kevin Rae on the penultimate stage of the rally, in what many people are describing as the best RAC yet. The pace of the two Ford Escort Mk2s crews thrilled the many thousands of fans who braved the conditions and ventured into the woods to spectate and listen to the noise of pure BDA bliss. The escort pair battled furiously from Dalby and North Yorkshire on Friday evening to Sunday and the 'Killer' Kielder stages in the afternoon. It was Bannister who took the advantage in Yorkshire despite an early puncture. It was then Marty McCormack who had then chased relentlessly and really turned up the pressure on Sunday, the toughest day of the rally with a whopping 85 stage miles. The gap of 17s is remarkable after the 2 hours and 48 minutes of stage rallying that had preceded the outcome. Gravel, tarmac, frost, ice rain (and sun?) all playing their part and ensuring the trickiest of conditions. Congratulations go to Marty who has attempted to win this rally on numerous occasions.



Steve Bannister - 2nd Overall



Marty McCormack - 1st Overall

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WHICKHAM & DISTRICT MOTOR CLUB

EDITORS REVIEW

Again I find myself writing this review and it seems like it was only yesterday since the last one; well it has been slightly quicker as this one is coming out bang on the end of the month as I'll be away in Sri Lanka after taking the plunge to the so called dark side – yes getting married on the 1st Dec! I'm excited and not nervous in the slightest (surprisingly as it is now only 4 days away!) and even have some rally action planned for the day; I just hope the dress can fit in the bucket seats and harnesses! Pictures of this will be out in the New Year.

The month has also seen a few club members out and about, many on the previously covered Cheviot Keith Knox Rally and in the latter part of the month the Roughead's have been getting stuck in there, particularly Andrew. It hasn't been a case of just getting out on the events either some very impressive results have followed and I have to say the 5th O/A on the RAC is a brilliant achievement, especially being on the maps and not as au fait as pacenotes. This was on the back of a 2nd O/A on the Premier, again top work. Really well done Andrew and it would get my vote for achievement of the month.

Brian Eland has also organised a 12 Car for the 28th of this month and anyone who can help out marshalling should contact him or Phil Kenny. Anyone wanting to compete should get an entry in pronto! If you have been out marshalling this month let Phil know too for the marshals draw. If you haven't had a fix of marshalling, the best way to get it is on the Christmas Stages at Croft, see <http://www.northallerton-ac.co.uk/xmas/>

RAC RALLY STAGES - ALL OVER THE PLACE FROM YORKSHIRE TO ECOSSE 23rd-25th NOVEMBER

WDMC also members competing in flying sideways escorts, the Roughead father and son duo, both sitting in for drivers eager to make some big impressions this time round on the RAC.

Andrew got a last minute entry with the blisteringly fast Darren Moon and finished a brilliant 5th O/A on what is perhaps the toughest rally on British soil. Numbered at 72 but running in the top ten on the road, Andrew was guiding Darren though the night stages of Yorkshire well and into a strong early position. They continued their good pace and were running in the top 5 throughout. Slipping down to 7th as they entered the last stage, a big push saw them overhaul the two crews above to finish in 5th slot and take the class D5 victory. 11 minutes separated them to the leader but only 1 minute split the crews in 3rd-7th, incredible after hundreds of stage miles and nearly 3hrs flying through forests. This really topped off a good month for Andrew after the Premier Stages (separate report).

Elsewhere in the land of RAC, Roughead Snr was navigating for Robin Shuttleworth in the Escort Mk1 mexico and pushing on really well. The pair were dominating Class C2, winning it by a brilliant 5 minutes. This ensured a fine result, trophies and 24th O/A on the results sheet. Pretty exceptional results this month for the Roughead's - really well done boys!!



Photo by Alastaor Knox

PREMIER STAGES RALLY - SHERWOOD PINES NOTTINGHAM 18th NOV

Andrew Roughead was collecting more silverware this month and capping off what has been a pretty good year really, I certainly think so! Out with Andy Fenwick in the WRC machinery Hyundai Accent, they claimed runners up spot behind the event favourite and previous winners Rob Swann/Darren Garrod in the Subaru Impreza. Finishing behind Swann by only 24 secs is a excellent achievement on the fast sweeping forest stages of Sherwood that Swann knows very well.



Photo by paulcommons@yahoo.com

CITY WALL CIRCUIT - NEWCASTLE/ GATESHEAD

The RIBA organised competition recently held their awards night for the Forgotten Spaces competition for which Ollie's design, a rally stage/racing circuit around the streets of Newcastle and Gateshead, was shortlisted for the £5000 top prize. The exhibition is on until 14th December in the Newgate Shopping Centre (itself a Forgotten Space) and is open daily from 9am until 5pm ish. Have wander down and check it out to escape the xmas shopping chaos!

Unfortunately, a golf driving range beat the circuit design to the chequered flag and scooped the prize money and accolade of winning the competition on this occasion. There was a work social after and we ended up getting really drunk and eating lots of spicy food - or at least I did! With the local press picking up the story a while back a few articles were published and *Motorsport News* have also asked to run a Christmas article in their double issue. Just need some one to fund the project now! Keep an eye out for it in MN....

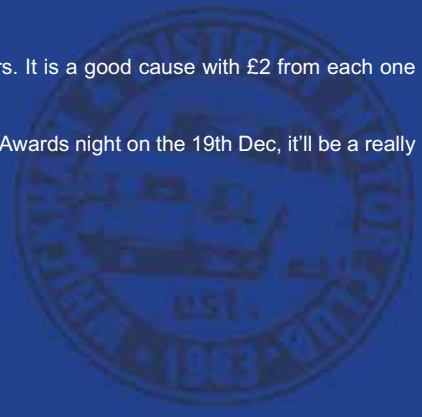


I'm again going to promote the Alastair Knox Calendar, a brilliant limited edition calendar featuring North East drivers. It is a good cause with £2 from each one going to GNAA – they are £12 so get one now if there are any left – might make a good xmas present for someone.

Hopefully I will be back and not jet lagged like I was from India and thus able to catch up with everyone at the WDMC Awards night on the 19th Dec, it'll be a really good night and I hope to have a few pre-Christmas drinks with folk then.

See you all in the Christmas season!

Ollie



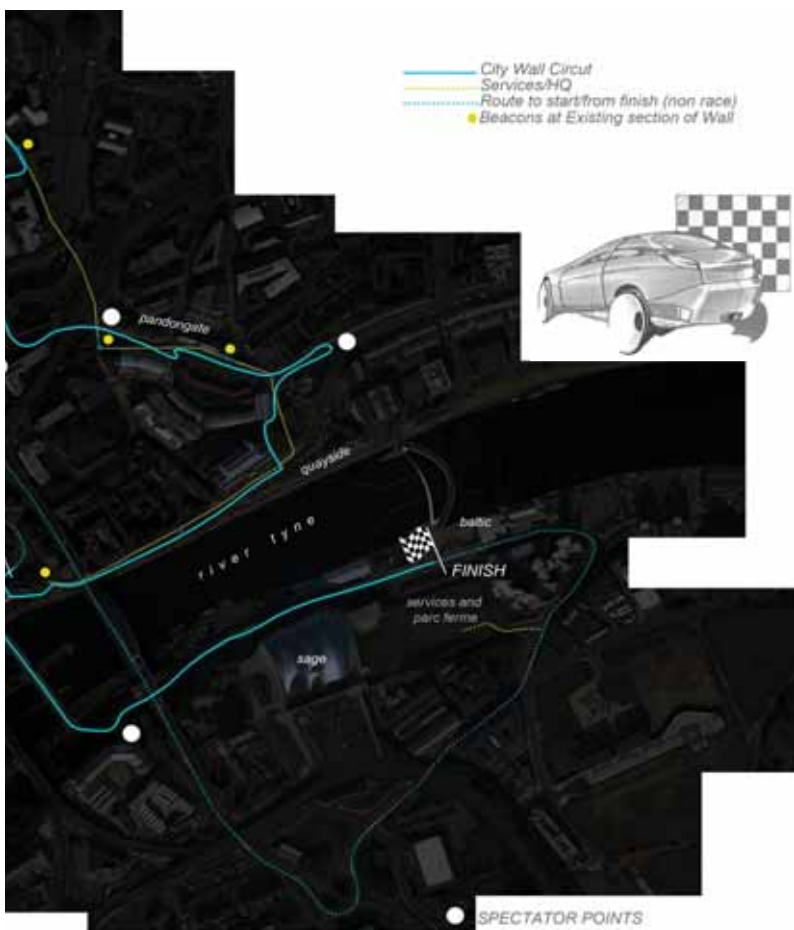
WHY DO PEOPLE TAKE RISKS ?

DAVE COLLINS GREY MATTERS PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

People are willing to take risks due to a bio-psycho-social effect. Like so many things in humans, there is something biological-people who take what the majority of the populace believe are risks have a lower susceptibility to the stress hormones; they need more to get worried than someone who is nervous. Then there is the psychological effect, their identity is very bound up with this dangerous activity. They don't see it as dangerous, they are in control and they see being on top of it as an important part of what they are.

Then there is the social effect, they gain social status because they behave in a certain way. There are a lot of things humans do that can be accounted for by an interaction of these three areas. Extracts from an interview with Guy Martin (Manx TT racer) and Danny MacAskill (gravity defying cyclist), MacAskill explains his take on what he does. "I'm very calculating. I can picture things in my head. I can imagine what I'd like to do, then I push for it. I don't just fling myself off stuff. It's riding within my capabilities". Martin has regularly said it is the "buzz" he gets from racing a superbike on road circuits that keeps him coming back for more. Dave Collins says; "The brain and the body do very, very clever things when you push them to extremes, when you force them to function at a different level. And it is very addictive-people feel really alive in the flow state.

The Flow State; The "flow state" was described by the American-based psychologist Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi. It is when the challenge and the expertise is roughly balanced, you're being stretched, but just in control. If the perceived challenge is greater than your ability, you're anxious; if it's less, you're bored. The flow state is a space in between.



DOON AT KIBBY CLUB

THIS MONTH...

- 3 December TMSG - Tynemouth
- 5 December - ASP North of England Rally Championship Awards Night - Pelaw Grange
- 11 December - Committee
- 12 December - Scalextric
- 19 December - WDMC Awards Night
- 26 December - Noggin n Natter
- 28 December - WDMC December 12 Car**

OTHER EVENTS

- 2 December - Sprint, Teesside Autodrome
- 3 December - LEJoG
- 14-16 December - Race of Champions, Bangkok
- 29 December - Christmas Stages - Croft

PURE CLASS-IFIEDS..... (OR GIVEAWAYS/WANTED)

- Sparco black FIA race boots, size 42. £50:00
- Sparco helmet bag. £10:00
- Sparco open face helmet, nomex lined, blue deckal, Large, fitted with peltor intercom. £100:00
- Tour of Mull rally bag. £5:00
- SOS/OK clip board. £5.00
- Momo black fire proof socks, large £5:00
- Sparco FIA fire proof socks, large £5:00
- Sparco FIA balaclava (blue) £10:00
- Sparco FIA short sleeve top, medium (natural) £15:00
- Sparco FIA short sleeve top, medium (blue) £15:00
- Sparco race overalls, blue, size 52 (about 5' 9") £80:00

All in mint condition. Contact David Gibson 01228576559
Can deliver to club night if there's enough interest - Perfect Xmas Presents!!



Please contact the editor if you want to advertise any planes, trains and automobiles. Additionally, any other bits and bobs you want to sell or get rid of then please let us know.

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WHAT'S REVVVVING MY ENGINE



MacAskill...Legend on 2 wheels



Seb makes it 3 out of 3....



Tyne Tee won it...Plop!



FLAT OUT

TICKING OVER

NOT GOING ANYWHERE

CAN YOU GO TO SPAIN? FROM TYNESIDE TO OVIEDO

By #worldclassmechanic (apparently too old to be named...pah!)

I arrived at Newcastle airport at 8.00am and was given an envelope with money in it and a jiffy bag containing some expensive looking sensors. The flight, flying with British Airways, left for Heathrow at 9.30. I went to check-in and was told the flight was cancelled. Bigger. I managed to check-in on the next flight to Heathrow, leaving at 1.30pm that would arrive with just enough time to get the connection to Oviedo in North West Spain. Result. Time for a wander around duty free and a very leisurely lunch.

Afterwards I strolled to the gate early and checked the screen to confirm the gate, "DELAYED". Bigger! At least a 30 minute delay. The onward connection was not possible. After a phone call to H.Q. I was told to take the delayed flight and 'plan B' would be invented as I was en-route to terminal 5 at Heathrow. On arrival in terminal 5 my phone rang. "There is a flight to Barcelona at 6.30pm, stay at the airport hotel in Barcelona overnight, then take a flight to San Sebastian that leaves at 7.00am the following morning".

I eventually arrived at the hotel about 11.30pm and needed to be in the hotel reception at 4.30am to catch the courtesy bus to the airport. I was collected at the airport in San Sebastian at about 8.30am. I was knackered. I was driven to the workshop in Lugo to assess the problem with the clutch and replace some expensive sensors. I was greeted by a keen young lad called Pablo who had, with a bit of help from his many helpers, recently fitted the transmission to the car. As I climbed into the left hand seat the car was surrounded by, I think 10 to 15 people, all looking at the English Ford mechanic. I settled into the seat and proceeded to push the pedal down a few times, the travel seemed to be adequate, but I did think the pedal felt a bit soft. I was thinking the clutch would probably benefit from a bit of a bleed when young Pablo whispered in my ear that the problem was with clutch...I was pressing the accelerator pedal!

Well, I felt like a right twat in front of all these people. So I quickly started pressing the correct pedal hoping the many spectators had not noticed. As I got out of the car to find out why there was only half the pedal travel there should be, keen young Pablo spilt the beans to those who had not seen the English Ford mechanic pushing the wrong pedal. A ripple of laughter went around the workshop as I investigated the problem, and felt deeply embarrassed. I quickly found that a shim was missing from the slave cylinder of the clutch and told keen young Pablo what to do to sort the problem.

With the clutch sorted and the sensors replaced off we went for a shakedown test. On the test I advised on some wet weather suspension changes and adjustments that worked and made the pilot a lot happier with the car. I then had an even more harrowing return journey which I think was payback for behaving like an amateur.

The car, a 2005 spec WRC Focus, won its first event. So I think I redeemed myself a bit, maybe.

RAMBLINGS PART I LEARNING THE NATIVE TONGUE? - FOR SURE!

By TC and a Finnish Counterpart

When non-English speaking drivers join an English team, an interviewer always asks how the driver is getting on with learning the lingo. And inevitably the reply usually goes, "He is spending too much time with the mechanics". You know the score there.

I have to relate a time when I was in Finland and got into a semi-drunken conversation on a stage with a local student(he pissed, me sober). Say this for me, and he said a short sentence, although it might have been one long word for all I knew about the Finnish language. So the wife and I went over this phrase over and over with him until we had it almost perfect. Then with a giggle, off went our friend to source more alcohol.

A tap on the shoulder from a concerned local, "Never, ever, say those words, you could be arrested and sent home". So me and the missus have been taught the nastiest, rudest, worst possible thing you can say in Finland.

The mother-load of perfect profanity. Regretably, we have forgotten it now, and we only have regularly used words and phrases to use, like "good morning, where is the breakfast room", "do you have an English newspaper", and "how much is this fu#king beer".

DECEMBER 12 CAR NAVIGATIONAL EVENT TO WELCOME THE NY

**December 12 Car
Navigational Rally
28th December 2012**

55 miles 8 TC's easy whites all traversed in a standard car
Separate Novice and Expert instructions
Regulations out 1st December 2012
Email Dec12Car@BrianEland.com
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After event snacks
All this for £7.50 per car

