

“REVS” News Letter

October 2021



News.

Rally History Stages Weston Park, a smash hit with all.

AGBO Stages, full entry 75 + reserves in 32 minutes from entries opening.

OMC Xmas party and awards presentation nights are both back on the agenda, brief details this issue.

OMC Tony Matthews Classic Tour was big hit with entrants.

AGBO Rally, great weather, top 3 split by just a few seconds. Event Sponsor Oliver Davies takes his 9th Win.

OMC Classic Tour utilizes 120 miles of spectacular Derbyshire scenery, great new start / finish location.



Left, Mick Coville Fiat Ritmo and Warner Lewis Toyota Celica, instigators of Rally History Stages, seen here taking part in the event at Weston Park.

Rally History Stages Weston Park 22.8.21

Many sceptics said this event would never happen, well happen it did. With great determination from the organisers, constantly up against barriers being thrown in their way, they persevered, overcoming all of the obstacles and made it happen and what an event it was.

Over 5,000 paying visitors witnessed a faultless 8 stage display by some tremendous rally machinery. A great PR exercise for Owen MC who played a big part in this event's success, congratulations to all involved.



9th Win for AGBO 2021 sponsor, Oliver Davies

Club Contact Information.

Based at **Great Barr Golf Club**, Chapel Lane, Great Barr, Bham B43 7BA

OS map Ref, 139/ 048 958, GPS N52° 33` 27.54 W1° 56` 7.99

Club Meet Every Wednesday, 9.00pm.

Committee Meet First Wednesday of Month, 8.00pm

Club contacts and club event responsibilities as follows:

President. David Owen OBE

Chairman. Anton Bird, AGBO Rally & OMC Rallies Archive, REVS *Editor*, Club Event Pictures Archive. antonbird@talktalk.net

Vice Chairman. Simon Whittick ...Web Site co ordination & Slithering Santa PCA Cymson Dynamo Auto Solo, Graham Hill Sprint .simonwhittick@btinternet.com

Club Sec. Roger Tolley.... r.tolley@blueyonder.co.uk

Treasurer. Michael Ward ... michael_ward70@btinternet.com

Committee members:

Derrick Wallbank. Competition Sec. All Events, doubledecker460@hotmail.co.uk

Clare Jennings AGBO Rally, Social Sec. Child Protection Officer.

clarejennings22@outlook.com

Barri Wilmot. Club Equipment Officer. Happy Landings Grass Auto Test team.

barriwilmot@aol.com

Ruth Langford. Trophies Officer..... pinkfairy66@hotmail.co.uk

Daniel Lister. AGBO Rally..... dan-lister@hotmail.co.uk

Melvyn Cox. Bright Sparks PCA & Championship scorer.

melvyn.cox@blueyonder.co.uk

Martin Parkes. Classic Section Coordinator martin6parkes@gmail.com

Chief Marshal

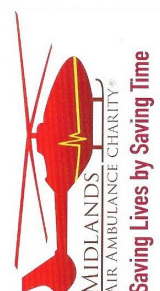
Dean Forrest. Assistant Chief Marshal. scouts8th@hotmail.co.uk

Other Contact details.

Club Archives. Lynn Whittick. [Contact through Simon Whittick]

Hilary Bird. Membership Sec.hilarybird1@hotmail.co.uk

Roger Tristram. Classic Section Assistant ...rtristram@blueyonder.co.uk



AGBO STAGES RALLY

OWEN MOTORING CLUB

I bet there are a few members out there saying who on earth are these new AGBO rally sponsors and what happened to Jaspers Bakeries, I will explain. A local competitor Oliver Davies who has supported the event for many years, he has actually won it eight times, has always wanted to be more involved, so when I knew that Mark Jasper would not be sponsoring for 2021, I prompted him & he agreed to step into the breach. The company “Land & Estate Management” does exactly what it says on the tin, the physical side of it, landscaping, lake forming and drainage etc. with big machinery. We have thanked Mark Jasper of

“Jaspers Bakeries” so many times, so another time won’t hurt. He has been inspirational, always there to support and encourage, he already has vetoed that he will return as headline sponsor when current business conditions improve.

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Mark actually sold his bakery premises in Newport High Street during the height of the pandemic, stating that it was impossi-

ble with staff and poor footfall at the time to be viable, a good offer sealed the deal. Thank you for your past support Mark, we would welcome you back at any time. Also a very big thank you to Oliver Davies for stepping up with his support. In these times any club would be grateful for any type of support for an event of this size. Some suppliers are now demanding ridiculous prices for services, it is a question of just how long we can hold out. The last thing I would ever want to do is put up entry fees that are not in line with what we can offer mileage wise, come on Weston Park get some more tarmac down, the road used to access SS1,2,3,4 on the Rally History event would be ideal. It was only part laid with large gravel for the event but it cut to pieces on that event in no time at all. Tarmac it Weston !!!!! I can’t understand why they have tarmacked other long stretches of road in the park that were perfectly adequate...AB



Westfield Update

Many of you may know that I once owned a 1988 Westfield Kit Car that was used by me for sprints and Hillclimbs for over 20 years and I competed in about 180 events. It started out with a 1390cc engine for the up to 1400cc class and then later when the rules changed it was upgraded to 1700cc. I achieved many class wins at various circuits around the UK, won two major NSCC awards and met up with some fantastic fellow competitors over the years. Much work was done on this great car over the years of my ownership such as rear disc brake conversion, Sierra Type 9 Quaife gearbox, 2 or 3 rewires and much more including a crank regrind and a full engine rebuild early in 2011 after a 'big-end' noise developed whilst competing at MIRA.

By the end of 2011 I decided that to stay competitive in the road going class a lot more money had to be spent on this car and I fancied a change, so an advert was put together and within a few weeks James Alexandra came and viewed the car, and a deal was done. James lived at Northampton, and I agreed to deliver the car to him on Saturday morning 6th April 2012, much to his partner Debbie's surprise and a nice day out on Elaine's Birthday!

James planned to use the car on the road as well as getting into sprinting and hillclimbing. A few weeks into his ownership he was out on a Sunday afternoon drive and stopped at a crossroads not far from his home. A youth on a moped ran into the rear of the stationary Westfield and ended up on the bonnet causing a fair bit of damage to the rear and bonnet! Eventually the insurance was sorted out and appropriate repair work was carried out over the next few weeks.

Whilst in the repair shop James arranged for the removal of the windscreen and wiper motor etc. and an aero screen was fitted in its place complying with the new rules for sprinting in class 2A. The bonnet and nosecone were resprayed black, so it looked slightly different to when I owned it. James did a few sprints and then took it to Northampton Motorsport Ltd who modified the exhaust system and managed to get even more bhp out of trusty Ford X-Flow.

He entered the Westfield Speed Series and in 2014 finished 1st in class A, 3rd in the novice championship and 12th overall out of 60 Westfields.

A new engine was planned for the 2015 season so I can be proud of my engine re-build achieving this result after a few years of hard driving by both of us. Although I kept in touch with James during his ownership and met up with him at Curborough occasionally I then lost touch with him and his exploits. I found out later that he had sold my old car and bought another 'high-spec' Westfield but could not get on with it. He then moved into trialling towards the end of 2016 and competed with his son. He had bought a 1973 special with an 'A' series engine, Ford box and a live axle. I understand his late father, who died while James was quiet young, was a keen sporting trials competitor as he once showed me a large black & white photo of his dad competing and I know that he was keen to follow in his father's footsteps.

As you know once I had sold my Westfield, I bought an Imp and promptly joined the owners club. Then on 2nd June 2016 I receive a message via Facebook from a fellow Imp member Mark Ibbotson who lives in Milton Keynes. *.continued*



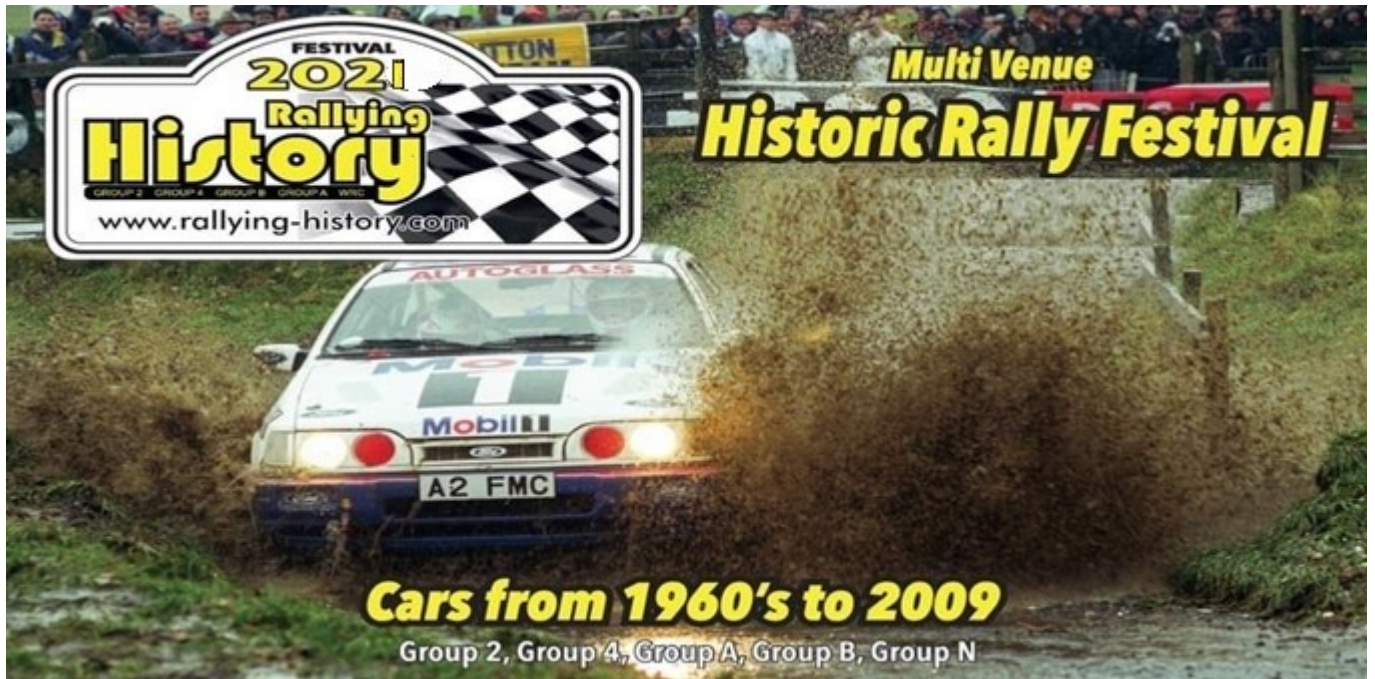
He had bought a red Westfield after seeing an advert on the Westfield forum and then found out it used to belong to me! Mark purchased the car, still with my re-built 1700cc engine, for road and track days. He told me that out of the 3 Westfields he had previously owned mine was not the fastest but that it handled the best, the gearbox was the best he had come across and that the crossflow engine and its noise really suited the car. Mark used it on the road occasionally but never got to take it on the track because as he said, "it became a chore just to get it out of the garage as several kids cars had to be moved before he could access the Westfield".

During his ownership he managed to run out of fuel once, had a misfire which was traced to a faulty rotor arm and did a couple of long runs but found it got a bit uncomfortable towards the end! His son James, who has just started competing in the pre-66 saloon car championship in his Imp, drove it a few times and according to Mark he was a complete hooligan in it and liked drifting it around corners!

In 2018 Mark decided to sell it on e-bay and he informed me that it has now gone to France to compete in Hill climbs and Sprints. I am trying to track down the new owner as I would love to keep in touch with this car and follow its journey onwards. *Article by Martin Parkes.*

Rally History Action pictures by AB





Rallying History Grp B. Weston Park / Telford 21 & 22 August 2021

A very difficult twelve months to get this event into the park, many obstacles were put in the path of the determined organiser Warner Lewis, who nearly threw the towel in twice due to very unnecessary interference from a number of directions. Warner stuck to his guns, persevered and with help and encouragement from a few directions he overcame all of the relentless obstacles and in the end made it happen.

What a spectacle that day was, everything it was planned to be and more, not a single incident all day, the rally running like clockwork. Owen MC played a big role in this event assisting with much of the pre rally planning and over the event weekend supplying a number of key personnel. The club also supplied all stage furniture and managed stage set up and turnround. As usual a professional job by the clubs experienced AGBO team. This did not go un noticed with many great comments from all of the competitor's throughout the day.

Do it again, I don't know, jury is out on that one. For me personally it was a lot of hard work and at times difficult to make any decisions due to outside interference. For our club this was a brilliant exercise in PR, even our classic section put on a show of some 12/14 cars in the public viewing areas. Many visitors to the show, we believe over 6,000, showing great interest in our club and display. Congratulations to all involved, total proof this kind of event can be done properly.

Back at the park in a few weeks time for another AGBO Rally, must be mad!!!!.....AB



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*Exclusive discount code is for club members use only. Applicable to advanced adult tickets booked before midnight on Thursday 11 November 2021. After that, limited full price tickets will be available at the show. Full ticket information: www.necclassicmotorshow.com/tickets.

OMC Up & Coming Events.

Oct 17. Bright Sparks Auto Test /Solo

Club event at Curborough.. Entries are open, Marshals required,
EVENT CANCELLED DUE TO LACK OF ENTRIES.

Oct 20 - OMC AGM 2021, will be at GBGC 8.00am start prompt.

Oct 31 - Equipment Clear Out Day.

It is planned to have a clear out at the clubs equipment container on Sunday 31 October weather permitting, 10.30am (controlled entry to site). It is expected that all club event organisers attend this session. We don't want anyone throwing away stuff you might want !!. Any members who can spare some time to assist will be welcome please pre advise if you plan to help. Tea, coffee and possibly a bacon sarnie will be on offer (bring your own mug) !!!! Yes I Know Mugs for being there!)

Nov 12-14 - NEC Classic Motor Show

OMC classic section will once again (our 21st appearance) be at this iconic motor show, any offers of show cars or assistance with stand manning over the week end please contact Martin Parkes, event passes (Very limited supply this Year) are not just freebies for you to get into the show, you will have to share stand manning duties.

December 15 - Xmas Party at GBGC, 8.00pm ticket entrance only at £10 per head (two per club member) Non-members £15

Club Subsidised Buffet is included.

Tickets from: clarejennings22@outlook.com

Dec 27 - Slithering Santa.

Traditional post Boxing Day auto test Curborough the venue.

Feb 26, 2022 - OMC awards night for the 2021 season at GBGC, ticket details soon.

NEW Regalia available, page next issue or see new OMC web page.

Wanted, Pair Lucas, Hella, Cibie, etc. or One like the one on the left , got two Lucas 7" if any one interested.

07702 567383



Tony Matthews Classic Tour report ... by Paul Nelson

An early Sunday morning start for us as we left home at daybreak to arrive at the start venue in Ambergate, just south of Matlock, shortly before 8am. The meeting point was the [Great British Car Journey](#) museum, who were excellent hosts. With plenty of parking at the start, breakfast rolls along with teas and coffees were included in the entry fee. The museum had some fine examples of British built cars providing both nostalgic reflection and spotless facilities to make good use of before our start time. The 120 mile route was superb, split into 4 sections and taking in 3 stops on the way. Morning coffee and biscuits were provided at the superbly restored [Kingsley and Froggall station](#) on the Churnet Valley Steam Railway. Lunch was a 'bring your own picnic' at the perfectly situated [Tittesworth Reservoir](#). Pay & display parking was 'all inclusive', with a café and visitor centre at our disposal if required. Afternoon tea and cakes were enjoyed at the [Pavilion Gardens](#) in Buxton, with a dedicated parking area on the promenade, alongside the beautiful Victorian glasshouses. The day was rounded off with a light hot dinner and hot drinks back at the GBCJ museum.

As for the drive - the early morning heavy downpours soon cleared and the blue skies brought out the best that the Peak District has to offer. The roads were excellent, tight, twisty and challenging, with breathtaking views around every corner. The roadbook was clear and well presented, timecards were used in an attempt at spacing cars apart and the leg distances seemed spot on. Owen Motoring Club secured some amazing stop off venues and the folk in Derbyshire seemed to welcome the motorcade more than most, with many waving or giving us the thumbs up when we drove past. The day was faultless, aside from an unplanned re-route at Goyt valley - when a locked gate advised that the road I've used on many a night road rally was in fact closed on Sundays and Bank Holidays from May - September. The organisers were short on numbers and would have probably benefited from having a course opener car? Alison delivered an excellent performance in the passenger seat, and gained confidence in managing both the trip and driver!

All in all it was a great tour, super roads, excellent rest halts and with the added bonus of clear blue skies. Definitely worth the early start and the trek up the M1 - roll on next year!



Some of
our
Classic
Tour
entrants.

Pics...AB

Owen Motoring Club Rally History



Start 1968 AGBO Rally



Researched & Compiled by Anton Bird

Six years research to dig out the history of many of the rallies organised by OMC. Events covered from 1960 through to our years at Weston Park. The main focus being on the club's road rallies including all 10 Motoring News Championship offerings. 75 pages of history plus many pictures in B&W and Colour, some believed never published before.

Copies of the book available through the author @ **£10.00 per copy** Cheques payable to **Owen Motoring Club Ltd.**

Now available on eBay Item No.133583415879

Postage Rates:

Second Class £2.00

Overseas rates please contact. antonbird@talktalk.net