

“REVS” News Letter

Christmas 2023



Rally History. Report this issue.....

Christmas party “Fish & Chips” 13.12.23 get your tickets @ £5 / head see page 8. Ticket only NO spare meals on the night.

NEC Classic Show, super OMC stand attracts “Bangers & Cash” TV celebs.

John Bloxham memorial Rally, running locally attracts OMC marshals, running three tests on the day.

HRCR Mini Cup 2024. Members Clive King & Anton Bird secure Mini Cup title on last event of the year. Report and pictures P9/10.

AGBO Rally meetings begin for 2024 event, marshals registration is now open.



OMC Wish all members a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Cheer up fatty, it could be worse !!

Put yourself in my shoes



I've got to carry all these trophy's home Bwahahahahaha

Sorry WRC Mini`s. But I just could not resist putting this into REVS, yes there was a WRC Mini at our last event sadly it didn't finish and the above applies.....Ed.

Club Contact Information. °

HQ at: Aldridge Conservative & Unionist Club, 62 Portland Rd, Walsall WS9 8NS
OS map Ref, 139/ 057 006, GPS 52.6030° N / 1.9169° W

Club Meet Every Wednesday, 8.00pm.

Committee Meet First Wednesday of Month, 8.00pm

Club contacts and club event responsibilities as follows:

President. David Owen OBE

Chairman. Michael Ward ... michael_ward70@btinternet.com

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

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

Treasurer. Michael Ward ... michael_ward70@hotmail.com

Committee members:

Competition Sec. TBA

AGBO Rally, Social Sec. Child Protection Officer. Clare Jennings
clarejennings22@outlook.com

Equipment Officer..... Anton Bird

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

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

Championship scorer, Classic Section assistant.... Melvyn Cox
melvyn.cox@blueyonder.co.uk.

Classic Section Coordinator.... Martin Parkes ... classicowenmc@gmail.com

Chief Marshal. Dean Forrestscouts8th@hotmail.co.uk

Other Contact details.

Simon & Lynn Whittick. Graham Hill Sprint, Club Archives

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



Rally History Festival Sept / Oct 2023

No room for this article last issue, some great pictures have been posted on social media sites of the cars in this event, just a few here of beauties I took over the week end.....

Report & Pics AB



Firstly, I have to thank all the OMC personnel who assisted with set up & running of stages over the week end in Weston Park. A great event, possibly with too many cars included, but never the less a superb spectacle of some amazing rally cars we (well most of us) remember them running through the Welsh forests on RAC Rallies all those years ago.

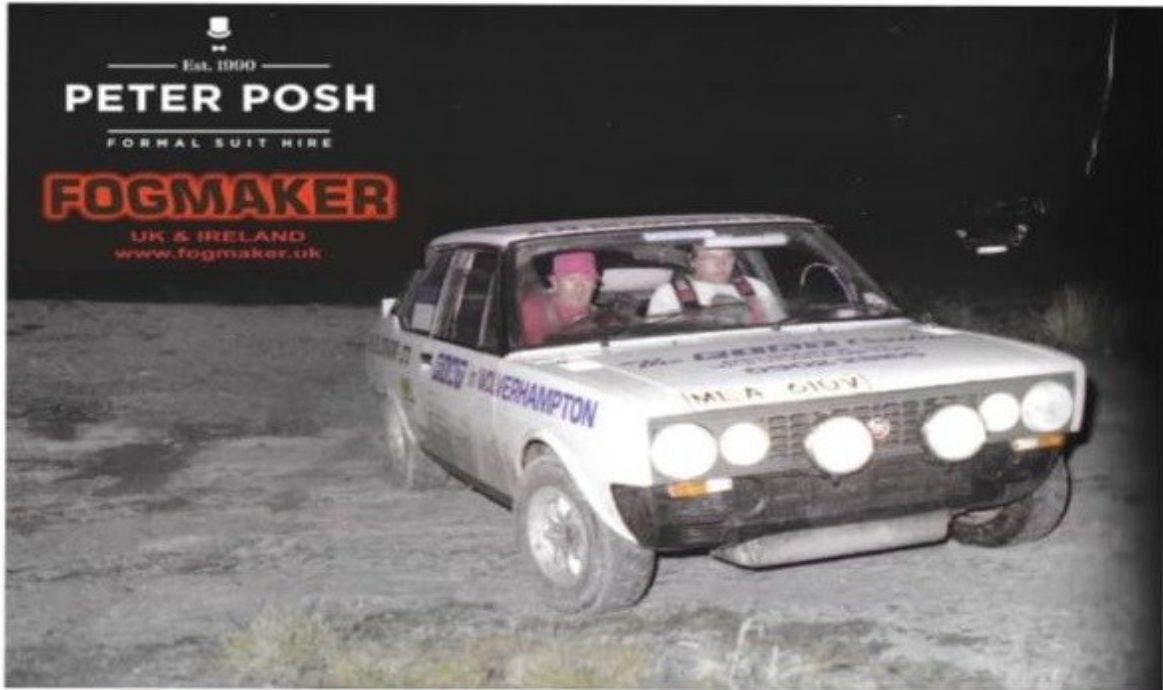
Set up on Friday was a real problem for us, many calls had been put out for assistance to achieve this task, few, very few actually attended, one who did worked his back side off all week end especially on Friday, leading by example comes to mind, he can not be thanked enough, Mike Lister thank you..

A thankless task and one I believe we will not be in a position to fulfil in future. Thank you to all who did help. AGBO next for the team, join us please.

The only thing that spoilt this event was the weather, late Saturday and most of Sunday it threw it down which resulted with the event being stopped two stages before scheduled, yes that bad, a correct call, it was getting unsafe and some of those cars are priceless.

The Lancia Fulvia, bottom right above. A late call for me from the event organisers to Co Drive for Tim Ashton (Owner) but only for Saturday, as the CEO of Motorsport UK Hugh Chambers was taking over duties on Sunday. Would have been hard to refuse and what a car, I thoroughly enjoyed the experience, thank you Tim for the opportunity and thank you Hugh for a great write up in an MSUK publication.

THE
JOHN BLOXHAM
MEMORIAL
HISTORIC ROAD RALLY
Saturday 18 November 2023



A decent turn out of OMC marshals but as it turned out, only just enough to cover three tests we had to man for this new local event run by Wolverhampton & SSCC. Three tests in quick succession all running through the same farm near Cosford on Saturday 18 Nov. a variation of loose & muddy, tarmac & concrete surfaces. We were lucky with the weather much worse had been forecast. An entertaining few hours with a very varied selection of cars, a change from the Escort processions in stage rallying. A big thank you to OMC club member Mick Tonks for organising the troops.

Club members competing, Garry Preston, Cooper S, with ex member Kevin Moore on the maps, DNF Retired after Ditton tests late Saturday evening, exhausted !!! Dean Forrest & Melvyn Cox regulars to this type of event, finished last, punctures, bent wheels and a wrong slot, they are normally mid pack.

Clive King Coopers S, his other one (Bernard), fully re prepped for this event, yes got two and another two in the amount of bits he has. Navigated by Craig his son, Craig comments after not navigating at all in donkeys years "trying to cope with the level of skill required for this type of event was stressful" (cant print exact words) an exciting day for the crew even a challenging 4" of water in the car after a pass through a ford. 34th / 3rd in class..I did notice from the test times Clive was very competitive, but it's the regularity bits that causes all the problems.....Report....AB

John Bloxham Memorial Road Rallya few pics...AB



Above Right. Clive & Craig King, first time out on this type of event for them with a creditable finish.. **Above.** Dean Forrest & Melvyn Cox, MGB, A Poor finish for them, & **Bottom Left...** Yes, least said, The OMC canteen, our Chief Chef, debateable at present, Paddy Langford, his grand daughters Isabelle & Charlotte state "he was acting as their apprentice for the day" think we will leave him to sort that one out !!!!!

OMC @ NEC Classic Show....Celebs flock to club stand, must have been the tea!!! Or was it Boycee our car dealer.....



Bangers & Cash team visit OMC stand at the NEC Show in November, seen above left Dave, **Ctr.** Boss Derrick & **Right.** ex employee, now got her own similar business, Sarah.

Below. Great stand in Hall 4 produced by Martin Parkes & team for the 2023 show, thanks go to all OMC exhibitors for the loan of their pride & joy for the week end.



2023 Classic Section Review.....by Martin Parkes

2023 has been another successful year for OMC Classic Section although we have slightly reduced the number of shows we have attended. This has been mainly due to my holidays, plus arranging other events for the Imp Club and Elaine's Midget and Sprite Club. The year started with a well-attended display of 14 cars at my local pub 'The Golden Cup' in May which was organised at reasonably short notice and formed part of the weekend celebrations for the coronation of King Charles. Next up was Lichfield's 'Cars in the Park' which was well organised by Derrick and was very well attended. The following weekend we helped our 'sister' car club, Shenstone & District Car Club, celebrate their 80th Anniversary by providing an excellent display at Curborough Sprint Circuit which was also celebrating its 60th Birthday. Organisers even arranged for us to do some demonstration display laps during the lunch hour which was well received by the public.

Fast forward to August Bank Holiday and Trevor Sherrington once again arranged for us to display at New Hall Water Mill with probably our best show of 2023. New Hall, as many of you know, was the family home of the Owen family so it is nice that we display here with that connection. We had 20 cars on display, three were not OMC cars but still added to the magnificent display, thank you to Trevor for arranging this and look forward to repeating it in 2024. The following weekend was a very hot Himley Hall Show and a huge thank you to Pete Hubball and Derrick Wallbank for organising and to Sue & Roger for transporting the club equipment. We had a total of 20 cars on the stand and great that everyone turned up early thus avoiding the lengthy delays that are inevitable with this event. The days heat proved a problem and a couple of our members were affected by it during the morning and after lunch a lot of people and cars started leaving the show early which was quite understandable as it was just too hot.

Initially I was slightly disappointed we couldn't get enough cars for a display at the 'Rally Festival' at Weston Park but looking back I'm glad we didn't as the weather as you know was atrocious and very muddy with lots of vehicles having to be towed off the field with tractors!

The final event of year as always is the NEC Classic Car Show which went better than I expected with my stand layout. Lots of compliments on how good our cars and display looked which made all the hard preparation work worthwhile. My own personal thanks go to the following team who worked hard and helped put the whole stand together, supplied and polished their cars to an inch of their lives and provided fantastic company for the three show days. Paul & Chris Moran, Dean Forrest, Derrick Wallbank, Elaine, Pete Hubball, John Littlely and Howard Cottrell. Also, other club members who came along during the show days and helped look after the stand and answer questions etc. from the passing public. I will, of course, be applying for next year's show when the email lands in my in-box.

Looking forward to next year I have arranged for us to display at the Aldridge Transport Museum on Sunday April 21st for their 'Spring Running Day' so as usual there should be lots of buses taking enthusiasts on scenic rides as well as their great museum so I hope we can put on a good display again. I know it's a little in advance but it would help me if you can let me know if you might be available to bring a car along so I can roughly gauge numbers. Also 2024 will see the return of the Canwell Show after a long delay after COVID, the date hasn't been set yet but I'm sure we can provide an excellent display there again when it is finally announced. If you know of any local shows that you think we should visit I'd love to hear from you.

Thank you for supporting me and the Owen Motoring Club Classic Section have a Happy Christmas and I look forward to seeing you sometime during next year.

Owen Motoring Club

“Crymson Dynamo”

Auto Solo



Owen Motoring Club Present:

**The “Crymson Dynamo” Auto Solo Sunday
January 28th. 2024 @ Curborough Sprint Course.**

Regs are now available through OMC Web Site.

<https://owenmotoringclub.co.uk/>

HRCR MINI CUP.. Nov 25/26 2023
PENTRAETH GLYN MEMORIAL STAGES..... Report by Craig King

SATURDAY SS 1- 8. After a tough season rallying, five Mini Cup crews headed to Trac Môn on Anglesey for the Glyn Memorial Stages, which is always a popular event amongst the crews. Although the driver's championship had been decided on the previous rally, (once again being secured by Clive King), there was still plenty of silverware and bragging rights to play for. Category 2 honors was still up for grabs between Craig King and Harvey Stevens, and the overall co drivers title could go three ways. Russell Joseph (sitting once again with Craig on this event) and Anton Bird (sitting with Clive) were tied on points, so whoever finished ahead would take the title... unless they both failed to finish, in which case, the title would go to championship leader Kari Bates (Who unfortunately could not attend the event due to other commitments).

Shane Gamble`s usual co driver Bob Ward also could not attend the event at the last minute, but a replacement was found from the Harvey Stevens stable in Craig Hardiman (on only his third event). The race was on.

Clive led away the five mini crews in his usual way, by taking an immediate ten second lead. Craig and Callum Powell were second fastest with exactly the same time. Next was Category 1 champion Shane Gamble just three seconds back despite not having a working intercom, and then Harvey starting cautiously, dropping a further thirteen seconds.

Stage 2 would see problems for Callum and Craig. Callum stopped in stage unable to select first or second gear and Craig's engine cut out and would not restart. Eventually Craig's engine did burst back into life, but they would have to take a fifteen minute stage maximum, putting them out of contention for victory, and making Russells chance of taking the championship very unlikely. The cause of this was never discovered so the rest of the rally was attacked with crossed fingers that it wouldn't happen again. Callum and his co driver (Mini Cup regular Dave Evans) would set about the herculean task of removing the engine and gearbox, and stripping them down in the service area to repair the issue.

Next to hit problems was Harvey and his co-driver Lawrence Selly. On Stage 4 they went the wrong direction at a split and they too, taking a stage maximum of fifteen minutes. Because this was a longer stage, it meant that they still held a lead over class rival Craig of more than fifty seconds. Craig's spin on Stage 5 due to 'over enthusiasm' did little to resolve this time deficit.

By the time stage 6 arrived it became obvious to the crews that tyre wear was going to be an issue. Clive and Craig had already scrapped a number of tyres and were running out. This didn't slow the crews down though, and the times were all pretty close together, even though Clive was extending his lead on every stage. Craig also got a little too close to the scenery for comfort on this stage and had to reverse away from a tyre wall.

The next two stages were run in darkness, and with multiple cars on the circuit at any one time, this offered a unique challenge to the crews. Craig and Russell set impressive times on both of these stages taking twenty-eight seconds back off Clive, (cold track, wrong tyre pressures) but more importantly one minute and twenty one seconds from Harvey, to put himself back into the class lead. Harvey had been struggling in the dark feeling unwell. Callum had managed to repair his car and managed to go out and do one stage, and he was ready to have some fun the next day.

SUNDAY SS 9-14. The crews arrived at the track early the next morning, ready to commence battle. Daylight had revealed that Craigs front n/s tyre was badly blistered and some swapping around wheels and tyres was required. There were six stages on the schedule for Sunday and despite the gaps, all the crews were still pushing hard. After his efforts the previous day, Callum's luck unfortunately ran out. His car lost drive and heart-breakingly, that meant he was out.

Continued...

Harvey was setting some very good times, doing all he could to pressure Craig. Shane and co driver Craig pushed on as safely as they could to try and ensure a drama free finish, Clive and Anton continued setting fastest times on all but one of the days stages. There were no further dramas, and even the tyre's lasted (just), but to show how hard everyone was still pushing, if you discount Saturdays stages and only count Sunday's all the Mini crews were covered by just twenty six seconds.

Clive and Anton would finish first and secure Anton's championship win. Shane and Craig Hardiman stayed out of trouble to come home a well deserved second.

Craig and Russell held on for third and secured the Category 2 championship. Harvey and Lawrence finished fourth and are already turning their attention to next year.

The Mini Cup is over for another year and next years championship is shaping up to be a cracker.

Some of the organisers and competitors of the Mini Cup will be in attendance at the HRCR Open Day at Gaydon January 13th 2024. Please feel free to come and have a chat.

The Exol oil prize draw was won by Craig King who also won the Snap on award donated by Andrew O'Hanlon.

Best improvement in seeding was won by Clive King winning a set of brake pads donated by Questmeed.

Makes a nice change to get a report & pictures from a competing OMC memberlets have some more, great report, Thank you Craig.Editor



Top Left. Clive King / Anton Bird 21st O/all, 1st in class, **Top Right** .Callum Powell working through the problems, **Bottom Right.** Craig King / Russell Joseph 30th O/all, 3rd in class, **Bottom Left.** Shane Gamble / Craig Hardiman 24th O/all, 2nd in class.

Motorsport in your everyday road car



The UK's grassroots motorsport scene represents thousands of competitors, with hundreds of events taking place every year.

StreetCar is a new initiative from Motorsport UK to open the doors to a thriving club community, break perceptions and encourage more people to get behind the wheel of their road car.

Motorsport is affordable and accessible with a wide range of low cost grassroots disciplines available, all of which can be participated in with a standard unmodified road car without safety kit and only a free Motorsport UK RS Clubman licence.

There are three principle StreetCar categories, offering 12 unique opportunities to participate:



Autotest



Trials and
Cross Country



Rally



Scan the QR code to head to Motorsport UK's StreetCar website, join the Facebook community and start your journey today!

Social

OMC CHRISTMAS CLUB PARTY

This will be held at Aldridge Conservative Club, 62 Portland Rd. Aldridge on December 13th. 7.30pm for 8.00, **IT'S A FISH & CHIP NIGHT**. It will be a ticket only function due to food orders being required one week in advance, don't leave it too late, no ticket no grub.

On Offer: Fish & Chips, Chicken & Chips, Chicken Tikka Kebab Meat with Salad & Gluten free pitta bread.

Your Food required taken at time of ticket purchase £5 per head.

Tickets available from Clare Jennings.

For event contact clarejennings22@hotmail.com



Renew Club MEMBERSHIP for 2024....Fees as stated on web application apply.

Membership Fees now due, renewals for new, existing members + championship registrations open now for 2024 available on line via OMC web site

Go to: Membership box top right: <https://membermojo.co.uk/owenmotoringclub>

2023 Awards evening has just been fixed, Date March 9th 2024 to be held at Druids Heath Golf Club, which is very near Aldridge centre.

Been to look at this recently, what a super venue. And a great menue.

Tickets will be £25 per head Subsidised by OMC. More details to follow..

AGBO STAGES RALLY

OWEN MOTORING CLUB



2024 L&EM AGBO Stages, Sunday, March 17th 2024.

Already confirmed as round 1 of the AWMMC HOE & HRCR Mini Cup Stage Championships. The event is again sponsored by Land & Estate Maintenance, OMC thank proprietor and club member **Oliver Davies** a 10 times AGBO Rally winner for his very valued support.

Marshals / Radio`s for AGBO 2024, March 17th.

All interested can now register with “**Another Day In Orange**” for the 2024 event. Pre event you will be sent a link by them to sign on.

Details & Link for Registration Register at

<https://anotherdayinorange.co.uk/agbo-stages/>

AGBO Rally spectator Tickets are now for sale through the Weston Park Web site, early bird prices at the moment.

<https://weston-park.com/agbo-rally/>

CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES up to 30.11.23

OWEN MC ONE SPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS AT 30 NOVEMBER 2023			
CATEGORY	NAME	EVENTS	ONE SPORT POINTS
AutoTest	Nick Pollitt	*10	115.40
	Dan Lister	6	93.01
	Paul Gough	4	19.29
Road Rally Driver	Dean Forrest	5	36.10
	Clive King	1	10.00
Road Rally Navigator	Melvyn Cox	4	22.38
	Craig King	1	10.00
	Jeff Holtom	1	5.71
Sprint	Paul Glendenning	*9	114.29
	John Denman	*9	58.01
	Howard Cottrell	5	54.76
Stage Rally Co-Driver	Anton Bird	4	63.59
	Kevin Hogan	3	45.99
	Owain Thomas	5	44.29
Stage Rally Driver	Clive King	5	76.32
	Owain Thomas	4	43.78
	Craig King	3	35.96
Trial	Nick Pollitt	5	53.33
	Garry Preston	1	18.00

MARSHALLS CHAMPIONSHIP

Paul Langford	230
Martin Parkes	215
Melvyn Cox	200

IMPORTANT

Club Trophies, championships and annual awards.

If you were a 2022 winner please RETURN all Trophies as soon as possible to Ruth Langford, Trophies Officer, directly or bring to club night.

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 £2.75

Overseas rates please contact. antonbird@talktalk.net