

**DURHAM AUTOMOBILE CLUB**

**NEWS SHEET – October 2023**

**Welcome to Durham Automobile Club**

I start this News Sheet by congratulating Durham club member David Henderson on winning the 2023 Scottish Rally Championship. David is the second English driver to win the Scottish Rally Championship, the first was also a Durham club member, Barry Johnson. We also congratulate Stephen Petch for finishing 6th in the Scottish Rally Championship, and Michael Wilkinson finishing 5th in the co-driver’s championship.

A reminder that the club is open every Wednesday night at the Honest Lawyer from approximately 8.00pm where there is always someone there for a natter it is encouraging that more people are joining these evenings but it would be great to see more people there, if there is some type of activity that we could run that would encourage more people to attend please let the committee know.

Although club membership isn’t due until the end of January 2024 if you join, or renew your club membership from the 1st November your membership will run until the end of January 2025.

I produce this News Sheet from information I am aware off but there are many events that I have no information on, so if there are any information/reports of events past or in the future that you would like to share will our club members please forward them to me and I will include them in future editions of this News Sheet.

**Past Durham Automobile Club Events**

**Wednesday 6th September – Scenic Tour/Treasure Hunt**

Not a bad turn-out of 8 cars on this. Two last minute cancellations would have had ten crews out. Was a scenic run of approx. 60/70 miles up Teesdale and Weardale. Starting near Harpely Hall and finishing at The Honest Lawyer.

Teams had to visit 9 locations in order, get a photograph. No time limit, but as always Ian Bell was first back. Don’t think he knows what steady away is.  Very easy clues, so as expected most crews completed it successfully. To give a winner, it was the best selfie taken at the rusty leaf sculpture. They were all very good, with some strange expressions, but there had to be one winner.

That went to Mick and Val. They had the setting sun behind the sculpture with it shining through the cracks and photo of themselves, each side with their heads turned sideways. Very well thought out.

It was great to see some faces from the past, and catch up with them.

Thanks for turning up everyone.

Sorry if I don’t know some of the passenger’s names.

Bob Dennis.                               Saab convertible

Mick Stead and Val Nichols          Suzuki

Chris Hobson.                             Caterham 7

Lindsay Burnip.                         Focus

Sammi Robinson and Andy Brown Swift

Ian Bell and Shirley.         Ignis / Toyota Yaris GR4. ( don’t ask)

Gordon and Janelle Dundee.     Hyundai

Ian Peak.                                       Saab convertible

**Up Coming Durham Automobile Club Events**

**Wednesday 15th November** **– Photo Scatter**

Start Time – From 7.00 to 7.15pm.

Start venue – Wolsingham Layby – 92/115 358

Finish venue – Cross Keys, Hamsterley – 92/118 311

Map all points are on map 92

Entry Fee - £5.00

This will be slightly different from the normal scatter, instead of supplying a list of grid references with questions to answer to confirm that competitors visited the point, a list of village names will be supplied, and to prove that the competitors visited them they must supply a picture of the village sign that is at the entry into the village. To assist competitors that are not familiar with the area the grid square the village is in will be supplied. There will be one point for each village visited, and one point deducted for each minute over the time allowed. If you are planning to take part please let me know so as I can print off the appropriate number of instructions.

**Sunday 19th November** **– Wackerfield Production Car Autotest**

Durham AC are running a Production Car Autotest at Wackerfield on the 19th November, this is a simple Autotest that is suitable for beginners and Targa drivers etc. We ran this venue once before and it is a little different from the usual Autotest but all competitors enjoyed it. Regulations will be circulated with this News Sheet.

**Classics at the Castle 2024 – at Raby Castle**

Following the success of the 2023 Classics at the Castle at Raby Castle the date for the 2024 show has been confirmed as Sunday 30th June. If you are an exhibitor or willing to assist on the day please put this date in your diary.

**Other Durham Auto Club Members Results**

**Stage Rallies**

Galloway Hills Rally

David Henderson – Chris Lees – 1st overall

Stephen Petch – Michael Wilkinson – 3rd overall

Trackrod Rally Yorkshire

Stephen Petch – Michael Wilkinson – 3rd overall

Trackrod Forest Rally

David Henderson – Chris Lees – 3rd overall

Carlisle Stages Rally

David Henderson – Chris Lees – 1st overall

Stephen Petch – Michael Wilkinson – 4th overall

**Targa Rallies**

Doonhamer Targa Rally

Philip Hodgson – Lewis Hodgson – 6th overall

Kielder Targa Rally

Kevin Stones – Chris Holden – 6th overall

Solway Classic Rally

Alan Hawdon – Paul Hawdon – 5th overall

Solway Targa Rally

Philip Hodgson – Lewis Hodgson – 7th overall

**Other Events**

Peter Masters – 1st class Edinburgh Long Distance Trial

**Other events that Durham Auto Club have requested to assist at**

**23rd – 27th November - Roger Albert Clark Rally**

This 5-day rally spends the 26th and 27th in the Keilder Complex and on the 26th Lindsay Burnip is stage commander for the Harewood Stage which is run twice in the afternoon. If you can assist Lindsay please contact her at [poshbirdincontrol@btinternet.com](mailto:poshbirdincontrol@btinternet.com) or go to the marshal’s page on the event website www.racrmc.org/roger-albert-clark-rally/marshals-page

**Other events in the coming months**

October

27th – 28th - Cambrian Rally - 7th round of the British Rally Championship, this is forest rally based in Llandudno running in the North Wales forests. Also a round of the BTRDA Championship

November

4th - Kingdom Stages – Single venue tarmac rally on Crail Airfield, Fife, organised by Glenrothes Motor Club, a round of the Scottish and AS Performance Tarmacadam Rally Championships

5th - Malton Forest Rally – Forest Rally in the North Yorkshire Forest organised by Malton Motor Club, a round of the SG Petch ANECCC Stage Rally Championship

11th - Saltire Classic - A round of the NESCRO Challenge organised by Saltire Rally Club, based in Blair Atholl

15th – Durham AC Photo Scatter – see details above.

18th - Kinloss Winter Stages – Single venue tarmac rally on Kinloss Army Barracks, Moray organised by Condor Motorsports Club

19th – Durham AC Wackerfield Production Car Autotest – see details above.

23rd – 27th - Roger Albert Clark Rally - 5-day classic rally in the forests of Wales, South of Scotland and North of England. **Lindsay is the Stage Commander for Harwood Stage. The Stage runs on Sunday 26th November**, with the stage access being near Rothbury, Northumberland. Signing on for the stage would be about 12 noon. (Timings will be confirmed closer to the event.) The stage runs twice with the first run currently scheduled for 2.30pm. I need predominantly radio and in-stage marshals. If you were able to help, I would really appreciate it. Additionally, **Bob Lowrie is the Stage Commander for Shepherdshield which runs on Monday 27th November**. Signing on times are still to be confirmed, but will be quite early. Bob is looking for marshals in all disciplines and would welcome any available support.

For both stages, you can either volunteer by registering with [www.rallystageteam.co.uk](http://www.rallystageteam.co.uk/) (the event’s preference), or you can contact Bob or I directly.

My email is [poshbirdincontrol@btinternet.com](mailto:poshbirdincontrol@btinternet.com) and my phone number is 07727 098450.

Bob’s email is [mk2baloo@gmail.com](mailto:mk2baloo@gmail.com)

December

1st – 2nd - Grizedale Stages – Forest rally in the Grizedale forest, Lake District, organised by Furness and District Motor Club, a round of the SG Petch ANECCC Stage Rally Championships.

10th - South Yorkshire Stages Rally – A new closed road rally organised by Sheffield and Hallamshire Motor Club; it is based south of Barnsley.

If there are any other forth coming events that members want the details shared with other club members, or any results or items that may interest club members, please let Gordon Dundee know and they will be included in the next News Sheet.