

To all member clubs of The Association of North East and Cumbria Car Clubs (ANECCC)

LOMBARD RALLY FESTIVAL NEWCASTLE

You may have seen that an event called Lombard Rally Festival Newcastle is planned for July which will be held on Brunton airfield in Northumberland. It is said to be a single venue event - a tour with special stages.

It should be made clear at the outset that this is not a Motorsport UK permitted event, even though elsewhere other events of this type have been run under a Motorsport UK certificate of exemption, using a Motorsport UK guidance document available for this type of event. This provides for stage rally demonstration events like this, to regularise the necessary requirements. Other organisers have been happy to work to the requirements of this Motorsport UK document, but apparently the organisers of this event have chosen not to do so.

Experience of other area officials where these events have previously taken place, we have been advised that there is a history of problems with the organisers' dealings with both landowners and local motor clubs. The ANCC association who have experience of this type of event organised by the same people, have also sent out a similar letter to their clubs for a similar event organised by the same people which is due to take place in April in Yorkshire.

Our concern is that as it's not being run under Motorsport UK regulations this poses a threat to established events should anything unfortunate happen. Events that are organised by Motorsport UK clubs are respected for their safety, good organisation, and staffing by professional volunteers, including good PR work with the local inhabitants.

I should say that we are not against properly organised non Motorsport UK events, especially those using any Motorsport UK guidance documents. Just that for the good of motorsport in this area, any 4 wheel motorsport event should be properly organised to avoid causing any issues for legitimate Clubs and events in this area.

I am writing to strongly advise you that anyone from your club who plans to take part or be involved in any capacity at this event is made aware that they are not covered by Motorsport UK insurance and they are there totally at their own risk, and do not have access to Motorsport UK legal support if anything goes wrong.

If they do become involved, then it is as an individual and not as part of a Motorsport UK recognised motor club, and must not give any indication that they are there as an Motorsport UK approved official or marshal/radio operator.

Regards,

Colin Salkeld
Chairman ANECCC.