

STAGE TIMES

The Magazine of North Humberside Motor Club Ltd

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023



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It is with great sadness that I have to report Gail Newlove passed away on 10th November after a short illness. Gail has been Club Secretary for over 20 years as well of course being involved in many other events with husband Robert. Gail's Funeral will be on Thursday 23rd November at 12.00 Midday at St Peter's Church, Church Lane Hutton Near Driffield YO25 9PS No flowers please and Gail asked for us to wear an item of brightly coloured clothing if possible. Please could you let me know at john.newlove@btinternet.com if you are attending, so we can arrange catering



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Editorial

It's been a long while since the last magazine but the truth is I have had nothing to publish, please help me out by sending me articles for inclusion.

In the last editorial I wrote that Mike 'Bilko' Jackson was celebrating his 80th Birthday. Unhappily, this time I am bringing the very sad news that my co-driver Pete Littlefield has passed away, aged 35. I have written an article about him in memoriam.



The front cover photograph is from his wake which was fittingly held at Prescott Hill Climb and even more fittingly there was a rainbow.



Further into the magazine there is an article about the Rainworth Skoda Stages at Leconfield which was back in April. I'm beginning to feel like a bit of a pain chasing Ken Sturdy for articles all the time so I lifted Mike Reed's and Ken's words together with Paul Marshall's photos from facebook for this article. This wasn't in itself worth getting a club magazine printed for – it would be crazy trying to print the internet.

The third article was sent to me in July by Ian Sadofsky but it seemed to be lost in the post. It's about the restoration of an Austin A40 rally car. Interesting to me as my Dad's first car was an A40 when I was a nipper and I can remember a fibreglass bodied one coming into Safety Devices for a rollcage when I was there. It always seemed strange to me fitting a steel roll cage to a fibreglass body.

I, myself have continued to have a quiet year for motorsport as I've been trying to get a new job. I've now secured gainful employment so I can take the rebuilds of the Manta & Evo off hold and hopefully have a go at some events next year – if I can find a co-driver.

Please let me know if you have anything to say about the magazine. Thanks.



North Humberside Motor Club Ltd

Membership for 2024

Dear Member,

Your current Membership is due for renewal on 1st January 2024.

Please renew your membership either by completing the form on the NHMC web-site (at <https://northhumbersidemotorclub.co.uk/nhmc-membership-renewal-2023/>) or by returning this form to the Membership Secretary, Dennis Robinson, at the address below, or in person at a Club Night.

The costs involved in running the Club are large and we are always running to a tight budget, so once again, can we ask you to please treat the membership fees as a minimum guide, and if you feel that you can afford to subscribe more than the suggested minimum, please do so.

The membership subscriptions below are as low as we can set them. They have not changed for many years. If you feel that you can afford a little more, to support your club, and the organising teams who go to great lengths to organise the various events throughout the calendar, please feel free to add a little more to your subscription, rather than just the subscription rates quoted below.

Single Membership £12.00

Joint Membership (two members at the same address) £15.00

Family membership £15.00



Peter Littlefield – Memory Book Entry 30/10/23

The passages below written *in italics* are my entry in the memory book left out for those paying respects at Pete’s funeral. I’ve added more memories of Peter in standard text.

Peter spent two splendid weekends with my family in East Yorkshire.

Pete dedicated a huge amount of his life to rallying, motorsport and helping others, he was laid to rest with his race suit, helmet and T-shirt marking his 50th time volunteering for the local park run.

Pete was born 6 days before my 18th Birthday, despite being an adult for less than half as long as I have been he managed to compete on over twice as many rallies, notching up 102 events whereas I have only managed 50.

We competed on rallies with my Opel Manta and Evo One. It’s amazing how close you become to someone when you’re in close proximity in a rally car.

As well as competing with me Pete had competed alongside twenty two to twenty eight drivers in total, he had honed his skills to a very high level. It was a great mark of respect to his abilities and personality that many drivers attended with their cars at his funeral.



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Having been delayed in my departure from York and being certain for a time that I was going to arrive late (I could have done with a co-driver) I was re-assured to find myself at the back of a convoy of rally cars that could only have been going to Pete's funeral. The cars formed a guard of honour at Cheltenham crematorium and also at Prescott Hill Climb. Pictures of all the cars are included later.

Pete (or Little Peterfield as we sometimes called him) got to know my wife Clare really well along with my kids Polly & Kester, my dog 'Bear' and terrapin 'Richard', we will miss him terribly. Richard maybe not so much.

Throughout the funeral service one word was constantly mentioned; Pete was "kind". Everywhere I went with Pete, people knew him and there was a

constant barrage of good cheer and "Helloooooos".

Whenever he stayed with my family he was polite, pleasant and fun to be around. As well as competing on the rallies he also came to a pub

quiz with us, getting to know the neighbours and also my service crew – Max & Doctor Matt.



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Peter was a member of three WhatsApp groups with me – BASTARDOS (Barge Appreciation Society Track And Road Drivers Online) and our spin-off bike & online rally championship groups. All members send their love and condolences.

As well as being a member of the WhatsApp groups I mentioned, Pete has also been a member of NHMC. Originally heralding from Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, many of the events he contested were in the North-East and Yorkshire, many of you will have met him.

We tend to meet in person less these days but our friendship groups can be far more geographically diverse than they were only a few years ago. Pete lived in the Forest of Dean so the only occasions we spent time together in person was when we were rallying. Nevertheless remote friendships work well in the twenty first century and Pete would often send me messages about what beer was on offer at LiDL (the same in Cinderford as in Driffield), which cuts of steak were favoured and other gems that he wanted to share.

Clubs and groups – whether it be a motor club or a WhatsApp group – bring people together, allow us to share common interests, have fun together and provide support to each other when needed.

Often within the BASTARDO WhatsApp group we discussed men's health and mental health issues and encouraged each other to openly discuss any issues we had. Despite this, Pete took his own life. Some things you just can't explain. If I could wind the clock back and help Pete in whatever way he needed, I would do.

Pete's family are collecting in aid of Great North Air Ambulance, Great Western Air Ambulance & Anaphylaxis UK via the link below.

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/peterlittlefield>



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RWD stage rally Peugeot 306 of Alan Desbois – Pete co-drove





Mark Christopher's Citroen C2





Sheldon Furby's Austin Mini Seven with towbar!





No collection would be complete without a Mark 2





Peugeot 106 Rallye – Road Rally Car – Now rare



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



Toyota Corolla GTi / AE86 – My favourite.



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RWD & 4WD represented



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Mitsubishi Lancer Evo 5 – many think these are the best variant



Rainworth SKODA Stages on Leconfield – by Mike Reed/Ken Sturdy

A change of seat for me yesterday co driver to Ken Sturdy in his fabulous Historic spec Mk2 BDA. The car is a fantastic build by Nick Carr at CarrPrep the car performed faultlessly all day. I can't say the same for the co driver a couple of mistakes along the way reading stage maps the last time on tarmac was 30 years ago.



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The event was the Rainworth SKODA Stages on Leconfield 6 stages in all seeded at car 10 we were on the stages with all the 4 wd R5 and Subaru even a Metro 6R4 .

1st stage on our first lap caught by an R5 on his 2nd Lap Ken moved over and we lost 2 or 3 seconds while he got passed. We dropped 1 second on our class leader.

Stage 2 no drama but lost another 5 so we now 6 secs down and 2nd in the 2 litre class.

Ken got his foot down on stage 3 and pulled back 7 seconds to lead the class by 1 second.

Stage 4 on a very tight Hairpin unfortunately the engine stalled resulting in a 7 second loss.

Now back to 2nd in class down 6 seconds



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Stage 5 we were 5 quicker than the class leader so onto stage 6 we needed min 2 seconds to secure a class win unfortunately we set the same time as Andrew Plunkett and Liam Charlton who won the class by 1 second

In their modern spec mk 2. Congratulations.

Kens arms were falling off by the end with 8" rims and wide tyres and no power steering he drove brilliantly all day and thanks for the ride good result for the first time on tarmac with the car.

And I'm now wondering how to afford a car like his it's absolutely mint.

Thanks to our service crew the 2 Niels Mike and the other young man I'm sorry I've forgotten your name I've slept since yesterday.

Thanks to all the organisers marshals rescue crews and the MOD .
And Nick Carr Carr Prep for a great car.

Words from Mike Reed





First time on tarmac in the CarrPrep BDA Escort yesterday with Mike Reed on the maps - First in the Northern Historic Asphalt Championship (double header round), Second in Class (beaten by 1 lousy second!) and 14th O/A.

Thanks to Nick Carr for an amazing car and Sherwood Engines for such a great engine.

Great job as always by the KXS boys Nellie Mike & Widdy assisted by new boy Declan.

Thanks to the organisers, marshals, safety crews etc on the Rainworth Skoda Leconfield Rally, and to Paul Marshall for the stunning photos

Words from Ken Sturdy



DATES FOR POPULAR EVENTS 2024

11th Feb Riponian Rally, we are running Cropton

17th March Maple Autotest

7th April Lookout Rally on Melbourne

30th June John Overend Memorial Stages Melbourne

7th July Cave Classic

18th August Sutton Classic

27/28th September Rally Yorkshire

27th October Autumn Autotest

3rd November Malton Forest Rally (Provisional date)

17th November Cadwell Stages Rally



Historic Rally car Restoration

About a year ago I was told of a Historic Rally car in a barn near York. I was not looking for another project but as the car supposedly had a long and interesting rally history I went to look at it.



The car had been stood for many years and the bottom 6 inches were rotten or missing including the floors, sills and door bottoms. However stickers in the side window alerted me to the fact that it had done the Monte Carlo Challenge in 1994/5/7 and 8 so I was interested and a deal was done to buy the car. It was shipped to my body and paint man Andy near Pocklington for the body repairs to begin and just before Christmas 2022 it was trailered to my lock up in Brough.





New floors, sills wheel arch repairs, secondhand drivers door and bonnet fitted plus repairs to the rear door and a full respray in period red with black roof.

Some of the rally navigation equipment plus roll cage were still in the car but no seats, however I managed to get a period drivers and reclining passenger seat off ebay that fitted the age of the car. Replacement bumpers were sourced and I have fitted new brake and fuel lines inside the car with new calipers (originally Austin A40's had drums all round but this car had discs fitted for rally use thankfully) plus new brake and clutch master cylinders. The Interior is now back in the car and all glass refitted.



Enginewise the one in the car when I got it was seized with the head off so I sourced a rebuilt 1275 MG Midget and box which I will fit in time. I have not looked at the suspension, axle or front hubs and steering yet.



Unfortunately my wife suffered a stroke in January so most of my time is being spent looking after her presently so my car activities are severely curtailed. However I have been able to look into the car's competition history and made contact with most of the previous owners especially a guy called Peter Collier who now lives in France and has sent me the cars RAC logbook and Historic Rally Car ID plus loads of magazine articles and photos which are helping me to put the car's past together.



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My plan is to put the car back to its 1996 condition and spec and do some Targa rallies in it but I do not think I will be tackling the Monte Challenge however!



I will update progress in due course.

Article by Ian Sadofsky



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2023 NHMC STAGE RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP

Driver	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
Ken Sturdy	48 (1)	56 (2)	71(3)		10 (5)		180
Robbie Overend	34 (3)			50(4)			84
Dave Watkins	50 (1)						50
Bernie Nolan	10(2)						10
John Dixon	10 (3)						10

2023 NHMC STAGE RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP

NAVIGATOR	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
Dave Shepherd	50(1)	10(2)					60
Kayleigh Overend				50(4)			50
Tom Hutchings	48(1)						48
Steve Young	34(3)						34
Chris Harrison	10 (3)						10

2023 NHMC STAGE RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP

EVENTS

5	Rally Yorkshire Historic Cup	23/09/2023	Forest	Yorkshire Forests
4	John Overend Stages	02/07/2023	SV	Melbourne
3	Rainworth Stages Skoda	30/04/2023	SV	Leconfield
2	ER Stages	26/02/2023	Cl Rd	E Yorks Stages
1	Riponian	12/02/22	Forest	North Yorks



Marshals Championship

	Speman	Start	Autosport	York	York	DOT	White	John	Snods Rally	York	Days	Watson	DOT	Cardwell	Bully	Other	Total
	scoring	March	Classic	out	scorfield	score	Cherwell	scorfield	week	Accord	Watson	DOT	Cardwell	Rally	Events	total	
Mike Kitching	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
John Miller	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
David Dykes	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Adamhan Owen	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Alan Cornell	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Richard Hart	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Graham Hudson	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Nigel Tustin	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Steve Cogan	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Robert Mervin	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
John Brook	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Carl Thompson	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
David Edrington	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Kerry Thompson	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Robbie Overend	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Steve South	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Thomas Jones	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Garrett Mervell	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Graham Taylor	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Ian Jarvis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Phil Owen	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Trevor Davies	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Dave Carter	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Iain Carter	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
John Evans	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Ged Hervey	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Ton Alton	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Angus Alton	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Steve Walker	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Bob Short	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Chris Mervin	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Stuart Carrin	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Rob Palfrey	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Clive Alcock	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Derek Jones	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
David Kitching	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Ian Schothy	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
David Owen	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11



TAILPIPE



This picture showing imaginative use of a personalised number plate was sent to me via my BASTARDs WhatsApp group.

Lo-and-behold I found myself following it up the M18 towards Hull on the way back from Little Peterfield's funeral. RIP Pete.



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