



Morecambe Car Club Ltd.

Illuminations Tour – 6th June 2026



“One for Frank”



*On the 2022 **Platinum Jubilee** the route through Winstar Ford – was an option, which typically Irelands **Frank Fennell**, Philip Armstrong and Rory Dooley chose to take!*

Each year the Morecambe Car Club choose a different theme and title for their **Illuminations Tour**. In **2022** it was the “**Platinum Jubilee**” of both the Club and of the late Queen Elizabeth; in **2023** we celebrated the coronation of King Charles with the “**Coronation Special**”; in **2024** we chose “**Northern Lights**” recognising the achievements of the many rally crews from the north who have, over the decades, lit up the “Illuminations Rally” in its various forms and indeed countless other events. In **2025**, with the “**Pye 100**”, we celebrated the centenary of Pye Motors, the family business, who have for many years supported the club and this event.

In **2026** we are dedicating our tour to a good friend of Morecambe Car Club and three times winner of the Classic Illuminations Rally, Irishman Frank Fennell, who sadly passed away last October.

Our 6th of June event will be “**One For Frank**” and as usual the route will, where practical, follow in the wheel tracks of Illuminations from “the halcyon days” of the Motoring News Championship rallies and beyond to the Classic “Lumies” of the nineties and early noughties - which of course covers just about every corner of North West England!

We are fortunate to live in an area where the terrain is ideal for rallying. Surrounded by open countryside through which the road network offers an infinite choice of routes to whet the appetite of the most demanding organiser. We will as usual, be opting for roads that gives you the opportunity to see the spectacular landscape that, in the balmy days was beyond the beam of our “Super Oscars” hidden under the cloak of darkness!”



*Ronnie and Kathleen Beecroft leaving the Red Well start on the 2023 **Coronation Tour***



*Neil Calvert/Neil Johnson on the 2024 **Northern Lights***



*John Vipond/Sue Smith splashing through the puddles in 2025 on the **Pye 100***

“One for Frank” will take place on **Saturday 6th June** and on this occasion, it will start and finish at the Longlands Hotel Tewitfield. *(Fifty years ago, this venue was the HQ of the 1976 Illuminations Rally).* Following morning refreshments of tea or coffee and a breakfast bun the first car will leave at **09:01** and with good luck and a following wind(!) return for food and jollities from around **16:45**. Whilst the route is yet to be finalised the intention is for it to be approximately **150 miles** with optional tea/coffee and lunch halts.



MCC Members Peter Edwards and Nigel Hunter, winners of the 1976 event outside the Longlands Hotel.

The all-tulip roadbook and accompanying 1:50,000 scale maps define the route and wherever something prompts a recollection of incidents or events, at a time when road rallying was a serious and important branch of motor sport in Britain, we will include an appropriate note. Hopefully they may stir the memories of those that took part at that time or provoke the curiosity of those less fortunate!



OK I did say drive in what you arrive in but I also said motorised transport!

The tour is open to **ALL (Morecambe C.C. members and non-members)** and whilst we would love you to bring a rally car or a classic, that is **not** essential. Provided your vehicle is road legal, whatever motorised transport you arrive in, you can drive in. Join us to enjoy a nostalgic trip through glorious countryside, down those memorable lanes, in the company of your fellow tourists.

The **entry fee** for the 2026 “One for Frank” is **£70 for a crew of two** (driver and navigator), which includes a breakfast roll, tea/coffee at the start and a meal at the finish. The fee for additional passengers is **£30 per person**.

For further details, regulations and an entry form contact the Secretary of the meeting Derek Shepherd at [e-mail: derekshepherd12@btinternet.com](mailto:derekshepherd12@btinternet.com) or mob. 07368 424788.



Images from the first recce of the route.

