



Newsletter September 2023



Dr. Bob Pawson (1944-2023)

Dr. Bob Pawson (1944-2023) –Obituary

Dr. Bob Pawson, affectionately known to all in the motorsport world as just Doctor Bob, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on the 27th of September while visiting one of his daughters in Ireland.

For many years Bob was a GP and partner in the Belford Medical Practice and was very actively involved with the Belford community and surrounding districts. He was married to Ann and they had two daughters, Fiona and Jenny, and Jenny provided them with two grandchildren.

Even with his heavy responsibilities however, he did find time to develop his interest in motorsport and was a member of B&DMC for many years. He acted as Chief Medical Officer (CMO) at many of our autocrosses, and then did the same for many stage rallies across the region. He was a driving force behind the growth and development of the Jim Clark Memorial Rally and retirement gave him the chance to attend more events.

He used his interest in cars and motorsport to be one of the major influencers in developing accident response procedures, creating reconstructions for the benefit of the emergency services and using his good friends, Keith Brown and Alan Connolly as “victims”. One of these scenarios had Keith hanging from a parachute harness in a tree on Brunton while the services considered how to respond!

When he retired, he and his wife Ann moved up to Perthshire but still retained some involvement with local events, and for the last three years, along with Keith Brown and Alan Connolly, came and marshalled at the Northumberland Rally Festival at Brunton, and for many years represented the club at the SAMC (Scottish Association of Motor Clubs).

He was a keen angler and enjoyed fly fishing and salmon fishing and recently joined a dry stone walling club in Blairgowrie to develop his walling skills.

Recent years had not been too kind to Dr. Bob and he never really got over the loss of Ann, to whom he was devoted, when she died in 2019

To all his family and friends, Berwick Motor Club sends our deepest condolences. A true gentleman, he will be sadly missed.



Chairmans Craic:

Can you remember your parents ever commenting about how, as you get older, times pass by ever faster? Well, it's true as yet again, another month has passed us by. But what a month!

Cracking club night organised by Jonathan Rowley across at Wooler, courtesy of Jimmy Douglas. (I'm sure there'll be a report somewhere else in the newsletter.) If you'd like to organise an activity for a club night, please get in touch. It can be a visit to a business, an attraction or an active participating event – the choice is yours!

We have had several members out competing, including Michael Binnie, Des Campbell, Willie Mole and Bobbie Lowrie. (Have I missed anyone?). Again, reports elsewhere. Looking forward, we have opportunities for anyone wanting to help on the Carlisle Stages, the Roger Albert Clark, LeJog, and the forthcoming autotest at Brunton. If you want to be involved, contact any committee member.

Please remember, this is YOUR club. Tell us what you want to see. Tell us what you'd like to organise. Tell us how you'd like to be more involved. We are very receptive to all (most!) suggestions.

That's it for this month.

Regards to all.

Tom Wilkinson

Editors Craic:

Well folks, Thanks once again to all those who have submitted bits and bobs for this edition. We try and keep up to date with events that club members are attending but we may miss a few, let us know if we have missed your outing.

Please remember to let either me, Speks or Michael Deans know if you have been out and about marshalling, competing or navigating at events, the events may count towards championship points so its important to tell us what you been at, you can email bdmc.newsletter@yahoo.com, 45speks@gmail.com or michael@tweedmouth.net.

Keep sending us your reports and content. It is much appreciated.

Joanne & Speks AKA The Editors



Yarns of Yesteryear:

Our regular spot for stories of years gone by.

To have your story published please get in touch with either Chairman Tom Wilkinson at tom@gnarnia.co.uk or John Straughan Jnr at 45speks@gmail.com



W is for Wylam Garage

Not to be deterred by the fiasco the previous year, we entered the Centurion again, using the (t)rusty old Avenger, XWE 982M. The start was at the Moat House (or was it the Europa Lodge?) down at Wallsend. As we always did in those days, we were driving the car to the start.

However, on the Morpeth bypass, it lapsed onto three cylinders and started backfiring through one of the carbs. So when we got to signing on, while I went to sign on, Coke, Basil and Rab would take the head off. Sure enough, it had chipped an inlet valve. We popped along to the local Chrysler dealers, Minorities, who had a large outlet along the Coast Road. The parts man knew it all, and was adamant there was only one size valve for an Avenger, and had never heard of Group 1. So we stopped at a phone box and rang Alan Conley at Wylam Garage who really did know his stuff, and kept a reasonable stock of all competition parts.

“Yeah, I’ve got those in stock, just get yourself here” was his instant answer. Well, some things had improved from the previous year because we now had a van for a service barge. Alright, it was only a Mini van, but better than the Simca 1000 we’d had the year before. In those days, there was no Western Bypass around Newcastle so it was across town at 8.30 on a Saturday morning and along the A69 and up to Wylam. Alan was brilliant, had the valve on the counter and refused to take any money for it. Happy days. So off we went back to the start.

Now for some reason, this Mini had spacers in the back wheels, and not the competition approved ones either, but those horrible ones with gaps in and held on by the original studs and nuts with other studs within the spacers. (Remember them?). So as we were going up Two Ball Lonnen, a road in the West End of Newcastle, the rear nearside wheel parted with the van and ended up in someone’s garden hedge. And whoever had packed the van hadn’t applied any logic as the trolley jack was underneath all the spares. So we unloaded all the kit out onto the pavement, got the jack, took off the offside rear wheel and used two studs from that to put into the nearside wheel to get us mobile again. Time was pressing, even though we had a very late start number and we tried to drive as quickly as we could, but equally conscious that there were only two wheel studs in each of the back wheels.

Anyway, we got back and the boys got the valve into the head, got the head back on and got it fired up and we were going.

There are just some days when it doesn't work for you. We got to MTC 1 and were OTL by two minutes, and were refused a time.

Worse still, because we had signed on, we were deemed to have started and lost the entire entry fee as well.

So, we took the numbers off the doors and decided to go spectating, Coke and myself in the rally car, and Basil and Rab in the Mini van.

But the day wasn't done with us yet. Oh no.

When we got to our agreed spectating point, there was a long delay before Basil and Rab showed up. When they did, the front of the van was stuffed in, the headlight askew, the wing hanging off.

"What happened" we asked.

Now in the driver's footwell, we'd dumped a bit of old carpet and it had started to unwind its threads. On those early Minis at the bottom of the steering column where it goes through the floor, there's a pinch-bolt and it had got caught on the unravelling carpet and got coil bound, and as they turned one of the corners on the Forest Drive, they couldn't unwind the lock and flew off into the ditch still wrestling with the steering wheel and had to get pushed back onto the road by some fellow spectators.

Another long day!

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September Club Night:

Well, after many months, we had an activity for a club night. “Here we go again” I thought.

Organised by Jonathan Rowley, assisted by young apprentice Oscar, and taking place at the Haugh Head Industrial Park, courtesy of Jimmy Douglas, the theme of the night was “Tiptoe through the Tulips” (although I thought it was more of in and out the dusty bluebells) and consisted of a series of driving tests using mobility scooters.

First out of the blocks was Davy Brown and he was off like a bat out of hell – until he got to the little wooden bridge over troubled water! What a wild thing. He managed to negotiate that quite successfully and with hind sight, I should have asked him “How do you do it?”

Then it was my turn. 5,4,3,2,1 and go. It was going so well. Up through Devil Gate Drive and onto the infamous bridge over troubled water. But then it turned into a bit of a run-away, and I could hear someone playing Roll over Beethoven. When it all stopped, there was a kind of hush and I was lying trapped. “It’s not unusual” some wag commented. “Lift us up to where we belong” I muttered. To be fair, there were some concerned faces.



Someone shone a light in my face and said “Bright eyes” and another said “Stand by me” Anyway, I thought I’d better get on top, and keep going, but without the road rage. God knows I tried! But it was always on my mind as I proceeded to the end of the test.

As the evening went on, I have to admit it was getting better. But Al and Mick were in a league of their own. It was just insane.

At the end of the evening, most of us went home at a sensible time, but there were a couple who waited until they were in the midnight hour before they left.

A really good night was had by (nearly) all, and the one who had not such a good night now has to put up with more mickey-taking for some time to come.

QUIZ ALERT!!

After reading the report above, have another look and see if you can spot the mixture of 24 song titles or lyrics that Tom Wilkinson has hidden In among the waffly words!!! Answers are near the back of the newsletter on page 15, no cheating though.





NAME	TEST 1	TEST 2	TEST 3	TEST 4	TEST 5	TEST 6	TEST 7	TEST 8	TOTAL
D-BROWL	0.38	0.26	2.17	3.05				12 th	386
ARNOLD	0.59	0.32	2.00	1.47				11 th	318
SIMMY	0.30	0.24	1.23	1.45				8 th	242
ROY.	0.37	0.54	2.00	6.20				13 th	591
AL	0.26	0.27	1.09	1.14				2 nd	196
MICK	0.27	0.23	1.02	1.17				1 st	189
CHRIS	0.33	0.27	1.07	1.36				6 th	219
GAUN	0.23	0.29	1.03	1.29				4 th	204
JAMIE	0.25	0.23	1.17	1.30				5 th	215
KEN	1.05	0.27	1.17	1.49				10 th	278
NICK	0.24	0.26	1.12	1.21				3 rd	203
TOM	1.30	0.26	1.15	1.13				9 th	264
SPECS	0.35	0.27	1.02	1.56				7 th	240

October Clubnight:

This month the clubnight host is Darren Smith, he is organising a run out in some shape or form, but I can definitely say its not on foot!! These have usually been good fun in the past and always throw up a curveball or 2. A bit of fun and a craic and pint at the end.

Meet at the Pilot, sharp 8pm—Bring a pen



Michael Binnie Rallying

4th overall at last weekends Galloway Hills Rally. A weekend of rebuilding after our gutting 5th stage exit at the Grampian Forest Rally whilst holding a 10 second lead. Seat time was the main priority this weekend, keeping my competitive self contained was the biggest challenge! Thank you to Emily who was in the hot seat again doing a great job on some very busy and fast stages. Also to my team who had a very busy day sorting a couple of issues on the car at service. Huge thank you goes to Alan Causey, Darren and Jamie Martin, Alex Huddart and Border Engines for a MASSIVE shift getting the car put back together.

Can't wait to drive the beast again, properly this time !



Kielder Targa 17th September:

Club members out competing on this event were the pairings of Monty Pearson/Doug Small (41st Overall and Willie Mole/Bob Lowrie (29th Overall).

Well done lads, looks like a cracking event.

Photos by VS Photography

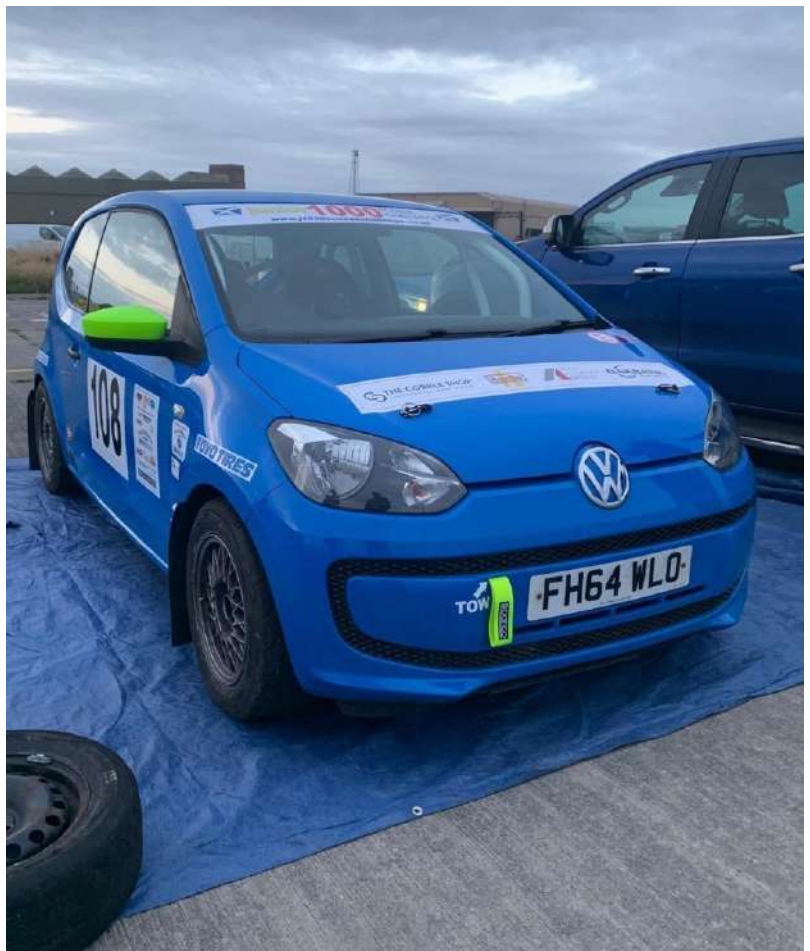


Autosave Components Kinloss Autumn Stages:

Richard Simmonds: This weekend we travelled North to Kinloss to take part in the Autosave Components Kinloss Autumn Rally. This was the 7th round of the Junior 1000 Ecosse Challenge. I was sitting with the promising Lauchlan Hunter from Prestwick. This would be our 5th rally together, the previous four we had competed in a Toyota Yaris, this round we used the freshly built VW Up!. A lot of hard work by Lauchlan, his Dad and friends saw the car completed on Thursday. We had our fingers crossed that the car would get log booked and pass through championship and event scrutineering, which it did with no issues. We had a quick cycle round stage 1 which was 9.8 miles (all single use, no merges or splits) to familiarise ourselves with the venue. The stages varied from wide open runways to narrow link roads, sections through trees and around buildings.

We headed out to the first 2 stages in the new car not knowing how it would go, we soon found out that we had some set up issues, the car sliding around much more than was expected. We came out a fast right hander onto the runway, the car kept drifting until it made contact with a large barrel filled with water dead centre on the passenger door. Bashing on we came to a drop off from the runway to a link road, unfortunately the sump guard took the full impact and was pushed back forcing a bolt to put a small hole in the sump. We completed the 2 stages and fortunately had a 3 hour break whilst the seniors completed their stages. The camaraderie amongst the Junior competitors saw the sump patched up and a new sump guard fitted. During service we made a few set up adjustments hopefully to improve the handling. We headed out for stages 3 and 4, the car handled a little better, but seemed to be a bit down on power. Thankfully we didn't have any dramas on these stages. Another long break to let the seniors onto the stages before we headed out for the final two allowed us to make further set up changes and to have a pep talk. We headed out on stage 5 finally we were getting somewhere! Our stage time was competitive amongst the leading novice drivers. Unfortunately a spin dropping us 20 seconds spoiled a good run through stage 6. We were much happier after these two stages.

We finished 8th overall and 3rd novice. This event was all about learning the new car. Lauchlan impressed with his ability to work through the issues of the day. Hard to think he is only 15 years old.



Other Club Members at the Autumn Stages:



Simon Mills: A good day out for Aaron Dickson and me on our first event together in the J1000 championship. With Aaron being at a very early stage in his rallying (and driving) journey we were there to build skills and experience, however this didn't stop us keeping an eye on the times as well and we were happy to finish 11th junior which was an improvement of 1 place on our seeding. As for the event, a brilliant rally at an incredible venue with stages up to 12 miles long with no splits on a fabulous surface, well worth the long journey north.

Gordon Clark & Gavin Lloyd: Unfortunately our day started with a failed clutch cable in St 1 once the issue was diagnosed we started the car in 2nd and crawled out the stage, collecting a stage max for our efforts, the battle for a result was over but service crew got it sorted and we went out to have some fast fun for the rest of the day, cracking venue even if some of the route could have been a bit better marked, 12 miles with no splits takes some work from organisers and there is plenty scope for even more route variations, we did finish the day and car on the trailer with nothing amiss except for missing rubber from the very dead tyres, it's obviously an abrasive surface!

Des Campbell: Paired with Cameron Dunn 6 Tough stages, 6 destroyed tyres, 2 alternators later Des and Cameron finished 9th overall and 1st in class

Craig Forsyth: Craig and driver Ian McEwan sadly retired with Alternator issues



Northumberland Vintage Tractor Show:

We will be holding a car show and Clubman Autotest at this years Northumberland Vintage Tractor Show on Brunton Airfield.

Our event which everyone is very welcome to join us at, whether it be to compete in the Autotest or show your prized car or motorbike.



The whole tractor show event is over 2 days, 21st, and 22nd October. The Motorclub will only be attending on Sunday 22nd and this is also the day of the Autotest.

To compete at the autotest you can use a road car or pretty much anything but will need a RS Clubmans Motorsport UK licence as a minimum which is available instantly online, free of charge and a valid membership card from an ANECCC motorclub.

Register using the link below or scan the QR code

<https://bit.ly/BruntonRegistration>



Lion Stages Rally:

We are currently looking at the possibility of running a closed road event in the Alnwick Area. This event is in partnership with Alnwick and District Motor Club. It is still in the very early stages of planning and more information will be released as it evolves. But pencil the 4th August 2024 into your diaries!!!



Border Counties Rally

Another date for your 2024 calendar, this time the Border Counties in partnership with Hawick and Border Car Club. This popular event in the forests of the Tweed Dale are stunning. Marshals and helpers will be required for this event. More information in due course.



The Berwick Classic 2024

Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th May 2024 is the date, plans are developing for next years BC, but there have been some significant changes.

After some years as Clerk of the Course, I am standing down in the hope that I might actually get to compete (or at least show up!) on one before I get just too old and decrepit.

Graham Couser has stepped up to the plate as CoC, so thank you for that.

Secondly, David Malthouse has stood down as entries secretary, and Joanne Douglas will assume that role, and again, thanks to her.

Tom Wilson will remain as chief marshal, and Peter Humphries, who has played such an important part of the team for many years, is also stepping down.

So, some very significant changes, but Graham and his team will also be very glad on any help and support you can give them, so please consider if and how you might help.

Contact through the normal channels.

Tom Wilkinson.

NESCRO 2023

Sun 22nd October
Sat 11th November

Solway
Saltire Rally

Wigton MC Historic/Targa
Saltire Rally Club Historic/Targa



SOLWAY CAR CLUB

www.solwaycarclub.co.uk

NEWS : 2023

TARGA



We regret to inform you that the Solway Coast Targa Rally scheduled for Sunday 8th October, will not take place in 2023.

Despite plans being well underway for the event on the 'Range' near Kirkcudbright, Landmarc who run the facility have recently imposed a new cost structure on the Club, and these vast increases makes the 2023 Targa, and any subsequent events on the Range, financially unviable.

We will endeavour to investigate other potential venues in and around the Stewartry, and hope that the Targa can make a return in a future year to create a fun and competitive day out for us all.

Full statement via
www.solwaycarclub.co.uk/targa

Sunday 3rd September saw South of Scotland Car Club organise the Doonhamer Classic, the eighth round of the 2023 RallyScore NESCRO Challenge. The event was a multi-venue Targa with the Rally HQ based at the Woodlands Hotel, Dumfries.

The Doonhamer attracted a small entry of 15, 2 Historic and 13 Targa crews, for the 14 tests. Winners in the Historic's were Dave Marsden/Heidi Garstang (Ford Escort Mk1), with David Garstang/Matthew Alexander (Ford Fiesta Mk1) second.

In the Targa section the Novice crew of locals, Owen Paterson/Alice Paterson (Mazda MX5) took the top Targa and overall award. Second came Jack Palmer/Ellie Hughes (Rover 25-1400cc), with Chris Hunter/Fiona Tyson (Mazda MX5) completing the top 3. There were no retirements, one non-starter and the results were compiled by TimingAppLive.

Overall Results

1. Owen Paterson/Alice Paterson Mazda MX5 860.4
2. Jack Palmer/Ellie Hughes Rover 25 868.8
3. Chris Hunter/Fiona Tyson Mazda MX5 880.2
4. Chris Dodds/Liam Charlton Mazda MX5 884.1
5. Kevin Savage/Thomas Bisfield Suzuki Ignis Sport 894.1
6. Philip Hodgson/Lewis Hodgson Mazda MX5 906.4



SOLWAY RALLY '23

Sunday 22nd October



We need an army of marshals to help make the Solway rally a success

Can you help?

Never marshalled before? No problem! Experience is not necessary. We can team you up with one of our experienced marshals if you haven't volunteered before. Of course we also need the support of our experienced marshals too!

We need marshals at several venues through the day. All in the West Cumbria area and all marshals will be invited to join the competitors for the prize giving and free meal at Rowrah Kart Track at the end of the day.

An ideal opportunity for some of our new members to join in the event and see some spirited action from our Historic and Targa competitors whilst you **enjoy the action close up for free!**

If you are available to help, or want more information, please contact the Chief Marshal at eddieparsons5@icloud.com

DATE	RALLY	LOCATION
October		
7-8 Sa Su	Rally Hungary	Hungary
8 Su	Adgespeed Stages	Wigan
8 Su	Carrick Forest Rally / Willie Loughman	Co Wexford
12-15 Th-Su	Mull Rally	Isle of Mull
13-14 Fr Sa	Jersey Rally	Channel Islands
15 Su	Harlech Stages	Llanbedr
21 Sa	Carlisle Stages	Carlisle
22 Su	Challenger Stages	Dorset
22 Su	Cheviot Stages Rally	Otterburn
26-29 Th Su	Central Europe Rally	Europe
27-28 Sa	Cambrian Rally	Wales
28 Sa	Ormco Accounts Stages	Isle of Man
29 Su	Fastnet Stages Rally	Co Cork, Eire
November		
4 Sa	Kingdom Stages	Crail Airfield
4 Sa	Neil Howard Memorial Stages	Oulton Park
5 Su	Malton Forest Rally	North Yorkshire
16-19 Th-Su	Rally Japan	Japan
18 Sa	Kinloss Winter Stages	Kinloss Barracks
18 Sa	Wydean Forest Rally	Gloucester
19 Su	NHMC Cadwell Stages Rally	Louth
23-27 Th-Mo	Roger Albert Clark Rally	UK
25-26 Sa Su	Glyn Stages	Anglesey
December		
1-2 Fr Sa	Grizedale Stages	Cumbria
2 Sa	South Downs Stages	Goodwood
2 Sa	Killarney Historic Stages Rally	Killarney
3 Su	Dukeries Rally	Donington
10 Su	South Yorkshire Stages Rally	Penistone
29 Sa	Turkey Run Stages	N Ireland



Here we go again – The Weekend
TipToe through the Tulips – Tiny Tim
In and Out the Dusty Bluebells – traditional
Bat out of Hell – Meatloaf
Bridge over Troubled Water – Simon and Garfunkel
Runaway – Del Shannon
Stand by me - Ben E King
How do you do it – Gerry and the Pacemakers
Wild Thing – the Troggs
Leader of the Pack – The Shangri-Las
It's not unusual – Tom Jones
In the Midnight Hour – Wilson Pickett
Always on my mind – Willie Nelson
Bat out of Hell – Meatloaf
Roll over Beethoven – Electric Light Orchestra
Bright Eyes – Art Garfunkel
God knows I tried – Lana Del Rey
A Kind of Hush – The Carpenters
Road Rage – Dizzee Rascal
Get on Top – Red Hot Chili Peppers
Insane – Texas
54321 – Manfred Mann
Getting better – The Beatles
Lift us up where we belong – Joe Cocker and Jennifer Warnes

Berwick & District Motor Club Ltd

Founded 1935

Motorsport UK Registered

Hon President: Louise Aitken-Walker MBE



Club Membership Form 2023

(one form per member)

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ **Postcode:** _____

Email:(Use Block Capitals) _____

Tel No: _____

Have you been a Member of B&DMC at any time in the past? *Yes/No:* _____

B&DMC Existing Membership No *(if known):* _____

Membership £10

Under 18 Junior Membership £5

I would like to be included in the B&DMC directory of members. Under GDPR, B&DMC confirm that the information held will only be used within the club itself.

I agree to become a member of Berwick & District Motor Club Ltd which was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee from 1st May 1997. I understand that the limit of my liability as a member is the sum of £1.00 (One pound only)

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Please make cheques payable to Berwick and District Motor Club Ltd

Memberships will only be accepted with a signed and completed membership form.

Please return your completed form to:

John Straughan Jnr, Flodden View, Branxton, Cornhill on Tweed, TD12 4SN