



HRCR NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2015

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The next issue of Old Stager will go out to members on Thursday 3rd of December 2015 and the next issue of the Newsletter will be distributed on Thursday 4th of January 2016

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HRCR OPEN DAY'S MINI ADVENTURE

This year the HRCR (Historic Rally Car Register) Open Day on 16th January 2016, will look back 50 years at the controversy created by the Mini on the 1966 Monte Carlo Rally as well as celebrate the Mini's continued success and popularity in historic rallying today.

Following wins by the Mini in both '64 and '65, 1966 tipped the organisers over the edge when Timo Mäkinen led Rauno Aaltonen and Paddy Hopkirk to a dominant BMC Mini one, two, three finish.

However, keen to see a result for Citroën on its home ground, the Minis were disqualified for having single filament bulbs in their standard headlamps instead of the double-filament dipping bulbs as fitted to series production Minis. The disqualifications also extended to other British entries including Roger Clark in a Lotus Cortina in fourth and Rosemary Smith in a Hillman Imp in sixth (who would have won the Coupe des Dames). Amidst the uproar, the 5th placed Citroën ID of Pauli Toivonen (father of Henri Toivonen) was elevated to first position. This car also used the single filament bulbs, but was allowed to win as these were fitted as standard on some production models. Unhappy with the course of events, Toivonen refused to accept the cup at the presentation ceremony.

The status quo was reinstated a year later in 1967, when Rauno Aaltonen and Henry Liden won the event – once again in a Mini.

50 years on and the success of the classic Mini continues to make the headlines in rallying. After 9 tightly fought rounds around the country, the 2015 HRCR Clubmans Historic Road Rally Championship has recently been won by Steve Entwistle in his popular orange mini, beating a Porsche 911 and Mk1 Escort into second and third places.

And in historic stage rallying, the HRCR Mintex 'Old Stager' Championship (incorporating the Mini Sport Mini Cup) has seen the popularity of the Mini continue to grow, with several Minis regularly

competing on both gravel and tarmac events. Indeed, on the Rally Isle of Man, an additional three Minis from Japan meant there were 11 classic Minis competing.

In addition, one of the 'Old Stager' competitors, Clive King, with the support of the HRCR and Mini Sport, took rallying in a classic Mini to the next level by competing amongst the world's top rally drivers on the final round of the 2015 WRC, the Rally Wales GB.

HRCR Chairman Paul Loveridge commented, "the Mini makes an ideal car to use in all forms of historic rallying and with the support of companies like Mini Sport, cars can be both affordable to develop and maintain, and of course fun to drive and competitive too. More and more people are using their classic Minis for historic rallying and 2016 will inevitably see these brilliant little cars making the headlines again, just as they did 50 years ago".

However, it's not all about Minis! Historic rallying is open to all makes and models of classic cars manufactured before January 1986 and the HRCR supports five different forms of historic rally events and championships that offer something for everyone – from the Scenic Tours Series, Clubmans Road Rallies, Speed Series Hill Climbs/Sprints and 'Old Stager' Stage Rallies as well as the Premier Championship.

If you want to know more, then visit the HRCR Open Day on Saturday 16th January 2016 at the National Heritage Museum at Gaydon, Warwickshire, (M40 Junc 12). The event is very much a social gathering where you can see the cars and meet the event organisers covering every facet of historic rallying. Doors open at 10am and entry is free.

▼ Image courtesy of BMW Group Archive



OPEN DAY VISITOR



HRCR Member Kingsley Beck is to bring this Mini Cooper to the Open Day. It is one of four replicas built by Paddy Hopkirk and rallied by Rauno Aaltonen.

HRCR DINNER DANCE & AGM

HRCR Annual Dinner Dance and 2015 Championships Award Presentation Night.

As advised in the last Old Stager the 2016 event will be again at the Hellidon Lakes Hotel on Saturday 13th February, with the AGM on the Sunday morning. We had hoped to get this article into Old Stager, but unfortunately the press date was missed.

So please note a booking form for the Award Presentation Dinner Dance has been included with the current copy of Old Stager, together with an Accommodation reservation form. These forms, when completed should be sent to David Holmes, either by mail or email at the address given on the form.

A great night is being planned so that all HRCR members and more importantly all 2015 Championship Award winners from each of the four championships, the Old Stager Stage Rally Championship, the Premier Rally Championship, the Clubmans Road Rally Championship and the Speed Championship can celebrate their fine achievement amongst their fellow competitors, and hopefully share the evening.

Following the success of last year we will have a similar format to the evening, which will be rounded off - by popular request - with dancing to the live music of the Steel Weasels - till 1.00am.

Please send your completed forms to David Holmes and make sure you will be part of the 2015 Championship celebrations.

We will be sending further details in the December issue of Old Stager

HRCR WEB SITE UPDATE

The new HRCR website is nearing completion and limited circulation trials are scheduled to start at the end of this month, with an anticipated switch on day in early December.

**MINTEX 'old STAGER' CHAMPIONSHIP 2015
INCORPORATING THE MINI SPORT MINI
CHALLENGE AND THE HRCR IMP CUP**

Temporary web site @ www.oldstager.co.uk



ROUND 8 - THE CAMBRIAN RALLY



Photo Chris Huish

Rikki Proffitt & David Alcock



Lee Sellars and Peter Aldred celebrating Lee winning Category 3 of the Championship

The 60th Jubilee Cambrian Rally attracted a really high quality entry of over 170 cars to Llandudno on Saturday 16th October for nine stages, four in the Crafnant and Penmachno forests run twice and a final stage around the Great Orme.

Six crews made the journey for the final round of the 2016 Old Stager Championship, in category two Clive King and Anton Bird were in their usual Cooper S hoping for a good finish to try and take the category title from Andrew O'Hanlon. Rikki Proffitt had David Alcock sat alongside him in his recently acquired Datsun 240Z as a shakedown for 2016. Ian Barnes and Rob Gilham brought their Escort RS2000 with the main aim of securing a good position in the Welsh Championship.

Category three saw main rivals for the championship, Stuart and Jack Anderson in their Chevette HS and Lee Sellars and Peter Aldred in the big Triumph 2.5PI going head to head! Making the long journey north was Stephen 'Jumbo' Richards and Ken Bowman in their Escort Mk2 RS2000 making only their second appearance due to Stephen's heavy work commitments during the summer months.

Stuart Anderson's Chevette has suffered various transmission problems during the season and unfortunately this was to be repeated when a drive shaft failed just 800yds into the first stage. Lee Sellars now just needed to finish to secure the Championship category, though Jack Anderson had already secured the co-drivers place. Similarly Clive King only needed to finish but he also suffered drive shaft failure at the end of stage 3.

The remaining crews all finished with the big Triumph doing enough to secure the Cat 3 Championship for Lee. Full report in the next 'old Stager'

Results:

63	Stephen Richards / Ken Bowman	1 st Cat 3
82	Rikki Proffitt / David Alcock	1 st Cat 2
87	Ian Barnes / Rob Gilham	2 nd Cat 2
107	Lee Sellars / Peter Aldred	2 nd Cat 3

Provisional 'old Stager' Championship Results:

Category 1

Driver Shane Gamble Mini Cooper S
Co Driver Graham Carter Mini Cooper S

Category 2

Driver Andrew O'Hanlon Mini Cooper S
Co driver Anton Bird Mini Cooper S

Category 3

Driver Lee Sellars Triumph 2.5 PI
Co Driver Jack Anderson Vauxhall Chevette HS

Mini Cup

Driver Andrew O'Hanlon Mini Cooper S
Co driver Anton Bird Mini Cooper S

MINI CUP NEWS

For 2016 the Mini Sport, Mini Cup organised by the HRCR will have an additional class for Classic Minis that do not comply with the historic requirements. Any Mini built up until the end of production in

1991 will be eligible. The cars must retain their manufactured profile and run A or A+ cylinder blocks. These cars will compete within their own class but will not be eligible for overall awards in either the Mini Cup or the HRCR 'old Stager' series.

If you are thinking about entering and are not sure about eligibility then please send details of your car preferably with photos to stage@hrcr.co.uk and we will be happy to advise.

MINI CUP REGULARS HEAD FOR WALES



Photograph Rhiannon Bryant

Regular HRCR 'old Stager' championship competitors Clive King and Anton Bird will be using Clive's Mini on Wales Rally GB. The entry was a prize from the 'Road to Wales' scheme and is supported by Mini Sport, sponsors of the HRCR Mini Cup series and by the HRCR.

The car will be running as it would have done in the 60s. By coincidence, it also happens to be 50 years since the rally was won by a Mini, driven by Rauno Aaltonen.

The car number is 274, and you can follow the preparations made by Clive King at his Facebook page, where during the event we will be giving live updates from the service area.

<https://www.facebook.com/clivekingrally>

HRCR PREMIER RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP

This all new championship, which was the brainchild of the late Philip Young, currently has 39 registered contenders competing for points over a varied number of events. Full information can be found on the championship website at www.PremierRally.co.uk

HRCR CLUBMANS ROAD RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP

Temporary website: www.historicroadrally.co.uk



The results of the 2015 Championship, as announced in last month's newsletter, can be found on the championship website at www.HistoricRoadRally.co.uk

As announced in the recent old Stager magazine, Ian Doble will be taking over from Andy Gibson as Coordinator for the 2016 HRCR Clubmans Rally Championship. Ian and the Committee are currently making plans for the 2016 championship, and a programme of events will be announced soon.

Although not counting for the 2015 championship, a good number of the Clubmans championship contenders competed on the reserve round, HERO's Throckmorton Challenge on Saturday 10th October. For 2015, major changes had been made to the National B event, and competitors reported that in its new format it was a rally much more worthy of inclusion in the championship. Winners were Paul Crosby and Andy Pullan in a Porsche 911 with the Sunbeam Tigers of Jane Wignall/Kevin Savage and John Abel/Andrew Duerden coming in second and third, indicating that it was still an event where a quick car on the tests was needed to get a good result.

HRCR SCENIC TOURS

THE 5TH REGIS TAP

The team from Bognor Regis Motor Club were thrilled to wake up on Sunday 6th September to brilliant blue skies for the start of the 5th running of the Regis TAP (Tour and Picnic). The event attracts a very loyal following and 65 crews arrived from 08.00 in the sunshine to park in the grounds of Great Ballard School, where documentation took place followed by a tasty breakfast buttie and coffee. The crews were flagged away from 10.01 through the motor club gantry, for the second year running by 5 times Le Mans winner Derek Bell. He had a word for every crew, was happy to sign Route Cards or Rally plates and then as the last car left the start he jumped in his trusty Porsche 924 and followed the last car up to Albury Organic Vineyard and Silent Pool Gin Distillery, through the Surrey Hills to our first planned visits for the day. Once everyone had looked around these adjacent venues and had a wander around the Silent Pool, many purchasing some local products for later consumption. There was a short 9 mile route through to Busbridge Lakes. This is a real hidden treasure a rare breeds Wildfowl sanctuary and exotic water gardens with follies and grottos. The crews arrived from the north through the back gate into the gardens to park up on the lawns and then spread out around the lakes in enjoy their picnic and the fabulous weather. Busbridge Lakes is normally only open for selected dates each year but the venue was hired exclusively for the event and scored a big hit with everyone.

After a leisurely lunch stop Derek then headed back to Pagham to catch up with his English family. The rest of the crews headed south to their next venue at Bignor Roman Villa for a visit and cream tea. The route opened up for the latter part of the afternoon with views of the South Downs and open farmland through some charming and picturesque flint Downland villages. The last section of route took the crews to our annual finish venue at The Tithe Barn, Old Ditcham Park Farm. This magnificent restored barn is situated within a few hundred metres of the old start line for the famous Ditcham Hillclimb. Sadly this motorsport venue is no longer in use due to some residents on the lane disliking motor cars!

At the finish everyone enjoyed the late afternoon sun and a delicious hog roast and salads whilst being entertained by 1950's singer "Dawn's Vintage Do". The marshals on the tour cajoled the participants to part with money for raffle tickets for some super prizes.

Once all the sums had been done and expenses paid out the team were thrilled to be able to send £3,200 to Sussex Air Ambulance for their efforts. Thanks must go to tour sponsor for the fourth year: Kevin Law of Orchard Restorations of Heathfield, all the advertisers and donors of raffle prizes, all the volunteer marshals for the day and our lovely venue owners.

We would also like to thank HRCR Scenic Tour Series sponsor Classics by JSWL for their support.

LUDLOW & THE MARCHES CLASSIC TOUR

Dippy was all set up and ready to go, a full service, new wheel bearings, suspension joints and a small repair to the bonnet. Richard at my local garage did say he had given the car a bit of a tune up and this certainly showed. Dippy was cruising like a dream up the M5 to Ludlow overtaking was no problem I could have almost been caught for speeding.

It was 165 miles to Farden where I was having an overnight with Elaine and Malcolm Oxborrow. Start the day off right; don't have your alarm clock set on 12 hour mode if you want to get up at 6.00 am not 6.00pm, first mistake of the day.

It was a warm autumn morning for the start of the event and for the second running of this event there was a very healthy amount of entries which says a lot about last years tour.

The start venue as last year was the Ludlow Brewing Co, not a good time to start drinking but a special bottle was given as a event memento to all the participants. There was a great atmosphere fantastic bacon butties or Danish pastries, with lots of chatting between old friends and new. Tours like this bring a lot of people together with a common interest it doesn't matter if you have got a Wolsley Hornet, Irish Clan or Hillman Avenger Tiger we all have one thing in common, to follow the instructions and get round the route without making a mistake or getting lost.

As a driver this time I was in the happy position of being able to chat instead of studying the road book to make sure a wrong turning was not taken out of the start. The road book was beautifully put together with just the right amount of local information, especially the way it was indicated on the tulip section.

The words Kerry, Woodpecker, narrow and bumpy or tight uphill should have told me something. My late husband Mike Stratton would have been in his element driving the roads on this event, as I am sure a lot of the ex-rally drivers enjoyed themselves, albeit with their wives.

As an old lady (and a bit crazy) of 71, I was well pleased with myself to drive the event. The first part was the longest being 42.4 miles, nice to do a long section while still fresh and the WI ladies at Dolfor Village Hall did the event proud with their cakes and scones, eat your heart out Mary Berry they certainly kept up the standards of the WI.

The second section took us to lunch break at Rhayader. This was a section of 30 miles, instructions included cattle grids, no sign posts, NO hand brake turns please very acute! All good fun. The roads were beautiful with the autumn colours starting and with the sun now out, the oranges and reds of the leaves were stunning.

We now come to the penultimate section some 38 miles to The Baron at Bucknel for the afternoon break. Well it was for some but as we were arriving the last car was just leaving the car park. Hmmm me thinks we had been a little off route looking for Knucklas and were now running rather late. Not the drivers fault. A twirl in the car park and off to complete the last section to the finish 18.9 miles, which was the proverbial sting in the tail, such fun to drive, even if my shoulders and arms were getting tired.

I have to thank Elaine, Malcolm and all the marshals and everyone connected with the tour for making the event a memorable one, without people who are prepared to give up a lot of time and energy to put on events we would not have our fun days out. We all love our old cars and it is so nice to be able to bring them out for a run round our beautiful country. See you all next year.

I know Dippy really enjoyed himself and now has to go to bed for a while after a good clean.

Hilary car 28 and a not too dirty Dippy

HRCR SPEED CHAMPIONSHIP

Curborough Sprint. Round 11.



Weather. Cloudy but dry all day. Course 0.88420mls long

1st O/A. Malcolm Shaw. Ford Escort.

Malcolm's had a good event resulting in him taking maximum points for the weekend. This moved him into the championship winning position. A well-deserved result given his run of bad luck on previous events

2nd O/A. Roger Jones. Austin Mini.

Roger was unfortunately deemed to have run and subsequently penalised for going outside of the course. He was awarded a fail on his first timed run which meant that his weekend's efforts were decided on one run. Luckily he set a good time on his second run.

3rd O/A. Callum Barney. Cortina GT.

Callum set some good times during the day, improving his back to back times. The Cortina looks great in a lovely well prepared condition.

4th O/A. Paul Jones. Austin Mini.

Paul had a failed run in his first practice run, he went on to dramatically improve his timed runs.

5th O/A. Phillip Cheek. MGB

Phil pictured in his immaculate MGB, he commented that he had been to the venue a long time ago. It has changed quite a lot since then!

The 2015 HRCR Speed Championship Winner is Malcolm Shaw.



Congratulation to Malcolm Shaw in winning the inaugural HRCR Sprint and Hillclimb championship. Malcolm has persevered when others would have given up! A run of bad luck midseason did not deter him. A worthy champion.

2 nd O/A.	Roger Jones.	Mini.
3 rd O/A	Callum Barney.	Cortina Mk1 GT
4 th O/A.	Paul Jones.	Mini
5 th O/A.	Phil Cheek	MGB

My thanks to all who took part this year. I have certainly enjoyed running the series and would also like to thank Steve Suckling who has helped and stood in on some events.

Next year's provisional championship events are as follows:

2016 EVENTS CALENDAR.

	Date	Organising club	Venue	Type	
1	17 th April	MDC	Blyton Park, Lincolnshire	Sprint	www.blytonpark.co.uk
2	23 rd April	Liverpool MC	Aintree, Liverpool	Sprint	www.liverpoolmotorclub.com
3	8 th May	Swansea MC	Llys-y-Fran, Haverfordwest	Hill Climb	www.swanmoco.co.uk
4	14 th May	Torbay MC	Wyscombe, Honiton, Devon	Hill Climb	www.torbaymotorclub.co.uk
5	18/19 June	Brecon MC	Epynt (Optional Double Header)	Hill Climb	www.breconmotorclub.co.uk
6	2 nd July	Midland Auto Club	Shelsley Walsh, Worcestershire	Hill Climb	www.shelsley-walsh.co.uk
7	16 th July	BARC Wales	Llandow, Cardiff	Sprint	www.barcwales.com
8	6 th August	Hagley DCC	Loton Park, Shrewsbury	Hill Climb	www.hdlcc.com
9	11 th Sept	MG Car Club	Ty Croes, Anglesey	Sprint	www.mgcc.co.uk
10	1 st October	BARC Midlands	Curborough, Staffordshire	Sprint	www.barc.net/centres

Don't forget The HRCR open day on Saturday 16th January when the 2016 championship regulations will be available.

LOCAL AREA NEWS

MIDLANDS

7 Dec **ANOTHER 'HOME' MEETING / MEAL AT THE STANHOPE ARMS**

Less of a Christmas Special but more of a chance for a 'noggin and natter' and/or a meal amongst friends. We also need to discuss if the Region needs to do more for the HRCR Open Day in January than just promote the Derbyshire Dales Drive.

Where and time : The Stanhope Arms, Stanton-by-Dale DE7 4QA, starting at 8.00pm.

11 Jan **AN EVENING WITH SAM COLLIS**

Last year's R.A.C Rally winning co-driver Sam has confirmed that he is available on two dates in January and is looking forward to coming. Since the meeting will be after this year's R.A.C. Rally (which the pair intend to win 'properly' this time), expect to hear about how they fared. Though not the first Monday in the month, the date has been chosen to avoid member's commitments around the New Year.

Where and time : The Stanhope Arms, Stanton-by-Dale DE7 4QA, starting at 8.00pm.

DEAN & THE MARCHES

Our October meeting was held at the Ross & District Motor Sports Club house. We were entertained to a fascinating and humorous talk entitled, "Tales of a Country Vet". Eighty seven year young Ivor recounted tales of being a country vet in the Oswestry area of Shropshire in the very early 1950's. Times were hard, farmers tight fisted but still, it appears, a great life. We listened to many good tales.

The next meeting will be on Monday 23rd November when we make our annual trek into the darkest Forest of Dean to Park End Club for an evening of skittles. The 'slot' onto the track to the club can be hard to find. 162/617080 for navigators or GL15 4JE for satnav users. As always we need lots of people to make up two skittleing teams so bring family and friends. All are welcome to come and join us. Just watch out for wild bore.

Stuart Harrold

NORTHANTS & BEDS

Northants and Beds are gathering, as usual at the Towcester Mill Brewery on Monday November 30th from 7.30pm onwards, when we hosting "An Evening with Alastair Vines". This will a presentation on his Monte Carlo Historique Rallies achievements, and based on his similar presentations the Redditch & District MC, the Mini Cooper Register and Mini World Live at a Mini Show at Rockingham Raceway. So looking forward to that gathering.

A reminder that the brewery which offers a triple one third pint tasting tray of their ales, is in the old water mill at the end of Chantry Lane in Towcester, just past St. Lawrence Church. There is a large car park, but there is rather a lot of development work going on at the moment so please follow any diversion signs. For those who need it food is available at the Brave Old Oak in the High Street. As usual members and friends are welcome.

Please contact me should you any queries on the group's activities, or if you wish to be included on our Monthly Newsletter mailing list, which should you have any articles or photographs please email them to Monica Dowson at monica.dowson@btinternet.com - who will be most pleased to hear from you.

david@rishworthholmes.com

BUCKS BERKS & OXON

BBO MEETING Tuesday 15th December (In place of the 1st December Meeting)

CHRISTMAS DINNER 7.00 for 7.30pm. MENU NOW AVAILABLE

Please let me know if you are able to attend and I will forward the Menu to enable choices to be made. Payment will be required 7 days in advance

BBO Centre Meetings: I have already indicated that this meeting will be the last which I will organise after over 20 years. If anyone would like to take over, please contact Tony Barron.

Bill Price Tel.No. 01494 563001 billprice1935@gmail.com

BRISTOL/BATH

The next HRCR Bristol and Bath centre area meeting will be held at The Carpenters Arms at Stanton Wick on Tuesday 17th November from 7.30 pm.

The Carpenters Arms, Stanton Wick, BS39 4BX is 7.8 miles from the centre of Bristol and 11 miles from Bath. The Carpenters Arms has a large car park and an excellent menu. Telephone number 01761 490202 www.carpenters-arms.co.uk

Please come and join us. You will be made very welcome.

Advance Notice

We will be holding our Christmas Meal at the Carpenters Arms on Tuesday 15th December 7.30 for 8 pm. If you would like to join us please contact me Keith Wilson on cortina830d@o2.co.uk for more details and menu

NORTH WEST AREA

Good to see so many at our 20th birthday and nice to see the Parkgate pub up and running.

17 NOVEMBER - TUESDAY 8PM

Meet at the Tearooms at Gawsworth Hall. Planning meeting to sort out next year's programme. All ideas are welcome. If you can't make it and have a brainwave can you let me know beforehand.

THURSDAY 17 DECEMBER 7.30 FOR 8PM

CHRISTMAS DINNER. This year the dinner is at the Waggon and Horses, some 3 miles north of Congleton on the A34. This is a good old fashioned pub and we have the exclusive use of the function room. I have sampled 2 lunches there in the cause of finding a suitable place and both were very good. The staff were extremely helpful. The cost is £21-50 for 3 courses and coffee and mince pie. I do need to know by 12 December if you are coming and let me have your choices. The menu will be in Shon's newsletter and is also on the pub website at thewaggonandhorseseaton.co.uk

Tony Davies 01270874824 aodavies12@hotmail.co.uk

SOUTH WALES

Next meeting November 10th 2015.

We will be meeting at the Whitehead Sports & Social Club, at Pye Corner, M4 J28, head North towards Risca, 1st Roundabout take 3rd exit. Map 171. Ref 2805 8705. usual time 8.00pm

We will hold a discussion on the running of the Taith Cymru 2016, if you're interested in helping out or taking on an organising role please come to the meeting, plus a discussion on manning our stand for Gaydon Jan 2016

We would like to plan a number of events in advance for the coming months, if you have any suggestions or possible venues please come along to the meeting.

Next month's meeting. December ?th

SOUTH EAST LONDON & SURREY

Regular monthly meeting being held on 29th October.

Area is still testing its new monthly venue: The Whyte Harte Hotel in Bletchingly.

Main activity in October was some participation in Classic Rally Tours Champagne "Tour".

Area efforts were quite well rewarded and enthusiastic plans made for repeat or greater success on the Beaujolais in November.

A notable plus in your reporter's social life : bumping into Dennis Greenslade who happened to book into the same Spanish Parador as your reporter (on his way to Portugal.) The rally world is "nobbut a village".

On the agenda for the monthly meeting will be the ever popular "Not the Christmas Dinner", needing to be planned for January.

Denis Robson, Area Organiser

MEMBERS' EMAIL ADDRESSES

We have recently taken over 200 email addresses off our circulation data base, most of which have been rejected as "Dead email address".

Can we ask that if you change your email address please let the HRCR office have the details of your new address. You can do this by emailing membership@hrcr.co.uk To enable our membership secretary to locate the correct file you should include either your membership number or postcode.

ARE YOU RECEIVING YOUR OLD STAGER MAGAZINE?

The Old Stager magazine is distributed to members on a bi-monthly basis. Magazines are only posted to members whose membership is up to date, so if you haven't got your copy please check your membership card for your expiry date.

We also have a number of Old Stagers returned after each distribution. We receive 4 to 10 copies every month overwritten with notes like "No longer at this address". Please, if you move, let our membership secretary have your new address. Email is best at membership@hrcr.co.uk

KEES STOEL

We have just heard of the death of Kees Stoel, who passed away peacefully in his sleep at home on Sunday 18th October. He had not been ill, in fact he had been working on a rally that very day.

A real gentlemen in the true sense of the word, Kees was the driving force behind the hugely popular Tulip Rally and his passing will leave a huge hole in motor sport not just in The Netherlands, but all across Europe. Those of us fortunate enough to know him will miss his warm welcoming smile whenever our paths crossed in some far-flung corner of Europe.

Our thoughts go out to his beloved wife Eve, and his family. Kees was cremated at a private family funeral on Monday 26th October, and there are no plans for a Memorial Service. However, anyone who would like to send their condolences should send them to:

Eve Stoel
Buys Ballotstraat 1
NL 3817
UN Amersfoort
The Netherlands

Keith Baud

ANN RILEY

We are very sorry to report the passing of Ann Riley (born Ann Wisdom), on 14 October 2015, after fighting illness. There will be a full obituary on the December issue of Old Stager.

RENTOKIL INITIAL KILLARNEY HISTORIC STAGES RALLY - 5TH DEC 2015.

Killarney and District Motor Club has announced details of this year's Historic Stages Rally. Ireland's only event to cater solely for historic rally cars and night stage rallying is set to run on Saturday the 5th December.

The rally will count as the opening round of the 2016 Clonakilty Black Pudding Irish Tarmac Historic Rally Championship and the final round of the Plasticbags.ie Southern Four Rally Championship.

The rally will be backed by Rentokil Initial Ireland as main title sponsor for the 3rd consecutive year.

The Gleneagle Hotel will once again host this year's event as Rally Headquarters, along with supplying some great rally accommodation packages throughout the weekend.

In conjunction with Greg Crozier of the Barbados Historic Rally Carnival we have a fantastic prize on offer to the winner of our Historic section of the rally. The prize includes an all expenses paid trip to contest the Barbados event, free entry to both motor sport events during the Carnival, two return flights from London to Barbados, free return shipping for one car from Portsmouth dock to Barbados and accommodation for 12 nights.

We are delighted to confirm extensive TV coverage of this year's event. 1 hour production by Mick Bracken of on the Limit sports, to be televised on TG4, Setanta Sports, Motors TV and Skysports throughout the Christmas period.

Event clerk of the course Kevin Flannery has specifically built this year's rally around the competitor and in doing so has selected a route of classic stages based around Killarney Town, offering the competitor 110Km of competitive stages, followed by short road Km's allowing for an easy recce, Centralised service area at the event HQ and the popular feature of the final stage to be run in the darkness.

The rally starts with the iconic "Molls Gap", often rated by rally drivers as being the best and one of the most-challenging stages in the world. "Kilcummin" village stage is always a favourite, just north of Killarney town, the stage runs straight through the village offering a great spectacle for the many fans to view. "Anabla" is a newly designed stage in the Gneeveguilla area, sections of which have been used in the past by the Rally of the Lakes, it's a fast flowing stage with great surface and many junctions. "Gortnagane" which runs parallel to the main Rathmore/ Killarney road, is highly regarded as one of the most technical, narrow, and demanding stages of Killarney rallying. The second run over Gortnagane, will be run under the cover of darkness.

Accommodation deals are available at Rally Hq, the Gleneagle Hotel, for crews and followers alike. Promotion code "Rally" Bookings and information at 064 6636000.

Entries are now open at: <http://www.shannonsportsit.ie/evo/Login>

Regulations and further information are available from event secretary: Cathy Healy cathy.rally@gmail.com

2016 EIFEL RALLYE FESTIVAL CELEBRATES RETURN OF GROUP B



The organisers of the ADAC Eifel Rallye Festival are proud to announce both the date and theme for their 2016 event. The sixth edition of the demonstration event for historic rally cars will take place from July 21st to 23rd 2016, in and around the town of Daun located in the beautiful Vulkaneifel region just south of the world-famous Nürburgring. In 2016, the three-day event will celebrate the greatest era in the history of rallying, the days of the Group B supercars that ended thirty years ago at the end of 1986.

In order to bring back that unforgotten era, the organisers of the Festival have set themselves ambitious goals. "Our aim is to bring as many different Group B cars as possible to the Eifel", says Reinhard Klein, head of "Slowly Sideways" – the group of rally car owners that makes up nearly the whole entry list of the event. But that's not all. "Hopefully we can also show our audience a big collection of Group S prototypes." Group S was a formula that never became reality in the WRC. It was supposed to succeed Group B as the highest class in world rallying from 1988 onwards, but after several tragic accidents in the first half of the 1986 WRC season, both classes were banished from international competition and replaced by Group A for 1987.

Apart from its theme, the 2016 Eifel Rallye Festival will also include some other new features, as Peter Schlömer, President of the MSC Daun and chief organiser of the event, explains. "This year, we have introduced a completely new demonstration stage into the Festival programme. In addition, I can promise you that there will also be some new highlights in 2016. I do not like to say too much right now, but I am sure fans and drivers will be pleased with these surprises."

Walter Röhr, World Rally Champion in 1980 and 1982 and patron of the Eifel Rallye Festival since 2011, says: "This year, four World Champion drivers and Sandro Munari in his Lancia Stratos have entertained the spectators. Now I am looking forward to the next edition." His former co-driver Christian Geistdörfer, who is now part of the Eifel Rallye

Festival organising team, adds to this: "Our aim for 2016 is also to have some of the important drivers of the Group B era in their former cars in the Eifel."

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