

# WHICKHAM PACENOTES

Whickham and District Motor Club



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## LAKELAND CLASSIC - 15th JULY

By Andrew Fish

Photos by Tony North

AFTER a two year absence, I managed to get a seat for one the best events of the NESCR0 season, thanks to the organisers.

I hadn't competed in the Lake District Classic since they added the regularity sections, so was looking forward to the challenge as the event used to run as tests only. Although they did have the use of both the Deer Park at Lowther and Greystokes Forest which made it a great event. They had a 44 car entry, which is very good considering all the rule changes that have decimated many events.

Unfortunately, they have lost the use of the Deer Park and didn't use the forest this year, but still had old favourites in the Lowther Estate and Waters Farm on Shap which everyone seems to like. I turned up, met my new driver (Joe Norman, a very experienced competitor) and had a look around his very well prepared Cooper S. Joe was quite hesitant as he'd not driven for a few months after a minor road accident but I just told him to drive at 80% and try not to make any mistakes and we'd let others collect penalties.

The opening test at the Truckstop went smoothly, with a nice clean run - the nerves were settled and so we headed off into the Lakes for 3 more tests before tackling the first regularity section which started just south of Langwathby Station and headed around the narrow yellows around Culgaith, Temple Sowerby and finished on the other side of the A66 through Whinell Forest. All went smoothly despite a minor panic when I realised that the passage check on the time card was actually manned and not the code board that was also on the route, making the first control after the untimed passage check. A major bit of mental arithmetic and some juggling of the Brantz readings meant we were within a couple of seconds of our due time at the final control.

A couple of very short road sections lead to another couple of tests on the old airstrip at the back of the Lowther Estate and then the infamous Waters Farm which is used on a few historic events, night road rallies and Rally of the Tests among others....cont

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# EDITORS REVIEW

The past month or so has flown by and I have had loads on! On the back of a pretty successful first edition of Pacenotes, there was the WDMC Stand day at Halfords which seemed to drum up a bit of interest and also get the newsletter its first public outing. I have been busy juggling work, redecorating, wedding jobs, doing pacenotes, entering a competition and finishing off some bits on the rally car which hopefully subject to an engineers report, getting some insurance and then a VIC check she'll be ready for Durham Dales – and hopefully not a reunion with a great big kerb! We seem to have had loads of niggling little problems with the running and a misfire, which was then finally solved after driving us crazy, so much so that I was considering making it into a very quick, single passenger taxi - it even had the sign on top! The club has a fair few members out on various events, with some excellent results too. Well done there. I was genuinely gutted that after all the hard work Phil and Gary put in, the autocross event was a non-runner. Next year perhaps.

I also entered a competition last month as an individual and through my work as a team. The competition has been organized by the RIBA, the governing body for British Architects, and is nationally renowned. It seeks to re-use Forgotten Spaces, such as wasteland or disused car parks and buildings. At work over bacon sarnies, we had a meeting and I suggested expanding one space across the city into multiple ones, to form a racetrack (or what I was seeing in my mind, a rally stage). It was met with mixed reception so, undeterred I entered my own individual entry, as a member of WDMC. This resulted in the production of a rally stage/circuit through the streets of Newcastle, which basically follows the old town wall and makes the link with architecture, but really I just wanted to design a circuit. After a bit more decorating in the flat and doing some more bits on the car, I then got an email to say I had been shortlisted for the competition and I'm to go forward

## LAKELAND CLASSIC CONTINUED...

The lunch halt at Tebay Services saw the usual tales of woe, massive skids on the tests and missing slots on the regularities - all good news as we'd had a pretty uneventful morning. There were no interim results, so other than knowing nothing major had gone wrong, we'd lost little time on the regularities and hadn't missed any PC's or boards - it was going OK. Another pretty uneventful Jogularity section (which is a regularity section with simplified instructions you read off a sheet rather than using the map and average speed tables) it was back to Hardendale Quarry for a test and then Waters Farm 2, this time run in the more traditional direction starting on the motorway bridge and finishing at the A6. It was a bit less sideways in a Cooper S on tarmac tyres than in a Mk1 on knobbies, still great though as a Mini fits between the narrow banks better than an Escort.

We went back the Lowther Estate for another attempt of the 2 tests on the old airfield - back to the auction mart and then a final run around the truck stop to finish. We both agreed that we'd enjoyed the event, had a good run for a 1st time out together and that we hadn't made any major errors so should have done OK. I think we both knew that we wouldn't have matched Archie and Richard Simmonds in their very quick Midget - but would be pleased with a decent class position against the other Mini's, a very rapid Imp Rallye a Mk1 Cortina GT and a Cortina engined Anglia.

Results were posted very quickly, only moments after we'd finished our meal. Initial test only times looked promising with a provisional 5th place o/a - once the regularity penalties were added, it was up to 3rd o/a which was great for a first event together. Joe was particularly pleased as he was quite worried about not being on the pace. Some of the penalties seemed slightly higher than I'd calculated, but as it wouldn't have made any difference to the results and it was possibly the same for all the crews I forgot about it and enjoyed the class win and 3rd place.

### Results

- 1st Archie and Richard Simmonds MG Midget
- 2nd Steve Entwistle and Bob Hargreves BMC Mini
- 3rd Joe Norman and Andrew Fish Cooper S



## GOODWOOD FESTIVAL OF SPEED

### - SUSSEX 28th JUNE to 1st JULY-

A few of the club members made their way down south to the Festival of Speed again this year and experienced cars of all shapes and sizes from all disciplines. Some members even made new friends too, particularly Archie and Jack! It seems like an awesome event and would be a good WDMC social, even if it is at the other end of the country, still, nearer than Barbados so its definitely achievable.



## RSAC SCOTTISH RALLY - DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY 30th JUNE

A few club members ventured north of the border on the last weekend in June some with more luck than others and some excellent results. A string of bad luck thwarted Mr Thompson in the chevette and at TC4 mechanical problems meant retirement. Tristan Pye and Stuart Merry were out and putting the Impreza N15 through its paces bagging 8th o/a and in Class 12. Some stern competition out there in the forests so a brilliant effort. Drive of the day however goes to Paul and Dan May (pictured) in the Mk1 Escort, which earned them top spot in class H2 and 7th o/a in the historic section of the rally. Fast flowing stages through the classic forest of Ae, Castle O'er, Twiglees and Heathall suited the style of the May team and they beat George and Jaqui Bryson by 12s. Great work and it also gained them June's achievement of the month award.



## MORTON'S MONTH - ANGELSSEY/ALMC

Young Jack Morton was out and about with various drivers and weapons of choice in the month gone, first bagging an outright victory with John Stone in the Fabia WRC. A stall at the start, then beaching it on a tyre made it a slow start but winning seven of ten stages secured the win by 17s.

Across on the Emerald Isle, Jack teamed up with Alex Laffey in the Fiesta R2, hunting down John Stone...or certainly the head of the pack in Class 6 as they finished an impressive 28th o/a and 4th in class at the first attempt on the Irish lanes. Would seem to be a very successful month at both ends of the spectrum showing his exceptional versatility and ability.

## GREYSTOKE RALLY - CUMBRIA 8th JULY

TWO club members were out competing on this years Greystoke Stages - in the complex owned and used for testing by the M-Sport Ford WRC team. Sweeping the roads in true spirit was the Mk2 Escort piloted by Malcolm Wilson, giving passenger rides and entertaining the crowd. More importantly however, chasing him down in more modern machinery were Ronnie Roughead, navigating for Mark 'I've just got my license back' l'Anson in the Evo6 and Tony Thompson with Paul Hudson in the...unfamiliar Impreza N15 - in fact the very one Tristan used on the Scottish the week before. Driver error cost Mark and Ronnie 6th o/a so they settled for 7th and 4th in Class 5 and ending a string of retirements, Tony and Paul finished an excellent 23rd o/a and 11th in class. The first time in 4wd machinery for some time was impressive driving, so much that an Impreza may make its way to a garage in Morpeth at some point in the future. All in all, a good day for WDMC members in Greystoke.



for the final exhibition which will be publicly displayed. The shortlist will also be published in AJ and BD the two biggest architecture publications in Europe, so needless to say – I was chuffed to bits and the hard work was worth it! I'll print out the submission and bring it down and would hope the club could use it in some way to promote us or whatever it may be! Super special stage for Rally GB anyone? I also want to make a video for the exhibition, so if anyone has an in car camera.....

On a final note, I'm doing the Great North Run again this year, sacrificing beating my PB to get Rachel through it, as she is running for Bowel Cancer - If anyone would be kind enough to sponsor her then every little helps (it's also a massive challenge for her and I'm not letting her off lightly!!)

[www.justgiving.com/RachelJayneCampbell](http://www.justgiving.com/RachelJayneCampbell)



## WDMC HALFORDS STAND DAY - TEAM VALLEY 7th JULY

On the back of National Motorsport Week and pushing the promotion of the club, WDMC put up a great display stand outside the doors of Halfords in the Team Valley. It seemed to generate a lot of interest and certainly got some members of the public more aware about who we are and what we do.

Under the WDMC gazebo we had an array of motorsport bits and bobs to indicate the various levels of rallying. There were overalls, helmet, road book, pacenotes, WDMC pacenotes, magazines, flyers and 3 examples of cars! Karl was doing an excellent job ensuring that anyone within the catchment zone got bombarded with a bit of banter of our 'Get into Motorsport' flyer. The whole day was deemed a success and even if few or zero new members are gained this time its a great way to get them next time and keeping raising the identity of the clubs profile within the region. There is scope for this to happen every few months or so with the next one planned in September, before some of our club events and the Krash TV motorshow. Anyone who can help, wants to help or has other ideas to table let us know.

It was a good day out, the weather certainly helped but big thanks go to Paul's May and Hughes for car lending, along with Jeff Gibson for bringing the Nova along. The Knox family were there with Karl practising his sales pitch too so thanks for your time. Also a big thanks to Dan May and the Halfords team for sorting and putting it on the first place. Bring on September Stand Day.



Les Leston, born December 16 1920, died May 13 2012 - Fascinating Article which is well worth a read <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/obituaries/sport-obituaries/9382501/Les-Leston.html>

## DOON AT KIBBY CLUB

THIS MONTH...

1 August - Quiz

4 August - Speyside Stages

8 August - PlayStation

12 August - Tyneside Stages

14 August - Committee

15 August - DVDs

22 August - Open Forum

29 August - TableTop



## WDMC/LOCAL EVENTS

2 September - Durham Dales

7 October - Shaw Trophy Rally

4 November - Cheviot Keith Knox Stages Rally

Unfortunately the Autocross event at Causey Park was cancelled due to insufficient entries but a HUGE thanks goes to Phil and Gary who did great work and put in lots of effort to get the event going - a shame and hopefully the autocross will regain some popularity and we'll see what the future holds

PURE CLASS-IFIEDS.....  
(OR GIVEAWAYS/WANTED)

**OMP 'dashdodger' 6 point multi-bolt in Roll Cage - 106/Saxo**  
Blue, pretty good condition, few marks and areas of surface rust. £300  
CONTACT: Ollie Currie  
tel: 07713 274759

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