

# Oxford Motor Club





# June 2011 Magazine



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Cover :. Kev at the Bocardo Autosolo, photo by Simon Phillips

**Disclaimer:** The articles in this magazine represent the views of the authors and are not necessarily shared by the Club as a whole.

Oxford Motor Club is a motor club affiliated to the Motor Sports Association UK and is a member club of the following Associations and Group:

Association of Central Southern Motor Clubs (Secretary: John Oliver, 01264 353972)

Association of South West Motor Clubs (Secretary: Howard West 01297 551375)

Association of West Midlands Motor Clubs (Secretary: John Arnold, 01952 770211)

Welsh Association of Motor Clubs (Secretary: Geoff Field, 02920 891314)

Cotswold Motor Sport Group (Secretary: Ken Sheather, 01242 231902)

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### Have you joined the club's Yahoo Group yet...?



### ...If not, you will be missing out on club news.

In between the bi-monthly magazines, regular updates on club events and other relevant snippets are distributed via the Yahoo Group. There are two ways you can join:

- Visit http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/oxfordmotorclub and click on Join This Group!
- Send an email to oxfordmotorclub-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Please wait a few days for the application to be accepted and you will then receive the emails to your inbox. These include news on events, regulations and entry forms etc. You will not be inundated and the content isn't always replicated in the magazine so you will be missing out if you don't join.

If you need assistance contact Nick Townsend, the new webmaster, via webmaster@oxfordmotorclub.co.uk.

### **Editors Ramble**

Having had a successful test in North Wales we headed over to the Abingdon Carnival for the fifth time. From past experience, two sets of hard compound low profile slicks and a lot of petrol was loaded onto the van. A month ago at the track site we were confronted with heavy rain and a slippery track, where we used up the last of our old soft slicks. Lucky, because at Abingdon it chucked it down!

The rally itself is excellent with a mixture of good camping, large service area and stages mixed with tight and fast sections. The edges of the runway started to fill with water as the day went on and aquaplaning and spinning became commonplace. We ran on the Eagle F1 road tyres all day long and had very few problems, keeping it clean and smooth – for me anyway. This was the right approach and we had some great stage times.

Unfortunately on stage three we ploughed through a chicane with four locked wheels, so passed though and continued up the road. After the end of the stage we were then given a stage maximum for this offence, which for us is in effect a 7 minute penalty. This dropped us way down the order and ruined our day. That day would have given us a result in the early 20's and I have to ask whether this was an over exaggerated penalty? In F1, cutting a chicane is only penalised if there is an obvious gain, or intent. Our 7 minute penalty was hardly proportional. Should we have driven back onto the course to go round the chicane? What is the answer?

Another penalty was applied when we missed a time control. We had been sitting in the stage start queue for some time, but we couldn't get to the front in time when we realised everyone else was far too early. Why do so many people queue for 5 minutes plus, when service is only a 1 minute drive away? There were also problems in service when people loaded their broken cars onto trailers, blocking the road. Should there be a service area marshal to stop some of the service area silliness that always goes on?

Another idea is to put the numbers on the rear window of the cars and by writing the number of the car in front of you on the time sheet at service-in, many queue problems can be avoided. Or why don't we just avoid issuing penalties altogether? Either way, poor decisions and over-zealous application of the rules leave the competitors feeling let down – we are only there to have fun, after all.

Dave Barbara

Oh yeah, and another thing - Send me your articles PLEASE! What's going on!

### **Abingdon Carnival Autosolo**



The fifth round of the CMSG Autosolo championship was held at Abingdon airfield as part of the Abingdon Carnival weekend. Dolphin MC organised the event which attracted 46 runners. The test layouts were very similar to last year but were a bit more open which allowed the car to go a bit faster. Oxford had 8 members competing in the event with three picking up awards.

In class A, Haydn Marks had a good day in his Rover 214. He picked up 2<sup>nd</sup> class narrowly missing the top spot by 1.7 seconds and convincingly beating an autotest champion by 5 seconds in third. Zenya Heap was 4<sup>th</sup> in class in Haydn's Rover a further 5 second behind but picked another fastest Ladies award. Charlie Fagg was 5<sup>th</sup> a mere 0.5 second behind Zenya in his Peugeot 205 and finally a few more seconds down the road was Oli Wakeman in another Rover 214.

Class B and C were amalgamated due to low numbers in Class C and that moved me and Richard Hancock down a class and making this the biggest and most competitive class of the event.

Rob Brook was out in his Peugeot 205 Gti and he bagged 6<sup>th</sup> in class with some consistent times, while Richard came home 8<sup>th</sup> in class in his Mini Cooper S.

Paul Hancock was in Class D in his MGF and was competing against the MX5 and Lotus boys. He managed 6<sup>th</sup> in class and also a top 20 place which shows how fast this class is.

The overall winner was me (Kev Belcher) and this was the first time I had won this event. Five years of trying and it came good in the end. The last test nearly went wrong when I hit a cone but two clean runs secured the win with a comfortable 12 seconds to play with.

Overall a good event and luckily it stayed dry throughout unlike the Rally the following day.

Kev Belcher



Kev Belcher picking up FTD award.

### **Club Nights**

This year's club nights have seen very low numbers attending. We have put on something different each month and attendance is still disappointing and dis-heartening to the organisers.

Is there something wrong with them or is it case of I can't be bothered? Is Wednesday a bad day for them? I do understand people are busy (I should know, 3 kids, work, running the club, competing, running a house, etc) but it is always good to catch up and have a chat or have laugh doing a quiz. We need your feed back to see if we can improve them and encourage the members to come along. Please speak to any committee member with ideas. Thanks.

Kev Belcher



As part of National Motorsports Week we are organising a Grass Autotest and Production Car Autotest (PCA) on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June. The event will be held at Pusey Lodge Farm and will be open to everyone. The idea is to encourage members of the public have a go at low cost motorsport and hopefully join the club. There will be posters going up around the area and some local advertising.

The event will take place in the evening and will run from 6:30pm to about 9:00pm and will cost £5.00 to enter. Regs will be posted on the yahoo group or you can just turn up and have a go.

Kev Belcher

### Brakley Blast - 12 Car Rally - May 20th

Organised by Chris Hambly

Car	Driver	Navigator	Class	Fails	Mins	СВ	Total	Pos
14	Derek	James	Е	0	0	0	0	1
	Newbould	Newbould						
13	lan Harrison	Stuart Harrison	N	0	7	0	7	2
0	Julia Higson	Paul Hardy	Е	0	0	10	10	3
4	Neil Lewis	Bob Muttram	Е	0	3	10	13	4
7	Dick Hall	Simon Feast	N	0	3	10	13	5
11	Richard Austen	Charlie Fagg	В	0	0	20	20	6
2	Jono Hobbs	Graham Gardner	E	0	14	10	24	7
6	Simon Smart	Les Samwell	Е	0	23	10	33	8
3	Ding Boston	Zip Zerihan	Е	0	24	10	34	9
5	Tim Daltry	Stuart Samwell	Е	0	26	10	36	10
8	Tony Mytton	Duncan Cox	N	0	10	30	40	11
10	Alan Hillyard	Rachel Pattinson	N	0	13+2 0wa	20	53	12
1	James Tapner	Derek Looker	E	0	5+30 env	20	55	13
9	Oliver Thomas	Robert Foster	N	0	56	60	116	14

### April Navex - April 27th

Organised by Graham Dunn

Driver	Navigator	Marks	Position
Kevin Belcher	Kieran Belcher	92	1
Neil Lewis	Teresa Harman	90	2
Haydn Marks	Zenya Heap	81	3
Richard Austen	Charlie Fagg	71	4

### April Quiz – April 6<sup>th</sup>

Organised by Chris Hambly

Team	Marks	Position
Bill Hitchcock & Dave Smith	37	1
Haydn Marks & Charlie Fagg	35	2
Kev Belcher & Tony Mytton	34	3
Steve Partridge, Zoe Turrell & Karen Kearns	29	4
Zenya Heap & Ben Rees	25	5

### CMSG Roadsport Championship - Round 3- April 15<sup>th</sup>

The third round was organised by Bob Muttram and Ian Harrison around the south west of Newbury. Maps 174 and 173 were used on a 60 mile route.

Car No.	Driver	Navigator	Class	Fails	Marks	Pos
3	Haydn Marks	Brian Cammack	Е	0	0	1
4	Chris Pratt	Glyn Hayward	E	0	1	2
1	Kev Belcher	Paul Hardy	Е	0	4	3
2	Richard Austen	Zenya Heap	Е	0	5	4
5	Stuart Harrison	Derek Looker	N	0	10	5
11	Ding Boston	Chris Moore	N	0	16	6
7	Chris Powney	Rose Smith	N	0	25	7
6	David Rae	Nic Cutts	N	3	40	8
9	Oliver Thomas	Rob Foster	N	3	152	9
10	Steve Partridge	Paul Bramley	N	5	51	10
8	Chris Thompson	Alan Spencer	N	8	153	11

### The Rally Show - Cornbury Park - My 14th/15th

This year's Rally Show came to Cornbury Park near Charlbury for the first time. This will be their new home for three years after relocating from Chatsworth House. The club was asked to help with marshalling the stage and providing radio cover during the day. Over the weekend about a dozen members helped out and manned various points and acted as radio control on the start line all weekend. Throughout the event we gave out club leaflets and displayed our flags in the hope of recruiting some new members. Visitor numbers were down a little but overall it was a good show.

Star attractions for the weekend were the new Mini WRC and the Ford Fiesta WRC as they gave demo runs taking all manner of passengers during the day. There was a great variety of cars and for me the best ones to watch were the Audi Quattro's and the Lancia 037. There were some very nice Ford Escorts, both Mk1 & Mk2's that were driven very hard throughout. Well known drivers like Jimmy McRea, Russell Brooks, Gwyndaf Evans, Dani Sordo, Henning Solberg and Paddy Hopkirk were present during the weekend to add some additional spice to the proceedings.

The format was a full on all day with cars competing against each other for the honour of fastest time of the event as well as exhibition runs for some of the older cars. The highlight being the top ten shoot out on Sunday afternoon with the ten fastest cars going head to head in a knock out competition. After each run the slowest two were eliminated down to the last two for the final. Local boy Simon Mauger won the event co-driven by Brian Cammack in their very fast Mk2 Escort. Another Oxford member Simon Marks was also co-driving for Julian Burch in a Lotus Sunbeam.

Hopefully 2012 will be a bigger show and we will be invited back to help run the stage and get the name of Oxford Motor Club out to the general public. Many thanks to the following people who worked hard all weekend to make sure everything ran smoothly, Dave Smith, Rob Bowsher, John & Shirley Blackwell, Tony Mytton, Zenya Heap, Charlie Fagg, Neil Lewis, Teresa Harman, Jason Bowsher, Larna Bowsher, Lisa Mcfarlane and Kieran Belcher.

Kev Belcher



Line-up of Audi's

Mini WRC



Lancia 037

Ford RS200



Mini WRC

Lancia Stratos

### Bocardo Autosolo - Silverstone - May 8th

We had another successful Autosolo at Silverstone on May 8<sup>th</sup> with 54 competitors starting the event. It was part of the CMSG Autosolo championship so we had quite a few contenders taking part as well as new invitees from South East lotus Owners Club (SELOC) and some interesting cars from Club Triumph. The time keepers were on the go all day with John Blackwell doing the results. We had new layouts this year which made each test just under a mile in length.

The event was won by Steve Woodings in his new MK Indy sports car fitted with a Honda Fireblade motor bike engine. However, he didn't have all his own way during the day with a close battle with me. In my first outing in the Impreza since the latest engine build I led after the first test by 0.2 second but Steve got the upper hand in the second test and led by 1.7 seconds. Again in the third test I gained time back and reduced the difference to 1.1 seconds going into the last test. My first run was 0.7 seconds quicker, however it all went wrong on the next run when I had my best run on this course but had to stop because I caught the next car up! How frustrating as this felt at least 1.5 seconds quicker. On my re-run I just clipped a cone and got a 5 second penalty so had to do a safe run on the last test to have any chance of a win. Alas Steve put in some very consistent times to beat by 3.2 seconds.

Many thanks to all the timekeepers and helpers for their hard work as this event couldn't run without you. Results are on the website for everyone to see. Now looking forward to October 23<sup>rd</sup> when we host our next Autosolo.



Kev Belcher

Photo Courtesy of Simon Philips

### **Endurance Rally Day**

The Endurance Rally Championship organisers have long wanted to do a briefing on the absolute basics of co-driving skills and navigation to help newcomers – now in a link up with the Endurance Rally Association, Gaydon Motor Museum (just off the M40 near Warwick) are to host a rallynewcomers day on Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. It will be a teach-in for total newcomers but those interested in brushing up long-forgotten skills having been out of the sport for a while will find it equally useful.

Among the speakers will be Stuart Turner, former boss of BMC competitions in the Mini Cooper era of Monte wins, who then went on to mastermind the Ford rally successes. Stuart initiated the Motoring News Rally Championship which was a must-do series in the 60s and 70s and so can't be short of a few rally yarns to enliven proceedings. Philip Young of the Endurance Rally Association (his ex-works Healey that he drove on the Himalayan Rally in 1981 is one of the exhibits kept in the museum), is behind it, along with Dick Appleton and Paul Heal of the Endurance Rally Association.

The entry-ticket for the day is £10, with a separate fee if you want to do the autotest in the afternoon but the timed introductory "run" with TCs, PCs, marked map and Tulips is no extra charge.

It will be a useful day out from anyone planning just 12-cars and classic touring events – which it seems, is a growing scene – to the long distance epics like Peking Paris and next January's London to Cape Town. More details in due course from the Endurance Rally Association on <a href="Mail@endurorally.com">Mail@endurorally.com</a>

**Endurance Rally Association** 

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# WHAT'5 ON

### Wye Valley Trial - Sunday 26th June - Ross & District MSL

CMSG Car Trial Championship Round 6.

Simon Harris e-mail simonharris@lineone.net 01531 820761

### June Autotest - Thursday 30th June - Oxford Motor Club

This is our first Grass Autotest and PCA of the year at Pusey Lodge farm. Starting at 6:30pm through to about 9:00pm. The entry will be open to 50 cars so all hands to help out will be needed. The event is part of National Motorsport Week and is open to anyone. Regs will be posted on the yahoo group and details will be on the website.

Kevin.belcher@abbott.com

07780 955720

### BBQ Trial - Sunday 3rd July - Stroud & District MC

CMSG Car Trial Championship Round 7.

Nigel Moss

01453 764301

### Navex - Wednesday 6th July - Oxford Motor Club

Kevin Belcher is running the second navex of the year and will use map 164. The event will start and finish from Cumnor Cricket Club. Regs will be posted on the yahoo group.

Kevin.belcher@abbott.com

07780 955720

### Castle Combe Autosolo - Saturday 9th July - Bristol MC

Bristol Motor Club are organising the sixth round of the CMSG Autosolo championship. The event will be held at Castle Combe race circuit. The event will fill quickly and is well worth the trip. Regs available on the Bristol website.

www.bristolmc.org.uk

benstock.mark@yahoo.co.uk

www.cmsg.co.uk

### Ross Traders Historic Tour - Saturday 9th July - Ross & District MSL

This daylight Historic event is a round of the HRCR's Clubman Rally Championship that runs mainly in nearby Herefordshire. The event starts at the Ross Auction centre and finishes back at the Clubhouse in the town. It is a nice event to help out on, as competitors enjoy regularity sections through pleasant scenery nearby.

simonharris@lineone.net

01531 820761

www.rossmotorsports.co.uk

### Summer Autosolo - Sunday 10th July - Farnborough & DMC

Farnborough & DMC are organising their summer Autosolo at a new venue at Barton Stacey, near the A34 / A303 junction. The event will be well run and expect to get some fast test's. The event will fill quickly and is will be worth the trip. Regs available on the FDMC website.

www.farnboroughdmc.org.uk

### July Autotest & BBQ- Sunday 31th July - Oxford Motor Club

This is our second Grass Autotest and PCA of the year at Pusey Lodge farm. Starting at 3:00pm through to about 6:00pm. The entry will be open to 50 cars so all hands to help out will be needed. There will be a BBq after the event while the results are being finalised. Regs will be posted on the yahoo group and details will be on the website.

neilslewis@yahooo.co.uk

### Club Night - TBA Table Top - Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August

A table top is planned but we are still looking for an organiser. More details to follow.

Cumnor Cricket Club 20:00 MR 164/460040

### Clifford Hooper Trial - Sunday 7th August - Stroud & District MC

CMSG Car Trial Championship Round 8.

Nigel Moss 01453 764301

### Scatter - Wednesday 17th August - Oxford Motor Club

More details to follow.

Venue TBA

### Club Night - Bullnose Brief - Wednesday 31st August

Final instructions during the set-up week for those who are able to support the event with behindthe-scenes support and marshalling.

Cumnor Cricket Club 20:00 MR 164/460040

### **Bullnose Endurance Rally - Saturday 4 September**

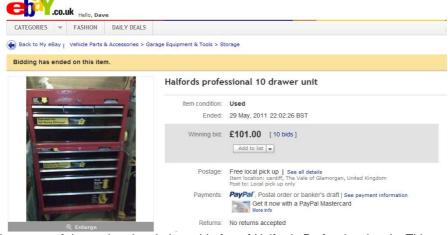
With a successful event over the last few year in its new format the Bullnose will again be run as a single day endurance style rally. With many local venues needing set-up and marshals we are hoping most of the club members come out and support this event. Regs will be out soon and hopefully we will have a near capacity entry.

David Smythe www.bullnoserally.co.uk



# YOUR MAGAZINE NEEDS YOU AND ESPECIALLY YOUR ARTICLES

## And Lastly, Things I Found on eBay...



I have one of these already – being a big fan of Halfords Professional tools. This went for just over £100 in Witney – a bargain!

### Oxford Motor Club, 2011 Calendar

### July

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> Club Night: Cumnor Cricket Club, Navex Kevin Belcher Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> Autotest and BBQ Pusey lodge Farm Neil Lewis

### **August**

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Club Night – Cumnor Cricket Club Table Top

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> Scatter: 164 Zenya Heap

Wednesday 31st Club Night – Cumnor Cricket Club – Bullnose Brief

### September

Saturday  $3^{rd}$  Bullnose Endurance Rally David Smythe Friday  $16^{th}$  12-Car Rally: Oxford Tony Mytton Friday  $30^{th}$  CMSG – Roadsport R4 – Malvern Richard Austen

### October

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> Club Night: Cumnor CC - Navex TBA
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> 12-Car Rally: Oxford Zenya Heap
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> Autumn Autosolo - Silverstone Kevin Belcher
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> CMSG - Roadsport R5 - Ross Area Simon Harris

### November

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Club Night – Cumnor Cricket Club

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> 12-Car Rally: Dolphin Bob Muttram

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> Club Night – Cumnor Cricket Club – Carfax Brief

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> CMSG – Roadsport R6 TBA

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Carfax Stages Kevin Belcher

### December

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> Club Night – Cumnor Cricket Club

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> CMSG – Roadsport R7 – Cheltenham Area Dave Cooper Friday 16<sup>th</sup> 12-Car Rally: Oxford Kevin Belcher