



South Downs Stages at Goodwood - Report and Pictures

# GUILDFORD MOTOR CLUB







#### **Social Calendar**

#### **January**

9th AGM and Clubnight 20:00 - The Fox Inn at Fox Corner, Worplesdon GU3 3PP

16th Committee Meeting

23rd Pubnight 20:00 - The Fox Inn at Fox Corner

**Goodwood Events - January** 

All quiet ....

**Brooklands Events - January** 

1st - New Years Day Classic Gathering from 10am

#### **Competition Calendar**

#### **January**

**3rd** Basingstoke MC Navigator training night.

5th Southsea MC 12 car

**12th** Cranleigh MC Jolly scatter. Wintersfold Heath.

**17th** Basingstoke MC beginners 12 car for novices – S&F at the Vine.

**20th** Chelmsford MC Brands Hatch Winter Stages

#### **Guildford Motor Club - Events 2024**

# The Printemps Touring Assembly 5th May

#### **David Roscoe Memorial Dimanche Tour 18th**

Other events to be announced

#### **Editorial**

Welcome to the January 2024 edition of the magazine where did last year go?

Firstly a reminder that the AGM is on the 9th January at The Fox Inn, we would love to see you there. Also your subscriptions are now due, details below.

For you this month we have to thank Francis for putting pen to paper to report on the Southdowns Stages at Goodwood, his report is accompanied by some pictures from Robert.

What else do we have for you? Mark provides an update on motoring in the Feeney household and Robert provides some pictures and a brief report from the Plum Pudding Sporting Trial. We also have another delve into the slide collection.

Welcome to two new members this month, Ryan and Sebastian Tholet.

Any reports, anecdotes and articles always gratefully received.

Annette & Robert Clayson

### **Membership Renewals and Annual General Meeting**

A reminder that the subscriptions are due on the 1st January 2024.

These need to be forwarded to Mark as soon as possible and he will issue you with a new membership card!

Full Membership is £15 and £20 for Family Membership.

Why not renew at the AGM!

Membership can be renewed via our bank account.

Sort Code 40 - 22 - 26

Account Number 31750348

Please quote your surname as the reference and email Mark to confirm you have paid.



**Guildford Motor Club** 

**Annual General Meeting** 

Tuesday 9th January 2024

The Fox Inn at Fox Corner

From 8pm

#### South Downs Stages at Goodwood - 2nd December

#### Report Francis and Pictures Robert

"BALTIC" is probably the best way to describe the weather at Goodwood Race Circuit on December 2nd for the Southdown Stages Rally.

When I arrived Chez Feeney before dawn in the morning, almost frozen, as the car heater had not moved from zero, I was delighted, though not surprised, to see that the Landy was ready and ticking over, clearly snug and warm in the cabin. The rear was packed with everything we might need on such a long Winter's day marshalling eight stages at Goodwood. Even packed were the articles which I would need but had forgotten to bring, and much more!

Still dark when we set off, and Mark assured me in that reliably cheerful way that we would be at our post, marshalling, right into the darkness of night. I wondered if the lovely layer of Merino wool, long sleeved and long legged thermals would stand such a test. Clearly I was wearing a further three layers over the thermals! But I did not have the cumbersome-but -incredibly-warm-fullbodied-padded-quilted-windproof-waterproof-Winter-survival-garment in a fine shade of Sherwood Green which those who have accompanied Mark on Marshalling Duties around the country will have been introduced to and envied on numerous chilly occasions. I knew this accoutrement would be safely stowed in the boot together with extra-warm socks and sturdy, clay-caked, Canal Builder's boots.



















As ever, the drive to Goodwood was clean, crisp and swift though visually misty and tricky and the lovely Winter countryside was invisible. I was sure the road would be icy in places but was reassured that large sums of money, perhaps even akin to a King's Ransom, had very recently been spent on a set of tyres for the Landy. (I did check on the efficacy of this assurance once we were stationary and happily discovered it to be a most accurate statement.)

Cheerful, heavily clad Marshall's met us at the entrance to the race track and momentarily stopped rubbing their frozen, gloved hands together, to point us to the signing on tailgate.

We signed on, made our apologies for the absence of Incapacitated Brother Barry, collected the paperwork, absorbed the brief instructions about personal safety and scuttled back to the warmth of the Landy's cab.

The drive from signing on to our post out on the track entailed driving part of the circuit. Normally to be driven in a prepared rally car, the Landy made short work this part of the section. A momentary master class.

Once conspicuously safely parked adjacent to our chicane a little light was coming into the otherwise funereal sky, we had a chance to survey the surrounds. Neither of us was surprise to see that the grass all around and all surfaces were completely white - covered in a layer of unmistakable frost.

The open grassland at the centre of the circuit looked like a white desert in the grey morning light.

We sat in the cab until a few minutes before the first car was due. Then Mark was out and rummaging in the boot for the Sherwood Green Suit followed by the extra thick socks and Canal Builder's Boots. Gloves, hat and he was ready, stamping his feet to remind his circulation that it was well insulated, and he was off to check the pallets and cones of the chicane and to cheerfully meet the Radio Car Occupants on the other side of the track.



















It really was cold!

Then the first car was upon us, swiftly and cleanly through our chicane. Then the remaining cars at minute intervals, all fifty five of them.

As ever, the Mark 1 and Mark 11 Escorts were performing in numbers and were a joy to watch and listen to, as was a little green early Mini, an Opel Manta, a Talbot Sunbeam and one or two other earlier two wheel drive, 'traditional' rally cars. We also commented on an early Nissan Micra which was clearly being driven with consummate skill.

Some cars were being piloted with less accuracy because gradually during the successive seven stages the pallets were being stage by stage chipped and clipped and gradually reduced to matchwood. The cones were taking a clouting, too. One was dragged away in a most unruly and loudly protesting fashion underneath a car, only to be spat out almost totally demolished some two hundred metres down the track.

It must have been almost eleven o'clock before a weak and watery sun revealed itself and any white grass, not in any shade, slowly revealed its true colour.

A little blue also appeared up above. But not for long.

We drove back to the paddock to collect our lunch, we debated whether we would take Brother Barry's lunch, too. Fortunately we did not because the polystyrene cartons contained a cold sausage and the coldest, shrivelled chips imaginable. We did however come upon a good surprise when the lady dishing out the polystyrene boxes told us to "Check the prize list to see if either of you has won anything."

We checked the list to find that Brother Barry had won a prize which turned out to be an envelope containing a single ten pound note. Only the one, I promise you!

We decided that we would use this for a pint on the way home and say nothing or give him the ten pounds and say we are sorry we spent the rest. As it turned out on this occasion we were



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honourable and honest. Brother Barry received his ten pounds none-the-wiser!

Throughout all eight stages Mark was able to maintain the integrity of the chicane despite the reduction of wood on the pallets and cones to our disposal. He risked life and limb with fast and judiciously skilful repairs. Meanwhile, at a safe distance, I 'had his back' with the Now Famous Acme Thunderer clenched between my teeth.

None-too-soon the last car was through and it was time to tidy up, gather up the matchwood, collect the scattered and shattered cones and pile them for the collecting crews, but not before some really exciting visuals.

Once dark, the approaching cars with their various lights became different sorts of creatures, their brake discs gleaming red hot with some of them showering out cascades of sparks amid the protestations of tyres on tarmac and splintering pallet wood.

The drive home was again warm and silky smooth punctuated with interesting exchange, reminiscences, a little further debate about the prize money in the envelope and laughter.

So ended a satisfactory day's marshalling only slightly dulled by the unexciting predictability of highly expensive, professionally prepared, rented-for-the-occasion rally cars which are becoming predominant.

#### **Francis**













#### Revolution

Revolution is the official magazine of Motorsport UK. Guildford Motor Club is a member club of Motorsport UK.

The magazine is published monthly and can be read either online or as a .pdf.

Read the current edition Online, past editions are also available. You can also access the Motor Sport Year Book from this link.

Download the magazine as a .pdf. (This downloads the magazine from Motorsport UK website)

#### **Further Routine Maintenance and repairs in the Feeney Fleet**

A couple of months ago I told you of No.1 grandson Joseph and his little Corsa. Well, the miles aresteadily increasing, and with that a few gremlins are coming out of the plastic. I had a call from him saying the engine management light was on and should he not drive it. The car was still driving OK, so I suggested he drive it carefully home so I could have a look at it. Turned out to be the MAF sensor. So, I cleaned it up, reset the code and all was good. A few days later and another call. This time it was the ABS light. A bit more serious, but the car still felt OK. So again, drive it home carefully. Talking to Joseph about what happened, he mentioned the speedo dropped to zero and flickered a few times. Good spot by the young lad. The nearside ABS sensor is also used to drive the electronic speedo. A new sensor was needed – that and a new set of discs and pad at the front. When he bought the car, the seller informed him that at the last MOT the front brakes were deemed passable but need replacing soon. Even so, I was somewhat surprised when one of the pads had so little meat left on it that it disintegrated as I took it off.

Still, a nice easy job and a few weeks later the mighty Corsa sailed through its MOT. The very next day – another phone call – 'Grandad, the engine management light is on again'. Obviously, cleaning the MAF sensor only gave it a stay of execution and a new one was needed. Nice and easy to change though. Right on top of the engine and two small screws and a wiring connector.

Over the Xmas break, I was hoping to get out and change the Landy's oil and filters, replace the split ball joint cover and investigate a slight, but definite clonk from the rear nearside. But Santa bought me an unexpected and, I have to say, very much unwanted gift – Bronchitis.

So, crawling about under cars will have to wait for a week or so.

I hope you all have a Happy, prosperous, and preposterous New Year, and just wonder if I might see you at the Fox for the AGM on the 9<sup>th</sup>?

Mark.



## **Plum Pudding Sporting**

The Plum Pudding Sporting Trial jointly organised by the 750MC Sporting Trials and Southsea MC took place at Head Down in the Queen Elizabeth Country Park, Nr. Buriton. An excellent turn out of entries where split into two groups Modern and Historic. Both groups competed on a separate set of hills. A thoroughly enjoyable day.

Robert

















# Guildford Motor Club Touring Assemblies 2024

These events have no competitive element and are intended as an opportunity for you to drive your 'Pride and Joy' through picturesque parts of Surrey and Hampshire with other like-minded enthusiasts.

The Start and Finish of both the events will be at The Fox Inn, Fox Corner, Worplesdon and with a halfway halt. Each event will take a different route.

You will be given an easy to follow tulip road book to take you along our carefully designed meandering routes. If you have never used this sort of instruction before, help is on hand at the Start.

We welcome any type of car; old and new, petrol electric or diesel, sports estate or saloon.

These events are low cost and fun for all the family and you don't even have to be a member! (But we would like you to join!)

For more details visit our website: www.guildfordmotorclub.org.uk













The Printemps Touring Assembly 5th May

David Roscoe Memorial Dimanche Tour 18th August

#### From the Slide Collection

When we collected all the photographs there were a number which we initially couldn't identify, these were put on one side and somehow forgotten about till the other day! More research has allowed us to identify some gems! So this month's selection is from September 16th 1966 and an event in the Netherlands from the Pioneer Automobile Club, The route took them from Utrecht to the race circuit in Zandvoort, where the three pictures opposite were taken. In my research, or trawling the internet I also managed to uncover a poster for the event as well!

























# Photo Competition Exhibition





**All Welcome** 

Raffle (Great Prizes)
Tea and Coffee
Bring a Friend

and it's just £2 entry

12 - 4 pm

South Downs Centre North Street, Midhurst West Sussex, GU29 9DH SONY



Touch and Try Event
with Sony
and
London Camera Exchange
Chichester

#### **GMC - Goodies**

The following GMC Goodies are available from Mark Feeney, just phone him or speak to him at Clubnights

Car Badges (Enamel)	£30.00
Windscreen Sticker	£1.50
Club Badge (Self Adhesive)	£1.00
GMC Leather Key Ring	£1.50
GMC Mugs	£2.00
GMC Polo Shirts (White)	£15.00
GMC Sweat Shirts (Green)	£20.00
Romers, Clear or White plastic	£6.00
GMC Ice Scrapers	£2.00

#### **GMC - Contact Details**

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**GU10 1BD** 

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Phone: 01932 875253

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#### **Treasurer and Vice Chairman:**

Graham Skingle

Phone: 01252 702510

email: tr@guildfordmotorclub.org.uk

#### **GMC - Membership Fees**

Full Membership	£15.00
Family Membership	£20.00
Associate Membership	£2.50
Pro-rata Membership for new members joining after 1st July	
Full Membership	£7.50
Family Membership	£10.00

#### **Website and Social Media**

Website

\_www.guildfordmotorclub.org.uk

facebook:

www.facebook.com/guildfordmotorclub

instagram:

https://www.instagram.com/guildfordmotorclub

twitter

https://twitter.com/guildford\_motor

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