

HIGHWAY

February 2025

Blackpalfrey Motor Club of Kent

The home of Historic Road Events in the South East



BREAKING NEWS

THE HUGHES HISTORIC RALLY 2025

It is with great reluctance that the Club has decided not to run The Hughes Historic Regularity Rally in 2025.

After losing Manston Airport we had two further setbacks. We managed to secure Mereworth Woods for our tests, but this meant a change of date. The only date that suited most people was Saturday 13th September, but as a result we lost our Secretary of the Meeting as he was also performing that role at The Goodwood Revival meeting that weekend. Additionally, many of our pool of marshals will also be on duty there, so this was likely to be a further issue. We also lost our Event coordinator due to pressure of work. It seems the Gods are against us this year, as we are unable to find replacements for the key roles at short notice.

Instead, we will concentrate on building a new organising team with a view to running it in 2026. Our decision has been made with great sadness as this year is the 60th anniversary of our foundation, and we had intended to run this as our flagship event.

Instead, we will be running a road-based 20/20 Regularity Rally on Sunday 27th April - the same weekend we had originally planned to run The Hughes. It will be using most of the roads in East Kent which we had planned to use, which will mean 90 - 100 miles of regularities. The route will be on tarmac roads, and not have any rough whites, so you can use your everyday shopping car if you wish. You will not need to have a typical regularity type tripmeter. Instead, you can use a tripmeter App on your mobile phone. If you are interested in entering this, please keep an eye on our web site, or contact Phil Smith at phil.blackpalfrey@gmail.com

Dick Athow

Chairman Blackpalfrey Motor Club of Kent

Copy for March HIGHWAY to be submitted to sue.blackpalfrey@gmail.com by 25th February

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Chairman's Chat

January has been a hectic month – The Hughes taking up a great deal of my time. I was not part of the organising team this year as I intend to compete, but in my role of Chairman, I felt it imperative to become involved, at least for an interim period.

Firstly, on 5th Si Kellow reluctantly decided to resign his post as Event Coordinator. His health, family life and work come first, and this left him little time to undertake the overseer's role in the way he felt was required.

Then, 48 hours later, Manston Airport let us down when they e-mailed us to say the venue was no longer available on 26th April. Apparently, it now transpires they have let it out for a supercar day – no doubt at a substantially higher fee. We also found out that there is a Saturday market on the apron and the public car park is used for visiting customers. As a result, a major part of the hardstanding areas would not have been available to us. There would also have been a potential major safety issue as far as the public visiting the market were concerned being within easy reach of areas where tests were taking place, so additional barriers and manpower would be required to keep our part of the site secure.



We held our monthly committee meeting on Thursday 9th January and discussed options available to us. Manston had offered alternative dates, but these were not suitable as most of them clashed with other HRCR or HERO events, or other local club events which would have left us short of marshals. There are no other venues in East Kent where we could hold a number of tests, so we considered whether it would be feasible to move the event to the West of the County and use Mereworth Woods, if available. As we would need to start from scratch with a completely new route, we agreed it would not be feasible to keep to the April date. After looking at other events programmed for the autumn, we chose Saturday 13th September as a possible alternative date.

All of this happened just as our representatives were about to go to the HRCR Open Day at Gaydon on Saturday 11th! A brief press release was published on Friday so that our team could keep visitors up to speed on where we were and that we were now planning an entirely new route with the tests back at a venue that is an old favourite with regulars.



Our January Regrun ended at The Stag, and Jack Stewart came up with a brilliant suggestion at the end of the Sunday Regrun. Dave & Phil have spent time and energy planning a route in East Kent which is approved by RLO. It seems a waste not to use some of the road sections, so we are looking at putting on a 20/20 Regularity Rally – **The Kent 100 – on 26th or 27th April.** It is early in the planning stage at this moment in time, but it will be a road event only with no rough whites and no tests, so competitors can do the event in their road car, without the need for sump guards, etc.

We held another meeting on 30th January to consider the way forward on The Hughes. As we still did not have replacements for the two vacancies in the team it was agreed we should not run it this year, but instead put all our efforts in running The Kent 100 as a 20/20 road regularity rally – just like our Sunday regruns, but taking place over the whole day – either 26th or 27th April. 27th April is also Drive It Day. It is a much simpler event to organise as we will only need to PR a small part of the route, as required by the Kent RLO. Watch this space for further developments.

With all of that going on, we have still found time to move forward with planning our main 60th Anniversary celebration. It will take the form of a **Scenic Tour** on **Sunday 20th July**. We are planning to start in the Maidstone area, and finish at Bilsington Priory. Again – watch this space.

Amongst all of this, I did manage to have time to co-drive Tom Grant again on the Brands Hatch Stages. It was good to see quite a few club members there. I had gone down with a head cold at the beginning of the month and a total loss of hearing in one ear and only had 25% hearing in the other. Still – I did not hear his screams of excitement when we had a couple of spins on the greasy surface after some cars had hit the water-filled barriers which then leaked across the track. We won our class and came 47th overall from 90 starters – not bad for a standard road going Clio 197.

To round up a weekend of motorsport, Barbara and I marshalled on Bob's Regularity rally the next day. It's always good to give something back to the sport, and what better way of doing this than in our own club events. The day turned out to be dry and not too chilly, and all the competitors were pleased to see us on the route (especially the newcomers) and at the finish at The Stag Inn at Challock.

Apart from that – it's been a quiet month!!

Dick



Menu

Click on the image (left) to see the full results from the recent Brands Hatch Winter Stages – you can also find individual times, positions, etc as well as the overall results.

Home

Rally results 2025

By Andrew, 18 January, 2025



The top 3 crews gather to celebrate their success at the end of the rally

Thanks to Alan Blissett for pointing me in the direction of the full results, he says:

“You will see that our Chair, Dick Athow navigating, finished a creditable 47th running @ No 70 of 90+ starters.

Matt Weeks - Blackpalfrey, navigating for my old mate Charles de Garston, Tunbridge Wells M.C. finished 26th in their Escort starting at No 40.

Liz Jordan MMKMC navigating No 25 Escort was a late non-finisher.

I was there to cheer them all on - on a cold and misty day.”

Link for results: <https://www.rallies.info/res?e=612>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dLIHNCxNVTo> Brands Winter Stages Rally 2025 Crash & Action

In this issue...

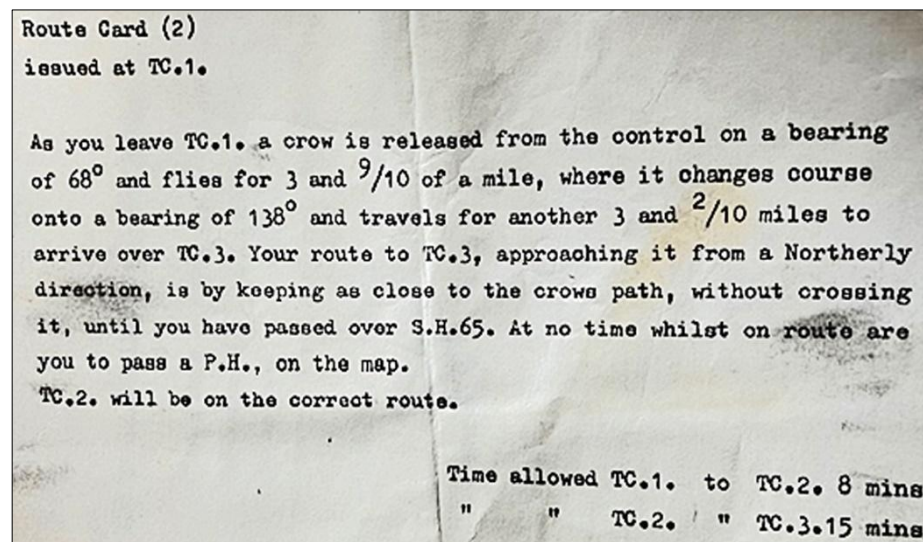
Dear Editor | HRCR Open Day | BPMCK – History Part Two | Thomas's First 12 Car
January 2025- 12-Car Results | Feb Reg Run Entry | Club Nights | Dates for your Diary
Rallies, Tours & General Car Events | | Blast from the Past | BPMCK Officials and Committee Members

Dear Editor

60s Navigation - I'm afraid I must disagree with Dick Athow's view in Chairman's Chat in the January 2025 Highway. Referring to 1960s, when he was a 'mere child', Dick thinks that '**Navigating in those days was much simpler than the trick navigation we have today**'.

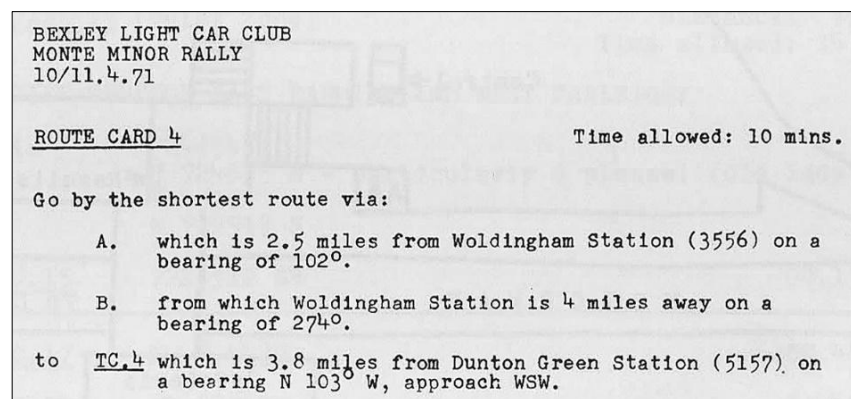
In 1968 (I think!), Barrie Lees (later to become a Bp V/P) entered us in a British Federation of Police Motor Clubs event, somewhere up in the Midlands, in his Mini Countryman Mk1 - The **Crows Foot Rally**.

The FI's included 'Navigational Aids:- 12" ruler, protractor and a roamer will be required'. The



navigation was what I can only describe as 'extremely varied' - all the route descriptions used 'today', plus circular herringbones with no indication of start/finish, split route map traces in any order, latitude/longitude plots with compass bearings etc., etc. all handed-out at various time controls and all to be plotted 'on the move' - on **1"** OS maps!, not the easy to read 1:50,000 maps you guys use now. Unfortunately, my eyes

are now not as good as they used to be. From a large entry, and in a somewhat 'unsuitable' car, we finished 7th O/A and were extremely chuffed.



Then there was the **Monte Minor Rally**, organised by the BLCC, and recognised as being 'navigationally challenging'.

Apart from the usual tulips, map traces, grid lines and spot heights, etc., there were route descriptions similar to the 'jogularity' used in present HRCR events, including our Hughes Historic Rally - and grid bearings, an example of which is

shown here. However, I will concede that accurate timing, to the second, perhaps makes modern events more onerous for the driver/navigator.

I was lucky enough to win this BP sponsored event in 1967, with Robert Piper in his 1200 Beetle, and in 1970 navigating Barry Brown's Lotus Cortina, plus 2 x 2nd and 2 x 3rd finishes in intermediate years. As Alan Blissett also discusses in the January Highway, Targa timing became the standard timing method used on rallies for almost 20 years, following its invention by John Brown in 1963 and was used on the Monte Minor and most other events. However, it was eventually banned as it became widely abused - the standard method by which organisers could set very high average speeds in a manner that left no permanent record.



Sincerely

Brian Millen

HRCR Open Day 2025

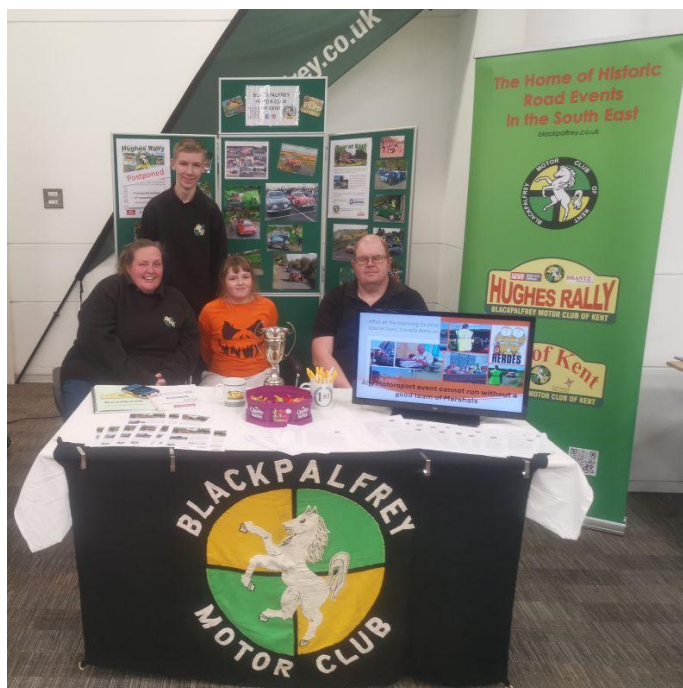
Peter Boyce gives us a round up of BPMCK at this event

January 11th saw the annual HRCR Open Day at the British Motor Museum at Gaydon near Warwick. Each year the championship winning cars are on show inside with many other classic rally cars on display outside. The halls above the actual museum hall are filled with stands from most of the motor clubs engaged in the HRCR various championships, alongside commercial stands from interested companies like Brantz.

Since Blackpalfrey have events in two such series, namely The Hughes in the Clubmans series and the Tour of Kent in the Scenic Tours series, it is important for us to be there.

Lee and Lesley plus family do a great job setting the stall up and manning it all day. It meant leaving home at 05:00 in temperatures of minus 5 and driving 3 hours to set up, never mind loading and unloading.

Jackie and I left Hawkinge at 05:50 on the same journey and helped Lee and Lesley during the day. It is also a chance to catch up with fellow competitors and friends, in my case the Knutsford MC friends on the Tour of Cheshire stand as well as my long-time driver Rich Harrison. Rich had put his VW Golf GTi, which we have been campaigning for a year or so, on show with a for sale note in the windscreen and by the end of the day had sold it! If we do any events this year it means back to the trusty MGB GT.



Over the 6 of 7 hours, we were there, quite a few people came to the stand and took leaflets and asked for details and we had a chance to broadcast the news that the Hughes was being postponed, **not cancelled**, to September 13th and hopefully using Mereworth Woods, always a popular if rather daunting venue.

It is also an opportunity to recruit marshals so well worth the effort, and many thanks to the Busbridge family for all they do to get us on show there.



FREE WEBINAR

Motorsport UK are hosting a free webinar with David Richards CBE, Chair of Motorsport UK, and Hugh Chambers, CEO, on Monday 3rd February from 19:00 – 20:00.

Talking all things motorsport, this webinar focuses on what to expect from Motorsport UK for the upcoming year as well as reflecting on all the successes of 2024.

Register to watch the live stream webinar on Motorsport UK TV here:

[REGISTER TO WATCH LIVE STREAM WEBINAR](#)

Blackpalfrey Motor Club – History Part Two

Brian Millen continues our reflection on BPMCK History

Looking back through some 1968 mags (the earliest I have) reminds me that Doug Harris was President and Dick Richardson and John Fernall were V/Ps. Chairman was my brother-in-law Alec Jessup (unfortunately, not in good health at the moment) and Alec was supported by a 15-person committee – looking at the list also reminds me, that the oldest member was ~30 years old! Back in those halcyon Dark Ages, Committee

JUNE 1968	
President.	Doug Harris
Vice Presidents.	Dick Richardson John Fernall
Chairman.	A. Jessup. 8, Howland Road, Marden. (H) Tel: Marden 506.
Treasurer.	Mrs J. Usherwood. 74, Victoria Rd., Tonbridge Wells. (W) T/Wells 24131.
Secretary.	D. Carey. The Man of Kent, East St., Tonbridge.
Ass. Secretary.	Miss J. Martin. 342, Loose Rd., Maidstone. (H) Tel: M/Stone 52455.
Compet. Sec.	B. Millen. 203, Queens Road, Maidstone (H) Tel: M/Stone 54438.
Ass. Comp. Sec.	D. Boichat. 13, Tovil Green, Maidstone (W) Tel: M/Stone 55796,
Editor.	B.P. Lees. 28, Offens Drive, S/hurst. (H) Tel: Staplehurst 410.
Press Rel.	P. Tiley. 4a, Dryhill Rd., Tonbridge.
Social Sec.	T. Owen. 3, Riding Close, Hildenborough. (W) Tel: Tonbridge 4481.
Membership Sec.	Miss M. Eldridge, 64, Bower Mount Rd., Maidstone (H) Tel: M/stone 54858.

Doug was 1968 ASEM Champion Driver, with Roy Edwards (Ton Tyres/Tunbridge Wells MC) in 2nd place.

The AGM showed a membership of 147 (Full Competitive Membership was £1 & Family Membership £1.10s.) and a Bank Balance of £176.19s.0d.

Various venues were used for our events, with Driving Tests at Elderden Farm (184/786472) and John Fernall's Marden garden, and Autocrosses with awards and Sponsorship from the likes of Castrol, Guards (cigarettes!) at Iwade, Paddock Wood and the Kent Messenger Championship Autocross at the Long Reach Tavern, Whitstable. This event attracted 4,000 local spectators and holiday makers, and I have copied the balance sheet here. Entry receipts were £163.10s. and gate receipts were £356.19s.6d – a good income to the Club coffers in August 1968...Despite the vast amount of organisation involved in putting-on an event like this, somehow, it seemed easier, (perhaps, it's an age thing?) with more helpers (marshals etc) willing to get involved and with less costs and safety restrictions etc. to worry about. Note, the scaffolding (for commentator and timekeeper) and Ambulance costs.

meetings and social evenings were held at Highfield House, a Jazz & Social Club on the London Road (A20), Maidstone and the Man of Kent (PH) in Tonbridge. The AGM and event awards evenings were held at the Great Danes Hotel, Hollingbourne. I was Rally Secretary for the ASEM and Competition Secretary of our Club. Doug Harris, navigated by Mick Hayward entered the Circuit of Ireland in Doug's Alan Mann (red, black & gold) decaled 911S – seized engine, when in 5th, just 120 miles from finish.



International Circuit of Ireland Rally. Doug Harris' moustache bristles as he aims his Porsche and the photographer at the Sorrel Hill special stage. Mick Hayward is the unwilling accessory to the attempted felony. The 911S seized when lying fifth.

Esler Crawford Photography

	£	s	d
Hire of Field	40	-	-
Sound system	20	-	-
Time Keeper	8	10	-
Scrutineers	12	16	-
Antifyre	8	-	-
Awards	30	-	-
Flags	25	-	-
Printers	92	-	-
Rope hire	1	3	6
Forty Meal packs	12	-	-
Dr. Stewart, bottle of Scotch	2	14	6
Medway Staff	25	-	-
Whitstable Times	20	-	-
Knock-out award	25	-	-
J. Liddle - numbers	23	3	10
Petty cash - Brian Millen	6	9	6
R.A.C. - Direction signs	3	3	-
Printing of flags	36	-	-
Printed envelopes	4	2	6
Hire of scaffolding	5	1	6
Ambulance	5	-	-
Bowing	7	-	-
R.A.C. Permit	27	-	-
Competitions Third Party	15	-	-
Balance from Advertisements	6	-	-
Total Profit Banked	155	18	8
	£ 616	3	-

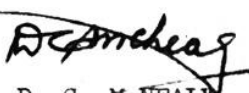
R.A.C. STEWARD'S REPORT

EVENT **AUTOCROSS**
AT **PROSPECT FARM, THANET WAY, WHITSTABLE, KENT.**
PROMOTERS **BLACK PALFREY MOTOR CLUB.**
DATE **4.8.68.** PERMIT NUMBER **RF4486.**
REPORT BY **D. G. McNEALY.**

ITEMS REQUIRING ATTENTION BY THE ORGANISERS AND/OR THE CIRCUIT OWNERS (Please write clearly in order that photostat copies can be forwarded to the above) :

I feel it necessary to place on record the following comments concerning the organisation in connection with the above meeting:-

- 1) The entire arrangements from the printing of the programmes right through to the organisation of the public facilities it was absolutely first class. This reflected throughout the meeting making the entire event a pleasure to control.


D. G. McNEALY

We were chuffed to receive the Stewards event report...

Autocrosses became very popular through the 1970s and 1980s, with large entries and with our events counting towards the National BTRDA Championship, as well as the ASEMC, AEMC and LCAMC Championships. Several events were run in the field in front of the Great Danes Hotel,



attracting entries from near and far, and saw the first 'Kent v Essex' clash, which added to the general excitement

of grass track racing. Somehow, I don't think the GtDanes would be happy to accommodate events of this type today! Some of the top local competitors were John Homewood, later to represent Blackpalfrey in a successful circuit racing career, John Kennedy, Nick Whiting, Roy

Edwards, Rod Chapman, M&MK's Mike Jordan, Trevor Hopkins, Bill Cook and Grahame Standen in their Sunbeam, Mark Lloyd, Robert Piper, Chris Betson etc., etc.



I think that's 'Miss Maidstone' Janet Boichat, suitably dressed for the sun in Iwade and a Blackpalfrey event, on my right – and note the pewter and silver awards, available at reasonable prices in those days.

12 Car – Sunday 19th January

Thomas Busbridge's First 12 Car Rally

This is my very first write up for Highway and my first 12 car rally as the navigator, some of you will know this is not my first ever 12 car rally as I used to ride in the back of a green marina in my car seat from the age of 6 months and loved every minute of it, back then it was dad driving and mum doing the navigating, but now it's my turn with dad as the driver.

I've been able to read maps since a very young age and have been navigating maps since I was in the cubs and still do now, I'm an explorer scout and doing my Duke of Edinburgh Silver award which by doing the 12-car rallies as a navigator it is going towards my skills part of the award. I've also navigated to marshal points when we have helped on some different events throughout the years.



Thomas aged 2½ had an early introduction to motorsport

Dad signed us up for the November rally but unfortunately this had to be postponed and was moved into December but we couldn't make the date but with thanks to Dick he kept us still up to date and sent the route to use to have a go at plotting, we had a go this and realized that new maps were needed so my first one was in the January rally which was organized by Bob Pilcher. Bob sent the navigation to us to plot, and the head scratching began!!

With dad trying to remember what some of the clues were as he's a bit rusty now! I started off with plotting all the grid references moving onto the rest of the navigation in order, when I first looked at it, I was a little confused but after dad explained what some meant it all started to make sense and come together. There were various types of clues to help me plot and find my route.

The day of the rally was an early start, and I was a little nervous but excited at the same time we made it to the start in plenty of time and as this was my first rally we decided not to attempt the timing and just concentrate on getting the route right. When speaking to Peter Boyce and Phil Smith they both agreed this was a good idea. So, the time of departure came and off we went.



Checking in at the TC

The first regularity I started to doubt myself that I had missed a turn but seeing a code board put my mind at ease as I realised that we were moving along the route quicker than I thought. I soon settled in, and we made it through all the controls and the coffee stop.

Onto reg B and we started off well and then I realized we missed a turn so a quick stop and reverse and we were back on track. After going through TC2 it was a very long time before we arrived at TC3 as we thought we had missed a control, we saw some other cars going in the other direction which then worried me a little. Dad said, 'don't worry about them, just continue on the route you have'. We carried on to the finish at The Stag in Challock, for a well-deserved drink and relax. I felt we had done really well for my first time and then it was time to chat to all the others and wait for the results be sent and to also start looking forward to the next event.

Editor's Note: Well done Thomas on your first navigation event, you and your dad did brilliantly! I think we may have been a car going in the other direction on Reg B so apologies for that – and dad is right, follow your route and you will do fine. We look forward to seeing you at the next one. Sue

January 2025 / 12-Car Results:

Blackpalfrey Regularity Run - RESULTS			Date: 19/01/2025											
Pos	No	Driver / Navigator, Car	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	PC/WD	Total
1	8	Rupert Burne & Carole Burne (2021 Citroen C1)	4e	37	40e	8e	0x	4e	5	63	1	0x	0	162
2	3	Jack Stewart & Matt Davies (1963 Mini Cooper S)	8	2	25e	28	0x	5	34e	31	50	0x	0	183
3	4	Mark Watson & Sue Watson (1966 Mini Cooper S)	22	6e	3	17	0x	34	2e	65	67	0x	0	216
4	7	Graham Banks & Archie Pellins (1970 Volvo Amazon)	100	7	2	68	0x	3	15	38	11	0x	0	244
5	9	Nigel Mead & Rosemary Mead (1994 Mazda MX-5)	61	3	1e	15	0x	8e	2e	35	27	0x	100	252
6	2	Keith Baker & Simon Ingerfield (2018 Citroen C1)	64	4	42e	36	0x	20	22	68	1	0x	0	257
7	5	Lee Busbridge & Thomas Busbridge (2003 MG ZR)	42	20e	18e	24	0x	1e	61	66	10	0x	100	342
8	1	Steve Thompson & Rowan Thompson (2014 Peugeot 107)	75	1	41e	38	0x	67	30e	100e	100	0x	200	652
9	6	Richard Stanier & Rebecca Stanier (1991 Volkswagen Corrado)	100	100	53	73e	0x	20	26	80	36	0x	600	1088
10	10	0	200x	200x	200x	200x	0x	200x	200x	200x	200x	0x	0	1600
11	11	0	200x	200x	200x	200x	0x	200x	200x	200x	200x	0x	0	1600
12	12	0	200x	200x	200x	200x	0x	200x	200x	200x	200x	0x	0	1600

Congratulations to Rupert & Carole Burne on winning this month's event.

Organisers: Bob & Gavin Pilcher

With thanks to our marshals:

Phil Smith & Peter Boyce, Dick & Barbara Athow, Angus Dent & Sally Ahlers, Kevin & Tarna Ablitt

February Reg Run – 23rd February 2025

Entries now open

Start: Frankie's Farm Shop, Clapper Lane, Staplehurst, TN12 0JT

Coffee Halt: Frankie's Farm Shop, Clapper Lane, Staplehurst, TN12 0JT

Finish: The Halfway House, Horsmonden Road, Brenchley, TN12 7AX

Organisers: Nigel & Rosemary Mead

MAP: OS188

See <https://www.blackpalfrey.club/february-regularity-run>

Enter here <https://mtc1.uk/Entry/BMCKFebRegularity25/EntryForm.php>

Entry List <https://mtc1.uk/Entry/BMCKFebRegularity25/EntryList.php>

Motorsport UK RS Clubman's Licence

For all competitors who hold a Motorsport UK RS Clubman's Licence **please be aware** that this level of licence does not automatically include personal injury insurance for 2025. This is a change for 2025.

For competitors who hold paid licences (above the free RS Clubman's Licence) automatically get insurance cover.

If you have the free RS Clubman's Licence, you can upgrade this to include personal injury insurance. You can log into your account here: <https://motorsportuk.sport80.com/>

RS Clubman & Esports Upgrades

To purchase an RS Clubman or Esports upgrade, please select '**Options and Totals**' from the menu.

RS Clubman Upgrade - What's Included?

Add RS Clubman Upgrade for £21.99 to include Personal Accident Insurance while competing, a physical licence card, lanyard and car sticker and to access Member Benefits such as discounted forecourt petrol and diesel, discounts at Halfords, discounted MOTs, amongst many other benefits

For new applications you can choose the option when applying, or you can go into options and tools to upgrade.



BPMCK Club Nights

Unfortunately, because there were too few entrants, Peter Boyce's Navigational Scatter Rally planned for Friday 24th January had to be postponed. Once a new date has been arranged, we will let members know.

Wednesday 12th February: *BPMCK Club Night*

From 7pm, The Newnham Court Inn, Bearsted Road, Maidstone. A chance to catch up with fellow members.

Friday 7th March: *Navigational Scatter Rally*

Jack Stewart and Matt Davies will be hosting a Scatter Rally with start and finish at [The Grove Ferry Inn](#), Grove Ferry Road, Canterbury, CT3 4BP (full details in next edition of Highway). Entries will be opening shortly here: <https://www.blackpalfrey.club/scatters>

Wednesday 12th March: *BPMCK Club Night TBC*

Dates for your Diary – Kent Events

BPMCK organised/promoted events

Date	Event	Organisers
Wednesday 12 th February	Blackpalfrey Club Night	BPMCK
Wednesday 19 th February	Weald Beginners Rally School – Final Session	Weald
Sunday 23 rd February	1 st Autosolo, Brands	SDMC
Sunday 23 rd February	Blackpalfrey Sunday Reg Run	BPMCK
Friday 28 th February	Weald 12 Car	Weald MC
Saturday 1 st March	Spring Tarmac Autotest, Ashford Market	MMKMC
Friday 7 th March	Navigational Scatter Rally	BPMCK
Wednesday 12 th March	Blackpalfrey Club Night	BPMCK
Friday 14 th March	Weald 12 Car: Bexley Light Car Club	BLCC
Saturday 15 th March	2 nd Autosolo Ashford Market	SDMC
Sunday 23 rd March	Blackpalfrey Sunday Reg Run	BPMCK
Friday 28 th March	Weald 12 Car: Andy Gibson 12 Car	BPMCK
Sunday 6 th April	Tyrwhitt Drake Trial, Stoneacre Farm, Otham	MMKMC
Wednesday 9 th April TBC	Blackpalfrey Club Night	BPMCK
Friday 11 th April	Beginners 12 Car Rally	Weald
Saturday 19 th April	Stephen Stringer Memorial Autotest, Ashford Market	MMKMC
Sunday 27 th April	20/20 Regularity Rally	BPMCK

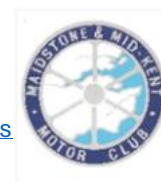


Blackpalfrey Motor Club of Kent

<https://www.blackpalfrey.club/events-1>

Maidstone and Mid Kent Motor Club

<https://www.mmkmco.uk/index.php/calendars>



Sevenoaks and District Motor Club Ltd

<https://sevenoaksmotorclub.com/calendar/>

Weald Motor Club

<https://www.wealdmotor.club/calendar/>



Copyright M&H Photography

Richard Warne and Dick Athow at the East Anglia Classis 2024, Photo courtesy of Andy Manston



**WEALD
MOTOR CLUB**

motorsport uk

StreetCar

Weald Beginners Rally School (4&5)

Weds 22/01/24 7.30pm

Weds 19/02/24 7.30pm

We continue our free series to learn aspects of competing in a navigation rally.

All beginners are still welcome to join, even if you missed the previous parts. The series will culminate with you competing against your fellow trainees in a full newcomers 12 car rally to be held on Friday 11th April

As a driver you will need a standard family type car that can take 4 adults (baby seats etc. should be removed)

As a navigator you will need pencils, eraser, clipboard, head torch and a map board made of cardboard or similar (something that would crush in case of an accident)

For any further info please email weald-beginners@wealdmotor.club

The Park Gate Inn, Ashford Road, Maidstone ME17 1PG

**Beginners 12 Car Rally Friday
11th April**

National Rallies & Scenic Tours

All event details featured are correct at time of going to press. Please check with the event organiser via the listed links for further information.

Date	Event	Area
8 th February	Snetterton Stage Rally https://snettertonstagerally.co.uk/	Snetterton Circuit, Norfolk
15 th February	Dishforth Targa & Classic Rally https://www.clitheroedmc.co.uk/Targa.htm	Clitheroe and District
15 th /16 th February	Moonbeam Rally 2025 http://www.telfordautoclub.co.uk/moonbeam-rally	Telford, Shropshire
16 th February	Bramley Targa https://fdmc.org.uk/calendar25	Bramley, Hampshire
22 nd February	Bath Festival Targa https://www.bathmotorclub.co.uk/club-events/the-festival-targa-rally-2025/	Castle Combe, Chippenham, Wiltshire
1 st March	Tour of Cheshire http://www.tourofcheshire.co.uk/	Nantwich, Cheshire
8 th March	Malcolm Wilson Rally https://www.malcolmwilson.co.uk/	Cockermouth, Cumbria
15 th /16 th March	Palladwr Rally https://sandsc.co/palladwr-rally-15-16-march-2025/	North Wootton, Somerset
28 th –30 th March	Generations Rally 2025 https://rallytheglobe.com/rallies/generations-rally-2025/	Harrogate, Yorkshire
6 th April	Cambridge Classic Scenic Tour https://www.cambridgecarclub.co.uk/event-calendar/cambridge-classic-run/	Over, Cambridge to Biggleswade
6 th April	Taith Cymru Scenic Tour https://www.hrcr.co.uk/hrcr-championships/scenic-tours-series/	South & West Wales

Upcoming Car Events

Opportunities to show or spectate in February

When?	Where?	What?
2 nd 09:00-12:00	The Doghouse Micropub and Vinyl Bar, Monta, Station Road, Ashford. TN25 6SX	Retro Auto Breakfast Meet https://www.facebook.com/events/902477188622853/
8 th / 15 th / 22 nd	Lydden Hill Race Circuit, Wootton, Canterbury, CT4 6RY	Sideways Sessions / LHMC Sprint Test Day / Car Track Day & Kent Outlaw Oval Racing https://lyddenhill.co.uk/events/
9 th 10:00-14:00	The Wonderworks, Margate, CT9 4JX	Motorholics February Meet https://www.facebook.com/events/1305016827433259
16 th 12:00-16:00	Lydd Kart Circuit, Dengemarsh Road, Lydd	Retro Cars, Karts & Coffee https://www.facebook.com/events/9629280610417780

Editor's Note: From next month I will be looking ahead to car shows coming up in the spring and summer where you can go and display or view classics! If you know of anything happening in the South East please drop me a line sue.blackpalfrey@gmail.com and I will add it to the calendar!

Blast from the Past

Some pictorial reminders of previous events



Our first three pictures this month have been sent in by Bill Cook, who explains:

"These are a Blackpalfrey autocross from 1985. The blue Mk1 Escort is Jim Perris, and the orange Mini is 1750cc and is Terry Field. The 'Hartman Inks@ Mk 2 Escort is a replica of Blackpalfrey member Mark Lloyds Rallycross car which was used as a road car by Mark and his girlfriend before being sold to another Blackpalfrey member whose name I cannot remember, but that's who is driving it in the photo. I'm afraid I don't know who the orange Mk1 belonged to"



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MOTORING NEWS (5TH MAY 1966)

HUGHES RALLY

THE general lack of rallies since March 1 has sent regular competitors hunting for an event to compete in. When an invitation arrives to compete in a rally and join a club at a reasonable fee one is somewhat suspicious on two counts, what is the club like? Will the rally be good?

On April 16 many regular competitors took the plunge, resulting in an entry of 57 for the Black Palfrey M.C.'s Hughes Rally, all but two starting from Hale Street near East Peckham. The route, covering parts of 171 and 172, was well thought out with alternate liaison and competitive sections, the latter being made very difficult by the recent snow, making the roads very wet

and muddy.

Doug Harris/Ron McCabe lost a minute at TC.2 due to baulking by a slow local in a very large car. David Higson/Richard Collins were also one down due to lack of brakes. The route, defined by numerous via references and t.c. references, led crews by way of Devils Den and Bedlam Lane towards Charing. A long liaison

section followed to enable novice crews to regain time, then came the section that penalised all crews. The white through 9156, being very muddy, proved difficult in the uphill direction and all crews arrived at TC.8 at least two minutes down. The final section through Queensdown Warren penalised more crews, some wrong slotting and missing a secret check. The finish was at a works canteen in Rochester where all competitors agreed the event had been well worth doing.

RESULTS

1. J. Woodward/A. Jardine (M.G. Midget), 3min.; 2. D. Harris/R. McCabe (1275 S), 3; 3. D. Higson/R. Collins (1100), 5; 4. G. Paice/M. Butler (Cortina GT), 6.

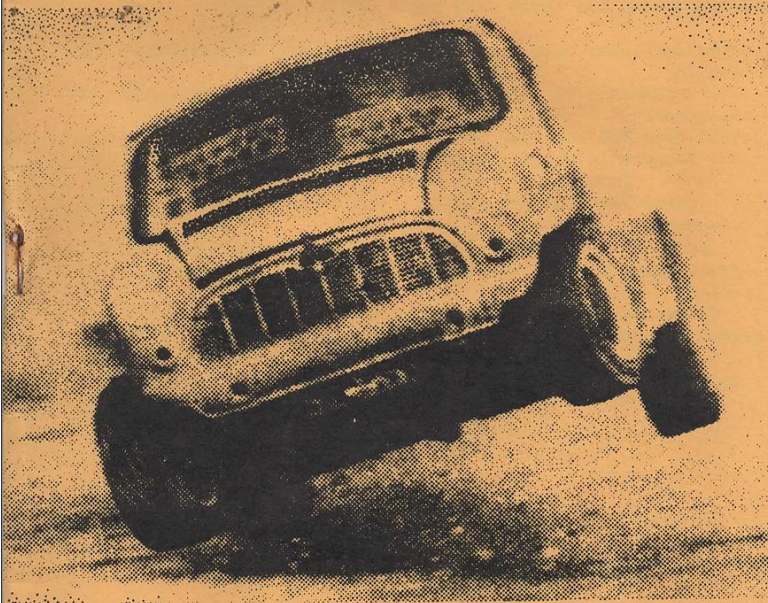
R.M.

With thanks to Brian Millen for sharing this cutting from the early days of The Hughes.

The Blackpalfrey Motor Club of Kent
PRESENTS THE

Kent Messenger Autocross

QUALIFYING FOR THE 1979 BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP



Keylands Farm, Paddock Wood
24 th. June 1979

Official Programme

Autocross Memories from 1979, shared by Brian Millen

EVENT SPONSORS

- F.T.D. : Ton Tyre Auto (Tonbridge): Race, Rally, Touring
Motor Accessories
- Road Cars F.T.D. : Medway Automatics (Rochester):
All coin operated equipment.
- Best Class Improvement : Kent Messenger:
The paper that gives and gets results
- A. Autopoint 22 (Watlington): Quality used cars, servicing,
petrol.
- B. Chequers Inn (Ightham): Wine and Dine in pleasant
atmosphere
- C. Station Garage (Boro'Green) : For your new and used Saabs.
- D. Halls Garden Centre (Paddock Wood): Everything under the
sun for your garden.
- E. JJ Silencers (Maidstone) : Silencers, MOT, Servicing,
Car Wash.
- F1. D.A. Bridger Asphalt Roofing (East Peckham) : Roofing.
- F2. Stormont Engineering Ltd. (Tonbridge) : Ford Rally Sport
Dealers.
- G. All-Tyre Service (Strood) : For your Firestone tyres.
- H. Wheels At Vigo (Vigo Village) : All car and bicycle spares.
- In addition Culverstone Service Station has donated 5 litres
of Havoline Oil for each Class Winner.

CLASS D

D36	A. Davies	Escort 1300	
D1	D. Fairway	Anglia 1300	H.1066.
D37	A. Hayward	Anglia 1300	M.T.C.C.
D2	P. Jackson	Escort 1300	

CLASS E

E962	M. Musson	Escort 1640	Bp.M.C.
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CLASS F

F61	G. Bareham	Escort 1600	Bp.M.C.
F611	Mrs. S. Bareham	Escort 1600	Bp.M.C.
F62	C. Betson	Chevette 2300	Bp.M.C.
	(Entrant: Culverstone Service Station)		
F1	B. Callen	Escort 1300	Bp.M.C.
	(Entrant: Mech-Weld Motor Engineers)		
F5	R. Carey Jnr.	Mini 998	Bp.M.C.
	(Entrant: Maidstone Exhaust Centre)		
F6	R. Carey Snr.	Mini 1275	Bp.M.C.
	(Entrant: Maidstone Exhaust Centre)		
F63	M. Kemp	Fairthorpe 1500 B;19	
F691	R. Lynn	Escort 1650	S.&C.C.C.
F7	J. Poulton	Dolomite Sprint	Bp.M.C.
F38	A. Sage	Mexico 1600	B;19
F69	J. Simpson	Escort 1650	S&C.C.C.
F2	C. Smith	Escort 1600	E.&R.M.C.
F68	G. Ward	Mini 998	Bp.M.C.
F8	D. Woodgate	Mini 998	Bp.M.C.
F66	M. Kelly	Escort 1290	M&MCMC

Autocross

MNews 12/7/79

Manifold by 0.1s

BLACKPALFREY Motor Clubs Kent Messenger Autocross, on Sunday 24th June at the Paddock Wood venue, counted as a qualifying round for the British Autocross Championship plus the championships of the London Counties, Eastern and South Eastern Associations.

The experienced autocross driver from London — Laurie Manifold (VW 2230) eventually took FTD with a time of 2m. 23.1s., competing against 70 entrants, who provided the large number of spectators with five hours of exciting racing. The weather varied during the day with two heavy showers making the second run a more difficult test for most competitors; but Tom Law (Mini 998) left the established racing line, demonstrating that his track was the fastest line by taking his class by 2 seconds from M. Dennison in the Sidcup Auto Services Mini 998.

Sun and wind brought another change in the conditions, drying out the circuit during the third run, and many competitors improved their times; P. Cook fought for FTD on the final lap of the day, in the Half-a-Mo special he was just 0.1s. behind Laurie Manifold, but took his Class H by 4 seconds from Colin Ayres driving the same car.

K.G.W.

Castrol RALLY SPORT MAGAZINE

BTRDA Rallycross 1979

FULL LIST OF COMPETITORS
Use this list to identify cars and drivers

Car No.	Competitor	Car	Car No.	Competitor	Car	Car No.	Competitor	Car
2	Trevor Hopkins	Escort 2000	88	Jeff Hawkins	Mini 1275	156	Anthony Bibb	Mini Clubman 1500
3	George Warren	Escort 1998	89	Keith Fothergill	Escort 2000	157	Ian Ward	Dolomite 1998
4	Dave Fuell	Escort 1997	90	George Barnes	Lotus Elan 1650	158	Paul Duval	Mini 1380
5	Peter Harrold	VW Beetle 2000	91	Keith Linge	Mini 870	159	Nicholas Oatway	Escort 1998
6	John Button	VW Golf 1900	92	Melvyn Smith	Escort 1600	160	William Lodge	Alfasud Ti 1186
7	Terry Smith	Fiesta 1800	93	Graham Dawkins	Escort RS 2000	161	Cyril Squibb	Escort 1600
8	Tony Merridale	Escort 1800	94	Bill Mason	Imp 998	162	Barry Squibb	Allegro 1300
10	Trevor Reeves	Mini Clubman 1800	95	John White	Mini 970	163	Jeffrey Blight	Mini Clubman 1275
11	Bob Merridale	Escort 2000	96	Michael George	Mini Cooper S 1297	164	Peter Gould	Escort 2000
14	Dimi Mavropoulos	Escort 1975	97	David Deamer	Mini 1293	165	Stuart Smith	Mini 1293
15	Rob Gibson	Porsche 914 2000	98	Wayne O'Connor	Mini Clubman 1400	166	Mark Clarke	Escort 1800
17	Ron Douglas	Chevette 2300	99	Roger Mosses	Mini Clubman 998	167	Terence Clarke	Mini 970
18	Will Gollup	Saab 99 2000	100	Brian Kippax	Mini 1462	168	Thomas Foster	Mini 998
19	Bill Riddle	Escort 2100	102	Brian Peacock	Mini Clubman 1500	169	Ronald Pike	Mini 998
20	Richard Painton	Mini Clubman 1280	104	Nick Morrey	TR7 V8 3500	170	Hugo Kennedy	Mazda RX2 2300
21	John Welch	Escort RS1800	105	Desmond Howe	Mini 1300	171	Lawrence Chatwin	Escort 1800
22	Derek Searrow	Mini Clubman GT	107	David Cooper	Mini 1293	172	Jonathan Weall	Mini 1293
23	John Greasley	Porsche Carrera 3300	108	Kim Billings	Mini 1462	173	Sean McAdden	Mini 1300
24	Bruce Rushton	Escort RS1800	109	Alan Embury	Mini 1293	174	Ron Johnson	T.V.R. 2996
25	Roger Burn	Clan Crusader	111	Colin Slaughter	Skoda 130RS 1300	175	John Wright	Mini Cooper 'S' 1380
26	John Brundle	Toyota Celica 1968	112	Steve Dadd	Skoda 1107	177	Dennis Gale	Mini Clubman 1380
28	Frank Morris	Mini 1293	113	Alan Jones	Mini 999	178	Philip Walker	Mini 1298
29	Paul Springett	Mini 1480	114	Ronald W. Wright	Mini Clubman 1500	179	Frank Holden	Capri 3100
30	Dave Wallis	Escort RS1800	115	David J. Stevens	Escort 2000	180	John Lewis	Escort 1600
31	Bruce Male	Mini Clubman 1450	116	Roger Fell	Mini Clubman 1300	219	Malcolm Jarvis	Escort BDA 2000
32	Nick Garner	Mini 1293	117	David H. Waterhouse	Mini 1293	222	Amanda Skull	Escort Lotus 1558
34	David Baskerville	Escort RS1800	118	Peter Futers	Mini 1500	351	Barry Lee	Opel Kadett 2000
36	Tony Drummond	Escort RS1800	119	Ivan Moakes	Escort 1825	501	Nicholas Pierce	VW Golf 1600
39	Mick Bird	TR7 V8 3500	120	Colin P. Williams	Escort 1800	901	Dick Griffiths	VW Golf 1900
40	Leslie Lunn	Mini 1480	121	John R. Kegg	Mini 1293	971	Mike Frere	Mini 970
41	John Clarkson	Escort 1970	122	Bob Draper	Mini 1293			
42	Trevor Smith	Mini Cooper S 1293	123	Richard Muderidge	Mini Cooper 1400			
43	Ian Semple	Escort 1298	124	Frank J. Alderman	Mini 999			
44	Ian Warren	Escort 1300	125	David J. Davies	Escort 1300			
45	Graham Standage	Escort 1650	126	Bud Worley	Escort 1760			
46	Roger Dawson	TR7 V8 3500	127	Harry Hope	Escort 1650			
47	John Mackley	Sunbeam 2000	128	Charles Capstick	Escort 1558			
48	Adrian Taylor	Mini 850	129	Ian Butherway	Mini 1293			
49	Peter Robertson	Escort 1650	130	Colin Page	Escort 2000			
50	Barry Crump	Mini 1299	131	Peter Williams	Mini Cooper 'S' 1293			
51	Ian Watson	Mini 998	132	Elsaine Seymour	Mini Cooper 'S' 1450			
52	David Watson	Mini Cooper S 1293	133	William Mawle	Escort RS2000			
53	Paul Northall	TR7 V8 3500	134	Alan Eckersley	Escort 1860			
54	Philip Wilson	Mini 998	135	Geoffrey Reynolds	Mini 998			
55	Mike Spray	Mini Clubman 1380	136	Richard Stok	MG GT V8 3528			
56	Ron Hudson	Escort RS2000	137	Paul Allawny	Austin 1892			
58	Keith Ripp	Mini 1380	138	Mark Taylor	Escort 1650			
59	Keith Farrance	Mini 1293	139	David Penycate	Mini 1380			
60	Peter Gray	Escort RS1800	140	Keith Fowler	Escort 2000			
62	David Barnes	Porsche 911 2000	141	Malcolm Davies	Escort 1297			
63	Derek Wedmore	Mini Cooper S 1000	142	Christopher Scutt	Mini Cooper 'S' 1462			
64	Tim Fraser	Mini 832	143	Robert Clarke	Escort 2000			
65	Gordon Stuart	Clan Crusader 996	144	Nicolaou Costakis	Mini Cooper 'S' 1400			
66	Mike Hill	Porsche 911 2194	145	Monty Belton	Escort Mexico 1598			
67	John Butterfield	Mini 1460	146	Kevin Pease	Mini 1300			
68	Stephen Cooper	Mini 970	147	Christopher Dean	Mini Cooper 'S' 1275			
70	John Clark	Porsche 911S 2400	148	David Pengilly	Mini 1293			
71	Ian Hall	Escort 2000	149	Phil Cooper	Mini 986			
72	David Scheldt	Lancia Fulvia 1584	150	John Stabler	Saab 2000			
74	Colin Howard	Mini 1293	151	Robert Edwards	Mini 1293			
76	David Williams	Mini 1300	152	Geoff Sanderson	Mini Cooper 998			
79	Trevor Lawson	Mini 1340	153	Brian Stokes	Mini 850			
80	Michael Harrison	Saab 99 2000	154	Trevor Orchard	VW Beetle 2100			
81	Ian Thompson	Mini 1000	155	Graham Hick	Escort 1600			
82	Graham Hathaway	Escort 2000						
83	Barry Hathaway	Mini 1500						
84	Colin Sainsbury	Chevette 2300						
85	Tim Mountain	Saab 96 1815						
86	Geoff Evans	Escort 1297						
87	James Smith	Escort 1800						

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Is rallying or rallycross your scene? Then read Rally Sport magazine every month, for up-to-date news and features on the best that the sport has to offer.

Technical articles, news, interviews, and photo features plus club news and rally reports, all in Rally Sport.



If you have any pictures or reminisces that you would like to share with club members email sue.blackpalfrey@gmail.com and each month we will feature some – and perhaps jog a few memories!

Classified Ads

TEAM BLACKPALFREY vinyl stickers (170x74mm). BADGE (90mm diam) windscreen vinyl stickers.



Available from Grahame Standen - grahame.blackpalfrey@gmail.com

FREE! inc p&p

Just email Grahame, with your name & address + which and how many you want
(please include 'Blackpalfrey Badges/Stickers' in Subject)

FOLLOW YOUR CLUB

click the icons below to find out more



Your Ad Here

If you have something to sell (car related), you're looking to navigate or drive or need a navigator or driver or you have an event to promote, contact Sue,
sue.blackpalfrey@gmail.com

CLUB SHOP

Treat yourself to some BPMCK merch
[Club Shop](#) managed by 'Logo That Polo'

To celebrate our 60th Anniversary, during 2025 many items will be offered with a choice of standard or anniversary logo!



There are lots of items to choose from with a range of bags and hats alongside the hoodies, polo shirts, t-shirts and other clothing items.

Many items can be personalised and there are a variety of colours to choose from too.

Mugs, brollies and club stickers (standard logo only) are also still on offer, and details of how to get your hands on these are available via the Shop page on the website.

BPMCK: Officials and Committee

The **Blackpalfrey Motor Club of Kent Ltd (BPMCK)** is recognised by **Motorsport UK** for the organisation of motor sport events and is a member of the Association of South Eastern Motor Clubs (**ASEMC**), the Association of Eastern Motor Clubs (**AEMC**), the Association of Central Southern Motor Clubs (**ACSMC**) and the **Weald Motor Club**.

The Club also supports Motorsport UK's StreetCar initiative.

If you would like to contact a member of the committee, all posts are listed below:

President	Brian Millen	brian@blackpalfrey.co.uk
Chairman	Dick Athow	dick.blackpalfrey@gmail.com
Vice Chairman	Brian Millen	brian@blackpalfrey.co.uk
Treasurer	Brian Millen	brian@blackpalfrey.co.uk
Secretary	Andy Elcomb	andy.blackpalfrey@gmail.com
Membership Secretary	Lee Busbridge	membership.blackpalfrey@gmail.com
Competition Secretary	Phil Smith	phil.blackpalfrey@gmail.com
Social Team	Matt Davies Jack Stewart Mark Watson	matt.blackpalfrey@gmail.com
Highway Editor	Sue Watson	sue.blackpalfrey@gmail.com
Chief Marshal	Grahame Standen	grahame.blackpalfrey@gmail.com
Equipment Officer	Bob Pilcher	rlpageng1@icloud.com
Safeguarding & Environmental Officer	Lesley Busbridge	Cso.blackpalfrey@gmail.com
Web Master	Steve Thompson	streetcar.blackpalfrey@gmail.com
Club Shop	Trevor Hawkins	trevor.hawkins@blueyonder.co.uk
Awards Secretary	Peter Boyce	peter.blackpalfrey@gmail.com
Association Representative	Brian Millen	brian@blackpalfrey.co.uk
Committee Members	Dave Hughes Simon Ingarfield	
Directors	Brian Millen Dave Hughes Dick Athow	brian@blackpalfrey.co.uk hughesey44@gmail.com dick.blackpalfrey@gmail.com

If you are not a member of Blackpalfrey and have perhaps come across this edition of HIGHWAY on the website, why don't you join us?

To find out more about BPMCK and what we do, to join or rejoin contact any Committee Member.

You can also check out <https://www.blackpalfrey.club/> for more club info or <https://www.blackpalfrey.club/join> to join online and to find our Privacy Notice and Club Rules



Please remember to send in your ideas, letters, articles and pictures for the next edition by 25th February 2025