

# Banbridge Old Vehicle Club

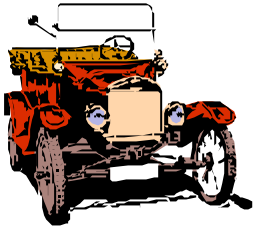
Magazine

December



2006





Merry Christmas and  
a Happy New Year

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### PLEASE NOTE INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

As the year end approaches this is to remind you that the "club subscription" for 2007 are payable on 1st January 2007. This year the amount payable is **£15.00**. Please note the increase. In this copy of the Club Magazine is your Membership Renewal, please complete and return to Roy Chambers Membership Secretary.

A few lines from our Chairman



Front cover picture: - Margaret and Harry Pepper arriving at the top of the Tim Healy Pass during The BOVC 'Round Ireland Challenge' 2<sup>nd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> September

### *Chairman's Letter*

Here we are at the end of another successful season of old vehicle motoring. How time passes quickly by.

A word of thanks to all those who gave of their time to organise the runs and events, without their dedication we would not have a successful club. Of course a word of thanks must go to those members who took part in the various events and to non members who joined us throughout the year.

We had our Annual General Meeting in October when we had a number of changes to the Committee. We lost the services of Hazel and Noel Crawford from the Committee and Myreve and Roy Chambers as editors of the magazine. To all four I wish to express the thanks of the members for all that they have done over the past number of years. I could not understand why we were losing the services of the Crawford's who have served the club so well however they have decided to dig up their roots and move to live in Spain in January. I have it on good authority that they are not moving everything to Spain. The Morris Mini Cooper is being left behind so I hope they will come back and join in some of the runs. On behalf of the Club I wish them well and look forward to seeing them soon. Of course I also wish to thank the other Committee Members who have supported me during the past year.

I wish to welcome to the Committee Ivan Adair and Andrew Carson and look forward to working with them in the running of the Club. Samuel Spence and Harry Pepper have volunteered to take on the editorship of the magazine this edition being their first production, a word of thanks for taking on such a challenging task.

The Dinner Dance was held on 24<sup>th</sup> November in Lisburn Golf Club when an enjoyable evening was had by all. I would like to thank Samuel Spence and his band of helpers for organising this annual outing and Lisburn Golf Club for once again allowing us the use of their premises. At this event a cheque for £3250 was presented to representatives of Diabetes UK NI

At this time we remember those who are ill and in particular Sheila Purdy, Charlie Millar and Johnston Clarke. If members know of others in the Club who are ill could you please let the Committee or I know.

It finally leaves me to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and look forward to your participation and support in the events for the coming year currently being organised by the Committee.

*Michael McKay Chairman*

## **AGM held at Banbridge Rugby Club 31<sup>st</sup> October 2006**

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

In keeping with other years it is the chairman's duty to thank those who have presented reports and thank those who have assisted me in running the club for the past year. It does not seem like a year since I was appointed chairman. How time flies when you are enjoying yourself. My first vote of thanks goes to Sheila, our Secretary, for a job well done given the pressures she was under at home and of late following her motoring accident. The next person who has to be thanked is John, our Treasurer, for keeping the club solvent and dealing with the payment of our accounts in a timely manner. John has decided, after seven years in office to vacate the position of Treasurer. On behalf of the Club I would like to thank him for his diligent work over this period. Next to receive a mention is Roy and Myreve Chambers who over the past number of years have produced the magazine and brought it up to its current high standard. Here again we are losing the services of two dedicated members to the back benches. Roy I hope will continue as membership secretary if nominated for the position. To both Myreve

and Roy many thanks for your contribution to making the club the success it is. It would be remiss of me not to mention our tea making duo of Harold Speers and Roy who each club night have produced a very welcome cup of tea or coffee with seasonal eats where appropriate. These are the main players in the team of committee members but this is not to say that the others have not contributed to the running of the club. Indeed without their help and input I as chairman would have had a difficult year. To everyone a very many thanks for all your help and assistance. Thanks also go to Banbridge Rugby Club for allowing us to use their premises as a meetings venue and to the ladies of the club for providing supper on occasions such as this. Without the attendance of the membership our monthly meetings would not be a success. This year we had a god turn out at all meetings with the summer away meetings being particularly well attended. Thank you all for your support.

I would ask those members present to go forth and spread the news to those members who are not regular attendees about the activities arranged, the friendship gained and what they are missing. I hope I have not missed out anyone as my comments are intended to be all inclusive. Finally I wish to thank everyone who has assisted me throughout the past year and wish the club continues success throughout the coming year.

**Michael McKay Chairman**

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

2006-Being our Anniversary event has proved to be a very busy year. I must on behalf of all our members thank everyone who organised events .A lot of time and energy go into organising each event we thank you all sincerely for your enthusiasm to create such a varied programme for the year. I again would like to encourage you all to give of your talents to keep our club the successful one it is we are all here with one aim the preservation of our old vehicles. I wish you all many years of happy motoring.

**Sheila Adair Secretary**

## **AGM REPORT**

It is unreal to know that the 2006 season is almost over and this years AGM has also come and gone yet again. Attendance was similar to last year and some new members joined us for the first time. The Chairman asked the meeting to stand for a minutes silence to remember the members and friends who passed away during the past year. After the minutes of the 2005 AGM were read by our STILL INJURED Secretary, Sheila Adair, the Chairman Michael McKay, Secretary, and Treasurer John Miskelly, gave their annual reports. The Treasurer John Miskelly informed the meeting that he would not be seeking re-election and

asked to be relieved of the post after many years of faithful service. These proposed and adopted the chair was handed over as is now customary to Billy Ferguson to conduct the election of new offices. Billy first of all gave us an update on the health of Sheila Purdy, Johnston Clarke and Charlie Miller and passed round a card for all to sign and pass on our good wishes and prayers. Now to the election Billy expressed his own personal thanks to John and also on behalf of the club for all the hard and dedicated work he had put into the very difficult job of treasurer for so many years. Billy declared all posts vacant and the election of the new officers was also over very quickly. The new office bearer panel have many new faces, the President Hazel Crawford and her committee member husband Noel have stepped down from office to start a new retirement life in sunny Spain, to them both on behalf of all the member we wish them many happy years of health and happiness on the Costa Del Sol and to thank them most sincerely for all the hard and dedicated work they put in to making our club what it is today. They will most certainly be missed and will be very hard to replace. Our President for this year is last years Vice President John Miskelly, Vice President Tony Gardiner, Chairman Michael McKay for his 2nd term in office, Vice Chairman Ken McDevitt, Hon. Secretary once again our Sheila, The New Treasurer who certainly will look after the money is our own Reginald Bell. Membership Secretary is again Roy Chambers. The committee with some new members is Roy Chambers, John Miskelly, Ken McDevitt, Ivan Adair, Harry Pepper, Samuel Spence, Sam Baird, Brendan Mullan, Tony Gardner, and Andrew Carson. The other major change to management of the club was the retirement of our club news letter editors Myreve & Roy Chambers after many years producing our wonderful magazine which everybody looked forward to receiving and reading. They have made it into a national magazine in the Classic Car world in Northern Ireland and again on behalf of all the members past and present many thanks for the many hours of enjoyable reading that you gave us all. The immense task of replacing Myreve and Roy has been taken on by Samuel Spence and me and what a difficult standard to try and follow, but we will accept the challenge and the proof will be in the Pudding or this new Magazine. We wish all the new office bearers and particularly the committee the very best in keeping up the standard of Banbridge Old Vehicle Club in the position it hold in the Classic Car World. Finally a word of thanks to the ladies of Banbridge Rugby Club for the excellent supper provided. During supper many reflected on what took place over the year and all the news of the many changes and departing of members.

I look forward to a very interesting and exciting new season.

***Harry Pepper.***

## ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

The Banbridge Old Vehicle Club Annual Dinner Dance took place again this year in the Lisburn Golf Club, over 70 members and friends gathered for another evening of food, company and music.



Michael hands over the big cheque

The proceedings started with what could only be described as a beautiful meal the chef is to complimented, especially on the Pavlova is was delicious as was the rest of the meal. After the meal and before the music and dancing took place the Club had the pleasure of handing over a cheque for the sum of £3250 from events ran during the year. The table quiz run by the Spence's and the Round Ireland Challenge along with other events and some sponsorship gave us this magnificent total which was presented to Claire and Jane of Diabetes UK NI. They thanked the club and gave some statistics on the number of people in Northern Ireland who have Diabetes and also told us that all the money given would be retained in Northern Ireland for Research.



Noel & Elizabeth McAree relaxing after their meal

The Music this year again was by “Nifty” which is an excellent band, easy to listen too and after a short time we had “Jewish Auctions” which raised some excitement and also a Ballot, money from these will go to the Club’s nominated Charity for 2007 which will be “Friends of the Cancer Centre” another worthwhile cause.

After the auctions and ballot we again had “Nifty” for the rest of the evening, during this some members and friends showed of their skill on the dance floor while the rest enjoyed the music and chat. I am sure I can speak for everyone we had a very enjoyable evening.

Thanks must go to Samuel & Gloria Spence for the organisation which was up to their usual standard. Well done!!!!!!!!!!!!

Myreve Chambers

### **EZ 463 My 1935 Austin 12**

After the death of my father in 1932, I went to live with my uncle. In 1935 he sold his Bull nosed Morris Cowley and bought this Austin 12 for princely sum of £150.00. As a young child I remember trying to count the large white fivers that my uncle had set aside to pay for the car. My uncle used the Austin to travel from Newry to Ballynahinch every day, where he was the principal of Ballynahinch Technical School and continued to drive it until he retired in September 1950. I drove the car from Newry on the day of uncles’ retirement soiree and the next time it was driven



through Ballynahinch was 50 years later, in September 2000 when I took it to an old car event which began in the town. I remember that day in 2000 as being a very happy day for my wife and myself knowing as we did that in the space of 50 years on the only two occasions in which the Austin had been in the 'Hinch, in that time, I had been the driver.

I taught my wife to drive in this car in the 1950's and it was eventually bequeathed to me in my uncles will, I remember well that the insurance at the time I became the 'owner' of EZ463 cost me £4-10 shillings for fully comprehensive.

In 1962 I purchased a new A40 Farina and put the Austin 12 off the road. It lay about in the old shed and fell into a very poor state of repair until eventually in 1994 I took the decision to have the car undergo a full and complete



restoration. I must say it was money well spent as it has given my wife and I many hours of pleasure since we retired, we have got to know many people in old vehicle circles, we are enjoying the comradeship and having fun taking part in 'old vehicle events'.

Robert McCullough.

## **A VISIT TO HOME OF CROSSLE RACING CARS**

Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Nov and a rare chance to visit the world famous CROSSLE car company's workshops, Nestled in the Holywood hills a short 5min drive from the town centre.

It was arranged that we meet at the Hollywood train station car park, and then leave in convoy (no 11/1 form filled in) for the short drive, not as easy as it might sound, As things take on a different appearance in the dark. A trip around the town centre? and a visit to some of John Crossle's neighbours, who must have thought they were being invaded as car after car arrived in their yard. When at last we found the right yard we were greeted by Arnie Black, the now owner and custodian of the Crossle badge.



## Founding father

A successful motorbike racer, tractor restorer and race car constructor, John Crossle tells all

In the workshops we were treated to a variety of new and old Crossle sports cars, under going re-builds for the in coming

Arnie for those of you who don't now the name was and still is one of Irelands most successful club racers, who these days concentrates more on endurance racing using a Crossle 9S sports car with a fair degree of success.



season, Arnie went into great detail on the preparation and maintenance required to keep the cars in a competitive state,



Radical 80T trials car boasts Honda power

Its a real credit to Arnie and his skilled team of five who can start with the raw material and end up with a master piece in the shape

of a 9S sports car, the standard of workmanship was a pleasure to see, from the brazing of the chassis to the fine detail of the body, which was of a standard seldom seen in these days of mass production. The evening ended with 20 enthusiasts showing there appreciation for this unique opportunity to witness the building of a racing car.

Thanks to Arnie for inviting us and to Ken for organising it.

*Sam Baird*

## Round Ireland Challenge 2<sup>nd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2006

*As reported by Noel & Elizabeth McAree*

The 2<sup>nd</sup> September, eagerly awaited by the competitors, began as a very wet and miserable morning for everyone's drive to the annual Kilbroney show where we joined the BOVC stand. Such was the enthusiasm however that the inclement weather did little to dampen our spirits. Having been issued with our event plates and instructions including disposable cameras we enjoyed looking around the variety of cars and stalls before being called to the "Ring" where we were each interviewed before being given an official "send off". Now the challenge had really begun with 15 cars competing.

Our brief for **Day 1** was not too difficult and all arrived in good time for our first night at the Royal Hotel, Bray. Following suitable refreshments and a good dinner we had a "get together" to become better acquainted with each other.

The brief for **Day 2** was a different "kettle of fish". After breakfast, approx 8am., each cars team was given a sealed envelope giving instructions for route, items to be discovered, noted and photos to be taken of locations to be found before arriving at our destination, Youghal, by 8pm. Conditions were very showery and murky for negotiating our way through Wicklow mountains via Sally Gap where Garda activity, following the finding of the body of a murder victim, added to our problems before heading to Vale of Avoca, Enniscorthy, the Passage East Ferry, Tramore and finally Youghal. When some of us experienced an unexpected delay due to being caught up in a funeral procession, the mourners must have been perplexed by the appearance of a colourful MG with dishevelled occupants in their midst. A search party was about to be sent out when we arrived at the Quality Hotel just in time to beat the 8pm deadline. Following a good meal a private room was made available for our exclusive use to recap on our days experiences and take part in a pre-arranged quiz. This proved to be a popular way to spend the evening and was to be the format for each evening of the tour ( the Woodside team were almost unbeatable).

**Day 3** and an examination of our brief for the journey to Killarney seemed a little less daunting. Conditions were improving with some bright intervals as we circumnavigated Cork city via the Jack Lynch Tunnel and headed for Macroom, Glengariff, Ring of Bera, Tim Healey Pass, Kenmare and Killarney. Such a pity the weather was not good for the real enjoyment of the magnificent views, particularly for those who had not been there before. The organisers were now breathing sighs of relief as all the contestants arrived in good time and in good shape. The size and geography of the hotel provided yet another test of navigational skills, even before the aperitifs.

**Day 4** and off we sat again in brighter but still showery conditions on another lengthy and more demanding drive heading first of all for Dingle via Killorglin, Milltown and Castlemaine. Leaving Dingle via the Conor Pass we run into thick cloud which completely enveloped the summit where some of us found it impossible to find the answer to a question on this location and descent on the single track twisty road was somewhat nerve testing. Tralee was our next objective en route to Tarbert and the Shannon Ferry for transportation to Kilrush where we took to the road again for Kilkee, Milltown Malbay and Lisdoonvarna. A visit to the Cliffs of Moher was optional. The final stretch of the journey skirting the famous Burren area and through the harbour village of Kinvara caused bewilderment amongst all the contestants and many miles of motoring in search of the answer to a clue concerning Finvarra Castle which in fact does not exist. It transpired that a misspelling of Kinvara led to the confusion which was compounded by the castle's proper name being Dunguaire. The Quality Hotel, Oranmore, Galway was our destination and comfortable base for the night.

**Day 5** dawned with a clearer sky and this was more encouraging for the “soft top” crews to feel the wind in their hair on the more leisurely drive to Sligo. Places visited en route included Aughnanure Castle, The Quiet Man Bridge, Kylemore



Abbey and Westport where we had plenty of time to walk around this attractive town with river running through. The Sligo Park Hotel provided a comfortable base for the usual evening's entertainment which was augmented by Reg Bell's unavoidable late arrival and being allocated the only remaining accommodation, the Bridal Suite. Some of us had to witness this lavish luxury and seating being somewhat

limited resulted in Reg sharing the bed with 3 ladies – guess who!!!

**Day 6** Enough of the shenanigans and back to serious business and achieving all the requirements on our way to Smugglers Inn at the Giants Causeway. The sunny day enhanced our enjoyment of the Scenic Drive at Mullaghmore passed the

Mountbatten Estate, through Bundoran and on to Donegall town. Needless to say thoughts of retail therapy entered the female minds as we headed to Ballybofey and the ever popular McElhinney's Department Store which was also good for lunch. On the road again to Letterkenny where we had to discover the height of the spire of St., Eunans Cathedral. Apparently some bold enquirers received a

frosty response at the Parochial House!! The route now took us along the shore of Lough Foyle through Muff to Moville where we had a last chance to fill up with “cheap fuel” before boarding the car ferry at Greencastle for the crossing to Magilligan. The more familiar run via Coleraine, Portstewart and Portrush was none the less very enjoyable in the afternoon sunshine. Our final night on the tour was very agreeably spent with much friendly banter and speculation about the prospect of winning the prize. Some of the organisers were busy collating the points accumulated by each team. An action packed evening of entertainment was capped with a Jewish Auction of various items from clothing to bottles of “this and that” supplied by some generous donors. This produced a great deal of fun and a very worthwhile contribution to the charity chosen for support in connection with the main event, namely Diabetes U.K. Northern Ireland.

**Day 7** Relief for some sleepy heads that this was to be a relaxed drive in our own time by whatever route for the home run to Banbridge (there were unfounded rumours of a difficult section through a partially flooded Forest Park)

Some of the cars that took part in the ‘Round Ireland Challenge’.

Montage courtesy of Sam Baird photography



the only stipulation was that we would all assemble at Sprucefield car park prior to a planned procession to the Civic Centre, Banbridge for a reception hosted by

Banbridge District Council. We received a warm welcome from the council chairman, Patrick McAleenan, vice chairperson, Nora Beare and other dignitaries. Photos were taken and aspects of the tour discussed around our cars before proceeding into the Council Chamber where an appetising light buffet meal was provided. On behalf of the Council the Chairman expressed his appreciation of the association with BOVC whose aims and achievements were to be applauded, the council pens given to each participant as a memento were much appreciated. Next came the all important announcement of the winner of the Round Ireland Challenge. Noel Crawford on behalf of the organisers made some very complementary remarks concerning all participants and thanked the sponsors and all contributors for their part in making such a success of the event before declaring the winners to be the Alan & Elizabeth Bridgham team. Congratulations and well done to them. Much to the surprise and delight of the recipients he also announced that the winners of a prize for “Spirit of the Challenge” were “the owl ones” Noel & Elizabeth McAree. The prizes were duly presented by the Council Chairman and Vice Chairperson. The proceedings were concluded by Harry Pepper with some well chosen words of thanks to Banbridge Council for their generous support and hospitality, to the main sponsors Crumlin Insurance Partnership, Pernatron and all contributors, particularly the organisers, Noel & Hazel Crawford and Sam & Margaret Baird. Bouquets of flowers were presented to Hazel & Margaret as a token of appreciation for all the time, effort and expense put into a very special event which all participants fully enjoyed. This was a fitting finale to a happy and memorable event with which to end the club’s 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations

**Noel & Elizabeth McAree** (winners of the spirit of the rally award)

### **Round Ireland Challenge 2<sup>nd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2006**

The annual Kilbroney event had been chosen as the starting point for the Round Ireland Challenge. So instead of our usual clutter of picnic baskets, flasks and folding chairs, we had instead suitcases packed with enough clothes to last for weeks, along with maps and information covering all Ireland.

The competing cars, of varying shapes and sizes had gathered in the Banbridge Old Vehicle Club stand ready for the start in the early afternoon. It was great to see Steve and Carol Worthington taking part all the way from Cumbria. We did our usual wander around the various displays and auto-jumble, in the mud of what had unfortunately turned out to be a very wet morning. Returning to our car we discovered all the competing crews had left without us! Fortunately we

had previously been issued with our route instructions for the day, and a disposable camera to photograph various objects which we had to find around Ireland. We soon caught up with several of the competitors in a carwash in Warrenpoint – trying to get rid of the Kilbroney mud. We travelled down together to the Royal Hotel in Bray. Spaces in the car park adjoining the hotel had been reserved for us, but not kept and the elderly attendant was adamant we were not getting in! Eventually a few euros proved to be the answer to this problem. Following the evening meal a quiz had been organised by Sam and Noel, something which we all enjoyed each evening of the event. On Sunday morning we set off from Bray, through the Sally Gap and on to Avoca, better known on television as Ballykissangel. A short stop here before travelling on to Arklow, Enniscorthy, Dungarvan and to our overnight stay in the Quality Hotel, outside Youghal. Situated on the edge of an extensive sandy beach, we sat outside in the evening for a while in beautiful conditions and enjoyed the spectacular scenery before having our meal. By Monday we realised an early start in the morning was important as we had quite a lot of miles to cover each day, and various things to find and photograph. Leaving Youghal a simple direct route had been planned for us through Cork – too simple for us though – we opted instead for the busy streets, road works, traffic lights and local drivers who had no patience with us changing lanes. Thankfully we eventually managed to escape and headed for Macroom and on to Ballylickey on the coast, just north of Bantry. In heavy rain we proceeded to the Healy Pass, much used by car rally enthusiasts, by now we were also being treated to thick mist which slowed us to a crawl at one stage. We passed through Kenmare on our way to Killarney for our evening stop at the Quality Hotel. The traffic in Killarney was horrendous and not having been there for over thirty years we were amazed how the place had grown and changed almost beyond all recognition.



The 4 Mercedes SL's parked near the Giant's Causeway

Another early start on Tuesday morning, we left Killarney passing through Killorglin on our way around the Dingle Peninsula. The Connor Pass from Dingle town to Stradbally brought us on to the road for Tralee, Listowel and an enjoyable ferry trip across the Shannon Estuary to Kilrush and the Cliffs of

Moher. Here we had time to stop and visit this famous spectacular beauty spot. Unfortunately exceptionally heavy rain dampened our spirits a bit, but having come all the way we decided to brave the elements and suffer the resulting soaking. Now with windows well steamed up we headed off again in the direction of our hotel at Galway. Near Ballyvaughan we realised we had somehow missed a monument which we were to photograph. Having also missed one on a previous day, and deciding it could not be too far back we retraced our steps. It was much further than we thought. We searched and searched as darkness was falling. We enquired at the local Garda station, the sergeant could not recognise what we were looking for. Eventually we found it with the help of a young schoolboy, about a mile from the Garda station! He knew immediately we were looking for a monument in memory of those who died in the potato famine. By now it was getting dark and the evening meal was arranged at the hotel for 8.00pm. After some hectic driving we arrived in the dining room half an hour late, still somewhat damp and slightly embarrassed, to the applause and amusement of the other competitors. However, fortunately we were still in time for the meal. By Wednesday morning a day off and a rest would have been most welcome. But once out on the road again we continued to enjoy the event as we made our way to Clifden, and our lunch stop at Kylemore Abbey. Following this we had to find the Quiet Man Bridge – used in the film of the same name – and photograph our car on it. We then had time to spend a few hours in Westport before driving on to Sligo, where we stayed in the Sligo Park Hotel. Our disposable cameras were collected in the evening for developing the following day in order the results could be ready on Friday.

On Thursday morning we left Sligo and continued north through Cliffoney to Mullaghmore past where Lord Mountbatten resided when in Ireland, through Bundoran, Ballyshannon, Donegal to Ballybofey. For the ladies a few hour stop here was essential in order to visit McElhinneys Department Store. It was then on to Letterkenny, Muff and Merville, to catch the Greencastle to Magilligan ferry, and so back into the North. We followed the coast from Coleraine, via Portstewart, Portrush, Bushmills, to the Smugglers' Inn near the Giant's Causeway, where we stayed for our last night. This hotel was by far the smallest we had stayed in during our trip but the food, hospitality and accommodation was excellent.

Friday had been made easy for us, no photographs, nothing to find, no navigation, just get to Sprucefield as you please by 2.00pm. Along with three other crews whom we had largely accompanied around Ireland, Robert and Valerie Woodside, Wilson and Pearl Hyde and Ronnie O'Brien, we decided to go by Torr Head and into Cushendun where we had a snack. We then followed the Antrim Coast Road to Larne and via Nutts Corner to Sprucefield where all the other cars had already gathered.



At Banbridge we parked in front of the Council Buildings, set in beautifully kept grounds, for press photographs. The Mayor and several other officials were present and we were treated to an excellent buffet meal in the Council Chamber, followed by a few speeches and the presentation of awards. This was the first time we had been on a rally event of this duration. The cars all performed well and it could only happen in Ireland – fourteen cars started, and fifteen finished! (Reg Bell can explain.) We all enjoyed each other's company, it was great fun, and we came home with wonderful memories of a really outstanding event. Our thanks must go to Noel and Hazel, and Sam and Margaret, who had everything perfectly planned, nothing was left to chance, all ran smoothly thanks to their countless hours of work and excellent organisation.

*Alan and Elizabeth Bridgham (Winners of the BOVC challenge cup)*

### ***Robert & Valerie Woodside's version of the Round Ireland Challenge***

To celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Banbridge Old Vehicle Club, Noel & Hazel Crawford and Sam & Margaret Baird organised a 'Round Ireland Challenge' in conjunction with sponsors Crumlin Insurance Partnership and Pernatron.

Fifteen cars and 28 crew entered with competitors from as far away as England, Scotland, Wales and even Ballyclare! This intrepid group left Kilbroney on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September spending the following six nights and seven days travelling round Ireland and following and interpreting various challenges en route!

The first evening was spent in Bray where we met our fellow entrants over dinner and celebrated Carol Worthington's birthday with a very appropriate car shaped cake followed by probably our only relatively early night.

On Sunday we drove south via Glencree scenic drive towards Waterford and on to Youghal where we spent our second night. Here the first of our evening entertainment sessions began, proving to be very popular. (Ed' note the first competition was won by Robert and Valerie Woodside they forgot to mention that!!!)

Next day took us to Killarney by way of Glengariff and Kenmare taking in the famous Tim Healy Pass and Moll's Gap – familiar to most from Circuit of Ireland days – providing much enjoyment for the enthusiasts. (Ed's note you forgot to mention again who won this evening's quiz, it was Robert & Valerie Woodside.

Tuesday's run headed North West to Dingle and then over a very foggy Connor Pass, giving the drivers no opportunity for heroics! Leaving Tralee we travelled by ferry across the Shannon and proceeded to the Cliffs of Moher where we had our only soaking! This



led to some of us making a rapid run to our hotel in Oranmore, Galway after deciding to opt out of the remaining day's challenges! Here our ultimate "Challenge Cup" winners persevered and not only found the elusive clue but also managed, without a flash, to take the necessary photograph in the fading light!! They still managed to make it back in time for a delayed dinner! Still not sure how Alan managed to arrange that! (Ed's note and of course, it was becoming monotonous by now as that pair in the BMW won the evening quiz again!!!!)

Our drive on Wednesday was a much more gentle affair when some of us had time to stop at Kylemore Abbey and then also in Westport before arriving at our next overnight stop in Sligo. (Ed's note they did not win the quiz tonight that honour went to John O'Leary after Robert & Valerie had been bound and gagged!)

On Thursday we made our way via Bundoran to Ballybofey where the ladies enjoyed some retail therapy in a well known store! Someone even found time to purchase a wedding outfit! From there we travelled north to Letterkenny and then via the ferry to Magilligan turning east to our final overnight stay at the "Smuggler's Inn" near the Giant's Causeway.

Leaving the hotel on Friday morning a group of four cars decided to complete our very enjoyable challenge by driving to Banbridge by way of Torr Head – another former Circuit of Ireland stage! The BMW group had adopted Ronnie O'Brien in his new Cooper S (after all it's a BMW and not a real Mini!!!!) as his original entry – a Morris Minor – had developed some mechanical gremlins. On this stage Wilson, Alan and Robert gave him a minute start as they did not want the problem of catching the Cooper S and then causing embarrassment by trying to pass!!

The final leg of our journey took us from Sprucefield to Banbridge Civic Centre where it had been arranged for us to be met by Press and local dignitaries. There we had a delicious buffet lunch followed by a presentation of engraved pens from Banbridge District Council. The stylish finisher's awards, designed by our vice-chairman, Harry Pepper were then presented, by the Council Chairman, to all competitors to remind us of our epic journey. The main awards were then presented to the worthy winners; The Spirit of The Rally Award to Noel & Elizabeth McAree and the Challenge Cup to Alan & Elizabeth Bridgham.

During our very enjoyable seven days numerous pints, bottles of wine & Irish coffees were consumed but an event like this is where new friends are made, old ones are renewed and the "craic" is enjoyed by everyone. Thanks to Wilbur and Reg there was plenty of that!

Finally, thanks must go to everyone involved in making this event so successful – Noel, Hazel, Sam & Margaret and our generous sponsors Crumlin Insurance Partnership and Pernatron, it will be a trip we will all remember with affection.

*Robert & Valerie Woodside (winners of everything else!!!)*

## **End of Season Run.**

On a dry, cool morning, with an overcast sky Margaret and I decided to leave home with the roof down and enjoy the fresh morning breeze as we headed for Connor Presbyterian Church for the starting point of the run. As we passed Belfast International Airport we were joined by Noel & Elizabeth McAree in their MGB who were amazed to see us 'topless'. Noel said he would wait till the sun came out before he would disrobe the 'B'. Over 30 cars turned out to support David & John's end of season run but I was surprised at the actual small number of club members present. After the usual high standard of fresh baked scones and tea/coffee served by the Ladies of the church, John gave his usual briefing to the drivers and navigators, as usual no route directions just the important one KEEP THE CAR BEHIND IN SIGHT. With this valuable information we set off in 2 groups and we were in the 2nd. group 4 cars from the end, 5 minutes down the road a car in front of the car in front of me who was not on the run wanted to turn right, but as there was a lot of oncoming traffic it took several minutes for him to make his turn. By the time we were able to move off again, yes you guessed it no cars in front of us to be seen. We travelled at a fast rate for almost a mile and no trace of our friends to be seen. We stopped and asked some farmers who were working with sheep if some classic cars had passed this way but they informed us that no cars had passed that morning. Fortunately one of the cars in our small group was a member of the Triumph club who knew the area and had been talking to John before the start of the run a had an idea of where we might be going. As the other cars had not passed this point he said that we should go back up the road to a lay-by and wait for them to come along as this was the road they would still have to come past at this point. After a short wait the cavalcade came roaring past just a wave and not even an inquiry as to how we got in front. Sometimes a little information is useful as only for our friend our morning run would have been finished only 5 minutes after the start as nobody knew where to go. We mixed into the cavalcade and made sure we did not lose sight of the car in front until the lunch time stop in Glenarm in the car park at the marina.

During the picnic the skies darkened and we decided it was time for the roof to be put up and several minutes later we had our first heavy shower of the day. The ladies and indeed some of the men went to watch a beautiful wedding taking place at the local chapel close by. After our lunch we left beautiful Glenarm and headed back up onto the Antrim Plateau through some outstanding scenery and on to the Fort Royal Hotel on the A26 near Ballymena for our evening meal. As the weather had deteriorated we arrived at the hotel slightly ahead of schedule

but this was the ideal situation for John to entertain us with his supply of good humorous stories and in no time the meal was served.

A very enjoyable day was had by all and a sincere thanks was extended to David & John for all their hard work and effect put into the event. It is hard to imagine that the run are now over for the summer season and we would like to thank all the organisers for the wonderful and varied days out during the year and for all the friendship extended to us.

Harry & Margaret Pepper

### Thanks

Can we take this opportunity to thank Officers and Members of the Banbridge Old Vehicle Club for their lovely flowers they were much appreciated.

Roy and Myreve Chambers

### *A word of warning*

It was mentioned at a recent AOVC meeting that the replacements for our loved and trusted Traffic Wardens, the NCP redcoats, who seem to be on every street and car park in the Province **may** be targeting old vehicle events next year, I can only assume that they will be looking for vehicles not showing a valid 'Road Fund licence' **Be warned!!!**

## Charity Table Quiz

After the evening of crack at last years table quiz it has been decided to go for it again (an extract from last years report on the quiz was "It was a new effort for the club and probably one of the best nights entertainment that the club has had, the fun, camaraderie and the sportsmanship were fantastic and as well as that we raised £1500 on the night). A well used quote comes to mind "It is not about winning it is about the taking part!!!" Aye right, everybody was there firstly to win and also enjoy themselves, there was only one winner but there was certainly plenty of enjoyment and I never heard one complaint.

This year's event is to be held at Lisburn Golf Club on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2007

It is our intention with the help of our club members to arrange a second annual table quiz with all proceeds being directed to **Friends of the Cancer Centre** (formerly 'Friends of Montgomery House) Charity number XN87225

Our aim will be to attract teams (tables of 6) drawn from mainly old vehicle clubs and other clubs, groups or associations in Northern Ireland to take part in a fun evening in which they will have the opportunity by competing against other teams

to uphold the honour of their club. We intend to have, during the evening, a raffle and an auction in which we will be prepared to sell anything (within reason!). We would appreciate the help of as many club members as possible to seek out some items from shops or businesses that you think could be used for the raffle or auction to make this an event to remember.

**With your help our chosen charity will gain some funding to help in their quest to put all money received to good use in improving patient care, the purchase of vital equipment and provision of first class facilities. Under it's new name and in it's new home, Friends of the Cancer Centre has much unfinished business in continuing to contribute to the care, treatment and support of cancer patients and their families throughout Northern Ireland 'Friends' has a proud history and now, based in the heart of the new Cancer Centre, can continue to do what it does best; raise money to put directly back into projects that make a real and meaningful difference to patients and their families, 'Friends' can help to make a difference.**

Please, everyone, let's try to make this years event even more successful than last years. Don't be put off by the 'quiz' bit, contrary to what I have written above it really is just about 'taking part', try to gather up a team (6 to a table) and give me a ring it will be necessary to pre- book your table where could you get a nights craic at only a fiver per head? Come on you'll enjoy it.

If you are prepared to make the effort to assist with the organising, make a personal donation, or to seek out people who would be willing to make donations or even help on the night, any help, please contact:-

**Samuel Spence on 077 8551 0376**

## **Boxing Day Run Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> December**

Banbridge Old Vehicle Club is joining this year with the *Ulster Pre-War Austin Club* on their Boxing Day Run

All vehicles should assemble at the Temple Filling Station at Temple cross roads on the A24 Belfast – Ballynahinch Road at 1pm. A short drive is planned (weather permitting) finishing at The Cuan Restaurant in Strangford for a meal at approx 3pm.

There will be a choice of menu

**Menu A:** PAN FRIED FILLET OF CHICKEN (with herb & garlic dressing)

**Menu B:** PRIME ROAST RIB OF IRISH BEEF (with horseradish sauce)

**Menu C:** BAKED FILLET OF SALMON (drizzled with lemon & herb butter)

**Menu D:** FRESH SEAFOOD CHOWDER (with homemade organic wheaten)

Selection of deserts

Tea/ coffee

Please complete the A5 sized entry form enclosed with this magazine not forgetting to include beside each menu letter the requirements of your party (eg **Menu A** : 2 portions / **Menu B** : 1 portion)

Entry Fee is **£13:00 per person** and entries should be accompanied by a cheque made payable to 'UPWAC' and sent to:-

**Hal Cairns 31 Holm Terrace, Dromore. Co.Down BT25 1HN tel:- 9269 9881**

This should be an enjoyable way to spend Boxing Day afternoon, if past times are anything to go by Hal and Pat (probably with some input from Kathy) will, I'm sure, have chosen an interesting route to follow before reaching Strangford. Some of the brave souls amongst you may get a chance to test the temperature of Strangford Lough, that would be fun, if you do spot anyone brave enough to take the plunge, or even dip their toes, take a photograph and we will print it in the next magazine, enjoy yourselves.

### **New Bovec entry form**

The new design of entry form enclosed with this magazine, we believe, will be suitable for our needs for most runs, it is self explanatory, full details of events including organisers will appear in the magazine in advance. Copies of the entry form will be printed in each future edition of your magazine, they will also be available on club nights, available from committee members or you can photocopy same if it suits you to do that. If anyone has difficulty in completing the form the organiser of the event will be pleased to help or if you can improve on the layout of the form we will be glad to hear from you.

It came to light when last years accounts were produced that the magazine was costing a high percentage of the total income of the club, our new treasurer has given notice that we must reduce our costs! and he must be obeyed. After discussions we came to the conclusion that the smaller physical size of A5 would allow us a greater print area for a lesser cost and this could not be ignored. It is our intention to add new features including member profiles, articles about member's projects and motoring experiences, the sale & wanted columns can take more adverts and we would ask all our readers to please consider putting pen to paper (preferably E-Mail) tell us your stories, want to sell, buy or rent something send us your details and pictures so that we can let others share your interests or your gems of wisdom. If you would like to make comments on how you find the mag or if you want to sound off about any other subject please do, we would be only too glad to publish any letters (again preferably E-Mailed) that are sent to us and as long as we are aware of who the author is and it is

publishable we will publish same, withholding the identity if requested to do so. Lot's of you out there have got stories to tell so come on help us to continue with a magazine that has been such a credit to the previous editors that we are finding it a difficult act to follow. We very much hope that you have enjoyed this, our very first attempt at producing this magazine and with your help, the Members of BOVC, we hope to maintain the standard that has been the envy of many other car clubs in Northern Ireland

At this stage you are probably thinking 'The Round Ireland Challenge' has been well covered, we make no apology for that, many of the entrants who took part in this well organised event offered reports so we settled for the three from winning teams. (well done Margaret, Junior Hazel & Noel, it's usually the other way round, a great event).

**Contact:- Samuel :-** tel 028 9269 8686 mobile 077 8551 0376  
[samuel@spences86.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:samuel@spences86.wanadoo.co.uk)  
 Harry: - tel 028 4062 3108 mobile 077 6687 0759  
[harry.pepper@bopenworld.co.uk](mailto:harry.pepper@bopenworld.co.uk)

### New Members

Tom McDonagh,	Coalisland	1985 Suzuki Cavalcad
Allen J Gordon,	Portadown	1954 James Comet J11, 1966 Riley Elf Mk 3
Ronald Watson	Portadown	1958 James Commodore, 1968 Jaguar 240 Mk2
Terence Nixon,	Blackwatertown	1985 Strada 130, 1991 XR3i Convertible

<b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Club</b> Health matters
<b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Club</b> Paddy Cowan about Rex McCandless
<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>TABLE QUIZ</b>
<b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Club</b> Meguiars car care products
<b>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>HERRON RUN (Andrew Carson)</b>
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Club Meeting</b>
<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>MAY RUN (Brendan Mullan/ S Baird)</b>
<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>FRENCH TOUR (H Pepper / S Spence)</b>
<b>Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Club</b> B.B.Q.
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>BANBRIDGE CAVALCADE &amp;</b>
<b>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>BRONTE RUN (H Pepper &amp; S Spence)</b>
<b>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Evening Run</b>
<b>Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July</b>	<b>T.T. RUN (Allan Gordon)</b>
<b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> July</b>	<b>Evening Run</b>
<b>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>STANLEY WOODS RUN (Reg Bell)</b>
<b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>Evening Run</b>
<b>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Club Meeting</b>
<b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>END OF SEASON (Ken McDevitt)</b>
<b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Club AGM</b>

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November  
Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November  
December 2007

ANNUAL DINNER

Club Meeting

No Meeting



Millers 250ml VSP+  
Unleaded additive:  
Millers 500ml Diesel  
Power Plus: phone  
Samuel:- 07785510376  
Reg: - 028 9756 1079

### Club Night Guest Speakers

January 30<sup>th</sup> A talk about Health matters for  
Ladies and Gents

February 27<sup>th</sup> Paddy Cowan talking about Rex  
McCandless

March 26<sup>th</sup> Meguiars Car Care Products  
presentation and sale

## NON CLUB EVENT

Indoor Vintage, Classic & Sports Car Show  
In aid of **Cancer Research** to be held on 26<sup>th</sup> / 28<sup>th</sup> January in the Shimna Suite  
of Slieve Donard Hotel

# For Sale

Roll bar for MG Midget  
Tel :- 028 3887 1368

1978 Rover 2600 SDI  
power steering pump  
unused  
Tel:- 028 9269 8686

5 Jerry Cans in good  
condition £5.00 each  
Tel:- 028 9269 8686



### For Sale

1989 Honda Civic CRX white black  
leather interior 2 owners last one for 16  
years car is always garaged 138,200  
miles and in good condition Taxed and  
MOT'd until July 07 offers around  
£2000 telephone Rosaleen  
at 028 3750 7731 or 078 3535 0105

### For Sale

1988 Mini Metro Country has been dry  
stored for last 3 years and is presently on  
SORN Grey in colour only 26000 miles  
on the clock £600 ovno telephone Ivan  
at: 077 0319 2008



# wanted

**Wanted** Small pre – 1973 car or estate car, would consider one in need of restoration or repair tel:- 028 3887 1368

**Wanted** Chrome grill for MG Midget. Also chrome bumpers in reasonable condition tel:- 028 3887 1368

**Wanted** Garage suitable for the storage of two classic cars, must be dry and secure in or around Banbridge or Dromore area  
Contact Mervyn at:- 028 4066 9368

**Wanted** A pair of SU carburettors for an MGB please contact Ernie on:- 077 1153 0442