

Minicross Torque

The M.D.A. Newsletter

Edited by Jeremy Evans

April 2003

Minicross / Mini Shop / Yokohama Tyres Rallycross Championship.

Round 1 – Croft – March 9th 2003.



The Minicross Rallycross season kicked off as 2002 had left off, at the Croft circuit.

As last season, the heats were dominated by Garry York – the 2002 Rallycross champion, now sporting the coveted 401 race number as his reward for last years' success.

York had already won the crowd over with his stunning new Union Jack paintwork on his, as ever, immaculately turned out Mini. He then proceeded to win everything else by dominating the event and romping home to a comfortable win.

Some 3 seconds down the road in second place was John Binks, returning after a year out of the saddle, showing he has lost none of his speed. Binks also showed he is not easily distracted as his performance came after watching daughter Amy roll her Minicrosser during practice!!

3rd and 4th places were a family affair as Danny Budd pipped dad Ralph to the honours.

The meeting also saw the first competitive outing for the new-for-2003 Junior Minicross category.

Open to drivers aged 14-16, using de-tuned versions of full Minicross cars, the new category has attracted a lot of interest from those moving on from Karting, and from younger Mini enthusiasts.

The first honours were taken by Edward Morris who fought off the close attentions of Grant Rees to take the win. These two look set to be the early favourites for the inaugural title race. They were followed home by Adam Gould and Jonathan Greer.

2003 Minicross Hoods Galore Allrounders Championship

Round 1 – Lydden Hill, 15th February 2003.



Minicross started its 26th Season with a bang as the 2003 Hoods Galore Allrounders championship kicked off at Lydden Hill.

After 2 sets of heats it looked like Martin Yates and Ralph Budd were the men to beat, with Trevor Stretch and Rod Stanniland keeping a watching brief.

The B final was won by Paul Rogers who duly took his place on the back of the grid for the A final.

The first attempt to run the A final was red flagged after Ralph Budd's steering collapsed and Martin Yates managed to find the tyre wall and ended up on the infield with a very sorry looking Mini.

With two of the favourites gone, it was left to Stretch, Stanniland and the now on form Jeremy Evans to lead the pack off at the re-start.

It was not to last long, however, as Stretch and Stanniland got involved in an incident at Paddock bend, which resulted in Stanniland being stranded, facing the wrong way, unable to restart his car. This left Evans on the tail of Stretch, but out came the red flag again to allow Stannilands' car to be recovered.

At the third re-start Stretch and Evans made a clean break from the following pack led by Andy Coombs and Shelley Wakeling. Stretch pulled away slightly from Evans and the two settled into their race, finishing in this order, with Coombs leading Wakeling home in third and fourth.

It was Evans who took the Championship lead as he used his one shot "Joker" to earn double championship points at this event.

New for 2003 the "Joker" allows each driver to nominate one event, in advance, to earn double championship points. With the best 6 from 8 results to count, it could well be the "Jokers" who have the last laugh.....

Minishop / Yokohama Tyres Rallycross Championship 2003.

March 9 th	Croft
March 29 th	Nutts Corner
March 30 th	Mondello Park
April 21 st	Lydden
May 25 th	Knockhill
June 22 nd	Anglesey
July 27 th	Blyton
August 25 th	Lydden
September 21 st	Blyton
November 16 th	Brands Hatch

All rounds run as part of the
BRDA Rallycross Championship

Hoods Galore Allrounders Championship 2003.

February 15 th	Lydden	Rallycross
March 23 rd	North Weald	Sprint
June 7 th	Abingdon	Sprint x 2
June 14 th	Gurston Down	Hillclimb
July 13 th	Anglesey	Rallycross
August 16 th	Goodwood	Sprint
October 26 th	Blyton	Rallycross

Best 6 results from 8 to count – 1 round per
driver to be nominated as "joker round" with
double points.

LOGBOOKS (again !!!)

Here goes with yet another reminder about logbooks !!

ALL (that means YOU!!) Minicross cars are required to have
an MSA Logbook in order to compete in 2003.

Logbooks can be issued by any MSA scrutineer so get out
your Blue Book and find one near you – got it !!??

MDA Fourway Challenge 2003.

29 th March	Nutts Corner
30 th March	Mondello Park
25 th May	Knockhill
22 nd June	Anglesey
20 th July	Valkenswaard

Best 4 results from 5 to count.

Men & Motors gets dirty with the BRDA....

A major new television deal has boosted the MSA British Rallycross Championship on the eve of its opening
round.

The Men and Motors channel will broadcast all ten championship rounds, as well as preview and review
programmes to top and tail what promises to be a landmark season for Rallycross in Britain and Ireland.

The new broadcast deal has been brokered by Greenlight Television who will be responsible for producing
coverage of the BRC. For the championship promoters, BRDA Chairman Mike Dresser said, "Additional
exposure brought by the involvement of Men and Motors is obviously welcomed, it can only be good for the
championship and a contributory factor to the ongoing development of British Rallycross."

Men and Motors will have a high profile within the championship as the channel's branding will be carried on
the windscreens of all competing cars and on the racesuits of all drivers.

"We are delighted to be both involved with and broadcasting such an exciting championship. This strengthens
Men and Motors superb roster of motoring programmes and gives Rallycross the platform it has deserves."
said Men and Motors spokesman Malcolm Packer.

Testing, Testing....

Minicrossers and Junior Minicrossers, alongside many
Stock Hatch runners, enjoyed a successful test day
recently at Blyton.

Run by the BRDA the day gave new and experienced
drivers alike the chance to test their cars and learn the
circuit.

The event was a success, enjoyed by all who attended,
and featured many new Junior Minicross cars – watch out
for the stars of the future !!

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Lawsons' Leftovers – tales from Lydden...

Lydden started on Sunday afternoon for a lot of the Minicross drivers. This gave them the opportunity to have their cars scrutineered on the Sunday, not having the usual Monday morning rush. The BBQ was setup next to the Budd's new motor home under their easy up. It had started raining late afternoon, but there was a good turn out from the usual crowd, as well as some of the newer faces. Good to see Andy Coombs and his team join in and supply the beers!

The Revivals boys turned up and unloaded all six cars and still made it in time for the barbie. Others that did miss out were the Matt Roach camp, who when asked thought the barbie wasn't on because it was raining! This was quickly followed up with Matt deciding on an early night, although I did point out it was only 8.30. He replied it was something to do with being more responsible, I have to admit, this must have done him a world of good, as Matt's driving was excellent on the Monday.

Monday brighted up and gave a good days racing. Garry York taking the win by some distance in the end. My driver of the day would have to be David Brodie. This was the first time I've seen him since his big accident at Anglesey last year and I thought he drove like his old self to claim an excellent fourth.

Bad luck must go to Tristram Barden. Tristram had suffered bad luck at the beginning of the year at Lydden and returned with his brand new car. He got involved with Garry York and John Binks in the first heat and broke a wheel and then had to put up with engine woes throughout the day. He had an excellent last heat to secure his front row in the 'B' final. Although the gremlins reappeared in the final. Martin Yates was another who's day went downhill after winning a heat, he suffered two punctures in consecutive races, but at least he'll keep Xsport happy!

One other driver I have to mention was birthday boy Andy O'Grady. At lunchtime while jet washing his car, he managed to drown Ralph's BBQ much to everyone's laughter. This was followed up with his car falling off the trailer at the end of the day. Never mind Andy, the Revivals boys soon had the car back on the trailer, I couldn't find my camera in time, as Andy's face was a picture.

And finally, we had Richard accusing Scott of selling him a dodgy motor, after he found Scott's car had a rather bald tyre. After investigation it was discovered to be the tyre that Matt Hay had changed last year and Scott had forgotten to buy a new one!

More from Team Lawson later in the year.

The Mini Shop

**Are pleased to continue their sponsorship of the
MDA Rallycross Championship**

**For your Mini parts and accessories, try The Mini Shop first
– mention Minicross**

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www.theminishoplondon.com

The Weekend of the 20th JULY 2003

MINICROSS AT THE EURO-CIRCUIT -
VALKENSWAARD HOLLAND -
NO ENTRY FEE FOR THIS EVENT -
NATIONAL A LICENCE IS A REQUIREMENT

This is a fantastic weekend - Don't miss it. Racing on a top European Circuit with great facilities.

Apart from the racing it is the best social weekend in our calendar :- Bar-B-Q, Rounders, Swimming in Centre Parcs, Chinese meal. And a Street Fair if it's in town.

Special Ferry rates have been negotiated.

From : Harwich to the Hook or Dover to Calais for any vehicle and trailer.

Details from Dave Hobbs : 01403 782317

We want to see some new faces there this year.

The cost of travelling could be greatly reduced if we double or even triple up.

If you would like to take advantage of sharing a tow & slashing your cost:

Contact Richard Wakeling : 01763 208043

or Ralph Budd : 07850 208814

Already booked : Richard Wakeling, Matt Roach, Ralph & Danny Budd, Andy O'Grady, & Craig Cox.

If the FIA have their way this could be the last trip to Europe for club racers like us, so don't miss out.

Don't just sit there reading this ...BOOK IT !

More for sale from the great Budd sell off.....

Mini in kit form ?

Rolling shell (Raced but not battered to death or rusty) Air box / piped and wired / Some perspex / Twelve inch wheels and discs / 1000cc engine (not fitted.)

Complete with good two wheel trailer / new jockey wheel / winch / new tyres/ spare unused.

£500.00

Call Ralph on the number opposite.

'AVE YOU BOUGHT YOUR TICKET YET ?

WHY NOT ?

29TH NOVEMBER

THE 2003 JUNIOR & SENIOR MINI-CROSS ANNUAL
DINNER AT THE NORTHAMPTON HILTON
(2 mins junction 15 - M1)

***TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW
PRICED @ £27.50***

AVAILABLE AT RACE MEETINGS FROM SUSIE BUDD
OR BY PHONE : 07802 959722

ROOMS AVAILABLE

AGM IN THE AFTERNOON

ENTERTAINMENT - PRO-DISCO - VIDEO SHOW -
PRESENTATION - RAFFLE

AFTER MIDNIGHT BOOGIE ON DOWN WITH MATT
(BASH THE IVORIES) ROACH IN THE FOYER BAR

The Great BIGGLES SALE

For Sale Now or at the end of the season.

1989 FORD CARGO transporter/workshop & living.

Integral cab / Tail-lift / Tow bar / wired 240 volt /
Taxed / MOT/ 7.5 ton (down-rated from 10 ton) 6
cylinder engine with 6 speed gear box and 3.7 diff.

65-70 mph and good on fuel.

Low mileage, well maintained, serviced and in
excellent mechanical condition.

Workshop built around Mini (loaded via tail lift),
loads of storage space including belly locker and
removable load platform.

Sleeps 5. With 2 in the cab sleeper pod and three
inside / Dinette converts to double bed / Permanent
single bed / Ample cupboards and storage space /
Fridge / sink with running water / cooker / Gas
water heater (not fitted) / diesel night heater.

£4,500.00

L reg Citroen CD 25 LWB high top van, 2.5 diesel.
Fitted out as workshop, cupboards, lights. Tow bar
etc. MOT to September. Economical / Drives well.

£400.00 Call Biggles (Ralph) on 07850 208814.