

# TDC Turbine

*An intermittent missive of random rants, reports and reviews*

www.tdcireland.com



February 2012

## Chairman's Chatterings



JamesMansfield.net

**Eamonn Byrne features on the cover this time just for being Eamonn - an admirable role model in so many ways**

*There was a good response to the call for volunteers to help with The Dave Griffin Memorial Autotest at the end of last month. Thank you.*

*Please make yourself available for the Club's next major undertaking: an even more manpower consuming event - the TDC Endurance Trial on Saturday 31st March.*

*You might even consider "getting your eye in" by offering your services to ALMC for their Trial on Sat 18th Feb as lots of our members are competing.*

**HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2012 SUBSCRIPTION? - NEW MEMBERS WELCOME**



No new scribes this issue but Rob Bolton and David Fagan have done some shutter releasing

Joe



Christmas Autotest 26th December

This event was a great success under the watchful eye of C-o-C Rob Bolton. The tests were de-



vised by Declan Hendrick (finishing off the last of the Christmas cake) and laid out by his good self with the assistance of Philip Creighton and Christy & Christopher Grimes. While



Tim

Declan competed, the others mentioned above marshalled along with Ron Corry, Tim Faulkner and yours truly. Felix adopted his customary position behind the laptop. He did forsake the confines (more so than most examples of this model) of his Almera for Declan's Jeep for a more spacious working environment.



Most of the faces present were familiar and the results followed the usual pattern. However, espe-



cially worthy of mention is Pat Denning (seen here with John Nolan) who was making his autotest debut. In a suitably seasonal gesture, Trish forsook her entry to keep her dad (successfully) on the straight and narrow (twisty and roughish?).



Eamonn Byrne (he and Frank Lenehan look concerned), despite a problem with his gearbox gate (the transition from first to reverse was compromised), still managed to win. Daniel's car suffered some over-heating. This



was not a reflection of poor preparation - rather, none! Daniel, himself, almost managed

to avoid having a reproducible photo taken. Also noteworthy are Shay and Graham Crawley who



were stationed at the entrance down at the main road to fend off undesirables (I don't think there were any, though a few dodgy looking spectators such as John McAssey,



Tony Phillips & Martin Nugent did manage to inveigle their way in).



This really is a fantastic venue, which it would be nice to revisit on a regular basis if that were possible.

Editor



## RESULTS

- 1 Eamonn Byrne (Starlet) 886.5s,
- 2 Daniel Byrne (Starlet) 889.5s,
- 3 Darren Quille (Colt) 896.4s,
- 4 Richard Meeke (Starlet) 901.3s,
- 5 Liam Cashman (Starlet) 908.4s,
- 6 Simon Echlin (Starlet) 918.2s,
- 7 Frank Lenehan (Starlet) 934.6s,



## TDC Turbine

8 Declan Hendrick (Starlet) 938.9s,  
 9 Jack Newman (Starlet) 954.7s,  
 10 Graeme Colfer (Starlet) 958.7s,  
 11 Eoin Murray (Starlet) 960.1s,  
 12 Alan Auerbach (Starlet) 963.8s.  
 Class winners: Richard Meeke,  
 Jack Newman, Niall Murray  
 (Starlet) 981.1s.



*Darren Quille provided some relief from the Starlet hegemony in his Colt,, netting a fine third place*



*Richard Meeke survived an extra early start to avail of the NEXT sale in Dundrum to finish fourth*



*As usual, Liam Cashman made his trip worthwhile*



*Simon Echlin gets some advice from his dad, Jim*



*Jack Newman*



*Graeme Colfer*



*Niall Murray*



*Peter Boyd on the wrong end of the lens (again)*



*Niall Driver*



*This snap of Alan Auerbach includes one of the attractive features of the venue*



*Ian Downey keeps a suitably deferential distance behind his dad, Joe*



*Alan Watkins*



*Shane & Paschal Dunne*



*Philip O'Reilly*



*Mick Kehoe*



## UAC It's not the Boxing Day Rally 27th December



Will &amp; Pete

*Quite a large raiding party from these parts made an incursion into Northern territory for this event. This was successful vis-à-vis the top ten. However, Will Corry upheld local honour by fending off the invaders to record a fine win.*

*Despite attempting to unsettle his rivals with talk of seceding from the empire, James Wilson appeared in his usual Mini.*

Peter Boyd **PEE SPEED** also made the trip with his Instamatic. He is responsible for these great pics.

## RESULTS

- 1 Will Corry / Pete Moore (MG Midget) 1274 marks,
- 2 Eamonn Byrne / Anthony Preston (Toyota Starlet) 1282m,
- 3 Robert Dickson / Catherine Dickson (Austin Mini Cooper) 1335m,
- 4 Richard Meeke / Philip O'Reilly (Opel Corsa) 1345m,
- 5 Robert Woodside / Dean Beckett (Mazda MX-5) 1362m,
- 6 James Wilson / Roisin Boyd (Morris Mini) 1365m,
- 7 Frank Lenehan / Joanna Lenehan (Toyota Starlet) 1379m,
- 8 Michael Reid / John Lindsay (MG Midget) 1388m,
- 9 Brian Crawford / David Meeke (Mazda MX-5) 1389m,
- 10 Daniel Byrne / Kevin Fagan (Toyota Starlet) 1398m.



Eamonn &amp; Anthony



Robert &amp; Catherine



Richard &amp; Philip



James &amp; Roisin



Frank &amp; Joanna



Daniel &amp; Kevin



Before Christmas there was an enquiry from Sylvia Fagan (Andrew O'Donohoe's wife) wondering where the calendar for 2012 could be

found on the website. Apparently, she was trying to find out when Andrew's motorsport activities would be so that she could discover the couple of occasions when he might be available for family commitments.

## SNIPPETS

Larry Mooney reported at a committee meeting recently that in 1963 during the Ken Wharton Autotest - it was televised in those days - BBC commentator, Raymond Baxter, got wind of Larry's imminent daddyhood. When word came through he announced on air to the "world" that, back in Dublin, Larry's wife, Eileen, had just produced an 8 lb 12 oz baby boy.



Punchestown was the venue for this New Year extravaganza which was overseen with great sang-froid by Lyndsay Doran. She did suggest that her charges in the DSPCA for whom she cares during the week

are rather more bid-dable than those she was responsible for at the week-end despite

their supposedly being further up the evolutionary ladder. She didn't actually say that but in the tradition of contemporary "journalism" where the facts are incidental, I felt it read quite nicely and deserved inclusion. Lyndsay is certainly a "woman of action". She will be appearing in the Stillorgan Musical Society's production of the musical *HAIR* - Aquarius here we come - in the Pavilion Theatre from 29th Feb - 4th Mar.

There were some reservations expressed at the lack of (on purpose) test diagrams. I think it would be better if competitors knew about the position of stop-boxes and had a rough idea of where they were supposed to be going, especially if route defining tape / arrows disappeared courtesy of over-enthusiastic drivers. There was one tricky downhill section on the Sunday which was particularly challenging. Nonetheless, the manoeuvres included in the tests meant that Eamonn Byrne and therefore, I presume, the majority of the field never got into third gear.



Eamonn suffered the ignominy of being beaten into second place twice in the one week when Graeme Colfer came out on top on the Monday. (Will Corry had beaten Eamonn up north earlier in the week.)



Frank Lenehan ended up further down the order than might have been expected. Without a navigator he failed to negotiate the stop-boxes in the intended fashion. He incurred large penalties for these indiscretions.

The ploy of using the Sunday tests in reverse for Monday made the set-up for the latter easier. An adverse corollary, though, was that the tests cut up quite a bit.



Results, in the capable hands (fingers?) of William Kelly, were produced promptly and with very few anomalies to round off two

days' sport well received by those who competed.

Editor



### RESULTS Sunday

- 1 Eamonn Byrne (Starlet) 1552s,
- 2 John Nolan (Starlet) 1566s,
- 3 Brian Murphy (Starlet) 1575s,
- 4 Alan Auerbach (Starlet) 1582s,
- 5 Karl O'Donoghue (Rover 200) 1596s,
- 6 Daniel Byrne (Starlet) 1597s,
- 7 Ian Downey (Starlet) 1598s,
- 8 Frank Lenehan (Starlet) 1600s,
- 9 Richard Meeke (Corsa) 1601s,
- 10 Kevin O'Rourke (Starlet) 1601s,
- 11 Niall Murray (Starlet) 1606s,
- 12 Alan Watkins (BMW 318i) 1614s.

*Class winners:* Frank Lenehan, John Nolan, Alan Watkins.

### RESULTS Monday

- 1 Graeme Colfer (Starlet) 1602s,
  - 2 Eamonn Byrne (Starlet) 1604s,
  - 3 Liam Cashman (Starlet) 1611s,
  - 4 Eoin Murray (Starlet) 1618s,
  - 5 Daniel Byrne (Starlet) 1621s,
  - 6 Alan Auerbach (Starlet) 1625s,
  - 7 Brian Murphy (Starlet) 1632s,
  - 8 Frank Lenehan (Starlet) 1634s,
  - 9 Niall Murray (Starlet) 1647s,
  - 10 Kevin O'Rourke (Starlet) 1649s,
  - 11 Guy Foster (Mini) 1652s,
  - 12 Ian Downey (Starlet) 1654s.
- Class winners:* Liam Cashman, Eamonn Byrne, Piers MacFheorais (Mazda MX5) 1670s.

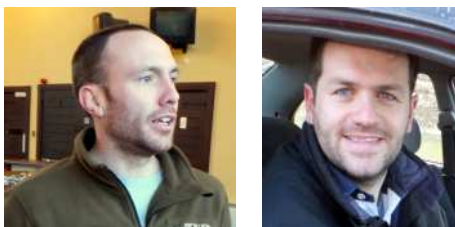


*There was some organisational input from Eddie Fitzgerald and Noel Devlin*





*Daniel Byrne comes in to land*



*Dave Sheehan (L) was really appreciative of Owen Murray letting him double-drive Owen's Lancer on Sunday - "I'm going to really thrash it today - I don't care if it breaks 'cos I won't be here tomorrow"*



*Ian White took dad, Bill, out for what I suspect was a not-so-leisurely Sunday drive*



*The self-styled Tullyallen Mafia (clockwise from top left): Martin Devine, Benny Lenahan, Stephen Healy & Patrick Maguire*



## Bonus Pics



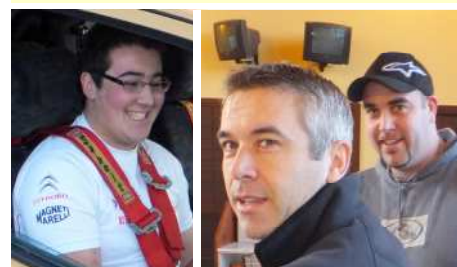
*Brian Murphy, Anthony Preston, Piers MacFheorais & Guy Foster defy conventional test queueing practice with their novel oblique approach*



*Andy and Stephen Mackarel had a secret weapon in the form of a chase bike handled by another potential practitioner of Mackarel magic, Derek*



*John Carroll gets his "Full Irish"*



*Richie O'Mahony*

*Cormac Galvin & Alan Watkins*

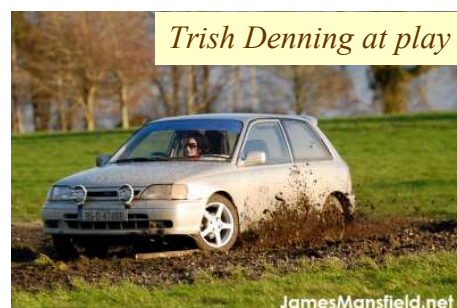


*Niall Murray got the better of dad, Joe*

*Danny O'Donohoe eases the pressure*



*Trish Denning at play*



*Don Whyatt at work*





## TDC Turbine



*A medley of fathers and sons (clockwise from top left): Alan & Peter Auerbach, Richard & Dave Meeke, James & Damien Doran, Myles & Philip O'Reilly.*

*{Incidentally, there were fears expressed about Richard's sanity when he chose to sit in with that epitome of moderate driving, Guy Foster, rather than his dad}*

*Jack Quinn setting up the camera for his horror movie project*



*John Nolan & Ian Downey betray their customarily sunny dispositions*



*Geoff Long*



*Karl O'Donoghue*



I had a bit of a first recently when visiting a farming friend in the depths of

County Kildare. John asked me to help him in a wood chopping exercise. This involved my driving a tractor for the very first time, and an interesting interlude it turned out to be. The tractor was not in the first flush of youth (like myself). It was a 1958 Massey Ferguson 35 which suffered quite an amount of understeer. The steering was somewhat indirect and my throttle/clutch balance saw me do a little wheelie. All in all, a great bit of excitement from which I emerged unscathed. I have included a picture of a similar machine, above. The example which I drove wasn't quite as pristine!

## SNIPPETS

Many of you, particularly those with an interest in Retros, will know that highly proficient navigator from Carrickfergus, Alan Dorman. Almost as many of you will know his mum and dad, Brian and Hazel, who have marshalled in these parts on many occasions.

Brian was awarded an MBE in the recent New Year's Honours List for his charitable works in Uganda. He has been working with *Africare* (a small Christian organization based in N Ireland, and working mainly in Uganda) for many years. The focus of the work there is **ACHERU - Afaayo (Luganda for He Cares) Child Health Education and Rehabilitation Unit** - where Ugandan staff provide care and treatment for disabled children. In Brian's typically self-deprecating way his reaction to the accolade was as follows:

*An additional encouragement for me has been the award of an MBE in the New Year's Honours List, which I take as a recognition of everyone's efforts – for much of the time all I do is spend other people's money, while our staff on the ground in Uganda go out and get the job done.*



## RESULTS

**MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS' CLUB KILKENNY CUP SPORTING TRIAL AT RUSSELLSTOWN, BLESSINGTON, CO WICKLOW: 10th December**

1 Christopher Evans (ETE-Yamaha) 6 marks,  
 2 Ian Meredith (VW) 6m,  
 3 Richard Meeke (BD-Opel) 8m,  
 4 Philip Erskine (Erskine-Yamaha) 9m,  
 5 Paul Needham (Erskine-Honda) 12m,  
 6 Fergil Gregory (Erskine-Yamaha) 13m,  
 7 Willie Fenton (VW) 14m,  
 8 Iain Meeke (BD-Opel) 15m,  
 9 Gordon Erskine (Erskine-Yamaha) 16m,  
 10 Percy Pennefather (Erskine-Suzuki) 16m,  
 11 Ian MacWilliam (Erskine-Yamaha) 17m,  
 12 Dermott Quigley (Kilkenny VW) 17m.  
*Grade winners:* Ian Meredith, Richard Meeke, Dermott Quigley, Iain Meeke.

**LEINSTER MOTOR CLUB LE FANU AND BRABAZON CUPS SPORTING TRIAL AT BELMONT, DELGANY, CO WICKLOW: 28th December**

1 Brian Conlon (Erskine-Honda) 2 marks,  
 2 Richard Pain (Kilkenny VW) 3m,  
 3 Ian MacWilliam (Erskine-Kawasaki) 3m,  
 4 John O'Reilly (Erskine-Kawasaki) 4m,  
 5 Philip Erskine (Erskine-Yamaha) 4m,  
 6 Alan Kilkenny (Kilkenny-Yamaha) 4m,  
 7 Paul Needham (Erskine-Honda) 5m,  
 8 Anto Conlon (Erskine-Honda) 5m,  
 9 Gordon Erskine (Erskine-Yamaha) 5m,  
 10 Christopher Evans (ETE-Yamaha) 6m,  
 11 Richard Meeke (BD-Opel) 7m.  
*Brabazon Cup:* Richard Pain.

**MIDLAND M C AUTOTEST AT LONGFORD (ROUND 8 OF HEWISON TROPHY CHAMPIONSHIP): 7th January**

1 Steven Ferguson (Mini Special) 587.8s,  
 2 Robin Lyons (Mini) 588.3s,  
 3 Eamonn Byrne (Mini) 592.4s,  
 4 Paddy Power (Mini Moke) 611.3s,  
 5 Sam Johnston (Mini Special) 614.0s,  
 6 Daniel Byrne (Mini) 620.4s,  
 7 Chris Grimes (Mini) 633.3s,  
 8 Guy Foster (Mini) 644.6s,  
 9 David Thompson (Nova) 646.9s,  
 10 Paul Phelan (Mini Special) 648.7s,  
 11 Alan Coyle (Mini Special) 652.7s,

12 Norman Ferguson (Mini) 653.3s.  
*Class winners:* Robin Lyons, Paddy Power, Andrew O'Donohoe (Westfield) 671.8s, David Thompson.  
*Semi-expert award:* Paul Mooney (Nova) 703.3s.  
*Novice awards:* Timmy Lynch (Westfield) 707.1s, Jamie McMillan (Nova) 743.7s.

**MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS' CLUB FREEMAN CUP SPORTING TRIAL AT NEWTOWN BOSWELL, ASHFORD, CO WICKLOW : 7th January**

1 Alan Kilkenny (Kilkenny-Yamaha) 4 marks,  
 2 Brian Conlon (Erskine-Honda) 7m,  
 3 Craig MacWilliam (Erskine-Yamaha) 10m,  
 4 Gordon Erskine (Erskine-Yamaha) 10m,  
 5 Christopher Evans (ETE-Yamaha) 10m,  
 6 Joe McCann (JMcVW) 11m,  
 7 Philip Erskine (Erskine-Yamaha) 11m,  
 8 Ian MacWilliam (Erskine-Yamaha) 13m.

**CARRICK-ON-SUIR M C AUTOTEST AT WATERFORD (ROUND 9 OF HEWISON TROPHY CHAMPIONSHIP) (DAY 1): 21st January**

1 Steven Ferguson (Mini Special) 650.2s,  
 2 Eamonn Byrne (Mini) 664.9s,  
 3 Paddy Power (Mini Moke) 673.3s,  
 4 Daniel Byrne (Mini) 680.6s,  
 5 Chris Grimes (Mini) 698.2s,  
 6 David Thompson (Nova) 699.0s,  
 7 Guy Foster (Mini) 710.0s,  
 8 Paul Phelan (Mini Special) 711.6s,  
 9 Andrew O'Donohoe (Westfield) 711.9s,  
 10 Mark King (Nova) 719.3s,  
 11 Ian White (Mini) 721.4s,  
 12 Darren Quille (Westfield) 732.5s.  
*Class winners:* Eamonn Byrne, Paddy Power, Andrew O'Donohoe, Seamus Anderson (Starlet), David Thompson.  
*Semi-expert award:* Rory Power (Mini) 761.3s.  
*Novice awards:* Timmy Lynch (Westfield) 776.4s, Jamie McMillan (Nova) 845.7s, Peter Falvey (Corsa) 925.2s.

**CARRICK-ON-SUIR M C AUTOTEST AT WATERFORD (ROUND 10 OF HEWISON TROPHY CHAMPIONSHIP) (DAY 2): 22nd January**

1 Steven Ferguson (Mini Special) 526.7s,  
 2 J J Farrell (Mini Special) 536.6s,  
 3 Paddy Power (Mini Moke) 551.7s,  
 4 Eamonn Byrne (Mini) 567.8s,



5 Daniel Byrne (Mini) 571.5s,  
6 Chris Grimes (Mini) 574.8s,  
7 Norman Ferguson (Mini) 577.7s,  
8 David Thompson (Nova) 578.4s,  
9 Paul Mooney (Nova) 583.1s,  
10 Guy Foster (Mini) 588.1s,  
11 Paul Phelan (Mini Special) 600.7s,  
12 Ian White (Mini) 602.9s.

*Class winners:* Eamonn Byrne, J J Farrell, Darren Quille (Westfield) 607.3s, Seamus Anderson (Starlet), David Thompson.

*Semi-expert award:* Paul Mooney.

*Novice awards:* Jamie McMillan (Nova) 673.8s, Peter Falvey (Corsa) 762.2s.

### **GARDA SIOCHANA M C KEHOE CUP SPORTING TRIAL AT BOHERNABREENA, CO DUBLIN: 21st January**

1 Brian Conlon (Erskine-Honda) 16 marks,  
2 Philip Erskine (Erskine-Yamaha) 19m,  
3 John O'Reilly (Erskine-Kawasaki) 24m,  
4 Christopher Evans (ETE-Yamaha) 26m,  
5 John Bolton (Grasshopper VW) 26m,  
6 Gordon Erskine (Erskine-Yamaha) 32m.

### **MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS' CLUB JENKINS CUP SPORTING TRIAL AT GREENAN, CO WICK- LOW: 5th February**

1 Fergil Gregory (Erskine-Yamaha) 2 marks,

2 Alan Kilkenny (Kilkenny-Yamaha) 2m,  
3 Christopher Evans (ETE-Yamaha) 2m,  
4 Percy Pennefather (Erskine-Suzuki) 4m,  
5 Gordon Erskine (Erskine-Yamaha) 5m,  
6 Iain Meeke (BD-Opel) 5m,  
7 Ian MacWilliam (Erskine-Yamaha) 5m,  
8 John O'Reilly (Erskine-Kawasaki) 6m.

### **CARLOW C C RALLYCROSS AT MON- DELLO PARK (ROUND 4 OF MOTORSPORT IRELAND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP): 5th February**

#### **SUPER FINAL:**

1 George Tracey (Citroen Xsara) 4m 19.37s,  
6 Eddie Peterson (Peugeot 106) 4m 43.00s.

#### **SUPERCAR A FINAL:**

1 George Tracey (Citroen Xsara) 3m 37.05s,  
*SOUTHSIDE MOTOR FACTORS MODIFIED B FI-  
NAL:*

1 Don Shannon (Volvo S40) 3m 55.69s,  
4 Chris Grimes (Vauxhall Nova) 4m 06.31s,  
*RATHGAR MOTOR FACTORS STOCK HATCH 16  
VALVE FINAL:*

1 Graeme Colfer (Peugeot 106) 3m 57.64s,  
2 Eddie Peterson (Peugeot 106) 3m 57.87s,  
3 Gordon Lynch (Peugeot 106) 3m 59.03s,  
4 Eoin Murray (Peugeot 106) 3m 59.52s,  
5 Aaron Dalton (Peugeot 106) 4m 05.71s.

### **Crossword**

Yet again there was a crossword error - sorry. That editor should be sacked. The 3-Down clue ought to have been - *What tyres produce when stressed*

1		2			3
4	5		6		
7					

#### **Across**

- 1 How you must drive to do better (6)  
4 What driving into solid objects causes (6)  
7 An occasional problem with HT leads (6)

#### **Down**

- 1 Henry's car (4)  
2 Between south and west (2)  
3 Bicycle make for cigarette smokers (7)  
5 A Morgan chocolate model (4)  
6 Liquid in batteries (4)

#### **December Solution**

L	E	M	A	N	S
A		G			Q
D					U
A	P	A	C	H	E
	I		A		A
V	E	T	T	E	L
	R		H		S

## FEBRUARY QUIZ



Who are these three memorable motorsporters, all of whom hail from outside the 26 counties?

Answers to: [imcc@oceanfree.net](mailto:imcc@oceanfree.net)

## DECEMBER QUIZ

## Answers



1. **Joe Doran** was delighted to come across these shoes (boots?) recently. He snapped them up to act as an ever-present reminder of his misspent youth



2. This pic was taken on the UAC Retro. The red biro is the clue. It is **Felix**. Whether the umbrella is being used to shelter from the rain or to hide his embarrassment at his couple of faux-pas is moot.



In conversation with Frank Lenehan recently I discovered that in the past he and Ruth got together for a navigation event. Frank was very impressed when they duly arrived at Time Point 1. He was less impressed when it transpired that she had neglected to bring them to the Start Control.



*It was good to see Noel Broderick pootling around Mondello at the Dave Griffin autotest. We wish him well as he continues to convalesce from his recent surgical adventure.*

Following the pre-event administrative procedure for the above it has been suggested that the next

## SNIPPETS

navigation lesson should have a short interlude on coping with entry forms. Specifics covered might include practice in writing your name legibly, how to arrive at the total entry fee required for your particular circumstances, the necessity to provide all of the information sought and the importance of this information being correct (an engine capacity of 1331 cc is not eligible for the under 1300 class). Although sign-on was pretty slick, it would have been even slicker if every competi-

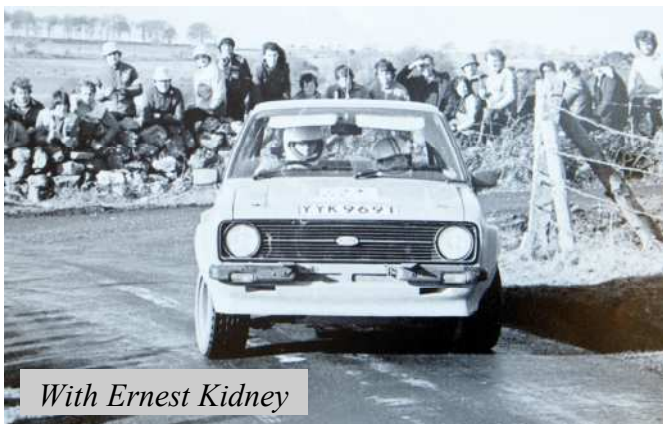
tor had his/her bits and pieces in order.

*Again re. the above, when trying to keep some semblance of order in the paddock as competitors arrived (this turned out to be a very easy job as, unbidden, everybody parked sensibly. Apart, that is from one guy whom I had to redirect. I suggested he leave the car on the flatbed and head for check-in. It was only a while later when he was heading back out of the gate that I realised that his car was an immaculate Golf VR6 which I should have copped wasn't appropriate for the event. He stopped and explained that he had got his dates mixed up and had thought it was a trackday. It had finally dawned on him when the paperwork at sign-on was rather more elaborate than he was used to.*



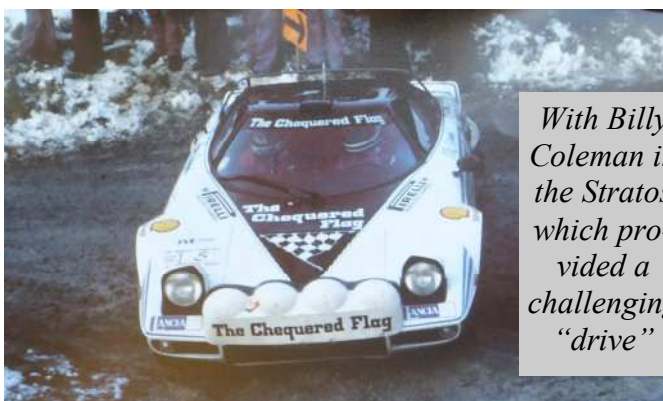
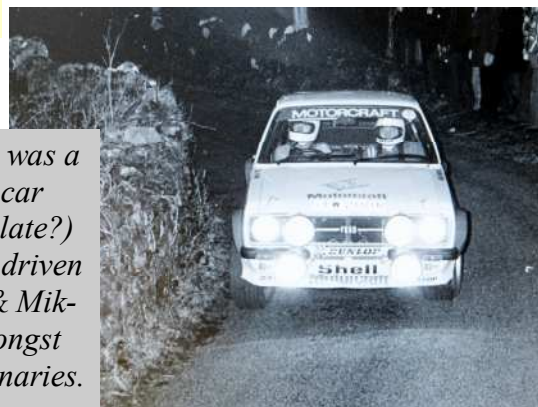
SNIPPET

Here is the first page of Frank O'Donoghue's photos as they ought to have been reproduced in the December Turbine. The other corrupted ones are overleaf.



With Ernest Kidney

STW 200R was a famous car (number plate?) which was driven by Clark & Mik-kola, amongst other luminaries.



With Billy Coleman in the Stratos which provided a challenging "drive"



The "Doc" (just), Billy Coleman & Michael O'Carroll in the Teilifís Eireann Volvo

With Bertie Fisher in one of the last Tarmac Escorts. It's spec wasn't quite kosher and they were asked not to park near any other Escorts - a wheel-base anomaly



STW again



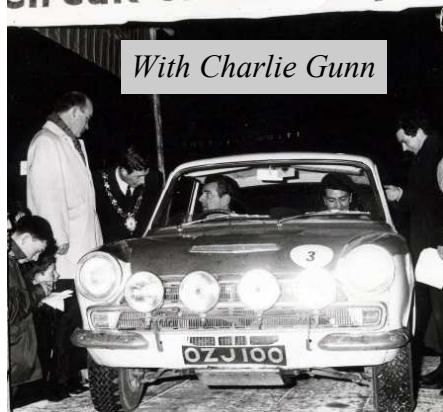
With Ernest Kidney, again



This was one of the first Gartrac Escorts. Pictured at Longleat are Sydney Meeke, "Twinny" Phillips, The "Doc" & Bertie Fisher



## Circuit of Galway



*With Charlie Gunn*



*With David Crawford*



*With Frank Fennell*

## Temptations

14th January

*The Temptations maybe didn't have quite the allure to entice the hordes we had hoped for to all of the attractions.*

Nonetheless, ten hardy souls attended the navigation



*David, being coy*



lesson in the morning and seemed to enjoy the experience. The presence of Vincent and David Fagan served to relieve the monotony of Ian McCulloch's delivery. It was great to see Vincent (seen above giving Patricia Wojnar individual attention) in such fine fettle.



*John Kane*



*Ian McCulloch drones on*



*Tim Faulkner, Ronan Crosby, Julie Faulkner & Eamonn King get on with their work*



*Zoe & Stephen Briggs*



*James Driver & Patrick Thomas*





Seven cars turned up for the Treasure Hunt in the afternoon. We could have accommodated a few more but the small number and the everyday vehicles they chose to bring along meant that no natives became restless. All of the frivolous activities were undertaken with some enthusiasm. David and Iain Meeke took the

prizes so no one went home empty handed. Marshal of the afternoon was Emma Byrne who kept Grandpa Frank Lenehan on the straight and narrow as he administered a couple of the tests.



*Iain prepares while waiting for dad & chauffeur, Dave, to arrive*



*Philip O'Reilly and Richard Meeke plan their strategy*

*The boss, Joe Doran, checking up - he competed with Colette and Nikki but being the consummate diplomat he made sure that they didn't win*



*Emma receiving her "Marshal of the day" award*

paper dart competition very seriously, testing a number of prototypes in the hotel corridor before deciding on a final design for the competition itself. The winners were Burschi and Patricia Wojnar by not very much from everybody else. Fortunately, there were lots of

*Frank Lenehan catches up on the news before heading off to fulfil his marshalling duties*



*After the date for the Temptations had been fixed I was informed by my social secretary that we had already accepted an invitation to a neighbour's eightieth birthday hooley. So, I was unable to be there for the AGM, Prize Giving and Table Quiz but left the wherewithal for the latter in the capable hands of Frank Fennell, Robert Bolton and Paul Phelan.*



**AGM**



*The powers behind TDC explain themselves. The Club is indeed extremely fortunate to have such a marvellous officer triumvirate in (from left) Paul Phelan (Hon Sec), Joe Doran (President) and Tim Faulkner (Hon Treas)*

# CHAMPIONSHIP PRIZEGIVING



Very much the “baby” of Tim Faulkner, this Championship goes from strength to strength. Another great year saw lots of talent emerge and existing talent consolidated. Well done to everyone involved, both competitors and officials.

## Beginners

1	Jamie McMillan (14)	47
2	Mark Fagan (14)	44
3	John Kane (14)	34
4	James Mansfield (11)	32
5	Niall Murray (14)	22
6	Andy O’Brien (14)	18
7	Zoe Briggs (14)	16



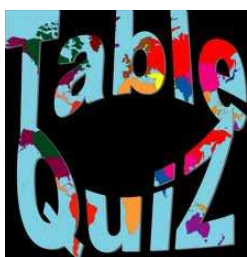
Jamie with Joe Doran

## Novices

1	Keith Byrne (14)	44
2=	Mark Nugent (14)	40
2=	Timmy Lynch (13)	40
4	Alan Auerbach (14)	33
5	Philip O’Reilly (14)	31
6	Rory Power (11)	24
7	Jay Donegan (14)	23
8	Owen Murray (14)	22



Keith



Piers MacFheorais and Eamonn King exude an air of quiet confidence



George McMillan realises (too late) his mistake in sitting with Dave Meeke



John McAssey ponders



FF gets some advice (friendly?) from Eoin O’Curry



Peter Auerbach, Declan Hendrick and Eamonn & Daniel Byrne adopt a novel transverse team formation



Mark Doran does some revision beforehand



Myles O’Reilly catches up with the December Turbine





*Vincent Fagan and Susan (no relation) Fagan*



*Stephen Briggs and Sarah Kavanagh*



*The ubiquitous Richard Meeke and Philip O'Reilly*

*To return to the Table Quiz, FF phoned me the next day to say that everything had gone well and that all of the stuff I had prepared had made his task a very rewarding one. I also had a communication from Rob which was rather different in flavour. Our email exchanges are below which I trust will give those unable to make it an idea of how the evening went!*

From: Robert Bolton  
Sent: 15 January 2012 00:33  
To: Ian McCulloch  
Subject: Table Quiz  
Importance: Low

Thanks a lot - that's the last time I'm doing results for your bleeding quiz - it's me who's bleeding internally from all the controversy, complaints, contention and confrontation arising from ambiguous questions and 'official' answers which were blatantly wrong. For example:-

- There is no difference between eggs and bacon and bacon and eggs. Therefore there are only 21 combinations of dinner.
- Robbie Keane currently plays for Aston Villa.
- There are many, many, many millions of engines with horizontally opposed pistons commonly known as 'flat' engines (think VW Beetle, Porsche 911) but relatively few commonly known as 'boxer'.
- ER may have been filmed in part

in Los Angeles but it was set in Chicago (think of quite a large number of scenes set in icy/snowy/freezing conditions which are extremely unusual in Los Angeles).

All one could do was to adopt a very firm stance that the only acceptable answers were the 'official' answers.

Having said all that two teams which should have been joint first but were penalised for correctly (but officially wrongly) answering questions and thus demoted down the finishing order all agreed that you had done your best, it was supposed to be for fun (and quite tasty, if not valuable, prizes) and that they will not take any further action. (You might like to explain the correctness of the official answers to a certain M. O'Reilly (ER) and D. Meeke (dinner combinations) in particular)).

Hope you enjoyed your great-great-granny party more than I enjoyed adjudicating the quiz.

Rob

*From: Ian McCulloch  
To: Robert Bolton  
Subject: Table Quiz  
Date: Sun, 15 Jan 2012 09:33:30 +0000*

*Thank you for providing the leading (and very entertaining) article for the next Turbine issue. I am pleased to have been able to give you the opportunity to practise*

*your conciliatory skills. As you obviously coped so effectively keep this time of year free next year so that you can have another fun-filled evening to mark the beginning of 2013!*

*Any gerrymandering or other skulduggery evident at the AGM?*

*Our great-great-granny party was surprisingly enjoyable – meal in Beaufield Mews tasty.*

*Will drop up today or tomorrow to pick up stuff – will ring before venturing forth.*

*Ian*

*(that computer class has equipped you with all sorts of skills!)*

Sent: 15 January 2012 12:07

And I've signed up for another computer class so you'd better watch out!! And I'm happy to report that last night's perturbation of my emotional self is feeling much calmer this morning thank you. To further allay your consternation, the results indicated that, overall, the questions set were sufficiently sensible that all of the teams were able to answer a sufficient number in order not to become too demoralised. Indeed, just five marks separated eight teams with the best on 40 and the least best on 35. There was a two-way tie for second on 39 and a three-way tie for fourth on 37 which reminds me - we couldn't find your tie-decider questions and had to make some up on the spot. When

three rounds of tie-deciders failed to resolve the deadlock of runners-up, quizmaster Fennell proposed to settle the impasse by applying the 'Furthest Cleanest' rule which was duly implemented with great success.

And the wining team comprised .... Eamonn King, Tim Faulkner, Eoin O'Curry and (for part of the time) Piers MacFheorais.

The AGM proceeded uncontroversially.

Rob

Date: Sun, 15 Jan 2012 13:23:19 +0000

Thank you for providing another page for the Turbine.

Given that the quiz seems to have been quite all-consuming, I am worried that you may not have had

*opportunities to take snaps and, that if you did, they may not match the standard of your literary contribution to date.*

*It did strike me at some stage during our geriatric interlude that I had omitted to supply tie-*

*breakers. I consoled myself in the knowledge that you and FF would be able to extemporise fittingly, as seems to have been the case.*

*I actually thought that you could just have had equal-first, equal-second, etc. as appropriate. There seemed to be enough prizes to cope with this approach.*

*Ian*

Sent: 15 January 2012 15:18

A photographer does not take 'snaps' as you so derogatorially describe the art of im-

age capturisation. As it happens, I have transferred from my spouse's image capturisation device to the recollection section of my mainframe some exposures of last night's stimulation which I shall endeavour anon to dispatch to the ether for transmission to your own mainframe.

As for your breathtakingly fantastic oversight, doubleeff and I are unable to accept your felicitations in respect of one of the endeavours to disentangle the impasse; our esteemed colleague doublepee's cranium was assaulted by the solution of the contestants unmistakably recording the registration number of his motor car. This they found quite insuperable, hence doubleeff's solution of 'furthest cleanest'.

Rob

Subsequently, Tim Faulkner made some positive comments on the website which I include below (mainly because of his objective observations on my performance)

*BIG thanks to Ian.*

*Nav lessons, including special guest appearance by The Vin and The Dave (Vincent must be feeling better : plenty of sarcasm provided, as usual ! ) absolutely*



*fried Ronan's brain. But useful for the practice.*

*Julie, my daughter, driving on 'L' plates found the treasure hunt an absolute blast !*

*She is an RTA learner; not just a TDC beginner. It was a great driving lesson; great experience. One of her friends with a full licence has apparently never driven outside D14 & D16 postcodes !*

*A slight skid on some gravel didn't result in fright or screams ! : just drop a gear and say " I wanna be a rally driver ! "*

*And then second overall !*

*Folks : you missed it ! Ian did a superb job setting this up and it is just a pity more did not take part. It was really excellent.*

*AGM was fine! just a tad restrained for reasons of propriety.*

*And a win with Piers, Eoin O'C and Eamonn King in the table quiz to finish off. Just beat Eamonn, Daniel and the Peespeed crew by a point in the end.! We were ahead much of the evening but they led going into the final round.*

*Good day all round. Again Thanks to Ian for his major input, and the marshals and the table quiz crew of FF, Felix and Rob Bolton.*

*Finally, appreciation to all who turned up for the AGM. Thanks. **Tim***



There is no truth in the rumour that Mark Doran was tempted to follow the example of the captain of the Italian cruise ship, Costa Concordia, during the Dave Griffin Memorial Autotest.



## Dave Griffin Memorial Autotest

29th January

After a very close battle over three laps of six tests, Eddie



Peterson just prevailed by three seconds from Eamonn Byrne so Mini beat Starlet. Both are pictured here before the start looking remarkably up beat. They must have known it was going to be a good day. Ash-



ley Lamont, in his lovely Midget, seen here appropriately on top, was third.

There were quite a few retirements. El presidente, Joe Doran, had his clutch give up the ghost on the first test. The journey down had been sufficiently

sedate for the problem not to have been apparent. Trish Denning sent me a note on a ramification of this malfunction. *"Joe Doran had the great pleasure of driving my Starlet (which has been re-named by my family as Patricia's wreck) home from Mondello. He had clutch problems with the Manta and I lent him my trailer. My Starlet would not be noted for its comforts. Nevertheless, Joe was very grateful for it getting him home, though he politely rebuffed suggestions that he might consider moving to the dark side permanently."* Damien Doran's



Damien



Guy

Mini failed him yet again. The Minis of Guy Foster and James Mansfield did finish but weren't working to their owners' satisfaction, though James' machine did recover somewhat after a

quick once-over by Eamonn. Richard Meeke had an axle failure in his Corsa. Philip O'Reilly very generously took him on board his Starlet. Richard's dad,



David, was left to get some value out of his umbrella. There is no truth in the rumour that the fail which Richard suffered was as a result of Philip sending him the wrong way, just to avoid being beaten in his own car! Another father and son pairing were Shane and Paschal Dunne. There



seemed to be a sort of role reversal here in that Shane appeared to be the more sedate performer of the pair.

Conal O'Neill was making his debut in a Starlet from Andrew O'Donohoe's stable. I was a little bit surprised to be told that it was one of Andrew's as its paintwork was decidedly secondhand. There



were four Courtneys represented. This one is Aidan. They left a fifth at home in Galway. Apparently, he drives as well but, on this occasion, had neglected to get his act together in time.



There were many posts from appreciative competitors on the website. C-o-C extraordinaire, Mark Doran, responded thus:

*Many thanks for the positive feedback. This event is the culmination of a lot of effort from numerous TDC members. I'd like to say a big thank you to Trish Denning for taking on the job of the entries secretary. Dealing with 90 entries takes up a lot of time. As always, the results team of Timmy Faulk-*



*ner and Paul Phelan gave a solid performance. 1600 odd tests were completed on the day, and to produce results that were uncontested is some achievement. Big thank you!!! To all the marshals who braved the terrible weather all day, thank you. I could write a list of everybody involved, but I'm sure I'd forget somebody. The size of the event meant a large number of marshals were required, which thankfully we were able to provide. For those of you*

*who were conscripted on the day, it was a great help.*

*I am informed that TDC will be organising an end-of-year raffle for all marshals who helped out throughout the year, with some very nice prizes.*

*The club would like to thank Mondello Park for the use*



*of their circuit. Without their support and cooperation, there would be no event. Many thanks.*

*And lastly, I'd like to thank the competitors for behaving themselves all day. Given the slippery conditions there were surprisingly few locations where competitors had overshoots / ran wide. On the day, it would've been very easy to carve up the place, and I'm happy to report that the grounds were left in good condition.*

*Until next year.*

## RESULTS

- 1 Eddie Peterson (Mini) 1375s,
  - 2 Eamonn Byrne (Starlet) 1387s,
  - 3 Ashley Lamont (MG Midget) 1411s,
  - 4 Liam Cashman (Starlet) 1416s,
  - 5 Declan Hendrick (Starlet) 1433s,
  - 6 Daniel Byrne (Starlet) 1437s,
  - 7 Michael Reid (MG Midget) 1442s,
  - 8 Darren Quille (Colt) 1445s,
  - 9 Niall Murray (Starlet) 1456s,
  - 10 Alan Auerbach (Starlet) 1460s,
  - 11 Eoin Murray (Starlet) 1461s,
  - 12 Philip O'Reilly (Starlet) 1473s.
- Class winners: Liam Cashman, Daniel Byrne, Ashley Lamont, Dermot Carnegie (Escort) 1480s, Ciaran Timmons (Seicento) 1532s.*



*Declan looks pleased while Daniel hides, as usual*



*Michael prepares for action*



*Camera was the wrong way around for this shot of Darren*



*Niall texting to let everybody know that he beat Eoin*



*Dermot*



*Alan*



*Ciaran wonders should he bother leaving the comfort of the cab*



## TDC Turbine



*John McAssey brought his BGT to give it a thorough leak check*



*Emma Byrne works at her hand / eye coordination skills*



*Graham O'Donoghue took dad, Frank, along for moral support, though who was supporting who, I'm not sure?*



*Test 1 overseers - Peter Lynch, Shay & Graham Crawley, Rob Bolton*



*Vinnie O'Reilly added to the experience by listening to RTE Lyric throughout. I trust it didn't result in his becoming over-excited*

*Nikki Doran who, as ever, lightened the gloom*



*Richard Meeke dressed very appropriately as you can see from the close-up of his logo*



*Stephen Briggs had his son, Leo, with him - another member of the family indoctrinated*



*David White & Eoin O'Curry seek food and shelter at halftime*



*Susan Fagan shows off her niece, Niamh*



*Aisling Reid & Mairead Doyle wonder how Jonathan Bradshaw conned them into coming along*



*Ian White took Bill out for another Sunday drive*

*Fred Lewis enjoyed a relaxing lunch break*



*Stefan Walsh's self-belief remains as high as ever*



*John Nolan keeps his head above water*



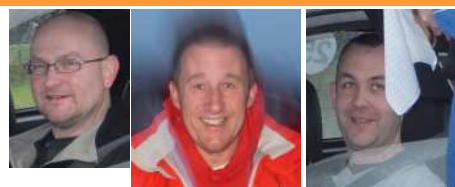
## TDC Turbine



*David Hayes & David Jenkins both retired. The latter won the award for first competitor to arrive*



*Joe Courtney, Neil Bradbury*



*Dave McAulay, Dave Shirley, Seán O'Toole*



*Anthony Preston unleashes his Starlet*



*James Driver*



*Paul Tierney, David Milligan*



*Eoin Longworth enjoyed his debut in the other seat*



*Nice Escort pilots Danny O'Donohoe & Gerry Lynch (both Escorts and pilots are nice)*



*Mick Kehoe kills two birds with one stone by doing simultaneous post & pre-event services before the "off"*



*Ivan McAtear was at the mercy of the elements more than most. He does have a hardtop at home! Ian McCulloch provides temporary shelter*



*Jay Donegan & Wesley Sloan*

*The Earney Entourage*



*Mick & James (first time out) Fisher and Billy Fennan braved the elements with a smile*