

Chris More 1946 – 2016

Sadly we have to report the death of another long standing member of SCCON, this time one who was well known to many of us and was competing up until 2 years ago.

Chris had a varied and interesting life, he went into agriculture on leaving school, then into woodworking in Kings Lynn, he then progressed to become a housing officer for Breckland Council and subsequently Wherry Housing Association. He finally became self employed doing rally servicing, selling race/rally tyres and transporting race/rally/classic vehicles.

Chris became a member of SCCON in the early seventies whilst crewing and occasionally co-driving for his brother Tim who was, at the time, a well known road and stage rally driver.

He then brought his considerable knowledge and practical help to many roles within SCCON; he was always one of the first to volunteer as part of an event organising team as Chief Marshal and/or as Safety Officer, and often leading the SCCON team that manned start/finish controls on stage events throughout the Eastern Counties. He also marshalled on and organised many 12 Car rallies. Chris was present on many of the clubs trips to marshal on national and international rallies from the Tour of Britain in the seventies to radio crew on several RAC rallies and led or joined SCCON groups that marshalled or spectated in Yorkshire, Northumberland, The Lake District, Scotland, Wales and a particular favourite the Isle of Man where many a story was told with the odd pint in hand. Chris was to be found with convivial company living life and greatly enjoying all motor sport to the full.

He worked with others namely Peter Morris, the late Malcolm Watson and Julia Marcantonio to get the SCCON Classic up and running as an independent event after the demise of the Norwich Union Classic He continued to support the event as an entrant in later years but was not well enough to make it out this year. He was always helpful with sound advice

based on many years experience and an undying passion for the classic cars.

During this period Chris built up his own small eclectic collection of classics, a Sunbeam Talbot (with pinto engine)rally/track car, a Lotus Élan S4 (fondly called Fat Arse), a Ford Escort RS2000 droop snoot and his last project which was an MGB GT Sebring replica which sadly he was never able to drive. And of course who will forget his wonderful Mk1 Escort rally car he campaigned on many 12 Car rallies. This car for many evoked the sounds and sights of the classic rallying period which appealed to Chris greatly.

As a result of his passion for motor sport in general Chris has made annual pilgrimages with his son Jonathan to Le Mans and Nurburgring.

Chris was probably best known within the club for his participation in the 12 car series over the last fifteen years his reputation as an enthusiastic and thoroughly competitive driver who enjoyed the Friday night challenge are borne out by results with the many trophies still adorning his lounge for all to see, he competed over the years in all sorts of vehicles demonstrating that it does not need to be a thoroughbred rally car to be able to compete successfully. He campaigned cars as diverse as a diesel Escort Estate, an automatic Subaru Impreza estate, a Peugeot 205 gti and a 206gti, Ian Dobles road Saxo (pressed into service at the last minute due to mechanical problems) and of course the forementioned Mk1 Escort. He also enjoyed the company of a number of navigators such as Ian Doble, Simon Tebbut and David Smalley to name but a few and they will no doubt have tales to tell of Chris's press on driving style.

Chris was a man who believed in going out and enjoying all aspects of motor sport whether as a spectator, marshal, event official or competitor and has given and gained much pleasure from his life and association with it.

In the late nineties Chris's health suffered badly with asbestos related illness which limited his lung capacity considerably but despite this he continued to be available with his services.

His tragic passing from motor neurones disease has happened much quicker than he or his family and friends hoped for. He faced the disease

with the way that those who knew Chris well would expect, he wasn't going to give in easily and he retained his sense of humour to the end.

In compiling this brief look at Chris's life I have spoken to quite a few people who knew and were associated with him and all have tales to tell so instead of me trying to include them here what would be a fitting tribute would be if all of you could spare few minutes to write your own memories and we will include them in the next edition of Spotlight .

Finally our thoughts and best wishes go to his partner Pat who has looked after his so well during his illness and his children and grandchildren.

One more person to bear a thought for will be St Peter, let's hope he has the right time for Chris when he arrives at that final TC.

We will Miss You Chap

PW & PM