

HENRY FAIRHEAD 1940 - 2021



When Henry visited SCON's 70th anniversary commemoration event at Snetterton on 14th August 2021, he was his usual cheery, cheeky self. So there was surprise and great sadness when we learnt that Henry had died on 13th September. His funeral on 4th October showed the affection for him and the high regard in which he was held because it was attended by over 160 people of whom eight were representatives from SCON.

The minister at Cromer Crematorium knew Henry personally and was able to give some insight into Henry's life that most members of SCON will be unaware of. He was head boy of his school and he had a trial as a potential young footballer for Norwich City, though his lifelong allegiance as a football fan was to Wolverhampton Wanderers. He was also a very keen fisherman!

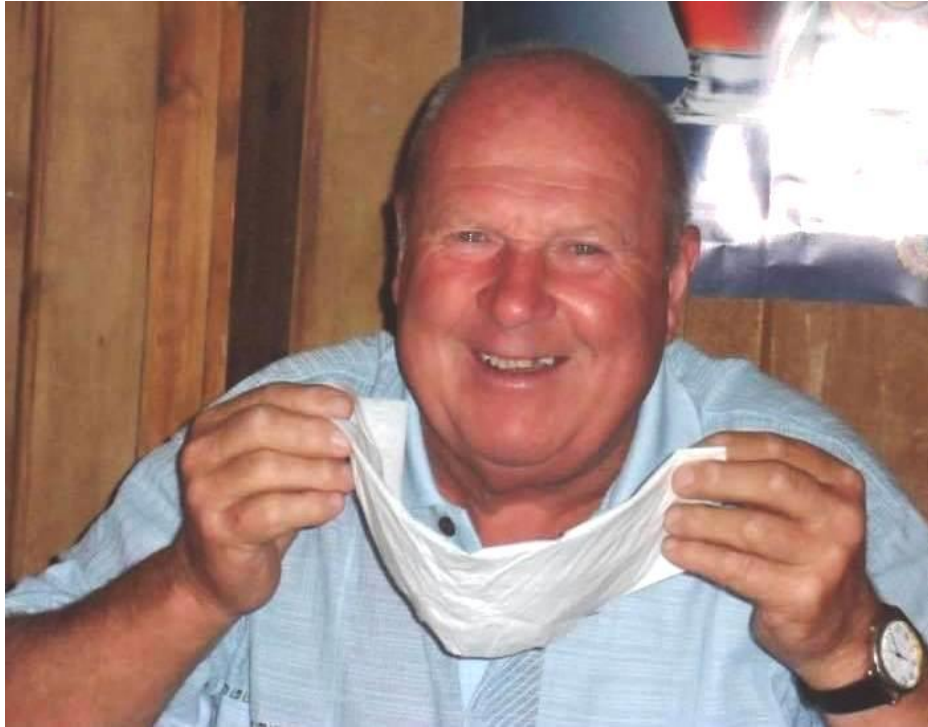
We knew Henry as a haulage contractor running his own lorry, but earlier in his working life he'd been a wherry-man. He said that sailing the wherry and loading and unloading it had been tremendously hard work, nevertheless he had thoroughly enjoyed it.



In motor sport, Henry rallied his red, white and green 1300cc Ford Escort Mk2 from the early eighties (or maybe earlier) and he completed a remarkable one hundred stage rallies in that car. In 1995 Henry won SCON's stage rally driver of the year award for the fifth consecutive time.

He also raced Fords for ten years, starting his first race in a Fiesta XR2 Mk1 at Mallory Park in 1991. In 1996, he swapped to an ex-Snetterton Racing School Escort XR3i and was immediately 3 seconds per lap faster than he'd been in his XR2. Henry retired from motor racing in 2000 and soon afterwards took on a new role as an MSA Scrutineer, mainly at Snetterton Circuit.

We knew Henry as a great supporter of the British Heart Foundation Charity Days at Snetterton, but he also found many ways to support folk around his home village of Honing when they needed help. Honing Village Hall is well known to SCCON members as the venue for the P & H 12-car rally that Pat and Henry have sponsored continuously since 1989. Henry always insisted that this event be run as a novice event to encourage newcomers because he was keen for as many people as possible to gain enjoyment from motor sport.



The members of SCCON have been privileged to share times with Henry Fairhead, a kind and good man, over many years. The Sporting Car Club of Norfolk sends heartfelt condolences to Pat, and to Pat and Henry's daughter Karen and son Adrian.

Peter Riddle October 2021