

Dictionary OF ROAD RALLYING.

• A

- **AA** *abbrev.* Automobile Association - a bunch of Very Nice Men as long as they don't know you're on a rally
- **all-nighter** *n.* A full length rally, often followed by breakfast
- **alloy** *n.* material used to triple the price of car parts
- **AR** *abbrev.* All Roads - code meaning "difficult clue"
- **autotest** *n.* an organised event designed to test use of the handbrake

• B

- **black ice** *n.* See moment, stack
- **Blue Book** *n.* a baroque comedic work in the style of Lear poetry published by RACMSA
- **Bowring** *n.* purveyors of insurance
- **box** *n.* a connoisseur's ninety
- **bridge** *n.* road-reading instruction warning of potential yump or ninety. See moment
- **bump stop** *n.* small rubber object designed to protect MacPherson strut valves and fuel lines

• C

- **catch** *v.t.* to survive a moment, as in 'I caught the first three'
- **cattle grid** *n.* See moment
- **caution** *n.* a particularly fine yump the rally organisers have taken pains to point out
- **closing car** *n.* sweeps up afterwards
- **clue** *n.* navigational rally route instruction, as in "I haven't got a clue what this means"
- **code board** *n.* small temporary road sign hidden in a hedge immediately before a ninety
- **compass** *n.* sign of a desperate navigator
- **Cozzie** *n.* rally prepared Ford Escort or Sierra RS Cosworth. Opposite of scrapper in every sense
- **crest** *n.* the top of a hill
- **CRO** *abbrev.* Coloured Roads Only - code meaning "nice clue"

• D

- **ditch** *v.t.* to parallel park a car unexpectedly during a rally
- **driver** *n.* incompetent person holding steering wheel
- **doughnut** *n.* novel means of ploughing grass with a rear wheel drive car

• E

- **ETL** *abbrev.* Electricity Transmission Line - large metallic twentieth century sculpture erected by Southern Electric to make rally clues harder

- **excuse** *n.* means to explain poor result in rally, or ditching or similar manoeuvres
- **Expert** *n.* a class in navigational rallies for people who know what they're doing.

• **F**

- **fade** *v.i.* what brakes do when they overheat. See moment
- **farmer** *n.* 1. Nice man with tractor pulling your car out of the ditch 2. Angry owner of the fence you just totalled
- **farmyard** *n.* cobbled area not on the rally route, often strewn with mud and cow dung. See moment
- **flat** *n.* stage rally instruction, meaning "Keep your right foot flat on the floor"
- "**Follow that car!**" *n.* traditional instruction to driver

- **ford** *n.* mid-rally car wash
- **fork** *n.* Y-shaped junction, as in the instruction "Fork Right Off"
- **four wheel drift** *n.* simultaneous understeer and oversteer

• **G**

- **game pie** *n.* dish made from a variety of wild animals, often enjoyed by the crew of the closing car
- **grip** *n.* See Yokohama

• **H**

- **hairpin** *n.* Corner much tighter than a ninety
- **handbrake** 1. *n.* Direction changing lever found between the front seats, but not on Citroen, Saab or Alfa Romeo cars 2. *v.t.* To make use of the handbrake
- **hang on** *n.* instruction to navigator
- **harness** *n.* go-faster seat belt
- **hedge** *n.* Follows hairpin, handbrake, hang-on
- **herringbone** *n.* form of rally clue which works on the organisers' kitchen table but not in your car
- **hooking** *n.* making use of the ditch to assist cornering.

• **I**

- **icing** *n.* what happens to carburettors in cold weather. See excuse
- **IGR** *abbrev.* Ignore Gated Roads - code for "b***** hard clue"
- **insurance** *n.* overpriced piece of paper

• **J**

- **jugs** *n.* Weber DCOE or similar carburettors fitted to cars

• **K**

- **K-right** *n.* road reading instruction used by poncey navigators, meaning corner of between 30 and 60 degrees, depending on the navigator's handwriting

• **L**

- **Landranger** *n.* map depicting opportunities for a rally
- **lay-by** *n.* place to hide a code board
- **left** *n.* often confused with right.

- **loop** *n.* bigger place to hide a code board
- **lose** *v.t.* 1. opposite of catch. See moment, excuse

• **M**

- **lump hammer** *n.* precision adjusting tool

- **marshal** *n.* cold masochist
- **masochist** *n.* someone lacking a sense of self preservation. See marshal, navigator
- **Mintex** *n.* a means to prevent fade
- **minute** *n.* over-optimistic time by which you try to reach the next time control
- **moment** *n.* an incident during which the driver has even less control of the car than usual. The name derives from the duration of the incident in the navigator's reference frame; in the driver's reference frame it lasts several minutes. See "The Principle of Relativity" by A. Einstein.
- **N**
 - **National B** *n.* hooligan's certificate
 - **navigator** *n.* incompetent person clutching a map board
 - **ninety** *n.* a corner the shape of a right-angle. See moment
 - **Non-Expert** *n.* exactly
 - **not as map/NAM** *adj.* a type of corner the OS cartographer has chosen to depict with particular artistic license. See moment
 - **Novice** *n.* class of rally competitor provided with easy clues to give the Non-Experts someone to follow.
- **O**
 - **off** *n.* unplanned departure from the road. See ditch
 - **oncoming** *n.* traffic flow of inconsiderate local residents and Ford Fiesta's driving the opposite way to rally route
 - **one-eight-six** *n.* sheet number 186 "Aldershot and Guildford area" from the OS Landranger series of maps. The scene of many offs, ditchings, moments ...
 - **One-Thirties** *n.*pl. extremely delicate pieces of wire encased in a glass bulb, which glow brightly for up to ten minutes
 - **opening car** *n.* See rally
 - **OTL** *abbrev.* Too D*** Late
 - **OS** *abbrev.* Ordnance Survey - government agency which produces the Landranger series of maps
 - **oversteer** *n.* a state in which the car tries to ditch itself on the inside of a corner
- **P**
 - **pace car** *n.* large vehicle, usually white, sporting extremely tacky go-faster stripes, multifarious flashing lights and driven by dour faced gentlemen in navy blue suits
 - **panic** *n.* standard navigational technique
 - **panic envelope** *n.* sealed paper container, to be opened only by wimps
 - **passage control** *n.* NOT the Y reg. Sierra with the steamy windows
 - **pendulum** *n.* poser's cornering technique
 - **pirouette** *n.* "handling" characteristic of rear-engined vehicles. See moment
 - **porta-power** *n.* hydraulically operated precision adjusting tool for large jobs
 - **poti** *n.* navigator's essential equipment for fast sections
 - **PR problem** *n.* Anal-retentive resident of a remote village
- **Q**
 - **quiet zone** *n.* place where you drive calmly if a driving standards observer is present
- **R**
 - **RACMSA** *abbrev.* Royal Automobile Club Motor Sports Association Ltd. - a bunch of money-grabbing legal humourists (allegedly !)
 - **rabbit** *n.* See game pie
 - **rally car** *n.* See scrapper
 - **rally route** *n.* a series of roads marked with dead rabbits
 - **red line** *n.* point on the tachometer below which the needle should not be allowed to drop

- **red mist** *n.* a means to make the car go faster. See ditch
- **right** *n.* often confused with left.
- **road rally** *n.* A peaceful drive in the countryside.
- **road reading** *n.* predicting the road ahead from assorted squiggles on the map, something the navigator often stops doing at inconvenient times. See moment
- **rocket fuel** *n.* a half and half mixture of four star and super unleaded petrol
- **romer** *n.* a bit of plastic kicking around the floor of the car
- **S**
 - **scrapper** *n.* a motor car in a similar condition to those found in "automotive recycling" yards;
 - **sheep** *n.* game pie target for a larger car
 - **single track** *n.* a type of road not wide enough for a car and a tractor to pass side by side. See moment, oncoming
 - **skid marks** *n.* a series of streaks which can be used to judge the quality of a moment, if the driver can be persuaded to part with his or her underwear.
 - **squirrel** *n.* See game pie
 - **stack** *v.t.* to perpendicularly park unexpectedly during a rally
 - **straight line** *v.t.* to take the "racing line" through a roundabout
 - **sturgeon** *n.* a species of fish prized for its stomach calming properties
 - **sulk** *v.i.* See navigator
- **T**
 - **tantrum** *n.* See driver
 - **tightens** *adj.* navigator's euphemism. See moment
 - **time control/TC** *n.* place where the navigator haggles with a marshal for a minute
 - **toe down** *adj.* proper driving style
 - **twelve car** *n.* small, intimate rally for close friends
- **U**
 - **U-ey** *n.* a tactical manoeuvre used in situations of navigational uncertainty
 - **understeer** *n.* a state in which the car tries to ditch itself on the outside of a corner
- **V**
 - **video camera** *n.* jinx
- **W**
 - **white** *n.* proper, unsurfaced rally road
 - **WD** *abbrev.* Wrong Direction - the act of arriving at a time control going the other way, which incurs a penalty.
 - **wimps** *n.* people who suffer from common sense while driving a car
 - **work** *v.t.* something clues occasionally do
- **Y**
 - **yellow** *n.* tarmac rally road
 - **Yokohama** *n.* a Japanese company which manufactures ingenious transfers used to apply rubber to tarmac
 - **yump** 1. *n.* a crest on a road specially designed to separate the car's wheels from the ground
2. *v.t.* to drive a car spiritedly across a yump
- **Z**
 - **Z-bends** *n. pl.* a series of consecutive moments