

Betty-Ann Banham

We have been saddened to hear of the recent passing of Betty-Anne Banham in Derbyshire. Aged 78, she died peacefully, surrounded by her family on 30th October 2022. Betty and Peter Banham were a big part of the Norfolk rallying community since the 1960s, both of them competing in a huge variety of cars on just about every event that SCCON ran. For many years they ran Foulsham Garage, helping many competitors to prepare and maintain their rally cars and Betty was always a very keen supporter of clubmen on the local motorsport scene. Some of our SCCON members will remember competing in trials and rallies against Betty-Ann.

Peter and Betty provided breakdown support on a huge number of long distance rallies such as Philip Young's Peking-to-Paris Motor Challenge events, and his 'Around the World in 80 Days Rally" held in 2000. All the biggest long distance historic events engaged Peter and Betty as their first choice for providing mechanical assistance to the competitors who also benefitted from the valuable advice and encouragement that Betty and Peter gave them in their modest and unassuming way.

Their travels included rallies across the foothills of the Himalayas, the Russian Steppes, the Sahara desert and remote jungles in South America. Betty didn't just hold the spanners for Peter, she was a very capable 'fixer' of broken-down cars in her own right.

in 2020 Peter and Betty-Ann were the recipients of the Royal Automobile Club's Lifetime Achievement Award for their outstanding contribution to British Motoring history and heritage. It was a justified reward for a real team effort by both Peter and Betty.

It has been a great privilege for SCCON to have counted Peter and Betty-Ann amongst the keenest of our members over so many years. We send our condolences to Peter, Clare and to all of Betty's family.