

ANNE WHELLOCK

WHAT MAKES ME TICK?

...ROAD TRIPS, ADVENTURE AND CHALLENGE

As a child growing up we were lucky enough to own a car. Every Easter and every summer the five of us would make, in the early days, the dawn to dark journey from Bedfordshire to Plymouth to stay with Grannie. First off in a Ford Popular, then as we grew in size, a Humber Hawk, then a Ford Cortina Estate. Long road trips, towing a caravan to Ireland and Scotland were followed by camping trips to France and Spain. The motor car was a passport to adventure. Father's car never broke down. My first car was a Fiat 126, half financed by my mother, for an adventure to Spain for a year to teach English in a teacher training college. I put diesel in it once, it never ran quite the same again.

Gasoleo and gasolina have never since been confused in my Spanish vocabulary.

Back in the UK, when I was invited by a teaching colleague to navigate for him on a treasure hunt in his Austin 7 sports car I did not hesitate. The car had no doors, but I had chosen to wear shorts, so that was alright. The teaching colleague became my husband.



Anne Whellock driving with Phillipa Le Coadou navigating



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Together we have loved all sorts of adventures in all sorts of vehicles. On trials we have alternated the driving and navigating in the Austin 7 two seater. Possibly my favourite is the Lakeland Trial because it can be incorporated with a long road trip, usually in the Austin 7, from Somerset to Keswick. The Lake District in the autumn is a beautiful place to be. I am not sure which I enjoy most. Navigating/bouncing or driving. I just love the adventure of getting to these beautiful parts of the world in cars that reward our efforts to look after them. Cars that prove that one of the most important things you can do in life is to look after your stuff.

On navigational rallies I navigate either our Austin 7 Chummy or our Bayliss Thomas. The challenge of maintaining concentration, of not giving up is what makes me tick.

Once an adventure is started, once the challenge has begun, I will not give up.



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Exmoor Fringe Trial



UVA Fugitive



MCC Exeter Trial 2007

