

Veterans Cars: On the Road to Brighton

15th November 1955

London: All of a tremble and eager to go - some of the world's oldest cars left Hyde Park on the annual R.A.C. Veteran Car ^{RUN} to Brighton. The Rally celebrates the ~~Emancipation~~ Day Run of 1896. Up to that time - horseless carriages (as they were called) had to be led by a man with a red flag. ^{SOME} Angry pedestrians ^{STILL} ~~often~~ think it's a pity the law was ever changed.

Westminster Bridge - and here's a casualty. ² Hey! You can't park here - there's an R in the month.

Altogether, 194 cars set out for the coast - all of them over fifty years old. And except for the occasional helping hand up the steepest hills - only seven failed to finish the 56 mile course in the allotted time.

The run along the Brighton Road enabled the R.A.C. to try out its ^{latest} ~~newest~~ innovation ~~the aerial patrol~~ - "the aerial patrol" - a helicopter that radioed details of traffic bottlenecks to ^{GROUND PATROLS.} ~~mobile patrol~~ ~~patrols.~~

~~the first~~ the first car to arrive, in less than two hours, was a 1900 New Orleans - owned by Sir Clive Edwards of Bicester - with Mr. R.D. Thomas as the co-driver...

The Mayor of Brighton offered civic congratulations and film stars Susan Seaumont and David Knight joined the applause, before presenting a souvenir tray that keeps alive the "spirit of Genevieve!"