



Newsletter



www.racrallychamp.org

Championship newsletter: 10/2013 – 6 April 2013



Welcome

Welcome to the tenth championship newsletter for the West Wales Rally Spares R.A.C. Rally Championship.



From the outset, we wanted to make sure we kept in regular contact with our competitors as we feel that this is a very important element of any championship: we hope you agree! We are already starting to think about the format of the 2014 calendar, so if you have any thoughts, please do let us know by e-mail. We want to run a championship that appeals to as many crews as possible and your views are very important as we start to formulate the 2014 schedule.



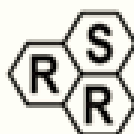
Round two of the championship is now the **SG Petch Tour of Hamsterley** (Sunday 28 April), followed by the **DMACK Carlisle Stages** (Saturday 22 June). More details about these two events follow in this newsletter.



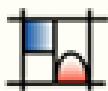
We are waiting to hear more about the plans to run **Rally North Wales** on a revised date later in the year. As soon as we have more news about this, we will let you know. It was clearly the right decision to postpone the rally and we wish the organising team well in finding a new date that fits into the calendar.



We are absolutely thrilled with the response to the Tour of Hamsterley, which is rapidly filling up. We expect to have more than 50 registered contenders on the event, which is a fabulous turn out. The quality of the entry certainly matches the quantity and it will be a great spectacle for the fans in the north-east.



Don't forget that the new date for the Red Kite Stages is Sunday 8 September. We need an e-mail from each registered crew to confirm the new date, so if you have not yet replied, please can you do so as soon as possible.



Holton Homes

Best regards

Colin Heppenstall
Saturday 6 April 2013
E-mail: colin@racrallychamp.org

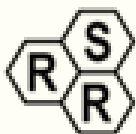
Championship website: www.racrallychamp.org

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Round 2: Tour of Hamsterley (Sunday 28 April)

As of yesterday (4 April), there were 72 entries for 90 places and all the signs are that the entry will very soon be full. We are expecting over 50 RAC contenders and there will be at least another 10 historics in the Northern Historic Rally Championship. If you plan to enter, please do so very, very soon. The organisers of the event have approval from the MSA for the running order, with a first group made up of Category 1 cars and 1400cc cars. Next will be the main R.A.C. field, followed by the modern cars. For more details and to enter, please visit the event website: www.tourofhamsterley.co.uk

Round 3: DMACK Carlisle Stages (Saturday 22 June)

As reported in the last newsletter, everything is coming along very well for the DMACK Carlisle Stages.

Just a reminder on the format: The rally will be based at the premises of the R J Murray & Sons Haulage Company in Longtown, Carlisle (post code CA6 5TR). The venue will host documentation, scrutineering, service area and overnight secure parking within a warehouse.

Scrutineering will be held from afternoon to early evening on Friday, and then the cars will go into the secure overnight park.

Saturday's route will take in 45 stage miles and just 65 road miles. The format will be four stages (Chamot Hill, Arthur's Seat, Newcastleton and Kershope), then service and then a re-run of the four stages.

The event running order will be the same as for the Tour of Hamsterley, with a first group made up of Category 1 cars and 1400cc cars. Next will be the main R.A.C. field, followed by the modern cars.

Event regulations should be available by the end of April.

Round 4: Neath Valley Stages (Saturday 10 August)

Rally HQ will be in Resolven, with scrutineering, documentation, service and finish all taking place at one location. There is plenty of room for overnight camping, motorhomes and caravans. There will be the opportunity for RAC Championship contenders to scrutineer on Friday evening.

They are planning to run a total of 50 stage miles, with around 65 road miles. The event website will shortly be updated at: www.threecountiescarclub.com

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Round 5: Red Kite Stages (Sunday 8 September)

The new date for the Red Kite is Sunday 8 September and it is expected that the event will run to the format planned for the January date, with documentation and scrutineering in Llandovery on Saturday.

We need to get signatures from registered crews regarding the new date and will ask for these at documentation for the Tour of Hamsterley from those who have not replied by e-mail. We are, of course, very keen to support this new date and hope that as many registered contenders as possible will enter.

Round 6: Trackrod Rally (Friday/Saturday 27/28 September)

Rod Parkin, head of the Trackrod team, has confirmed that the R.A.C Championship contenders will be first on the road both for the Friday evening leg and for the stages on Saturday. More details at: www.rallyyorkshire.co.uk

End of season awards' night

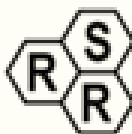
The date for the end of season awards celebration is now confirmed as Saturday 12 October at the Casa Hotel in Chesterfield. More details will follow later, including information on ticket costs. We have a guest speaker arranged, so all is looking good.

610,000 views on iRally for R.A.C. Rally

Over 610,000 views on iRally is the outstanding result for the 2012 Roger Albert Clark Rally and the West Wales Rally Spares R.A.C. Rally Championship. In just six weeks, over 610,000 views confirm the rally and the championship as easily the most viewed coverage of historic rallying, and show the value of the partnership with iRally. The film of the 2012 rally has now attracted over 350,000 views, while the coverage of the Rally Marketing Mid Wales Stages has been viewed more than 180,000 times in a week. Meanwhile, two films focusing on Marty McCormack on the Mid Wales have attracted more than 80,000 views, taking the overall total to more than 610,000.

The free iRally App is available for the iPhone, iPad and Android devices and offers an incredibly popular rally video channel. The entire R.A.C. Rally Championship will be available on iRally this year through the standard-setting TV programmes produced by David Winstanley of rallytv.co.uk.

"These figures are exceptional," said championship manager Colin Heppenstall. "It is a tribute to the quality of programmes that David is producing and also to the widespread appeal of historic rallying. iRally is allowing us to further broaden that



appeal, taking the championship to a world-wide audience, and these statistics are excellent news for our competitors. Importantly, we are delivering greatly increased exposure for our sponsors and partners."

For more about iRally, please visit <http://bit.ly/iRallyNow>, or download the App free from the App Store or Google Play

Mega R.A.C. entry for Tour of Hamsterley

With three weeks to go, the West Wales Rally Spares R.A.C Rally Championship entry for the SG Petch Tour of Hamsterley (Sunday 28 April) is already packed with quality and quantity.

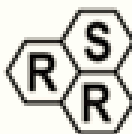
Over 50 R.A.C. contenders are expected to pack out a capacity 90-car entry for the event and the entry list already reads like a who's who of historic rallying. At the head of the field will be current R.A.C. championship leader Nick Elliott, but he faces a tremendous challenge from Steve Bannister, who can claim greater knowledge of the Hamsterley complex than his Rallysport Developments team mate.

With an entry due from Marty McCormack, the stage is set for a fabulous contest, which could replay the contests of both the 2012 Roger Albert Clark Rally (McCormack v Bannister) and the 2013 Mid Wales Stages (Elliott v McCormack). However, this is far from being just a three-way battle. More very quick Ford Escort Mk2s will be campaigned by Jason Pritchard, Will Onions, Matt Edwards, Tim Pearcey, Paul Griffiths, Warren Philliskirk, Rob Smith, Matthew Robinson, Jonathan Brace, Richard Lane, Peter Slights, Jason Lepley, Will Nicholls, James Potter, Alan Walker and more. It will be the finest historic field ever seen outside Wales and will deliver a fabulous spectacle for the fans from the north-east.

Packing out the other categories will be front-runners like Chris Browne (Escort Mk1), Terry Cree (BMW 2002), Dick Slaughter (Escort Mk1), Steve Magson (Vauxhall Chevette), Peter Smith (Opel Kadett), Iwan Rees (Ford Escort Mk1) and Mark Spencer (Ford Escort Mk2), while father and son John and Will Midgely will go head-to-head in a pair of Toyota Corollas.

Importantly, the event has already attracted an encouraging entry of Category 1 cars. The Lotus Cortinas of Simon Wallis and Pete Gunson will go up against the Alfa Romeo of John Everard, the Mini Cooper of Colin Forster and the Singer Chamois of Chris Tooze.

The Tour of Hamsterley is a round of four regional championships, including the Motoscope Northern Historic Rally Championship. An agreement is in place to allow crews in historic cars to score points on both the R.A.C. and Northern championships.



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