



# Newsletter



[www.racrallychamp.org](http://www.racrallychamp.org)

Championship newsletter: 12/2013 – 1 May 2013

## Welcome

Welcome to championship newsletter number 12 for the **West Wales Rally Spares R.A.C. Rally Championship**.

Round two of the championship, the **SG Petch Tour of Hamsterley** (Sunday 28 April), had a fantastic entry of championship contenders and the event organisers were hugely appreciative of the support for their event. Everyone reported a warm welcome to a very well organised rally. The full report of the rally is on the championship website.

The organisers realise that the condition of some parts of the stages was not as good as they had intended: this problem was exacerbated by the poor weather and heavy snow in March and early April. Clerk of the Course Steve Waggett apologised for this during the prize-giving and is already working on plans to make major improvements for 2014. We will keep in regular contact with them and see how these plans start to come together.

Now we switch our focus to round three, the **DMACK Carlisle Stages** (Saturday 22 June). I am very pleased to confirm that the event entry fee will be £450 for 45 stage miles and event regulations are now available from the event website, which can be found via the main championship website at [www.racrallychamp.org](http://www.racrallychamp.org).

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.

Meanwhile, reports from the organisers of the **Neath Valley Stages** (10 August) and **Trackrod Rally** (28/29 September) are very positive and both promise to be excellent rallies.

Best regards

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Thursday 1 May 2013  
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Championship website: [www.racrallychamp.org](http://www.racrallychamp.org)



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## Round 3: DMACK Carlisle Stages (Saturday 22 June)

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), before 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 are now available at [www.racrallychamp.org](http://www.racrallychamp.org).

## 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.

The definitive route is 45 stage miles and 61 road miles. Clerk of the course Den Golding says that the stages are in the best ever condition. He drove through them 10 days ago in a Ford Fiesta van.

The Neath Valley will be the only rally this year to use the South Wales stages as used on Rally Wales GB in previous years. The Swansea Bay is running entirely in Walters Arena this year and Wales Rally GB is not going that far south in 2013.

The route is:

SS1 Rheola, 10.40 miles

SS2 Bryn, 6.38 miles

SS3 Margam, 5.24 miles

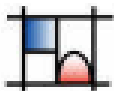
SERVICE

SS4 Rheola 2, 10.45 miles

SS5 Bryn 2, 12.48 miles

The event website is [www.threecountiescarclub.com](http://www.threecountiescarclub.com)

More information will follow soon.



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## Round 5: Red Kite Stages (Sunday 8 September)

The new date for the Red Kite is Sunday 8 September and clerk of the course John Morgan has confirmed that the event will run to the format planned for the January date, with documentation and scrutineering in Llandovery on Saturday. Stages and stage routes will be unchanged from those planned in January.

## 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. NO DOUBLE USE AND FIRST THROUGH for the R.A.C. Championship: 45 miles of prime forest!

Rally Yorkshire is to return to Pickering and will have its headquarters at the market town's newly refurbished Showground.

More details at: [www.rallyyorkshire.co.uk](http://www.rallyyorkshire.co.uk)

## End of season awards' night

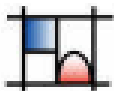
The date for the end of season awards celebration is confirmed as Saturday 12 October at the Casa Hotel in Chesterfield. We have a guest speaker arranged, so all is looking good.

A number of rooms have been block booked for R.A.C. contenders under the block code RACR121013. When booking, guests should quote this code to get the special £85 bed and breakfast rate.

For details of the hotel and contact information, please visit [www.casahotels.co.uk](http://www.casahotels.co.uk)

## Championship points

The championship points following round two, the Tour of Hamsterley, have already been e-mailed out. They are also available on the championship website: [www.racrallychamp.org](http://www.racrallychamp.org)



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## Hamsterley award winners announced

The special award winners for the second round of the West Wales Rally Spares R.A.C. Rally Championship have been announced following the SG Petch Tour of Hamsterley (Sunday 28 April).

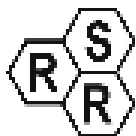
**John Everard and Mark Sharpley** took the unfortunate accolade of posting the first retirement of the rally when they rolled their lovely Alfa Romeo Junior on the opening stage. The last retirement was the Ford Escort Mk2 of **Barry Jordan/James Gratton-Smith**, who went off on the final stage. Both crews will receive a £100 voucher from West Wales Rally Spares, as will Ford Escort Mk2 crew **Mark Spencer and Steve Pugh** after their number came out of the hat in the draw for a third voucher.

Meanwhile, class C3 winners **Terry Cree and Richard Shores** will receive a cheque for nearly £250 from Holton Homes after their number came out of the draw for a refund of 50% of the event entry fee.

The 'Spirit of the Rally' product award from Fuchs Lubricants will go to **Matt Edwards**. Despite devastating first-stage retirements on his previous two events in his Ford Escort Mk2, the North Wales driver worked tirelessly to be ready for Hamsterley and was finally rewarded with a strong finish in ninth place. In the midst of everything else, he also became a dad in recent weeks.

**Alan Hughes and Richard Wardle** won the Best Improvement on Seeding, which is a set of axle brake pads from Mintex. They started as car 144 and moved up 21 places to finish second in class D3 in their Ford Escort Mk2.

Finally, **Dylan Davies** won the 'Hard Charger' award: a 20-litre jerry can from Green Valley Industrial Supplies. On his first rally in the area, the West Wales-based driver only knew he had moved up from the reserve list in the week before the rally. He duly romped to sixth place among the R.A.C. contenders and won Series Seven for open category cars.



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