

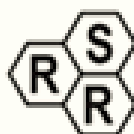


Newsletter



www.racrallychamp.org

Championship newsletter: 2/2013 – 25 January 2013



Welcome

Welcome to the second championship newsletter for the West Wales Rally Spares R.A.C Rally Championship. Obviously we were all very disappointed that heavy snow falls forced the postponement of the Red Kite Stages, but we fully supported the decision made by the team an Amman and District Motor Club and thank them for all their hard work. We are working with the event organisers to try and make sure the event runs later in the season and we hope to shortly announce a new date.

Now we are turning our attention to what will become the first round of the championship, the Rally Marketing Mid Wales Stages on Sunday 3 March. Regs are now out and we are expecting a bumper championship entry on this tremendous event using some of the best gravel stages available. As a reminder, please make sure you enter the correct event: the 55-mile event running to a modern permit. In terms of classes, the entry form is currently being amended (should be done by Monday) to show the correct classes and we thank Chris Tomley and his team for their help over this. We will correct the class accordingly for any cars already entered. Please remember that the 55-mile National A historic event is for those crews contesting the BHRC.

After the Mid Wales will be Rally North Wales and I am delighted to confirm that we have a one-day 50-stage mile event (on Saturday 6 April) for R.A.C Championship contenders. Early details of the SG Petch Tour of Hamsterley (28 April) are also included in this newsletter, along with information about the DMACK Carlisle Stages (22 June).

We continue to be overjoyed at the level of support for the championship. We now have more than 100 crews intending to take part at some point this season, which is far beyond our initial ambitions.

Best regards
Colin Heppenstall
Friday 25 January 2013

E-mail: colin@racrallychamp.org

Championship website: www.racrallychamp.org

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Championship stickers

We have a sun-strip, a championship number panel and a sponsor door panel (measuring 20cm wide by 50cm deep) for each car as well as Mintex and Fuchs stickers. These will all be available at documentation at the Mid Wales. Sticker sets will be mailed out during February to everyone who has registered for the championship.



Round 1: Mid Wales Stages (Sunday 3 March)

Just another reminder: championship contenders should enter the Mid Wales Stages Rally 55 miles Nat B, and **NOT** the Historic Rally Nat A or the Mid Wales 45 miles Nat B. Please note that the entry form is being amended over the weekend (26/27 January) to show championship classes. The route for our 55 mile rally will be same as the Historic Rally Nat A.

Entries are already being received for this superb event. Regs are available from www.newtown-mc.co.uk

Welsh Historic Championship on the Mid Wales

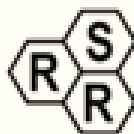
Alan Walker has spoken to Rob Baldwin, secretary of the Welsh Historic Championship, about the Mid Wales Stages. Rob has confirmed that anyone entering the RAC Rally Championship event will still be able to score points in the Welsh Championship. Rob will calculate points based on times for the 55-stage miles.

Round 2: Rally North Wales (Saturday 6 April)

For the contenders in the RAC Championship, the format for round three has been confirmed as 50 stages miles **all on Saturday**, based on the Dyfi complex with servicing in Dolgellau.

Rally HQ, documentation, the ceremonial start and finish will all be in Welshpool. Scrutineering will be on Friday evening or from approx 8am-11am on Saturday morning ahead of a mid-day start and late afternoon finish.

More details from www.bulldog-rally.co.uk/



Round 3: Tour of Hamsterley (Sunday 28 April)

Clerk of the Course Steve Waggett reports that preparations for what is now round three of the championship are coming together well and enquiries are already coming in from R.A.C Championship competitors.

"The organising team is looking forward to welcoming competitors old and new to our event, sponsored by SG Petch Garages. We have seven stages planned, with two loops of three repeated and then followed by a final 13-mile stage to complete the day with a major part being first usage too - all in all a total of 45 miles of competition with around 95 road miles. Regrading of much of the forest will be carried out and we have opened up some new areas last visited when the World Rally Championship visited Hamsterley many years ago.

"Central service will be visited twice with plenty of time to fettle cars and have the craic. Secure parking is available for cars, vans and trailers on the Saturday evening before the rally.

"We are also finalising arrangements with the local council for a ceremonial start and finish in Bishop Auckland Market Square which will increase the profile of the rally and we have local television and radio stations to assist with further media coverage.

"Supplementary Regulations will be available from mid-February. We are a friendly bunch of organisers so any queries please call - Steve Waggett (Clerk of the Course) on 07725 201 705 - we will try to help where we can."

Regular updates will be on the event website: www.tourofhamsterley.co.uk and the rally's Facebook group.

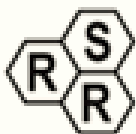
Round 4: DMACK Carlisle Stages (Saturday 21 June)

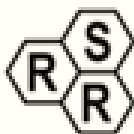
Tyre company DMACK will be the title sponsor for the new Carlisle Stages, round five of the West Wales Rally Spares R.A.C Rally Championship, on Saturday 22 June.

Organised by the Roger Albert Clark Rally Motor Club, the new gravel event will start and finish in Carlisle and take in 45 stage miles across eight stages in some of the region's best-loved forests.

"We are delighted to welcome DMACK as title sponsor for our new event," said rally manager Colin Heppenstall. "It is great to have a prominent local company backing this new rally, which runs on classic stages in Cumbria and the Scottish Borders."

Alongside supplying tyres for the FIA World Rally Championship, the team at DMACK is keen to support local motor sport and so the inaugural Carlisle Stages is an ideal platform for the Carlisle-based company. One of the company's founding principles is to deliver affordable motorsport through a range of cost-effective





tyres.

The provisional route for the DMACK Carlisle Stages starts with a four-mile stage in Chamot Hill, followed by a four-mile stage at Arthur's Seat and eight-mile stages in Newcastleton and Kershope. After service back at Carlisle, the four stages will be repeated and the route will include a total of 90 road miles.

As well as catering for contenders in the WWRS R.A.C Rally Championship, the DMACK Carlisle Stages will be open to all other cars and is ideal preparation for anyone planning to enter the 2013 Roger Albert Clark Rally, which runs across similar forest stages.

Regulations for the event should be available at Rally North Wales (6 April), which is round two of the WWRS R.A.C Rally Championship.

DMACK Carlisle Stages details will be posted via the championship website: www.racrallychamp.org

Television coverage

Everything is in place for TV coverage of the WWRS R.A.C Rally Championship, with coverage provided by David Winstanley. The plan is for seven event reports, each running for 90 minutes, an end of year review and a mid-season review. The slot planned for the report of the Red Kite will now be used as a season preview, including a look back at the career of Roger Clark with some fabulous period footage. It runs on Motors TV on Sunday 10 February during the Roger Albert Clark Rally evening, starting at 7.30pm. The three-hour slot will report the 2012 rally and then preview the coming season.

David is offering a media package for drivers, with all the shots of your car on an event for £75 on a DVD. Please contact him via tvallyman.rallytv@gmail.com The preferred in-car supplier for 2013 is Mad Bob Media.

Co-drivers' corner

If you are a co-driver available or a driver looking for a co-driver, just drop an e-mail to paul@tfmpr.com and we'll let everyone know.

John Stanger-Leathes is a co driver without anything fixed (yet) for this year. John has been co driving since 1969, and has experience of pretty much every UK event, plus recent experience of Rally Finland and a few French events. In recent years (the last 15!) he has been mainly co driving historic cars – Escort Mexico then RS2000 with Ken Forster 1999 to 2009, then all sorts (Mark Midgley, Robin Shuttleworth, Derek Belbin, Neil Prior, Darren Moon, Peter Harland, Tim Pearcey, Ernie Graham, Roy Smith, Colin Wilkinson etc).

He has a current MSA National Driver's Licence. If anyone is looking for a co driver,

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please make contact.
John Stanger-Leathes
Email: jsl@essell.co.uk
Tel: 0191 237 1911 or Mob: 07771 662385

Tyre bin

We also plan to run a second-hand tyre corner for tyres that the guys in C5 and D5 have available for sale. Just let me know what you have and we'll advertise them, with a view to them being delivered to the next event. Some competitors have said they will donate any revenue raised in this way to a marshals' fund.

WWRS R.A.C Rally Championship backs Red Kite postponement

The organisers of the West Wales Rally Spares R.A.C Rally Championship have given 100% backing to the decision to postpone the Red Kite Stages due to heavy snow. Championship manager Colin Heppenstall has pledged to work with the team at Amman and District Motor Club over a revised date for the event. With a foot of snow in the Welsh forests, Sunday's rally (20 January) was rightly postponed as the organisers put the safety of competitors, officials and spectators first.

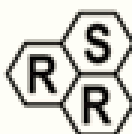
"We fully respect the decision made by the event organisers and appreciate the difficult decision they had to make," said Heppenstall. "It is a massive disappointment that the British weather has intervened and after so much hard work by the Red Kite team."

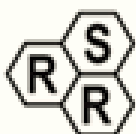
Heppenstall also confirmed that the championship team will work with the organisers over a revised date for the rally later in the year. "We are fully behind the event and the organisers," he said. "The next step is that we need to speak to all registered championship contenders and the MSA about a new date."

Perez and Amigos back WWRS R.A.C Rally Championship

Steve Perez and the Amigos Tequila Flavoured Beers brand have teamed up to support the 2013 West Wales Rally Spares R.A.C Rally Championship. While Perez will contest some rounds of the new championship in his glorious Lancia Stratos, the Amigos brand is backing the championship as a TV partner.

Amigos Tequila Flavoured Beers becomes the final TV partner for the 2013 season when the championship will enjoy superb coverage on Motors TV, starting during





the special 'R.AC Rally Night' on Sunday 10 February.

Meanwhile Perez, who campaigns the Stratos in the striking livery of Amigos, plans to contest the championship and will open his account on the Mid Wales Stages on 3 March. "I'm certainly going to do the Mid Wales and Rally North Wales and as many other rounds as time allows," said Perez. "The Trackrod Rally is a great favourite of mine."

Perez is a long time supporter of the Roger Albert Clark Rally and is one of only four drivers to have contested all nine events since the first rally in 2004. He says that the new championship is sure to be a big hit. "If the rallies and the championship are as well organised as the Roger Albert then they are going to be terrific," he said. "It's great to do some different rallies. I like the idea that the championship is competitor-driven and on that basis I am sure it's going to be a great success."

Rally Prep partners with WWRSS R.A.C Rally Championship

Rally Prep is delighted to announce that it has become one of the official TV partners for the West Wales Rally Spares R.A.C Rally Championship. Rally Prep Ltd specialises in the build and preparation of rally, race and high-performance vehicles for road, rally and track use. The company's services range from full bare-shell builds to basic servicing and parts supply.

Each of the championship's seven rounds will have a 90-minute TV production to be aired on Motors TV, and Rally Prep is proud to become a partner to such an exciting series.

"I have been involved with rallying all my life and am very passionate about the historic classes," said Neil Yates, MD of Rally Prep. "To support the superb TV coverage of such a brilliant championship was a no-brainer. After all, being a rally enthusiast, nothing gives me more pleasure than introducing the historic rally world to new people. David Winstanley's Rally TV organisation has put together a terrific package and the R.A.C. Championship is a great platform to showcase what rallying is all about in this country."

"I am delighted that Rally Prep has joined as a TV partner to the R.A.C. Rally Championship," said Winstanley. "Although the company is new to the historic scene the pedigree of the people is outstanding, and I know they will get a lot from this relationship. I look forward to seeing Neil and Rally Prep customers out on the various rounds this year."

This newsletter is produced on behalf of the Roger Albert Clark Rally Motor Club and edited by Paul Lawrence (paul@tfmpr.com) on 01952 510382.

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