

BTRDA[®]

NEWS

No. 192 Spring 2012



**MSA Champions Ian Bell and Russell Sharp at
the Loughborough Trial**

Photo: Simon Wood

President's Notes

The AGM and Awards Luncheon went very well at the new venue at the National Motorcycle Museum near Birmingham. It was one of the quietest Annual General Meetings that I can remember. It was very well attended but we had no questions for the Board or Officers which I hope reflects on the way that the BTRDA as an organisation is being run. We certainly had a very good year and my thanks go out to the directors and members of all the separate committees for their hard work.

2012 has started very well but we are not being complacent as we realise that we always start with great anticipation but during the year numbers naturally drop away due to various factors, but so far so good.

The Luncheon and Awards Presentation was excellent and my thanks go out to all involved. It was super to see the selection of Championship winning cars on display, our thanks go to Ian Bell, Damian Cole, and Barrie Parker for making the effort to get them there. The awards do take a long time to present as we have so many, and the top table looks so impressive, but we must give everyone their just time and the presenters do such a great job in making the afternoon most enjoyable. We have already decided to return to the same venue on January 27 2013.

We are busy piecing together the details for our 75th Anniversary Weekend in 2013, and I do hope to set out more details in our next BTRDA News.

As I write this article on Wednesday 7th March most championships are underway with the exception of Rallycross which kicks off at Lydden Hill on 24 March, and of course Sporting Trials who are about to have their Grand Final. I hope to see you during the year at one of our events and hope that you can have some Serious Fun in 2012.

Mike Broad

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Email: mike.broad@live.co.uk

PAST PRESIDENTS

Maurice Toulmin	1938 – 1959	Denis Flather	1959 – 1967	Vacant	1967 – 1974
Denis Flather	1974 – 1989	Brian Midgley	1989 – 2007		

BTRDA® Sporting Trials Championship

We had a superb entry of 40 for our first event of 2012, the Hagley & DLCC's Geoff Taylor Trial, but yet again the weather put a stop to it. The Orchard at Heightington has been the venue for many years, and wet conditions have rendered the paddock impassable in early February in the past, not only that but parts of the site have been sold off making the choice of suitable sections problematic, so this year Hagley chose to pioneer a new site near Tenbury Wells. Regular passenger Andy Gowen moved to the area recently and found the site, which has loads of ground as well as good parking. It is used for horse eventing, so the landowner is used to numbers of vehicles arriving on a weekend. Jonathan Gibbs was down to C of C of the event and arrived in his 4x4 on the Saturday afternoon, however it snowed hard and chairman Ian Wright as well as passenger Jo Edwards both slid off the road nearby on Saturday evening, as did the farmer on Monday morning. According to Jonathan the site itself and the parking area were OK, but the last mile of public road was dangerous, so he correctly pulled the plug on the event, which was a shame after so much preparatory work had been done by a large gang of volunteers two weeks earlier. We do not pioneer new sites very often, and everyone was excited to see what would happen, but we will all have to wait another year now.

Trials competitors seem to have coped well with the much publicized new MSA regulation for 2012 requiring master switches to be located on the back panel of trials cars, in spite

of the problems of making the change in an area of the car populated by batteries, fuel tanks, anti roll bars, and so on. What sounds like a trivial change can sometimes be quite involved, particularly when the vulnerability (to trees, rocks etc) of the re-located switch is taken into account. Many owners have recessed the switch using a metal individual pie dish or similar, which works well. Others have used a remote master switch, with a small push button to activate it. The push button is easily mounted and protected, whilst the larger remote switch, with its heavy battery cables can be mounted anywhere convenient. Another strategy has been to mount an ordinary master switch remotely, but in line with the required position on the back panel. The "key" that operates the switch can then be extended as far as required to reach the switch itself. All of the above methods have been used successfully this year, so hopefully we will have no more incidents where helpers have been unable to identify and activate the master switch on an inverted car, as has happened in the past.

We had a scare recently when both the "new" tyres recently added to our approved list became hard or impossible to find. There were all sorts of indignant posts on the internet asking why we cannot simply have a free for all, as long as no M&S marked tyres are used. The problem with this idea is that those who are either very competitive or are just well off will buy every available tyre and try them all. Not only that but when someone wins a trial

using a different tyre there will be all the comments "yes, but using those tyres....." This is not merely speculation, it has happened before and can soon poison the normally friendly atmosphere in the sport. The second line proposed has been the thought that we should change to a different wheel size, to access more popular sizes. The problem here is the enormous cost of trials rear wheels, around £200 apiece, and most serious drivers would want to have at least 4. In fact the current problems with supply are due to two different problems at the same time, firstly



John and Anne Cole with marshal Brian Stapleton at the Loughborough Trial

Photo: Simon Wood

BTRDA® Sporting Trials Championship

the current vogue for winter tyres (which perform incredibly on the road in cold conditions, as I discovered this year) has caused production of summer tyres in less popular sizes to be postponed, and the tsunami in Japan, which disrupted most supply chains in the Far East. The problem seems to be over as I write this, a big relief with the Final just over the horizon, and supplies of the popular Vredestein T-Trak are now available. As for the future, my thinking is that the "classic car" movement seems to be going from strength to strength, and the 165 x 15 size we use is quite popular with the cars from the '60s and '70s, so I believe we will have supplies for the foreseeable future. If this proves not to be the case then we should note that the 15" wheel is probably more popular now than it has ever been, and I found no less than 162 different 185/65 x 15 tyres on just one tyre supply website. This size is just 10mm smaller in overall diameter than the 165/80 x 15 we use, so all is not lost without having to change wheel sizes.

The STCC, the only trials club in Northern Ireland, have a policy of buying up a batch of tyres for the season and selling them on to competitors as required, this is one possibility for the future should we feel that there is enough of a problem to warrant it.

I mentioned the Final, and this year, for just this one time, we ran the Gold & Silver Star Final on the 24th March this year. The change was made because we have (just) got away with extreme weather at the time of the Final several times in recent years, and cancellation would be a major financial upset, since the Trials Dinner takes place at a nearby hotel on the evening of the event. The BTRDA Board did not see things that way and have asked that in future years the Final should take place in time to bring the winners to the major BTRDA social event, the luncheon and prize presentation at the end of January. Obviously by January 2013 the winner of this year's Final will be old news, particularly since those competing will have qualified by their scores during 2011. In addition the Board have said they would underwrite any inevitable financial loss involved in cancelling the Dinner in future. The Final was at Langrish, near Petersfield

Hants, the usual site of the President's Trial. It is a while since we had a Final in the South, and a geographical spread is something we aspire to. There was a respectable entry of 43, complete with the usual five invitees from Northern Ireland, whose club so ably hosted us last year near Larne.

The season has started with a good entry as mentioned above for the cancelled first event, the Geoff Taylor, but from then on the picture is not so rosy. The Jigger's Jug in Cumbria attracted the usual low 20s, the Loughborough Trial got just 22, the Charles Pollard at Uppingham got 30, and the Walsingham South of Maidstone attracted 26. What all these events have in common is the surname of the winner, Bell. Ian, the 2012 MSA British Champion won the first two, but his son Andrew in an identical Hamilton car, won the enjoyable Walsingham. Andrew has only recently returned from many years away from the sport, so this result is particularly praiseworthy. The usually very popular Midland AC's Peter Blankstone Trial attracted 33, which is less than the 40 that might be expected, so maybe we were fooled by the Hagley's large entry, after the long layoff over Christmas, into thinking our sport is recession proof?

One of the main functions of the BTRDA is to maintain the standards of our events, and the Trials Committee have been frustrated in recent years by the lack of event feedback received from competitors. Traditionally we hand out three paper questionnaires per event to selected drivers. Lately the number being returned has dwindled to an average of less than one, so this year the committee have tried something different, they have taken out a year's contract with Survey Monkey, a commercial automated web based system for generating and collating feedback. Members of the committee set out their own questions, which are then incorporated into a web based form, and then a link to a specific form is emailed out after each event. The company then produces a feedback summary for each event. Time will tell if it works, but this type of feedback seems to be getting more popular these days, and if the questions are tailored carefully it should work. Not only that but it

BTRDA® Sporting Trials Championship

should eliminate quite a bit of work for the committee, and the secretary in particular. Other BTRDA disciplines will no doubt be watching our success or otherwise to see if they wish to join in the fun? I have a suspicion that people are much happier these days to tick a few boxes on screen than to put paper into envelopes and trot down to the post box, not

only that but pieces of paper handed out at trials are more than likely to end up in the muddy car in the garage.

Our first half of the season runs up to the end of April if you want to come along and spectate, then we have the summer off until early September. For event dates see the calendar elsewhere in this magazine.

Julian Fack.

Short Event Reports

Geoff Taylor Trial at Heightington, Stourport Hagely & DCC, 5th February
Trial cancelled due to snow.

Jiggers Jug Trial at Melmerby, Cumbria
NPCC, 12th February, 24 Entrants

This is an unusual site for Cumbria, a steep earth bank rising from a small river bank. It marked the return of ex British Champion Geoff Rawson, after a 16 year layoff, who swiftly showed he can still remember how to do it, beating Tom Rees, whose car he shared by a large margin. It was fairly dry but the loose, steep bank provided plenty of challenges. Current Champion Ian Bell showed his form in the Hamilton, winning from Julian Fack out in the ex Andrew Bell, ex John Fack Crossle. Robin Jager showed his skills to finish 4th, first live axle car in the 1300cc Kincraft with Suzuki Swift engine, and local driver and tyre supplier to the sport, Dave Martin came 3rd on a rare appearance.

1 st	Ian Bell/Russell Sharp	Hamilton	1 st Red	41
2 nd	Julian Fack/Meg Marrion	Crossle	2 nd Red	44
3 rd	Dave Martin/Dougie Parkinson	Crossle	3 rd Red	44
7 th	Geoff Rawson/Tom Rees	Facksimile	Club Class	56
8	Boyd Webster/Stuart Lambert	Kincraft	1 st Blue	70

There were no Green Class competitors.

Loughborough Trial at Nottingham
Loughborough CC, 19th February, 22 Entries

The early frozen ground produced some challenges which caught out quite a few, including Ian Bell who stalled at an 8. It thawed as the day wore on, making things slippery for

a while. George Watson had one of his best days in the CAP to finish 2nd, and first in the live axle class. Stuart Perren's Facksimile was 10th to win the Green Class.

1 st	Ian Bell/Russell Sharp	Hamilton	1 st Red	10.
2 nd	George Watson/Victoria Watson	CAP	1 st Blue	15
3 rd	Andy Wilks/Mark Smith	CA	21	
10 th	Stuart Perren/Peter Harvey	Facksimile	1 st Green	50

Charles Pollard Trial, at Uppingham
Peterborough MC, 26th February, 30 entries

This small but useful site is normally used in late September, when it was bone dry and hot, but Brian Stapleton decided to try it in midwinter for a change. The North facing side remained damp and slippery all day but the South facing side was as dry and grippy as ever. Most sections were set on the North facing side and worked well as usual. Father and son Ian and Andrew Bell in their identical Hamilton cars tied for the win, a most unusual result. There were ties all the way down the score sheet, a nightmare for the scorer.

1 st	Ian Bell/Russell Sharp	Hamilton	1 st Red	17
2 nd	Andrew Bell/Paul Baron	Hamilton		17
3 rd	Duncan Stephens/Jess Fack	Crossle		21
4 th	John Fack/Maxine Fack	MSR		21
6 th	Arthur Carroll/Jim Davidson	Sherpa	1 st Blue	23
20 th	Mark Dayson/Zach Thompson	MJH	1 st Green	45

Walsingham Trial at Maidstone
750MC, 4th March, 26 entries

It rained all day for this event, and in many ways was all the better for it, although many of

BTRDA® Sporting Trials Championship

the descents became quite frightening, and there were quite a few retirements due to damage, including George Watson's CAP which actually broke it's chassis after hitting a tree. Ian Bell's Hamilton retired at the beginning due to a failed head gasket, leaving the field clear for his son Andrew to take his first win in his new Hamilton, by a large margin from David Rance's Crossle. One unusual aspect of the event was the use of ever lowering tyre pressures, 5 then 3 then 2, imposed during the day, usually it's the other way round as the ground dries.

1 st	Andrew Bell/Paul Baron	Hamilton	1 st Red	40
2 nd	David Rance/Andy Gowen	Crossle		58
3 rd	Steve Courts/Jim Knifton	Facksimile		61
5 th	Josh Veale/Jess Fack	Sherpa	1 st Blue	77
11 th	John Cole/Ann Cole	MJH	1 st Green	110

Peter Blankstone Trial at Shelsley Walsh
11th March, Midland AC, 33 entries

The Shelsley Walsh hillclimb car park provides a superb trials site, ever increasing gradient

BTRDA Gold & Silver Star Final at Petersfield 24th March 27, BTRDA/Southsea MC

44 entries

The week leading up to the Final was hot and dry, as was the day itself, so there were great fears that this South Coast location would be hopeless for our premier event, but the wood near Langrish proved otherwise. There was moisture below the leaf mould, and the embedded chalk also proved slippery in places. The sections were wide and long, so the poles were not material in stopping the cars, merely a guide to allow the terrain to provide the challenge. This is a large site, with a lot of potential, and the layout reflected this. 44 cars assembled early, and got started more or less on time, but it was 2pm before we broke for lunch after two rounds of 10 sections. There were some voices in favour of pulling the plug at this stage but a third round ran rather quicker, and everyone made it back to the hotel in good time for the traditional Trials Dinner. There were a few sections which were somewhat overset, and during the day three

were cancelled due to safety concerns, including one which caught out 2011 British Champions Ian Bell and Russell Sharp's Hamilton, who had a nasty rollover. Northern Ireland's Peter McKinney and Alan Flack's Crossle led at the lunch break, with Ian and Sandy Veale's Sherpa IRS and Roland Uglow and Laura Wilks' Crossle tying for second. A remarkable last round of just one mark put John and Maxine Fack's MSR into joint first at the end, with Roland Uglow, John and Maxine taking the Gold and Bouncer's Cushion on the tie break. Mike Readings and Carole Greening's Sherpa Indy benefitted from extensive factory modifications to take the Silver, and 20th overall. The Northern Ireland contingent were far from out of it, with Peter McKinney 5th and Brian Edgar and Peter Flack's Crossle 6th. Interestingly there were seven different types of car in the first 10.

1 st	Roland Uglow/Laura Wilks	Crossle	1 st Red	5
2 nd	Tom Bricknell/Sara Dyer	Crossle		7
3 rd	Duncan Stephens/Harry Watson	Crossle		11
9 th	Josh Veale/Luke Little	Sherpa	1 st Blue	18
16 th	Mark Dayson/Jane Dayson	MJH	1 st Green	27

Julian Fack

BTRDA[®] Sporting Trials Championship

Gold Star[®] and Silver Star[®] Championship Awards 2011

GOLD STAR[®] AWARDS

Gold Star		John Fack
Bouncers Cushion		Maxine Fack
Fack Brothers Trophy	Second in the Gold Star	Roland Uglow
The Lol Hurt Trophy	Third place in Gold Star	Ian Veale

SILVER STAR[®] AWARDS

Norman Overton	(Best performance)	Mike Readings
Passenger Award		Carole Greening
Rex Chappell Trophy	(Second Best Performance)	Pat Henson
Bernard Dees Trophy	(Third Best Trophy)	Nick Speed

ADDITIONAL AWARDS

Ian Mackenzie Trophy	Best Southern Competitor	Thomas Bricknell
Cuth Harrison Trophy	Best Northern Competitor	Martin Grimwood
Lew Tracey	Best Midland Competitor)	Andy Wilks
E.F.Lawrence Trophy	Best Northern Ireland Competitor	Peter McKinney
Pat Thornton Trophy	To the highest placed member who has never won an award in the Gold Star	Monty Peters
Peter Highwood Trophy	To the highest placed member who has never won an award in the Silver Star	Ian Fullwood
Bill Pinckney Trophy	To the highest placed Debutant at the final	Josh Veale ..
Sidney Allard Trophy	To the highest placed member driving a car built by himself	Ian Wright
Kemp Lewis Trophy	Highest placed member on age qualification	Roland Uglow
Ian Bell Trophy	Highest score over the year	Ian Bell
Ron Faulkner Trophy	Blue class winner	George Watson
	Green Class winner	Josh Veale
Render Trophy	For The Highest Qualifying Passenger	Russ Sharp

The Best Trial of the Year
—
John Southern N.P.T.C.C

Simon Kingsley/Jo Edwards
Loughborough Trial
Photo: Simon Wood



BTRDA® Sporting Trials Championship

Provisional Championship Table Following the Peter Blankstone Trial - Top Scorers

Name	Class	Total	Total Trials	Trial Wins	Geoff Taylor	Jiggers Jug	Loughborough	Charles Pollard	Walsingham	Peter Blankstone
Ian Bell	Red	117	5	3		30	30	30	c	27
Dave Rance	Red	94	4	0			25	20	29	20
Steve Courts	Red	88	4	0			27	14	28	19
Andrew Bell	Red	85	4	1			26	29	30	c
George Watson	Blue	78	4	0			29	16	16	17
Martin Grimwood	Red	74	4	0		22	17	24		11
Joshua Veale	Green	69	3	0				21	26	22
Julian Fack	Red	66	3	0		29		12		25
Andrew Wilks	Red	63	3	0			28	23		12
Richard Gowen	Blue	60	3	0			24	18		18
Richard Roberts	Blue	57	4	0			19	9	21	8
Duncan Stephens	Red	56	2	0				28		28
Roland Uglow	Red	56	2	1				26		30
Boyd Webster	Green	56	3	0		23	20			13
John Fack	Red	51	2	0				27		24
Dave Oliver	Blue	49	3	0			22	6		21
Simon Kingsley	Red	48	3	0		25	23			c
Arthur Carroll	Blue	47	3	0				24	23	c
Peter Fensom	Red	45	2	0				19		26
Ian Veale	Red	45	2	0				22		23
John Cole	Green	44	4	0			14	5	20	5
Thomas Bricknell	Red	42	2	0				13		29
Tom Rees	Blue	37	2	0		19	18			
Mike Readings	Blue	31	2	0					22	9
David Martin	Red	28	1	0		28				
Robin Jager	Blue	27	1	0		27				
Richard Thomas	Green	27	3	0			13	8		6
Ian Wright	Red	27	1	0					27	
Mark Campbell	Red	26	1	0		26				
Mark Dayson	Green	26	2	0				11		15
Ian Fulwood	Green	26	2	0			16	10		
Paul Faulkner	Blue	25	2	0				c	25	
Stuart Beare	Red	24	1	0					24	
Jim Davidson	Green	21	4	0			11	7	c	3
Barry Hogg	Blue	21	1	0		21				
Stuart Perren	Blue	21	1	0			21			
Richard Waterhouse	Blue	20	1	0		20				
David Zank	Green	19	1	0					19	

BTRDA® Sporting Trials Championship



Provisional 2012 MSA British Championship scores after Peter Blankstone Trial 11th March

by Janet Darbyshire, Championship Co-ordinator

Pos:	Name	Car	Points
1	Andrew Bell	Hamilton	29
2	Ian Bell	Hamilton	27
3	Roland Uglow	Crosslé	26
	Duncan Stephens	Crosslé	26
5	Josh Veale	Sherpa	24
	David Rance	Crosslé	24
7	John Fack	MSR	21
8	Arthur Carroll	Sherpa	18
9	Steve Courts	Facksimile	17
10	Peter Fensom	Crosslé	15
	Ian Veale	Sherpa	15
12	Tom Bricknell	Crosslé	14
13	Ian Wright	Sherpa Indy	12
14	Julian Fack	Crosslé	10
	Paul Faulkner	Sherpa indy	10

Pos:	Name	Car	Points
16	Martin Grimwood	Crosslé	9
	Stuart Beare	Sherpa Indy	9
18	Andy Wilks	RCAP	8
19	Mike Readings	Sherpa indy	7
20	Dave Oliver	Facksimile	6
	Richard Gowen	Facksimile	6
	Richard Robarts	RB7	6
23	John Cole	MJH II	5
24	George Watson	CAP	4
	David Zank	Sherpa	4
26	Monty Peters	Apex IV	3
27	Paul Price	CAP 5	2
	Bill Watson	Sherpa	2
29	Jerome Fack	SRB	1

BTRDA Life members

Following the last BTRDA News and my letter to all Life Members who we haven't heard from since before the millenium, I am now listing those who did not reply and have not contacted me. If anybody knows the contact details of the following Life Members, please let them (or me) know. Last known area is in brackets. If I don't hear from them by the next (Summer BTRDA News) copydate, then they will be deleted from the mailing list – not from the Life Membership list, of course.

J. Barrie Brookfield (Germany), F.J. Campbell (Angelsey), Mike Cannon (Australia), John E Dibble (Sheffield), B.J. Drake (Dorset), Tom H. Fisk (Australia), John M. Granville (Surrey), E. Harrison (Derbyshire), J. Leighton (Berkshire), T.A. Marshall (Sheffield), William T. Meredith (North Wales), Norman Morley (Suffolk), G.A.S. Palmer (France), Allan Rayner (Kent), Derek Smith (Dorset), B.R. Waddilove (Exeter),

Simon Harris, BTRDA Secretary

The Jack Twyford Films.

You may (or may not) know that the late Jack Twyford, apart from being an enthusiastic motor sport competitor, was also a keen film maker. Many of his old films recently came to light and MG Car Club (NW Centre) contacted us, among other organisations that may have been able to help, to try and identify some of the scenes, venues and people from the films. The editing and voice-over work is now complete, and "Motorsport Memories from the 30's, 40's and 50's" is available to purchase as a DVD from the Club.

Please write to Paul Goodman, 36 Deva Close, Poynton, Stockport, Cheshire, SK12 1HH enclosing a cheque for £15 (which includes vat and postage) payable to MG Car Club North West Centre. 01625 876300 or paul.goodman7@ntlworld.com are his other contact details.

BTRDA[®] Allrounders Championship

supported by REIS

ALLROUNDERS – START UP

As we enter a new Championship year the first task is to record the 2011 award winners:

Champion	Peter Cooper Trophy	Duncan Stephens
Runner up	Darbyshire Trophy	Jamie yapp
Third	Margot Young Trophy	Roger Holder
One Car	Davijon Trophy	Jamie yapp
Highest Placed under age 25	Duckhams Trophy	Jess Fack

and all our other qualifiers - in finishing order - Steve Courts, Matt Beebe, John Fox, William Jarman, Richard Yapp, Dave Walker, David Allman, Stuart Perren, Steve Stringer, Kevin Hardwick, Martin MacKenzie, Phil Darbyshire and Angela Jones.

Of the 21 other registered entrants all 21 competed in at least one event. That's 38 contenders in total in 2011.

Well done all of you, and it was good that most of you came to the National Motor Cycle Museum at Gaydon to collect your awards at the end of January. Two of our award winners unable to attend the awards presentation, were given their awards at the Association of North West Car Club's evening, when a chain of BTRDA members helped to pass on the awards. Many thanks to Jonathan and Frances Gibbs, Mike Taylor and Dave Thomas for making it all happen.

The Davijon Trophy for using just one car for all your qualifying events continues to attract interest for our contenders. With your normal road car it is possible to secure valuable points in Allrounders and win a major award. Ideal for first footing into motorsport at a cost effective level. Yes, you can GO MOTORSPORT.

Now you know how to do it have another go this year - perhaps even better results will come your way.

And so to this year. We are delighted to have once again REIS Insurance on board as our Championship sponsor. Their support of BTRDA has crossed over into our Rally Series in a major way, so please, when looking for Insurance, contact REIS first.

SPECIAL NOTE for Allrounders Championship. A change for this year with the AutoSOLO Group H events. BTRDA have introduced an AutoSOLO Championship and only points gained at these events will count for Allrounders, NOT events that are in the AutoSOLO Challenge.

To date we have 32 registered entrants of which 11 have scored points in our early events. There are lots of events to choose from in our BTRDA Championships calendar, plus any Group G speed

events you can enter - Sprints, Hillclimbs or Autocross. The Allrounders Championship year ends on the last day of the year, so loads of time to enjoy your sport with BTRDA.

The interim and provisional points table is published in this NEWS and will be on the website www.btrda.com.

We have 11 who have points in the early events, Forest Rally, AutoSOLO, Car and Sporting Trials. The other disciplines start very soon with Autotest and Asphalt Rally on 11th March and Rallycross on 24th. Did you see the Rallycross on Top Gear? Speed events will get going as the weather gets warmer, from Easter onwards.

Motorsport does not only need competitors. All events require organisers and personnel and at BTRDA level we are delighted that so many of our members give of their time and energy to help clubs. Allrounders are no strangers to this involvement and we have amongst us Clerks of Course, Secretary of the Meeting, Marshals, Stewards, Scrutineers, Time keepers, Caterers etc. together with a number of experienced members who serve on Motorsport committees - and we are delighted to welcome John Fox to the Allrounders Committee - giving back time



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and experience to the management and government of our sport.

Once again we remind our entrants to read the regulations for events and Championships, and where there is a requirement to display championship and or sponsors decal DO IT. If you fail to do this you may not be eligible for points. Be aware. It is important.

The season is now up and running. We wish all BTRDA members an enjoyable and competitive year in whichever sport you choose to enter.

Whatever the weather, enjoy your Motorsport,

Phil D

Provisional Interim Scores for REIS BTRDA Allrounders Championship as at 14th March 2012

			Group		Group		Group	TOTAL
Sion	Matthews	17.78	C	17.78	C			35.56
Tomos	Parry	17.78	C*	17.78	C*			35.56
Dave	Oliver	13.33	F	4.00	F	16.92	F	34.25
John	Fox	16.00	H	16.00	H			32.00
Duncan	Stephens	15.71	F	16.00	F			31.71
Stuart	Perren	13.85	A	17.78	F			31.63
Thomas	Bricknell	2.86	F	17.33	F			20.19
Roger	Holder	18.67	H					18.67
Matt	Beebe	16.52	D					16.52
Martin	Mackenzie	7.69	A	8.00	H			15.69
Duncan	Wild	15.38	A					15.38
Simon	Harris	15.00	H					15.00
Jamie	Yapp	14.67	H					14.67
Kevin	Hardwick	13.33	A					13.33
Nick	Pollitt	13.33	B					13.33
Richard	Yapp	6.67	H					6.67
Helen	Perren	6.15	A					6.15
Josh	Davidson	rtd	C*	rtd	C*	rtd	D*	0

A - Autotest B - Car Trials C - Forest Rally D - Asphalt Rally E - RallycrossF -
 Sporting Trials G - Speed (Autocross, Sprints and Hillclimbs) H - AutoSOLO

Matt Beebe – Tour of Epynt
Photo: Geoff Robinson



Sion Matthews/Thomas Parry – Wydean Rally
Photo: Simon Clarke



Two Cars, three allrounders points scorers



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EVANS UPS THE ANTE!...

2009 MSA Asphalt Rally Champion Melvyn Evans returned to the series in fine style at the weekend to win the Tour of Epynt in his Subaru Impreza WRC. Accompanied by Aled Davies who was victorious with Steve Simpson last year, Evans began the day with an incorrect tyre choice for the opening couple of stages but, having moved on to some softer rubber, set about giving a master class to the assembled multitude (spectators were out in huge numbers!) to win the opening round of the REIS – Get Connected MSA Asphalt Rally Championship by over a minute.

The largest entry for years – 109 – included 75 Championship-registered crews who were led away from the start on the Epynt Military Ranges by Steve Simpson, co-driven this time by Patrick Walsh, in his Impreza WRC. Next was defending Asphalt Champion Damian Cole, with Dave Engwell ensconced in the passenger seat of his Ford Focus WRC for this event. It was a one-off appearance by Engwell who finished third overall in the 2011 Championship with John Indri but who is unable to commit the time to it this year. Having led after the first couple of stages, Cole/Engwell were forced to give best to Evans but should be well-pleased with runners-up spot in such erudite company.

Another former Epynt winner, Peter Lloyd had the experienced Ryland James to guide his

familiar Impreza to 3rd place, while Simpson/Walsh were fourth this time.

The Ranges were shrouded in thick fog at the start of the day but the unseasonal fine weather soon saw it disappear, although it did leave the asphalt somewhat slippery on the early stages. Cole was fastest on the opener, Lloyd on the next before Evans took control and set FTD on each of the remaining five stages.

John Indri/Janice Moore brought their Darrian T90 GTR back to the Llandovery finish in 5th to take a class win and maximum points in the newly-instigated Millington Darrian Challenge. Rounding off the Top Six were Championship newcomers Paul Bird/Kirsty Riddick (Ford Focus WRC) who acquitted themselves very well on their first visit to the area.

Mark Morgan/Tony Fisher won the battle of the Group N crews, their Lancer finishing just inside the Top Ten, with second-place Asphalt Championship class points going to Rob Tout/Dan Holley in their EVO9. The T90 GTR of Washington James/Llinos Jones-Davies took the second Millington Darrian award, while the Mark IIs of Graham Hollis/Alan Jones and Steve Cressey/Sam Collis were first and second respectively in the Escort Challenge.

Also new this year is the AB Motorsport Peugeot 205 Challenge, with Tim Daltry/ Emma Morrison getting the better of Craig Jose/Nigel Hewett in the points on this particular occasion.

The John Horton Motorsport Management 'Star Performer' trophy was awarded to Wiltshire's Stuart Spyer who, ably assisted by Peter Williams, won the 1300cc class in his Vauxhall Nova – by ten minutes!... Other class winners on the day were Kevin and Charles Tappin in their 1600cc Escort, Graham Butler/Jamie Vaughan (Ford Puma), Martin Newson/Julian Riley (MG ZR) and Chris Wheeler/Yan Griffiths (Ford Fiesta MS1).

On a warm dry day on Epynt, the



Melvyn Evans/Aled Davies
 1st Overall Tour of Epynt.

Photo: Geoff Robinson

REIS - Get Connected

MSA Asphalt Rally Championship

retirement rate was predictably high – over 40% of the original starters didn't make it back to Llandoverly. However, the Top Ten starters remained remarkably unscathed apart from, that is, the Darrian of Mark Straker/Keith Hounslow which departed the fray on the fifth stage. Following the major engine maladies with his Skoda Fabia WRC last year, John Stone will have been hoping that his 'investment' in the car over the past six months

would have paid off. However, fifth fastest on Stage 1 was followed by tenth on the next but, by then, the clutch was on its way out and retirement in service ensued.

Following a break of several weeks, the REIS – Get Connected MSA Asphalt Rally Championship heads for the Manx National Rally (11/12th May). Melvyn Evans won it last year for the third time, and Paul Bird took victory in 2009 & 2010 – this will be some fight!...

The film crew from 'Special Stage' are recording the action on each round of the Championship for future broadcasting on Motors TV

For further details, please contact the Championship Co-ordinator :

Andrew Haill –

Tel : 0121 313 1416/

E-mail : andrew.haill@btconnect.com

OR

Visit the Championship Website:

www.asphaltrallying.co.uk



Championship Positions after Round 1

	Drivers	
1	Melvyn Evans	25
2	Damian Cole	22
3	Peter Lloyd	20
4	Stephen Simpson	19
5	John Indri	18

	Co-Drivers	
1	Aled Davies	25
2	Patrick Walsh	22
3	Janice Moore	20
4	Kirsty Riddick	19
5	Jason Sugden	18

FWD Challenge

1	Matt Beebe	15
2	Tim Daltry	12

1	Paula Swinscoe	15
2	Emma Morrison	12

RWD Challenge

1	John Indri	15
2	Washington James	12

1	Janice Moore	15
2	Llinos Jones-Davies	12

Millington Escort Challenge

1	Graham Hollis	15
2	Steve Cressey	12

1	Alan Jones	15
2	Charles Tappin	12

Peugeot 205 Challenge

1	Tim Daltry	15
2	Craig Jose	12

1	Emma Morrison	15
2	Nigel Hewett	12

BTRDA[®] Car Trials Championship

LOW DOWN TORQUE

A timely welcome to our new, and returning, championship contenders. Well, here we are eventually! No championship event in February this year but two in close succession in March. Falcon MC's decision to move their Southern Autos trial from mid-February to late April was inspired, given that the event could not have run on its conventional date due to 6" of snow in the valley that divides the site. The Golden Springs and the Basil Elkington trials will have run in March and will have been reported on our web site; we may even squeeze one report into this edition. Breaking news from the Golden Springs as I write is that despite having to drive with the roof on the MR2 and the windscreen wipers at full chat, Barrie still managed to clean up. Not the car, of course, which definitely weighed more at the finish, not that I know what its fuel consumption is in 2nd gear at the rev limiter, but not moving too

quickly...

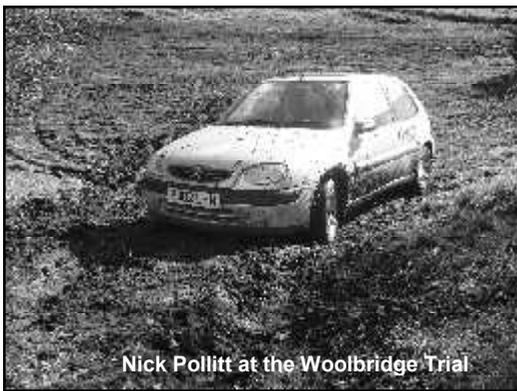
Reverting to event reporting, a couple of things come to mind. So long as I remember, I will endeavour to circulate the initial, brief report and results of each event by email in addition to the usual posting on btrda.com; hopefully this will create a more inclusive community and encourage interest in events and greater participation. The other issue has already been made known by email to members registered in the car trials championship – that of digital report forms for providing feedback on events. I will report back in the next issue as to how successful this has been, but I would encourage all entrants to give it a go after each event. As an aside, this form of reporting was inspired by our friends in Sporting Trials experimenting with a fully online questionnaire; ours is a half-way step. Watch this space!

It is with great sadness that we report the death in January of Robert Archard, after a year-long battle against cancer. Robert and Kate were always welcome faces on trials as they supported their son Julian in his increasingly successful first steps in the sport following his winning BTRDA/Motorsport News scholarship in 2008, via the Under 17's Car Club.

I'm sure there will be much more to comment on in the next issue, as we see how the minor changes to the championship/class rules play out. Meanwhile – good luck and happy trialling everyone!

Neil Mackay

neil.mackay.home@btinternet.com



Nick Pollitt at the Woolbridge Trial

Scorer's Snippets 10th March 2012

We have 25 registered contenders at copydate, which is well down on previous years. However, having had only one event so far, which wasn't as well supported as usual, we are not despondent – yet. Eight Gold Star-only competitors and four Silver Star, means thirteen Bronze Star people – five being brand new to the Car Trial Championship. Welcome to Tim Beard and Roger Holder who have 'had a go' on some events in the last couple of years; and a warm welcome to David (Bob)

Williams, Paul Manning and Trevor Clarke who, as far as I know, are new to BTRDA.

I'll post the scores on the website once we're well under way, and we look forward to another successful year of trialling.

The championship scores will be on the BTRDA website – usually updated by noon the day after an event. They are also displayed at most events – the ones I go to anyway! Alternatively, I can e-mail you a copy if so desired.

Simon Harris

BTRDA® 2012 Championship Events

April 2012

ALLROUNDERS: With the exception of "invitation by qualification" events such as the Car Trials and Sporting Trials Finals all events qualifying for all BTRDA Championships within the calendar year (1 January – 31 December) will be qualifying events for the Allrounders Championship, together with any National A and National B Autocrosses, Sprints and Hill Climbs.

		AutoSOLO	Autotest	Car Trial	Rally - Asphalt	Rally - Forest	Rallycross	Sporting Trials	
Apr	14			Matthews Auto Salvage Trial Caernarvonshire & Anglesey MC Anglesey Lee Matthews 01248-421681					
	15	CSMA NE London		Dennis Wells Clwyd Vale MC Prestatyn 01745-857316				J. B. Taylor Sportingtrials.Com 01732 359235	
	21					Somerset Stages*			
	22		Warwickshire Drivers Rugby Mike Bennett mike@patcomsys.com	Pete Dale		Minehead		Derbyshire Lancs And Cheshire Longnor	
	28								
	29	CSMA NW/AMSC	01925 727479	Southern Autos Falcon MC Milton Keynes John Parsons 01525-270566				Jacobean London C.C. 0207 2630741	
May	5								
	6			Warwickshire Coventry & Warks MC Gaydon Hazel Stephens 01676-532337					
	7	Bank Holiday Monday							
	11				Isle of Man Douglas Friday & Saturday				
	12	WSSCC Challenge Only					Knockhill		
	13		Wolvers & SSCC Nick Darkin NDARKIN@aol.com					Four Turnings Camel Vale	
	19					Plains Rally Welshpool			
	20	Oxford MC	01746 762276						
	26								
	27	Farnborough DMC	Whitchurch Motor Club Market Drayton Helen Perren helen.perren@btconnect.com, 01785 851440						

BTRDA® 2012 Championship Events

April 2012

		AutoSOLO	Autotest	Car Trial	Rally - Asphalt	Rally - Forest	Rallycross	Sporting Trials
Jun	1				Jim Clark National			
	2				Kelso			
	3				Friday & Saturday		Nutts Corner	
	4	Bank Holiday Monday					Nutts Corner	
	5	Queens Diamond Jubilee Holiday						
	9	Dolphin MC	Maidstone & Mid Kent MC Dave Cook David.cook@kent.gov.uk				Dukeries Rally* Southwell	
	10	Ilkley MC Challenge Only	CSMA NEL Mike Biss mike.biss@btinternet.com 01525 720299	Wyre Forest Kidderminster MCC Stourport on Severn Mac Roath 01562-752950				
	16/17							
	22					Rally of the Midlands		
	23					Hinckley		
	24	CSMA NW/AMSC		Wye Valley Ross & District MSL		Friday & Saturday		
	30		Caernarvonshire & Anglesey Anglesey Paul Cross pajclockman@btinternet.com 01407 830289	Ledbury Simon Harris 01531-820761				
Jul	1		Knutsford & DMC Wrexham Duncan Wild duncan.wild@btinternet.com 01244 300511					
	7/8							
	14						Nicky Grist Quinton Stages	
	15	Warwickshire DC			ALMC Stages Dublin		Builth Wells	
	21		Hartlepool & DCC Bob Clouston clouston@supanet.com 01429 429672	Cymru N Wales CC, Abergele Dave Thomas 01492-584872				
	22		Alwoodley Autotest Sherburn Nick Middleton np.middleton@tiscalli.co.uk 01132676021/07748 622365	HCC Wales Clwyd Vale MC Prestatyn Pete Dale 01745-857316			Mallory Park	

BTRDA® 2012 Championship Events

April 2012

		AutoSOLO	Autotest	Car Trial	Rally - Asphalt	Rally - Forest	Rallycross	Sporting Trials	
Jul	28								
	29	Loughborough CC							
Aug	4						Lydden Hill		
	5		Owen MC Birmingham						
	11	Bristol MC	mikesones@btinternet.com						
	12		01283 791368		Tyneside Otterburn				
	18								
	19								
	25								
	26	CSMA NW/AMSC Challenge Only			Mewla Builth Wells				
	27	Bank Holiday Monday							
Sep	1								
	2		Loughborough CC Richard & Pat Egger richardandpat@pegger.co.uk 0116 236 4022				Woodpecker Stages* Ludlow		
	8								
	9			Gaby Mohr Wolverhampton & SSCC Bridgnorth John Fox 07848-034852				Robin Jager N.P.T.C.C. 01228 561308	
	15							Robin Alexander Camel Vale Delabole	
	16	Bolton le Moors MC Challenge Only						David Ayers Launceston & Nth Cornwall Marsh Gate	
	22								
	23	Ross & District MSL							
	29								
	30		LANCS & Cheshire CC Wrexham Dave Hensley david.hensley@collierlittler.com 0161 962 0836	Ernest Owen Owen MC Burton upon Trent Mike Sones 01283-791368	Patriot Stages Caerwent	Trackrod Clubmans MSA English Only		Warco Peterborough Uppingham 01733 252886	

	AutoSOLO	Autotest	Car Trial	Rally - Asphalt	Rally - Forest	Rallycross	Sporting Trials
Oct	6						
	7					Pembrey	John Southern N.P.T.C.C 01228 561308
	13						Pete Fear Pinford Ross & District MSL Linton nr Ross on Wye 01989 780469
	14		GRAND FINAL Neil Mackay 0115-9291728				
	20				Cambrian Rally		
	21	Knutsford & DMC			Llandudno		Mercian Trial Cov And Warks 01676 532337
	27						Stone Trough Y.S.C.C 01788 542694
	28						
Nov	3				Tempest 2 Rally		
	4	C&DCC - Final Challenge Only		Cheviot Keith Knox Otterburn	MSA English Only		November Sporting Sportingtrials.Com 01732 359235
	10						
	11						Roy Fedden Bristol Dyrham Wood 01454 238333
	17/18						
	24			Awards Presentation			
	25						Johnson Peterborough 01733 252886
Dec	1				Awards Presentation		
	2						Gloucester London C.C. Stroud 0207 2630741

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REIS – Get Connected **BTRDA**® Rally Series

GARDENER LEAVES CUMBRIA AT THE TOP!...

A new year brings new headline sponsors to the BTRDA Rally Series - the era of REIS and Get Connected has begun with an unprecedented level of registrations and the promise of TV coverage of all eight rounds of the Championship on Motors TV.

This is, obviously, great news for the BTRDA Rally Series but, nevertheless, several of the 'top-running' crews have experienced vastly differing fortunes on each of the first two rounds of this year's Championship. Managing to steer clear of all the banana skins that have caused grief for others, 2006 Gold Star Champions Shaun Gardener/Ben Innes lead the table at the one-quarter stage. Runners-up on a very icy Wyedean Forest Rally in their Mitsubishi Lancer EVO5.9, they moved up from second to first in the points table with a fine 5th place on the Malcolm Wilson Rally at the beginning of March.

Shaun and Ben won't need to be told that they still have a lot of work to do if they are to maintain their advantage but the Somerset Stages is next and, although absent from Minehead in 2011, they finished a confident 5th on the event two years ago..

2010 1400 Champions Matt Edwards/Sam Collis have since moved up to four-wheel drive power and occupy the runners-up spot in the Gold Star Series, having slid their way to a finish on the Wyedean in their Lancer and arrived back in Cockermonth in 7th place on the Malcolm Wilson. Paul Davy/Roger Allan are 3rd in their Group N Impreza but, in Production Cup terms, even that only puts them one point

ahead of Pat Naylor/Ian Lawrence who, themselves, have a similar advantage over Dylan Davies/Eryl Evans. In true Fleet Street tradition, this one will run and run!...

So, let's now have a look at those who, although undoubtedly brave, have not been favoured with such good fortune as those mentioned above. Showing their undoubted class, Charlie Payne/Craig Thorley took their Focus WRC to a convincing Wyedean victory, their winning margin being over three minutes after 45 miles of competition in the Forest of Dean. Top dogs, then, as they headed for Cumbria but an off into a Lake District ditch on the opening stage of Round 2 signalled the proverbial 'early bath'....

Hugh Hunter/Andy Marchbank were understandably deflated after the Wyedean – well, three times on the same stage, actually, with their snow tyres! - and were under no illusions as to the task ahead. The 2008 Gold Star Champion had piled pressure on himself by going into print prior to the trip up north to say that, if he was to keep his hopes of the 2012 Gold Star Championship title alive, he had to win the Malcolm Wilson. Well, he did... and he has! It will be remembered that, after a titanic struggle, Hugh and Andy were victorious in Somerset last year – so, bring it on!...

Roger Chilman's first event with Bryan Thomas installed in the co-driver's seat produced 5th on the Wyedean but then the pair ran out of time trying to replace a failed hydraulic pump and were heading back to Herefordshire earlier than planned. The 2005 Gold Star Champion

may – or may not! – have taken some consolation from the knowledge that David Wright and Steve Perez, who put their names on the trophy in 2009 and 2010 respectively, were also out of luck. However, for both of them, it was a second retirement on the trot and, with six events out of eight to count, it leaves them with little or no margin for error during the remainder of the season.

It's tough out there and what is already clear is that whoever eventually succeeds Andy Burton to the Gold Star title will not have



Matt Edwards/
Sam Collis
Malcolm Wilson
Rally
Photo:
Simon Clarke



REIS – Get Connected **BTRDA**[®] Rally Series

had such a dominant effect on the Championship as he did!

The Silver Star Championship, meanwhile, continues to attract the cream of the two-wheel drive brigade and, after a tentative start on the Wyedean, defending champions Allan McDowall/Gavin Heseltine (Opel Kadett) put in a dominant display on the Malcolm Wilson to elevate themselves back to the top of the table. A class win for Matthew Robinson/Nigel Hutchinson's Escort in the Lakes keeps them a mere point adrift of the leaders, with Neil Matthews/Ian Harden also within touching distance in their Nova.

Leader after the Wyedean, Dave Brick's Escort succumbed to engine trouble on the second round and, at a stroke, he is relegated to seventh in the table. Meanwhile 2011 front-runner Boyd Kershaw didn't make the finish of the first round but was able to open his account on the Malcolm Wilson.

Ash Slight/Hughes have dominated the BTRDA Rally First Championship for the past couple of years and, although their local bodyshop has done a roaring trade in front bumpers during this time, the Toyota Yaris has been classified as a finisher on every occasion. Now, 2012 sees the Yorkshire duo move up to a full-blown attack on the Millers Oils 1400 Championship, and what happens? Two retirements from two starts, that's what! Their perseverance will pay off but they must be wondering just what they have to do to start the ball rolling!

Julian Wilkes/Will Rutherford have registered for the 1400 Championship this year in the former's Vauxhall Nova. The Taunton driver did have 'form' on the Wyedean, winning the 1400 category on three consecutive occasions between 2009 & 2011. But 3rd overall this year – nobody saw that coming!... A fabulous drive on a day when out-and-out power could be an embarrassment saw the crew take a podium place and, obviously, maximum points in everything that they were eligible for.

Off up to Cumbria and the pair brought the Nova home to a finish in the teens and another bag of top scores. Sion Matthews/Tomos Parry

(Ford Escort), Kieran Darrington/Pam

Hilton (Vauxhall Corsa) and Nigel Jenkins/Jack Walby (Vauxhall Nova) are clinging on to the leaders' shirt tails but, in such a competitive formula, each crew is up against it!

Twenty-one drivers have scored points in the rallyschool.co.uk BTRDA Rally First Championship and Ian Barrett/Gavin Wright (Nissan Micra) are currently blazing a trail to succeed Slight/Hughes to the title. Also in Micras, Aaron McClure/Martyn Taylor and Mick Smith are keeping the leaders honest, but it's all good close stuff!

The Swisher MSA English Rally Championship has followed the BTRDA Rally Series to both the Wyedean and Malcolm Wilson Rallies and, as a class-based series, will always have a tie for the lead after the first round. It is only after the next encounter that the points will begin to separate and, thus, Julian Wilkes, Allan McDowall, Neil Matthews and Ian Barrett were all joint leaders after the Wyedean. Now, with another event having taken place, Wilkes and McDowall are still there, but Matthews and Barrett have slipped to 3rd & 4th places respectively, but there is still very little in it.

Six rounds to go, starting with the blast across Exmoor on the Somerset Stages, and there is literally still everything to play for!

Full details of the 2012 REIS - Get Connected BTRDA Rally Series, incorporating the Gold Star, Silver Star, Millers Oils 1400 & rallyschool.co.uk Rally First Championships are available on the Championship website : www.btrdarally.com while the Swisher MSA English Rally Championship has its own : www.englishrally.co.uk

ANDREW HALL

Shaun Gardener/Ben Innis
Malcolm Wilson Rally
Photo: Simon Clarke



REIS – Get Connected **BTRDA**[®] Rally Series



Gold Star Championship

1	Shaun Gardener	56
2	Matt Edwards	50
3	Paul Davy	47
4	Patrick Naylor	44
5	Neil Matthews	39
	Overall Co-Driver	Points
1	Ben Innes	56
2	Sam Collis	50
3	Roger Allan	50
4	Ian Lawrence	45
5	Ian Harden	40



Silver Star Championship

1	Allan Mcdowall	53
2	Matthew Robinson	52
3	Neil Matthews	50
4	Peter Smith	46
5	Jon Ross	43
	Overall Co-Driver	Points
1	Gavin Heseltine	54
2	Nigel Hutchinson	53
3	Ian Harden	52
4	Paul Wakely	47
5	Martin Auskerin	44



1400 Rally Championship

	Overall Driver	Points
1	Julian Wilkes	60
2	Sion Matthews	51
3	Kieran Darrington	49
4	Nigel Jenkins	48
5	Clive Anstey	44

	Overall Co-Driver	Points
1	Will Rutherford	60
2	Tomos Parry	51
3	Pamela Hilton	49
4	Jack Walby	48
5	Ian Prout	44

Membership report

It's only March and it's great to report that the Rally championships, Forest and Asphalt, have both recorded higher registration numbers than for the whole of 2011. It could be related to the high activity of our sponsors for the series, Get Connected and REIS, who have managed to get a TV deal with Motors TV to screen the events. Or, it could be a reflection on the high standard of events in both the series. Anyway, if you are one of the new members joining to do the prestigious championships – a very warm welcome to BTRDA. The other championships are doing well and are getting towards their levels of 2011.

We hope you all will enjoy the events in all of the BTRDA championships.

Championship registrations so far at the end of March:

Forest Rally	273	AutoSOLO Challenge	12	Car Trial	30
Asphalt Rally	157	AutoSOLO Championship	18	Sporting Trial	74
Autotest	54	Allrounders	33	Rallycross	9

Liz & Peter Cox

REIS – Get Connected **BTRDA**® Rally Series



MSA English Rally Championship

Driver	Score	Co-driver	Score
Julian Wilkes	50	Will Rutherford	50
Allan Mcdowall	0	Gavin Heseltine	50
Neil Matthews	48	Ian Harden	48
Ian Barrett	46	Gavin Wright	46
Peter Smith	42	Paul Wakely Martyn Taylor	42



The **DMACK** Historic Cup

Driver	Score	Co-driver	Score
Peter Smith	40	Paul Wakely	40
Barry Jordan	19	James Gratton-Smith	19
Oliver Easson	18	James Goodwin	18



The **BTRDA** Rally First Challenge

Driver	Score	Co-driver	Score
Ian Barrett	56	Gavin Wright	56
Aaron McClure	51	Martyn Taylor	52
Mick Smith	50	Benjamin Vaughan	51



The **BTRDA** Production Cup

Driver	Score	Co-driver	Score
Paul Davy	35	Roger Allan	35
Patrick Naylor	34	Ian Lawrence	34
Dylan Davies	33	Eryl Evans	33



The **MG ZR** Rally Challenge

Driver	Score	Co-driver	Score
Benjamyn Mckay	36	Jason Mckay	39
Jayne Auden	35	David Auden	37
Gary Wright	32	=Karen Robinson =Steve Deeley	21



All results are shown following Round 2 The Malcolm Wilson Rally

BTRDA[®] Clubmans Rallycross Championship

The Clubmans Championship, with support from Autosport International, Edwardes Bros and Lucas Oils, will race alongside the British championship classes at four events this year, Round 1 was from Lydden Hill

In the SuperModified A final Russell Crampton (Croydon) made a flying start to climb from seventh on the grid to hold the early lead. Vince Bristow (Hastings) soon found a way to get his BMW ahead of the race leading Mini, Gary Simpson (York) also passing Crampton to run second. Bristow then kept Simpson at bay to take the win, Brian Jukes (Newcastle) moving up to take third place in his Seat Ibiza, Crampton ending the day in fourth place.

In the Lucas Oils Stockhatch Championship, Returnee Craig Lomax (Leeds) was fastest in

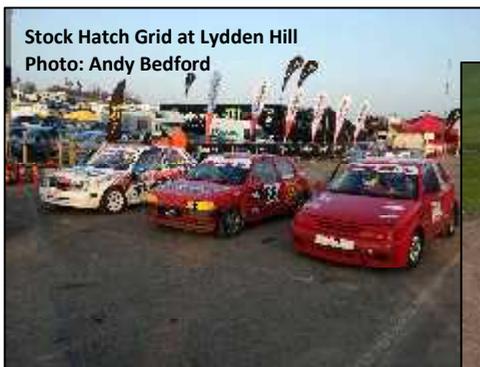
all three heats and led the final from start to finish to make a perfect start to his season. Nick Potter (Canterbury) qualified second but slipped to fourth in the final as Paul Maybourne and Mark Bright moved ahead. Neither, however, was able to match Lomax who romped home the clear winner.

In the Edwardes Bros Minicross class John Thacker was top qualified among the Minicross racers but lost out in the final as defending champion Tom Edwardes (London) came to the fore and took the first win of the year. Thacker held on to second place, ahead of class veteran Richard Wagging (Braintree) and Todd Crooks.

Andrew Bedford

Provisional Results after Round 1

Supermodified			Total	Stock Hatch			Total
1	Gary	Simpson	30	1	Craig	Lomax	30
2	Brian	Jukes	27	2	Paul	Maybourne	27
3	Russell	Crampton	25	3	Mark	Bright	25
4	Ian	Biagi	23	4	Nick	Potter	23
				Mini Cross			
6	Richard	Moore	19	1	Tommi	Edwardes	30
7	Rick	May	18	2	Richard	Wakeling	25
8	Barry	Dutton	17	3	John	Thacker	27
				4	Todd	Crooks	23



Demon Tweaks Direct **BTRDA[®] Autotest Championship**

From the Hot Seat

Oh well, here we go again the Autotest season is upon us already. Last weekend Hagley kicked off the 2012 Demon Tweaks BTRDA Autotest Championship and, for the first time the MSA National Championship, at Curborough Sprint course in, I am delighted to say, glorious spring sunshine. Baring in mind that we have had snow on this event, I was very pleased to see the entry of 42 competitors driving in shirtsleeves rather than waterproofs.

As you will read elsewhere this year's Championship has been boosted by the entry of no less than 5 of our Northern Irish colleagues, who are obviously on a mission to take some of the BTRDA's and MSA's magnificent silverware "over the water" at the end of the year, however, they will have their work cut out as several of our regular competitors have had car "upgrades" during the winter. Regardless of these additions to the fold, all of the classes were well supported with a good showing of Minis and Novas, both of which were missing in any numbers from the 2011 Championship. Sportscars and Special were similarly well supported, with only the

Roadgoing Saloon class being down, but I am sure that it will be helped by those competing for Allrounders points during the year.

There are some changes to our calendar for this year with the addition of the Whitchurch Motor Club event in May, to replace Bolton after more years than any of us can remember, Hartlepool and Alwoodley are coming together to produce a new double header weekend in July whilst the Loughborough event is now confirmed for the 2nd September. In the middle of the season this year's Inter Association will take place at Portrush in Northern Ireland on the 2nd June, which will coincide with the Olympic torch being in the town, and Richard Pinkney is trying to put together a package to encourage as many mainland competitors to support the event so please contact him if you intend to go.

Once again it looks like a hectic season amongst the pylons!

Steve Layton

From The Pits

A new year, a revised title (as suggested by the Autotest committee!) and a hot beginning to the 2012 *demon tweaks* Direct BTRDA Autotest Championship. The hot beginning was in two senses of the word, as there was not a cloud in the sky at the Curborough Sprint Course for Hagley's Jon MacKenzie Autotests. And the other sense? FTD was only decided on the very last test when Robin Lyons (1430 Mini) nudged a cone for a 5 sec penalty which gave the 2011 MSA champion, Steven Ferguson, a 2.5 sec victory. Did I mention MSA? Well, the Hagley club are one of the 9 BTRDA championship rounds which also qualify for the Link Up Ltd MSA British Autotest Championship. The success of Steven and young David Thompson in his Nova has resulted in Robin, Mark King and Paul Mooney crossing the Irish Sea to have a go at the series. As 4 of the events are on double header

weekends it means only 5 trips are needed making the MSA series attractive whilst the BTRDA series has another 5 extra rounds. It was Alastair Moffatt who topped the BTRDA series in 2011 but he had one of those events he would rather forget at Curborough driving the newly acquired ex Eddie Peterson mini special. 50 secs worth of penalties in the first round of 4 tests didn't help. A fastest class time on Test 13 meant Alastair left Curborough a bit happier knowing there is more to come from the car. Talking of cars the sound coming from the engine of the mini special of Steven Ferguson is something I've never heard before, even Steven doesn't know what Ken Irwin has done with it! The money amongst the experts as to the source of the delightful whine was on straight cut drop gears.

42 cars started the event but only 36 were running at the end of the day. I'm glad none of the reasons for non finish were as a result of



Demon Tweaks Direct **BTRDA[®] Autotest Championship**

the Scrutineers not spotting something – that was me and Richard Yapp! Richard stepped in at the last minute to help after he decided that the handbrake in the reshelled Yapp Nova wasn't good enough for the Malcolm Livingston tests. It was good to see some very well presented cars including all the Northern Irish cars and especially the trio of Novas driven by David Thompson and newcomers Paul Mooney and Mark King. If there had been an award for the best turned out car it would have gone to another Nova, that of Lee Valentine. There were quite a few comments about tyres from competitors with the difficulty of getting reasonably priced A008's for the minis a common one. For the rwd drive cars there was quite a variety of makes but Toyo seemed to be the most popular – not the RRR version though, that's on List 1B and not allowed. Of the car failures Chris Atkinson was concerned about another gearbox failure, perhaps 2 litres of Subaru power and VW's best box bits aren't really capable. After my role as Scrutineer I become the 4th emergency service towing the stricken Micra of Dave and Toby Cook with a CV joint failure and the non-running Retrotester of Stuart and Helen Perren back to the paddock at the top. Both cars were repaired ok with a new joint for the Micra and a new coil for the overheating one in the Retrotester. Richard Pinkey also had gearbox problems in his Caterham 7, mind you that wasn't uncommon in 2011! A simple failed rotor arm was enough for David Goodlad to put the car back on the trailer. There was more than one car which

needed a push start after being scrutineered, hopefully by the end of the day there was enough charge in the batteries, both of the car and the driver. This year the tests were a bit longer and to get below the 1 minute barrier on them was a good achievement.

This time of the year is also a time to welcome new championship entrants and besides Paul and Mark in their Novas already mentioned a second mention must also be made of the youngest one, Toby Cook. Toby has been driving the Cook prepared Micra for several years on the grass events down in Kent and is now having a go at the tough BTRDA series, well for a national (with a small N!) championship the events are meant to be the top ones in the country. There were a series of maximums over the first couple of runs but by the end of the day there were some good times being posted. Good progress being made could be the autotest school report! After the success of the Irish drivers, with all their 5 drivers being in the top 6, perhaps there ought to be an English Autotest Drivers School?

The whole event was filmed by a team of 4 from www.overdrive-uk.com which should make some fascinating scenes of how Novas can be driven to a podium placing (well done David Thompson) and how a tin top Mini can get FTD (well, almost, for Robin Lyons). The Hagley event, as the best event of the year in 2011 as voted by the competitors, has set the standard for 2012. Clubs and drivers should be in for a good year.

Peter Cox



**"Follow me Dad – My eyes are younger than yours!"
Ian & Christopher Chapman at a sunny Curborough
Photo: Peter Cox**

Demon Tweaks Direct **BTRDA[®] Autotest Championship**

2012 BTRDA demon tweaks *Direct* Autotest Championships Provisional Results after Round 1 Hagley and District LCC

Gold Star

1	Steven Ferguson	Mini Special 1380	20
2	David Thompson	Nova 1600	18
3	Richard Pinkney	Caterham 7	17
4	Paul Mooney	Nova 1600	16
5	Mark King	Nova 1600	15
6	Dave Evans	Blitz	14
7	Duncan Wild	ABS Freestyle 1430	13
8	Stuart Perren	Retrotester	12
9	Alastair Moffatt	Mini Special 1380	11
10	Ian Chapman	Riot	10

Silver Star

1	Paul Mooney	Nova	9
2	Anthony Preston	Mini	9
3	Kevin Hardwick	Peugeot 205xs	8
4	Mark King	Nova	8
5	Rob Rolston	Mini	8

Bronze Star

1	Kevin Hardwick	Peugeot 205xs 1360	8
2	David Fox	Mini	7
3	Clair Chambers	Buggy	4
4	Richard Nel	Westfield	3
5	Steve Burn	Nova	2

CLASS A

1	Anthony Preston	Mini	9
2	Rob Rolston	Mini	8
3	David Fox	Mini	7
4	Brian Bridge	Mini 1098	6
5	Bob Bubbs	Mini	5

CLASS B

1	David Thompson	Nova 1600	10
2	Paul Mooney	Nova 1600	9
3	Mark King	Nova 1600	8
4	Lee Valentine	Nova 1600	7
5	Lloyd Bass	Nova 1600	6

CLASS C

1	Richard Pinkney	Caterham 7 1600	10
2	Ian Chapman	Riot	9
3	Chris Chapman	Striker	8
4	Keith Walton	Locost KW7	7
5	Mike Biss	Striker	6

CLASS D

1	Steven Ferguson	Mini Special 1380	10
2	Dave Evans	Blitz 2000	9
3	Duncan Wild	ABS Freestyle 1430	8
4	Stuart Perren	Retrotester	7
5	Alastair Moffatt	Mini Special 1380	6

CLASS E

1	Kevin Hardwick	Peugeot 205xs	10
2	Brian Sharpe	Charade GTI 1295	9

CLASS H

1	David Thompson	Nova 1600	10
	Paul Mooney	Nova 1600	9
	Mark King	Nova 1600	8
2	Chris Chapman	RAW Striker 1800	7
3	Toby Cook	Micra	6

CLASS L

1	Helen Perren	Retrotester 1700	10
2	Clair Chambers	Buggy	9

CLASS J

1	Dave Evans	Blitz 2000	20
2	Duncan Wild	ABS Freestyle 1430	19
3	Stuart Perren	Retrotester	18
4	Ian Chapman	Riot	17
5	Paul Fobister	Haigh Special	16



Steven Ferguson at HDLCC Autotest
Photo: Peter Cox

Demon Tweaks Direct BTRDA® Newcomers AutoSOLO Challenge

Going SOLO

It's only mid-March, but, as I type this, qualifying round 5 of the BTRDA Newcomers AutoSOLO Challenge supported by Demon Tweaks is taking place and we have already had 2 rounds of the new GBS Kit Spares BTRDA AutoSOLO Championship. I am delighted that both sections are being well supported with, as intended, a number of new faces taking the Challenge for the first time whilst no less than 18 older and wiser (?) competitors registered for the Nat B Championship.

At this early stage the Challenge looks wide open, but Xavier Brooke in his Lotus Elise is setting the pace with 2 class wins and a

second, but Ben Powers, in his MX5, has a 1 class win and a third, not to mention those such as Sam Holder (Starlet) who have only done one round so far.

The Championship got off to a very soggy start at the Bristol Motor Club's Caste Coombe event with monsoon conditions for most of the day. Not the ideal conditions for Ian and Stuart Harrison to try out their GBS Zero, newly acquired from our sponsor, but they managed a second and third in class just behind the 2011 Challenge runner up Matt Helm, now running in class E. Jamie Yapp debuted the newly reshelled Nova, which now can even lift a rear wheel in the wet, but was pipped for 3rd place

by Jon Fox in his Peugeot 106. Roger Holder took Class A and FTD and Class C went to Kevin Belcher (Imprezza).

The second round of the Challenge run by Ross & District couldn't have had more different weather being basked in spring sunshine, but results were similar with Belcher FTD & class, Helm class and the Harrisons reversing their Castle Coombe placings. Jon Fox improved by one place and Ben Heggs added a third in class to the previous event's second.

Looks like it's going to be a busy and very competitive year.

Steve Layton



**Ian Harrison at Bristol MC's
Castle Coombe AutoSOLO
Photo: Steve Layton**

BTRDA Newcomers Autosolo Challenge 2012 Provisional Scores

NAME	22-Jan-12	18-Feb-12	19-Feb-12	11-Mar-12	18-Mar-12	BEST 6 SCORES TO DATE
Bradley, Mark		8A		8A		16A
Brooke, Xavier	10D	9D	10D		10D	39D
Dallyn, Paul						
Dodrovolskis, Andrew			6A			6A
Fack, Jessica						
Graves, David			9A		10A	19A
Holder, Sam		7A				7A
Hutchinson, Daniel					9E	9E
Powers, Ben	8D			10D		18D



GBS Kit Spares BTRDA® AutoSOLO Championship

AutoSOLO Championship Provisional Scores

www.kitspares.co.uk

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NAME	18-Feb-12	11-Mar-12	Best 7 Scores
Beard, Sarah			
Belcher, Kevin	10C	10C	20C
Biss, Mike			
Fox, John	8A	9A	17A
Hardwick, Kevin			
Harrison, Ian	9E	8E	17E
Harrison, Stuart	8E	9E	17E
Heggs, Ben	9C	8C	17C
Helm, Matthew	10E	10E	20E
Holder, Roger	10A		10A
Looker, Derick	3A		3A
Mackenzie, Martin	2A		2A
Pullar, Jim		6A	6A
Sones, Michael			
Walker, Dave			
Woodhouse, Clive			
Yapp, Jamie	7A		7A
Yapp, Richard	1A		1A

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championship standard events. If you sit on event organising committees please remember that there are BTRDA insignia banners available, BTRDA representatives are at most events and are more than happy to talk to competitors and the public, and all competitors continue to be encouraged to mention the BTRDA and championship sponsors in their reports for the press.

If you are looking for championship or club activity, please visit the main website www.btrda.com where you can find details of all the current championships, membership and forthcoming events as well as event reports and contact information for organising clubs. www.btrdarally.com and www.asphaltrallying.com are the dedicated websites for the rally series championships and are well worth a look, even if you're not a rally competitor. If you tweet, you can follow @BTRDARally and if you're on facebook you can join their group (BTRDA Forest Rally Championships). Also this year every round of the 2012 REIS – Get Connected BTRDA Rally

Series will be broadcast on Friday nights on the Special Stage program on Motors TV. All the dates are now listed for the year, including a review program in December and a full list together with broadcast dates for the REIS - Get Connected Asphalt Rally Championship can be found by going to the Special Stage website at www.specialstage.co.uk/page9.htm.

With a history that reaches back to the early days of motoring, the BTRDA will always have a foot in the past (indeed there are many of today's competitors who knew some of the founding members) but it has always had an eye on the horizon as well. Over the years the organisation has refused to stand still. It has grown from its relatively low-key start to incorporate the wide array of sports it supports today and continues to produce some of the best motorsport competitors that the UK has to offer. Have no doubt that those first members would be proud to see what has become of what they began.

Julie Darbyshire

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Minutes of the 30th Annual General Meeting of The British Trial & Rally Drivers Association Ltd
Held on Sunday 29th January 2012 at The National Motorcycle Museum, Solihull at 11.00 a.m.
(65th AGM of the Association)

The Chair was taken by the President, Mike Broad, who welcomed the 46 members, and their guests, to the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence
Angela Danby, Janet Darbyshire, Pat and Richard Egger, Kathy Skermer, Ian Wright, Richard Yapp.
2. To receive & approve the Minutes of the 29th AGM held on 30th January 2011
The minutes of the 29th AGM were passed as a correct record of the meeting and were duly signed by the President.
3. To receive and approve the Directors Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st August 2011
The President and the Hon. Treasurer reviewed the Financial Statements and were pleased to report a surplus and resultant increase in retained funds, against the economic trends. As a result, membership fees for the current year had been held at 2011 rates.
4. Revised Articles of Association were presented for approval. The Company Secretary outlined the minor changes – to facilitate communication with members other than by written or faxed correspondence and to bring forward the concessionary membership period following a year-end from 31 March to 31 January. The latter better reflected the arrangements in place for members competing solely under their club membership card; the electronic membership arrangements also permitted a more speedy renewal process. The Articles were approved without dissent.
5. Election of Directors of The British Trial & Rally Drivers Association Ltd
The Directors had filled a vacancy during the year by co-opting Tim Hobbs to the board. Nominations for this vacancy had been received from Tim Hobbs only and he was unanimously elected to the board of The British Trial & Rally Drivers Association Ltd.
6. Election of a Director of BTRDA Ltd
Duncan Wild was nominated to be re-appointed as a director of BTRDA Ltd; there were no other nominations.
7. Election of Council Members of BTRDA Ltd
Nominations for the five vacancies had been received from Julian Fack, John Larkin, Steve Layton, Nick Pollitt and Bill Skermer who were all unanimously nominated to be re-appointed as Council Members of BTRDA Ltd.
8. Other Committees
Mike Sones read out the names of the directors of the operating company, BTRDA Ltd, and the members of Council. He went on to introduce the following representatives of the Specialist Committees who in turn named their respective committee members:

Autotests and AutoSOLO	-	Steve Layton
Allrounders & News	-	Peter Cox
Asphalt Rallies	-	Andrew Hail
Car Trials	-	Neil Mackay
Forest Rallies	-	Norman Robertson
Rallycross	-	Andy Bedford
Sporting Trials	-	Julian Fack
9. Additionally, John Larkin explained the arrangements that were taking place for the Association's 75th Anniversary in 2013.
9. Mike Sones concluded with a mention of Motorsports Future Group's activities and went on to remind us that over 10% of membership were involved in committees.
10. Any Other Business
With no Other Business raised by members, the President emphasised that we had increased membership in a tough year, no small achievement.

There being no further business, the President thanked members for their attendance, and the meeting closed at 11.35 a.m.

SPECIAL AWARDS 2011 WINNERS

The Stross Rally Trophy

Damian Cole

Awarded annually to the BTRDA member achieving the best performance(s) or individual result(s) on any International or National Special Stage Rally Championship/Event. This trophy is awarded upon the recommendation of the Rally Committee

The Jack Twyford Trophy

Not awarded

Awarded annually to the highest placed BTRDA member driving on the British round of the World Rally Championship or otherwise any event in the British Rally Championship

The John Gott Memorial Trophy

Peugeot 306 Cosworth

A Special Award to be presented at the discretion of the Rallies Committee

The Patricia Baldwin Trophy

Helen Perren

A Special Ladies Award to be presented at the discretion of Council

The Automobile Club de Monaco Trophy

Kim Baker

Awarded annually to the BTRDA member achieving the best performance on Continental Classic/Historic Rallies.

In awarding this trophy, the decision of Council is final.

Note: From 2012 the AC de Monaco Trophy will be awarded to the winner of the Gold Star Series Historic Cup

HONORARY MEMBERS FOR LIFE

DEREK SMITH: Joined the BTRDA in 1951, competing regularly, particularly in Autotests, and won the Flather Star in 1963. After three years as Secretary of the Autotest Committee he became General Secretary of the Association from 1967-1982 and was also Treasurer during the same period. As Chairman of the Rallycross Committee from 1976 to 1978, and a Group 1 RAC Timekeeper, he did much to improve the standards of timekeeping at BTRDA Rallycross and Autocross events

PHIL and JANET DARBYSHIRE: Phil and Janet have been actively associated with the BTRDA since the 1960's, and both served on the Autotest Committee and since the Mid. 70's on the Allrounders Committee. Additionally they have helped to edit and publish BTRDA News since 1977. It was the Directors and Council's wish, endorsed by the Annual General Meeting that Phil and Janet Darbyshire be appointed as Honorary Members for Life.

BRIAN and MARGARET STAPLETON: Though almost exclusively with Sporting Trials Committee, Brian and Margaret have also served the Association since 1974 with Brian acting as Committee Secretary and Margaret as a co-ordinator for the Sporting Trials Dinner. Both continue as competitors and event officials and it was the Directors and Council's wish, endorsed by the Annual General Meeting that Brian and Margaret Stapleton be appointed Honorary Members for Life

MIKE and HAZEL STEPHENS: Mike has been involved in BTRDA activities for over 40 years, primarily concerned with the Production Car Trial committee and was it's champion many times over, but also as secretary to the Rallies committee during the period of greatest development of both road and special stage championships. Chairmanship of the Association was taken up in 1982, and only relinquished in 1988 to the more demanding role of General Secretary until 2004. Hazel has been in charge of the organisation of the AGM and Awards Presentation day since 1988, and between them, their household has looked after the distribution and posting of News and Clear Round since the early 1980's. They continue to be involved with various activities of the Association, including Rallycross, the Luncheon, book-keeping, News and Clear Round.

HOWARD WILCOCK: Howard joined the BTRDA Rally Committee in 1979 and has been involved with the BTRDA Rally Championships since 1987, firstly with the Clubmans Championship, and subsequently the Gold Star Championship, as Championship Co-ordinator. Throughout this period, his wholehearted commitment has been unstinting, his judgement and decisions taken about the format of the championship as a whole have been crystal clear, resulting in the Gold Star Championship being the pinnacle of clubman motorsport. He continues to be involved in the championship, and represents BTRDA on a number of MSA Committees

BRIAN MIDGLEY: Brian has been involved with BTRDA for over 40 years, principally associated with the production car trial world where he was committee chairman, and fierce competitor, for many of those years, whilst he was also responsible for the Association's awards for almost a decade. A constant and authoritative member of Council, he became a director of the Association upon it's conversion to a Limited Company, and subsequently elected as President in 1989. His tenure of that position has seen the Association make great strides forward, both in it's dealings with the MSA and in the motorsport world at large. His was the greatest contribution in the re-organisation of the Association into Holding, and Operational, companies that exist today.

Gold Star[®] Champions 2011

Allrounders

Autotest

Car Trial

Forest Rally

Rallycross

Sporting Trial

Duncan Stephens

Alastair Moffatt

Barrie Parker

Andy Burton/Robin Kellard

Martin Peters

John Fack

BTRDA[®] Challenge Winners

Asphalt Rally FWD

Asphalt Rally RWD

AutoSolo

Craig Jose/Nigel Hewett

Simon Mauer/Brian Cammack

Sam Self



Julian Wilkes/Will Rutherford-Child
Vauxhall Nova 1400 - 3rd O/A Wyedean Rally

Photo: Simon Clarke www.sc-photography.co.uk

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