

# BTRDA<sup>®</sup>

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# News

No. 212

Spring 2017



**Jaidon Bennett**  
**Junior Category Blyton Park**  
**Photo: Trevor Coulson**



## President's Notes Spring 2017

Our AGM and Awards Luncheon in January went extremely well at our new venue, Drayton Manor Park. Thanks to Gemma Price for sorting out the venue and lunch and to Sue Underwood who has the unenviable task of getting all the awards to the table for the day.

At the AGM, we had a minutes silence to remember Trevor Smith, who passed away suddenly in December. I shall miss Trevor a lot. As well as being just one of the best friends you could have, he had been an integral part of BTRDA for over 40 years. Trevor was a winner in all the senses of the word, in life, business and motorsport. Over the past few years he has been a Director of the Association and it is difficult to imagine our meetings without him. We shall never forget Trevor.

We could not post our accounts to the members at the AGM as we have changed our accounting year to the end of each year, in fact the Association accounts have just been sent to our accountants for auditing, so in due course we shall be sending them to you and then advise the process as to whether we have an additional members meeting. Hopefully we can produce them for the next BTRDA News.

All our Championships are now in full swing and numbers are generally good. In Rallying we are back to the 2014 figures and as I predicted in the BTRDA Spring News 2016, the seeding regulations are now taking their toll. The numbers of 1400cc cars, RallyFirst and Historic Cat 1 cars are well down, in fact some categories have disappeared altogether. We continue to talk to the MSA as the rules are damaging the future of rallying. We have been told that the MSA will not change anything until after the Scottish Fatal Injury Hearing which starts in mid July, so we have to live with the consequences until 2018 at the earliest.

On a happier note, the Rallycross Championship had some wonderful news recently, announcing that their new headline sponsor is TOYO Tires, as well as retaining their faithful sponsors from last year. Well done to John Rook, Bill Skermer and the committee. I sat and watched the first round from Blyton on Motorsport TV and it made excellent viewing.

I popped up to the Curborough Sprint course (its only three miles from my house ) to watch the first round of the Autotest Championship and had a lovely day, typical Lichfield sunny weather ! It was good to see an increased entry and some fabulous driving, now that would also make a super TV programme.

Finally, you will see from this edition of the News, that we have a lot of sponsors across our Championships. A very big thank you to them for helping us provide the top quality Championships that are synonymous with the BTRDA. In return, can I please ask every member to support the companies that support us - without them we cannot survive, so when you are thinking of buying Insurance, Tyres, Oil, Fuel, Trailers, Kitchenware, or Race and Rally Equipment. then please go to these companies first as they are helping you to have SERIOUS FUN in motorsport.

### Mike Broad

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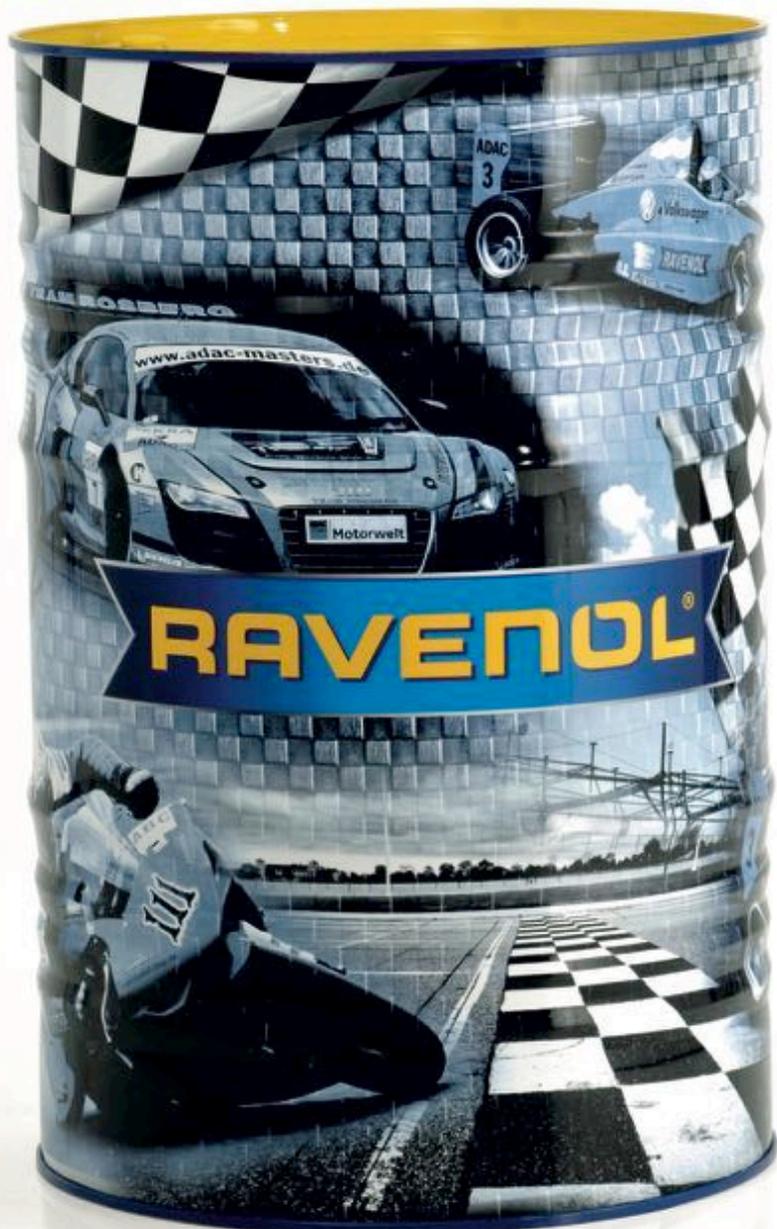
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## WEATHER – OR NOT!...

With the enforced abandonment, due to adverse weather conditions, of the opening round of this year's RAVENOL BTRDA Rally Series®, the Cambrian Rally in early March, the Cockermouth-based Malcolm Wilson Rally took on the mantle of 'season opener' for the first time. However, before we get into what happened in the Lake District, let's begin by casting our minds back to Llandudno and, with all due deference to the Cambrian Rally organisers who will have been devastated after all their hard work came to nought, mention a couple of drivers who can thank their lucky stars that events turned out as they did!

On the Friday morning Luke Francis (Mitsubishi Lancer EVO9) and Hugh Hunter (Ford Focus WRC) had both been indulging in a spot of pre-event testing prior to the start of their BTRDA Rally Series campaigns. Returning from his test, Francis was involved in a non-fault RTA which rendered his Lancer undriveable, while Hunter's engine snapped a belt, also causing a fair bit of damage, albeit of a different sort. Although various 'Plan B's were investigated, come the start on Saturday morning, both Francis and Hunter were absent. Imagine their surprise - not to mention relief! - when news of the Cambrian's abandonment broke!.....

So, fast forward a month and the organisers of the Malcolm Wilson Rally had attracted their

largest entry for several years, from which anyone with designs on one of the various BTRDA titles needed to get a foot in the door straight away. David Bogie/Kevin Rae's preparations for their assault on the BRC were further enhanced by outright victory in their Skoda Fabia R5 but, although they are unlikely to complete a full RAVENOL BTRDA Gold Star® Rally Championship season, the Scotsmen lead the table at this point.

Bogie/Rae set FTDs on four of the seven Lake District stages to arrive back at the finish a minute-and-a-half ahead of their nearest Gold Star challengers, David Wright/Steve Pugh (Ford Focus WRC). 8<sup>th</sup> after four stages, the Lancaster driver put in a spirited performance over the second half of the rally to just miss out on a podium finish after a tie-break. Another Focus - this one crewed by former Gold Star Champion Hugh Hunter and Manxman Rob Fagg - was a mere four seconds in arrears whilst, in BTRDA terms, the first of the Fiestas home was that of Rhys Yates who has defending Gold Star Champion Co-driver Carl Williamson for company this year. Also R5-mounted, Callum Black/Elliott Edmondson were just a handful of seconds adrift, while 2013 Gold Star runner-up Connor McCloskey returned in a Fiesta WRC. The Ulsterman was 5<sup>th</sup> after the opening stage, but getting up close and personal with the scenery in both Grizedale stages did nothing for his times, dropping him to an eventual 9<sup>th</sup> overall.

Of those listed as finishers who might reasonably be expected to have done better, we find that luck was still not favouring Francis/Roberts. Top Ten times on SS2/3/4 gave cautious grounds for optimism but then a double puncture caused considerable delay, pushing them down to 20<sup>th</sup> in the final results. However, while they will be understandably aggrieved, spare a thought for Desi Henry - his Fabia R5 was up to 3<sup>rd</sup> after the first run



David Bogie/Kevin Rae leading the Gold Star after the Malcolm Wilson Rally. Photo: Ralliphotoswales

# RAVENOL BTRDA® Rally Series

through Greystoke, but then a burst brake pipe in Grizedale saw him struggle on to the finish to be credited with 57<sup>th</sup> overall....

Any hopes of a third Malcolm Wilson Rally win for Euan Thorburn/Paul Beaton were dashed when their Fiesta, which had been running as high as 3<sup>rd</sup>, developed manifold problems on SS4, putting them out of the event. Stephen Petch/Michael Wilkinson had also been up in 3<sup>rd</sup> place at one point, but their Fiesta WRC succumbed to electrical issues and they, too, joined the ever-growing list of retirements.

The top four finishers in the BTRDA Production Cup® on the Malcolm Wilson Rally finished line astern in the 'teens' and were separated by just nine seconds! Managing to keep their noses in front, and taking an inaugural class victory, were Sacha Kakad/James Aldridge (Lancer EVOX). Over the early stages, it looked very much as though Richard Hill/Steffan Evans were going to continue where they left off at the end of last season, but their EVO9 suffered bent steering in Grizedale and, try as they might, they couldn't quite match their rivals who had everything pointing in the right direction! Even so, they were only a couple of seconds behind Kakad, with defending champions Russ Thompson/Andy Murphy (EVO9) a further three seconds adrift. Andy Davies/Max Freeman broke the Mitsubishi stronghold in their Impreza with Aaron McClure/Michael Gilbey (EVO9) just happy to finish after the driver's big accident on the event this time last year.

Following its successful introduction last year, the Fiesta ST Trophy is back once more and 2016 runner-up Sam Bilham made use of the experience gained last year to take maximum points. He finished comfortably ahead of Alasdair Currie/Steven Brown whose momentum was interrupted by a burst brake pipe in Greystoke. Richard Wells/Calvin Houldsworth were 3<sup>rd</sup>, in spite of tackling much of the event without the luxury of power steering....

With the first four crews in the 2016 RAVENOL BTRDA Silver

Star® Rally Championship having moved on to pastures new, there were always going to be new names at the top of the pile after the Malcolm Wilson Rally. Take a bow, Jody Bowcott & David Millard - they powered their Escort MkII to a class win in Cumbria by nearly a minute from Steve Hopewell's similar car. However, in Silver Star terms, it was much more seat-of-the-pants! Former 1400 Champions Dave Bennett/Alistair McNeil are back with a 1600cc engine in their Vauxhall Corsa and, try as he might, Bowcott couldn't shake off the attentions of the York crew, eventually coming good by the uncomfortably narrow margin of just two seconds....

Steve Green not only opened his season with a 1400 Championship victory, but also claimed a Silver Star podium spot in his Nissan Micra. Meanwhile, the trip up from London for series returnees Ashley Davies/Sam Fordham should be deemed a success as they took 4<sup>th</sup> in their Escort.

As alluded to above, Steve Green came out on top in the battle for Thomas Panels BTRDA 1400 Championship points on the first scoring round of the season. As a resident of Cockermouth, the Malcolm Wilson Rally was definitely his 'home' event and he was certainly able to capitalise on any local knowledge of the stages. However, 'issues' with his Micra's driveshafts led to an element of caution when dealing with the many bends encountered during the day - such husbandry led him to finish



Jodie Bowcott/David Millard Silver Star leaders after Malcolm Wilson Rally. Photo: Ralliphotoswales

ahead of the Talbot Sunbeam of Chris Powell/Jim Lewis who, after such a disastrous start to their 2016 campaign, will doubtless have heaved collective sighs of relief to see the finish this time!

Dave Brick/Rob Woodhouse's progress was impeded after their Nova suffered a puncture in Grizedale but, even so, family honour was upheld as dad finished some way ahead of sons Freddy & Toby in their Corsa! North Walian's Carl Davies/Rich Jones planted their Micra between the two generations of Bricks in the points....

M-Sport's Business Development Manager Andrew Wheatley entered the event in a BTRDA Rally First Championship-specification Ford Puma and came away with top honours - and a trophy to put on his desk in the office! Bart Lang/Sinclair Young were next in their Micra, with David Perkins' similar vehicle third. Jonathan Pickering/Simon Broom were the only other finishers in the category in a..... Micra!

The MG ZR contingent had a miserable day in the Lake District! Euron Lloyd/Osian Owen were the first to go (or should that be 'stop?') when they paid a little too much attention to ditch again

(their word!) on the opening stage, while Phil Spilsted's example lasted until SS5 before the clutch expired....

The trip to Minehead for the Somerset Stages is next on the agenda and, in addition to all the various facets of the RAVENOL BTRDA Rally Series, it also hosts the opening round of the relaunched MAXXIS MSA English Rally Championship which, for 2017, has been opened up to welcome all types of rally car that comply with MSA Safety and Technical Regulations. The calendar includes a selection of the best one-day forest and asphalt events in England, with the addition of a unique double-header weekend in Wales which gives competitors the choice to compete on either, or both, the Nicky Grist Stages (Saturday) and the Nicky Grist 'Acropolis' Rally (Sunday). The asphalt element of the calendar sees the three events grouped together in the middle of the year and includes the Dukeries Rally which takes place entirely within the confines of Donington Park, providing an excellent opportunity for sponsors and spectators to see more of the action.

**ANDREW HALL**



Car 113  
Andrew Wheatley/Heather  
Grisedale on the Malcolm Wilson  
Rally

Photo: Ralliphotoswales

Car 64  
Steve Green/Michael Gilmore  
on the Malcolm Wilson Rally

Photo: Ralliphotoswales





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1400 Championship



## Ravenol Gold Star Championship

## Ravenol Silver Star Championship

	Overall Driver	Points
1	David Bogle	30
2	David Wright	28
3	Hugh Hunter	27
4	Rhys Yates	26
5	Callum Black	25
	Overall Co-Driver	Points
1	Kevin Rae	30
2	Steve Pugh	28
3	Rob Fagg	27
4	Carl Williamson	26
5	John Rowan	25

	Overall Driver	Points
1	Jody Bowcott	30
2	David Bennett	28
3	Steve Green	27
4	Ashley Davies	26
5	Chris Powell	25
	Overall Co-Driver	Points
1	David Millard	30
2	Alistair McNeil	28
3	Sam Fordham	27
4	Jim Lewis	26
5	Ed Bentley	25



## 1400 Championship

	Overall Driver	Points
1	Steve Green	30
2	Chris Powell	28
3	Dave Brick	27
4	Carl Davies	26
5	Freddy Brick	25

	Overall Co-Driver	Points
1	Jim Lewis	30
2	Robert Woodhouse	28
3	Rich Jones	27
4	Toby Brick	26
5	Chris Sharpe-Simkiss	25

## BTRDA Rally First Championship



Driver	Points	Co-driver	Points
Andrew Wheatley	30	Sinclair Young	30
Bartholomew Lang	29	Simon Broom	29
David Perkins	28	Mark Hughes & Osian Owen	1

## The Historic Cup



Driver	Points	Co-driver	Points
Mark Bentley	20	Ed Bentley	20
Robert Dennis	18	Andrew Boswell	18
Eliot Retailick	17	Tim Tugwell	17

## BTRDA Production Cup



Driver	Points	Co-driver	Points
Sacha Kakad	20	James Aldridge	20
Richard Hill	18	Steffan Evans	18
Russ Thompson	17	Andy Murphy	17

## The MG ZR Rally Challenge



Driver	Points	Co-driver	Points
Euron Lloyd	1	Osian Owen	1
Phil Spilsted	1		

## DMack Fiesta ST Trophy



Driver	Points	Co-driver	Points
Sam Bilham	20	Steven Brown	20
Alasdair Currie	18	Calvin Houldsworth	18
Richard Wells	17	Arwel Jenkins	17

All results are shown following the Malcolm Wilson Rally



No results are shown here because the first round, the Somerset Stages, was after the publication of this edition.

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# REIS BTRDA® Sporting Trials Championship

Lots has been happening in the world of Sporting Trials, a new Class structure, a new sponsor, a new Chairman, and a new BTRDA points challenge, as well as a serious attempt to attract out the older live axle cars languishing in sheds.

For the first time in many years we have a sponsor in REIS Motorsport Insurance, who are apparently delighted with the regular coverage in the Motorsport News courtesy of Duncan Stephens who just manages to meet their deadlines every week.

Our year sort of starts in early January with the Gold & Silver Star Final which represents the wrap up of the previous year. We used to hold it the weekend following the Gloucester Trial in December, but that date has become popular with commercial firms for their Christmas do's, so we moved it four weeks later. This solved the hotel situation but it did take us into a much worse weather window. This year the site near Crewkerne was dry on the Friday whilst the sections were being set up, but it rained heavily on Friday night and the place was a quagmire as we arrived on Saturday morning. Ian Veale, last year's winner, was C of C, and he produced a truly challenging event, probably harder than he wanted but he was always chasing the conditions. It was one of those events where you needed to get it right all the time, the slightest error in speed or line and you were finished. Josh Veale borrowed his Dad's winning Sherpa from last year and showed everyone how to do it, coming out a worthy winner, although the fact that the "par" score (lowest on every section) was around half of Josh's total tells the story. I cannot remember a Gold Star being won on a three figure total before, and this was one of the hardest trials I have ever done. Nick Speed won the Silver Star in his Crossle.

We had an Open Trials Meeting near Burton on Trent in February, which was attended by interested parties from Northern Phoenix, 750MC, ASWMC, HSTCC (Historic Trials) as well as BTRDA. It was hosted by Stuart Beare and was conducted in a very constructive spirit. The thrust of the discussion was how do we make it easier to compete?

As a result we completely re-jigged the existing Red, Blue and Green class structure into two

divisions, Independent and Live axle, with each being split into just two classes, Red and Blue (based on the previous year's average score as before), plus a third division for Rookies (or novices, with up to two years or 12 trials experience, driving any car).

So on each event there will be five class winners, and we will ask our clubs to re-use their existing trophies, adding extras where required, so each class is competing for an award at least. In this regard the Committee has decided to offer, for the first year only, a small subsidy to clubs to help with any extra costs.

In addition BTRDA will run a year long Points Challenge in each Class in both divisions (Indy and Live), and will re-use our many existing end of year trophies for the purpose. Qualification for the Gold and Silver Star Final will be separate as usual, and will change to an average based system, so those who do fewer events will qualify on the same basis as those who do the majority of them during the year.

Maybe because of the amount of discussion taking place, or possibly some other reason, the first few events of 2017 were very well supported, we had an incredible 41 for the Walsingham, the Geoff Taylor having been cancelled due to weather concerns, and 32 for the Peter Blankstone, as well as 32 and 30 for the Yorkshire double header of Saturday's Stuart Butterfield and Sunday's Stone Trough. Sadly the Presidents did not follow the trend attracting just 19, but there is no doubt that the "Live axle" message is getting out. It is interesting that the MSA have followed our lead and added a live axle division to the British Championship.

We also had an excellent Training Day at Shelsley Walsh which drew in a record entry of 17, and a huge contingent of 11 instructors with their cars. Two of the attendees were new to the sport and brought along their own "new" live axle cars, and Bill Bourne who was unable to attend on the Saturday came to compete at the Blankstone the following day. Not only that but we had Mike Moran and Tony Coid attending training, they are the 2015 and 2016 Britpart Cross Country Champions, it was interesting to see how quickly Mike in particular started to improve during the day. He is interested in buying a live axle car.



# REIS BTRDA® Sporting Trials Championship

There has been a complete rejig of the Committee, after Chairman Simon Kingsley's departure I stepped in temporarily, but Stuart Beare was unanimously elected at the first proper meeting in 2017, and Ian Fullwood has rejoined with Peter Fensom taking the minutes, and Andrew Woodhead looking after the scoring. Josh Veale and myself compete the numbers for now but we are actively seeking more members and have one or two already lined up to help with the tasks at a future meeting.

I guess the most important news will be to see if the Live Axle Class really takes off during the year, and continues to support the numbers at events. We only need a few extra cars to make the events fully self supporting. With perfectly serviceable cars available from around £3000 it

will be interesting to see what happens. There are signs that some existing drivers are dusting off their live axle cars, like Stuart Beare whom brought out his original Sherpa for the President's, Simon Kingsley has said he will be using a Kincraft in place of his Crossle for some rounds this year and 2015 Gold Star winner Ian Veale is running the ex Calvin Kneebone Kincraft occasionally. In some ways it would be a shame if top drivers migrate to the live axle class, as happened in Northern Ireland, thus making it more difficult for the existing Live Axle Drivers to shine, but either way the future of the sport will be assured if we can average an extra five or more cars at event.

**Julian Fack**

## ST Short event reports

### Walsingham Sporting Trial, 750 MC, Queen Elizabeth Park, Petersfield 41starters, MSA, Reis BTRDA, 750MC

#### Bell wins on return to spring a surprise in the Queen Elizabeth Park.

Ian Bell returned to the sport after eighteen months and totally dominated the Walsingham Sporting Trial with a fabulous first round of eight hills, the opening round of the MSA and Reis Motorsport Insurance BTRDA championships. Reigning champion Roland Uglow with new passenger Beth Carroll secured second place over the twenty four extremely slippery hills which saw intermittent showers keep things very slippery. Meanwhile Simons Kingsley had made the long journey from Yorkshire with son Matthew to complete the podium after being Bell's closest challenger. Peter Fensom and Richard Sharp fill the next two places ahead of Peter McKinney who won the intermediate class from Stuart Beare who finished in ninth. Top live

axle was Arthur Carroll who also won the novice class in his Sherpa in eleventh overall from David Hailes. Double 750 MC Champion Phil Haines won the fourteen strong club class.

1.	Ian Bell	Hamilton	31
2.	Roland Uglow	Crossle	49
3.	Simon Kingsley	Crossle	54
4.	Peter Fensom	Hamilton	57
5.	Richard Sharp	Cartwright	59
6.	Peter McKinney	Crossle	59
7.	Ian Wright	Sherpa Indy	64
8.	Ian Veale	Sherpa	69
9.	Stuart Beare	Sherpa Indy	70
10.	Andy Wilks	Crossle	74

### Peter Blankstone Sporting Trial, MAC, Shelsley Walsh MSA, Reis BTRDA, Reis ASWMC, 32starters

#### Stephens and Wilks battle to end

Duncan Stephens and Andy Wilks had an epic daylong battle in their Crossle's at Shelsley Walsh for the Peter Blankstone Sporting Trial. The first round saw Wilks take the lead with a couple of fantastic trickles, but Stephens was biting at his heels despite not using the car this year, and a best second round saw him take the lunch lead by three points which was

immediately thrown away afterwards. The last hill saw Stephens battle tirelessly for two points to tie with Wilks and take the win on count back for the third time in a decade at the historic motorsport venue. Wilks awaits his first national win, which will surely be seen this year with new car. Ian Veale grabbed third also on a tiebreak from Simon Kingsley who takes the lead in the



# REIS BTRDA® Sporting Trials Championship

British championship just two points behind. Peter McKinney won the intermediate class with fifth overall another point behind, from Stuart Beare who finished eighth. Reigning Reis Motorsport Insurance BTRDA Gold Star champion Josh Veale finished a close sixth and best live axle car from Steve Courts. The novice class was won by Alan Baker and his partner Hillary Carrott, whose birthday it was, by a single point in nineteenth from Pat Henson.

1	Duncan Stephen/ Tristan Veale	Crossle	31
2	Andy Wilks/Mark Smith	Crossle	31
3	Ian Veale/Sandy Veale	Sherpa	33
4	Simon Kingsley/Jo Edwards	Crossle	33
5	Peter McKinney/Zoe Chilton	Crossle	34
6	Josh Veale/James Washer	Sherpa	37
7	Julian Fack/Meg Marriion	Crossle	43
8	Stuart Beare/Katka Bucicova	Sherpa Indy	47
9	Peter Fensom/Liz Fensom	Hamilton	48
10	Paul Price/Kate Kirk,	CAP	50

## Stuart Butterfield, YSCC, 31 starters MSA, Reis Motorsport Insurance BTRDA, NPTCC

### Uglow does the double in Yorkshire

Roland Uglow made the long trip from Cornwall to Yorkshire to retain the Stuart Butterfield trophy and complete a hat-trick of wins. No one else has won this trial since Martin Grimwood introduced it into the Reis BTRDA championship. In deteriorating conditions of strong winds and rain the hills forced a reduction to just three rounds Andy Wilks lost his second trial on a tie-break in a week. Richard Sharp returned to form and was challenging for the lead but slipped back to third just two points behind in front of George Watson. Mike Salton won the intermediate class and top live axle surprising many beating multiple British champion John Fack in his state of the art MSR and Andrew Woodhead on a tiebreak who settled for second in the intermediate class. Pat

Henson won the novice class just outside the top ten beating MSA championship leader Simon Kingsley, with Alan Baker runner up in the novice class. Richard Waterhouse won the clubman section in a strong overall field of thirty one crews, where amazingly the optimum score was just twelve to Uglow's thirty two.

1	Roland Uglow	Crossle	32
2	Andy Wilks	Crossle	32
3	Richard Sharp	Cartwright	34
4	George Watson	Hamilton	35
5	Mike Salton	Concord	38
6	John Fack	MSR	38
7	Andrew Woodhead	Jedi	38
8	Stuart Beare	Sherpa Indy	39
9	Jerome Fack	MSR	42
10	Bryan Walker	Jedi	46

## Stone Trough, YSCC, 23 starters MSA, Reis Motorsport Insurance BTRDA, NPTCC

The Stone Trough trial formed the second part of the inaugural Yorkshire Sport Car Club trials weekend and Uglow continued his domination of their trials, with his five win in six events. Crews were disappointed not to get better conditions as the Dales continued to be battered and the previous days tough conditions reduced the entry. Uglow led from the start but was kept on his toes by John Fack who was pleased to finish the trials after two retirements the last two weekends. Mike Salton won the intermediate class from Mark Campbell both driving superbly with contrasting styles in their live axle Concord's. Simon Kingsley had recovered from the previous days mistakes to finish fifth having won this trial in the Autumn. David Hailes won

the novice class in eleventh overall from John Cole. Mark Campbell finished top club competitor when the best possible score could have been just four points.

1	Roland Uglow	Crossle	23
2	John Fack	MSR	26
3	Mike Salton	Concord	33
4	Mark Campbell	Concord	37
5	Simon Kingsley	Crossle	37
6	Andy Wilks	Crossle	38
7	Julian Fack,	Crossle	39
8	Jerome Fack	MSR	40
9	Andrew Woodhead	Jedi	41
10	Barry Hogg	Hamilton	42

## Presidents Sporting Trial, Southsea Motor Club, 19 starters



# REIS BTRDA® Sporting Trials Championship

## MSA, Reis BTRDA, Reis ASWMC

### Wilks finally does it.

Andy Wilks finally won his first Reis BTRDA Sporting trial on Sunday at the Presidents having lost two events this month on a tie break. John Fack led initially after the first round of dry hills that proved slippery underneath but Wilks with a superb second round took the lead which he held on to. Last years winner Julian Fack proved to be his nearest challenger five points further back from Simon Kingsley. Star drive of the day had to be local Phil Haines who tied with Kingsley, as a clubman, driving his live axle Facksimile in fourth overall. Richard Sharp made the long trip from Yorkshire too to claim fifth. Paul Price beat John Fack on a tiebreak with one more zero for sixth ahead of Alan Baker. Baker won the new intermediate class in the live axle class, with David Zank winning the intermediate class in the independent class from Colin Flashman who was just outside the top ten

overall. Stuart Beare won the live axle class in the expert class in twelve overall, while Phil Blagden finished best rookie.

This is sure to be the first of many overall wins for Wilks in his Crossle and proved very popular after eleven years of trialling taking the lead in the British championship and Reis ASWMC championship.

1	Andy Wilks	Crossle	31
2	Julian Fack	Crossle	36
3	Simon Kingsley	Crossle	39
4	Phil Haines	Facksimile	39
5	Richard Sharp	Cartright	45
6	Paul Price	CAP	51
7	John Fack	MSR	51
8	Alan Baker	Apex	54
9	George Watson	Hamilton	56
10	David Zank	Sherpa Ind	59

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# REIS BTRDA® Sporting Trials Championship

## Provisional Championship Table After the Presidents Trial

Position	Driver	Class	Axle	Total	Walsingham	Peter Blankstone	Stuart Butterfield	Stone Trough	Presidents
<b>Independent Red</b>									
1	Andy Wilks	Red	Indi	136	21	29	29	27	30
2	Simon Kingsley	Red	Indi	131	28	27	20	28	28
3	Richard Sharp	Red	Indi	121	26	19	28	21	27
<b>Independant Blue</b>									
1	John Cole	Blue	Indi	84	14	15	17	19	19
2	Colin Flashman	Blue	Indi	57	19	16			22
3	Mike Readings	Blue	Indi	49	15	13			21
<b>Live Red</b>									
1	Josh Veale	Red	Live	59	29	30			
2	Brian Thornton	Red	Live	56			29	27	
3	Steve Courts	Red	Live	56	27	29			
<b>Live Blue</b>									
1	Alan Baker	Blue	Live	109	24	27	28		30
2	Dave Hailes	Blue	Live	108	28	25	27	28	
3	Ian Fullwood	Blue	Live	104	26	28	25	25	
<b>Rookie Class</b>									
1	Phil Blagden	Rookie	Live	21	6				15
2	Bill Bourne	Rookie	Live	4		4			
3	Kiel Wright	Rookie	Live	3		3			
<b>All Live Axle</b>									
1	Alan Baker	Blue	Live	109	24	27	28		30
2	Dave Hailes	Blue	Live	108	28	25	27	28	
3	Ian Fullwood	Blue	Live	104	26	28	25	25	
4	Josh Veale	Red	Live	59	29	30			
5	Brian Thornton	Red	Live	56			29	27	
6	Arthur Carroll	Blue	Live	56	30	26			
7	Steve Courts	Red	Live	56	27	29			
8	Bob Packham	Blue	Live	52			26	26	
9	Phil Blagden	Rookie	Live	51	23				28
10	Stuart Beare	Red	Live	29					29
<b>All Drivers</b>									
1	Andy Wilks	Red	Indi	134	21	29	29	25	30
2	Simon Kingsley	Red	Indi	128	28	27	19	26	28
3	Richard Sharp	Red	Indi	117	26	18	28	18	27
4	George Watson	Red	Indi	102	13	20	27	19	23
5	Roland Uglow	Red	Indi	89	29		30	30	
6	Stuart Beare	Red	Mix	88	22	23	23		20
7	John Fack	Red	Indi	79	N	R	25	29	25
8	Jerome Fack	Red	Indi	79		16	22	23	18
9	Julian Fack	Red	Indi	77		24		24	29
10	John Cole	Blue	Indi	67	10	12	13	15	17

# REIS BTRDA® Sporting Trials Championship



## 2017 MSA British Championship Provisional Scores after Round 5

10 rounds to count

Name	Total	Scoring Rounds	Axle*
Andy Wilks	59	5	I
Simon Kingsley	53	5	I
Roland Uglow	44	3	I
Richard Sharp	42	5	I
John Fack	34	3	I
Julian Fack	32	3	I
George Watson	29	4	I
Stuart Beare	28	4	I
Mike Salton	24	2	L
Ian Veale	21	2	I
Peter McKinney	21	2	I
Jerome Fack	19	4	I
Peter Fensom	19	2	I
Paul Price	17	2	I
Andrew Woodhead	16	2	I
Duncan Stephens	15	1	I
Ian Bell	15	1	I
Josh Veale (L)	14	2	L

Name	Total	Scoring Rounds	Axle*
Mark Campbell	12	1	L
Alan Baker	11	2	L
Ian Wright	9	1	I
Bryan Walker	8	2	I
Colin Flashman	8	2	I
Barry Hogg	7	2	I
David Zank	7	1	I
David Hailes	6	2	L
Stuart Beare (L)	5	1	L
Arthur Caroll	5	1	L
Pat Henson	5	1	I
Boyd Webster	4	1	I
Brian Thornton	4	2	L
Mike Readings	4	1	I
Paul Faulkner	3	1	I
John Cole	2	1	I
Steve Courts	2	1	L
Alan Murton	1	1	I

\*Axle I = Independent, L = Live



**Andy Wilks and  
Mark Smith**

**Photo:  
Duncan Stephens**

# BTRDA® Car Trials Championship

## LOW DOWN TORQUE

A very warm welcome to our new readers and new Car Trials Championship Contenders. Copy date for this issue sits in between our second and third events, so we do at least have something to report on, and, as always, it is pleasing to see different event winners from these opening rounds.

Looking ahead, as you may have read elsewhere, we are joining in with the MG Car Club Midlands Centre to promote a Car Trials Taster Day on 30 April at Bromsgrove. These days present opportunities across a broad front – from the complete novice to hear at first hand from experts in the sport and experience one to one tuition – to any car trials competitor looking to hone their techniques away from the pressure of a competitive event. A lot can be learned from having consecutive attempts at the same “section”, adopting different techniques, whereas a lot can change in the typical hour that elapses between rounds on an event. If you are interested in participating, or know of anyone that might be interested, please check out the

details posted on the Car Trials web pages on [btrda.com](http://btrda.com); entries close on 15 April.

I'm delighted to report that the current holders of our Best Event trophy, Wolverhampton & South Staffs Car Club, have agreed to run our end of season Grand Final Trial on their new site near Bridgnorth. After much deliberation over the date, the trial will be held on 1<sup>st</sup> October, when we look forward to our unique conclusion to the 2017 Championship.

In the meantime we look forward to your support and enjoyment of our Championship over the coming months and we welcome any feedback you might have, either by conversation with our committee members or by email to me. Our committee members are listed on the website via the drop down list which shows under Championships/Car Trials.

Have a great season!

**Neil Mackay**

[neil.mackay.home@btinternet.com](mailto:neil.mackay.home@btinternet.com)

## Golden Springs Car Trial Woolbridge Motor Club 5th March 2017

Woolminstone is just a mile on the Somerset side of the county border with Dorset, but it still rains there. Although we had been informed around noon on the Saturday that the trial would go ahead, the forecasted overnight rain had done its duty and, having driven through a lot of it on the M5, I was somewhat sceptical as I drove slowly into the field and found not a lot of grip. Kevin Roberts couldn't even drive his 2wd towcar on the level on fresh grass with an empty

trailer. It could be an interesting day, or perhaps not at all. Over the next half to threequarters of an hour or more, cars kept arriving but were asked to wait in the lane (lucky nobody wanted to go in the other direction!) while the Woolbridge hierarchy decided whether the event should go ahead or not. There were 17 Clubman and 11 National competitors to consider as well as the ground, rescheduling difficulties etc etc. It wasn't an easy decision to make, and I'm quite sure the competitors would have understood either way – I really didn't know myself! As it turned out, it was decided to run the event, and hindsight says that it was the correct decision. Well done Woolbridge.

It was decided to use just two fields rather than three, with the access between the two expected to be satisfactory with hard standing under wheel. It stood up to the test – just – and so we had six hills per round. Otherwise, the fields both had long (wet) grass and were decidedly soft in places, but afforded grip in others. Not an ideal



**Shawn Franklin - Woolbridge Golden Springs Trial**  
**Photo: Geoffrey Pickett**

# BTRDA<sup>®</sup> Car Trials Championship

event to try out a new steed, but that's what I had brought. My newly acquired (well, five months ago) Lupo TDi was given its first taste of grass (and mud). Shawn Franklin (Saxo), John Wadsworth (Ka) and Chris Judge (Saxo) would present the opposition in Class 1 and, as I managed to find a grassy line on one hill, I led the class at lunch by 6 from Shawn with the latter two about a dozen back. Conditions hadn't improved in the showery weather, and the lack of changes to the sections after the first round didn't help anybody. If I had had my Golf with me, flooring it in second gear would have surely been the only option and probably quite successful.

Which is what Barrie Parker proved in his Westfield in Class 3 by doing just that. Nigel Weeks in his Imp had an excellent climb on Hill One to be on 78 at lunch, ahead of the rest (83 to 93) – Kevin Roberts (Phaeton), Mark Hoppé (Melos), Ioan Roberts (Phaeton) and Gemma Weeks (Imp). Barrie? Oh he was in a world of his own – on 18! Quite incredible.

Limited changes were made to the sections during the lunch break, and a heavy shower did nobody any favours. Midway through the third round, it became apparent that the far field had 'gone'. That heavy shower finally did for it and it

## Basil Elkington Trial Sevenoaks & District MC March 19<sup>th</sup> 2017

A total of 43 competitors turned out on an exceptionally mild and dry Sunday in March for the Basil Elkington Trial. 23 Clubmen and 20 National B tackled the varied 32 hills in fast drying conditions such that only 1 point was scored in the afternoon rounds by the Nat B

had become dangerous with cars sliding out of section with little input from the drivers. The fourth round would consist of just the two hills in the first field, making the statutory 20 hills in total. I had a 'mare of a third round, allowing Shawn to overtake with a pair of excellent climbs, though I clung on to second in Class 1. Verdict on the car – jury is out; I need to try it in 'normal' conditions.

Barrie carried on in his serene way, dropping another six marks. The others in the class finished in the lunchtime order, though the gaps fluctuated, with Kevin Roberts nearly dropping down a spot with a costly 7 when most others cleaned Hill 4.

The marshals did a great job in keeping their humour in somewhat trying conditions, and the competitors also deserve credit for driving sensibly in conditions that could have caused the odd collision. Excellent electronic paperwork by Merv Brake, as always, with results having been received at home before I got back.

1 <sup>st</sup> Overall	Barrie Parker	Westfield Sei	24/37%
1 <sup>st</sup> Class 1	Shawn Franklin	Citroen Saxo	119/97%
1 <sup>st</sup> Class 2	Wayne Grimshaw	Vauxhall Nova	176/100%
1 <sup>st</sup> Class 3	Nigel Weeks	Hillman Imp	121/186%

**SNH**

class 3 cars. In fact Class 3 was so close, the overall win was never going to come from this class.

Trevor Moffatt in his newly acquired Corsa led the 'standard' Class 1 at lunch by 4 points from

John Wadsworth. Rupert North led the eight strong Class 2 field by only 1 mark from Dennis Usmar in an AX GT.

It was refreshing to see so many 'local' cars and drivers in this class, it's a shame more of them don't venture further afield in the National Championships – it would give Rupert and Simon Harris better competition and overall performance opportunities,

There were only four of us in Class 3, me, Mark Hoppe in the 'new' Dutton Melos and Nigel and Gemma Weeks in their stealth Imp. It was very close; after round 1, we scored 6, 7, 6, and 8



Barrie Parker - Woolbridge Golden Springs Trial  
Photo: Geoffrey Pickett

# BTRDA<sup>®</sup> Car Trials Championship

respectively! Our class was settled on round two, when a very tight and narrow, dry steep uphill turn allowed Nigel a clean when the rest of us fell foul of the obstacle at 4. That was it for our class as after that, only one mark was dropped between us the rest of the day. Our MSA points were to be diminished too as there were only 4 in the class.

In Classes 1 and 2 however, battle raged as the afternoon progressed, with most hills being altered each round. Trevor increased his lead but clipped a 7 on a tight turn which left him on 35. Amazingly, Rupert extended his lead too leaving him on 35 as well! I've not worked it out

but I suspect Trevor may have handed the overall win to Rupert by clipping that 7, but that's trialling. How often do we say 'if only I had.....' Rupert North capitalised on the minimalist dimensions of the Mini and made his long journey from Airdale a rewarding one.

This event was a vast improvement over some recent years and Chris Judge should be congratulated on getting together an excellent organising team and enthusiastic marshals. Many thanks to Sevenoaks and District Motor Club.

**Barrie Parker.**

## **Nigel Weeks in action at the Woolbridge Golden Springs & Basil Elkington Trials**

**Photos:  
Chris Judge (Right) &  
Geoffrey Pickett**



## **Scorer's Snippets 12<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

We welcome John Peterson (Cambridgeshire) and Richard Pain (Manchester) to BTRDA Car Trials registration, and to a more familiar loan Roberts for registering after a couple of years of passengering and watching others in the Roberts (Bala MC) clan. loan had his first taste of trials driving at an extremely wet Golden Springs Trial in early March.

Having won the Bronze Star<sup>®</sup> championship last year, Kevin Roberts has moved up to Silver Star<sup>®</sup> this year, so there is more chance for a new face/name in that championship now.

There is quite a shuffle round of the events in the calendar this year, and it looks as if the majority of the events will be over and done by mid July. Let's get cracking!

The championship scores are on the BTRDA website – and they are 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; contact details are inside the front cover of this News.

**Simon Harris**

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# Autosport International Clubmans Rallycross Championship in partnership with Toyo Tires

The 2017 BTRDA Clubmans Rallycross Championship certainly looks like it's going to be the best year since establishing itself as a standalone Championship back in 2014.

Having accepted the challenge from 'Mike Sones' BTRDA Rallycross Chairman in late 2016 to get the events on TV, the BTRDA Rallycross Championship Manager John Rook set about this task over the winter and had some fantastic success.

## Let's look at some of the facts:

- Driver registrations are up, with major growth being seen in the Production 4x4, Junior and Historic classes over the winter. Other classes will see new cars and new drivers all fighting it out.
- For the first time the Historic category will be able to score points towards the overall Championship meaning anyone from 3 categories could become champion. If the Production 4x4 numbers continue to grow this year, this category will also be part of the main Championship in 2018.
- The 2017 season is the BTRDA Rallycross Championships 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year having been won back in 1977 by Trevor Reeves.
- Autosport International have renewed their title sponsorship for the 4<sup>th</sup> season in a row which will see the Championship present at the ASI in January 2018.
- Toyo Tires has come on board as a partner, signing a 3-year agreement to be joint title sponsor, with their ultimate aim to be present in the WRX in 3 years time.
- Having secured sponsorship over the winter the BTRDA Rallycross Championship will be filmed and broadcasted on TV with a 48 minute programme capturing the very best action from all 7 rounds.
- With a tender process going on over the winter to win the rights to film this year's Championship it was 247.TV who came out on top. With a wide range of experience across all forms of filming including Brisca F1 this will be the first time they will of covered Rallycross.
- The Championship will be broadcast on various channels this year including 'Motorsport.tv and Premier Sports'. The biggest exposure will be gained from Motorsport.tv with all rounds shown in the UK, Ireland, Europe, North and Latin America.



the biggest exposure will be gained from Motorsport.tv with all rounds shown in the UK, Ireland, Europe, North and Latin America.

- New Championship sponsors coming on board including; MOT Plus Watford, JD Garage, Motorhome department, AVM and AS Performance.
- Roll on the 2017, let's ensure the 2017 is the BIGGEST and BEST yet.



## Autosport International Clubmans Rallycross Championship in partnership with Toyo Tires

### Autosport International Show – January 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> 2017

The middle of January saw the BTRDA make its annual trip to the Autosport International Racing Car show at the NEC, with a static display representing many of the BTRDA disciplines.

Organised by the Rallycross committee a full complement of Rallycross cars was on display including;

- Andy Brinkley – SuperModified  
BMW M3 Evo 3200cc
- Eddie Gibbs – Production 4X4  
Subaru Impreza 2000cc
- Shaun Buckley – Historic  
Ford Escort 2300c
- Joe Meskauskas – Production  
Citroen C2 1600cc

The stand remained busy throughout the 2 days with current drivers and potential new drivers for the 2017 season visiting to talk to the Championship organisers about getting started.

As 2017 marks the 50th Anniversary of Rallycross in addition to the static display from the BTRDA there was also a live demonstration from Rallycross drivers and cars past and present in the live arena.

In addition to the BTRDA stand the Rallycross Championship manager John Rook was present on the main stage interviewing some of the top stars taking part in Rallycross in the UK. Interviews were with the likes of British Champion's Julian Godfrey and Dan Rooke as well as European Touring car champion Derek Tohill. Representing the BTRDA Championship included drivers such as; Gary Cook, Todd Crooks, Andy Brinkley and Joe Meskauskas.

The show also proved to be fruitful for the Championship with many conversations taking place with circuits, potential sponsors, drivers and TV production companies all in readiness for the 2017 season.

*BTRDA Rallycross Committee.*



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# Autosport International Clubmans Rallycross Championship in partnership with Toyo Tires

## Autosport International BTRDA Clubmans Rallycross Championship in partnership with Toyo Tires

The BTRDA Clubmans Rallycross Championship are extremely pleased to announce that in addition to the renewal of our title sponsor, they have also agreed a 3 year deal with Worldwide Tire manufacturer 'Toyo Tires' to become their main associate sponsor.



This deal has not only been agreed to enhance the BTRDA Championship but ultimately to increase brand awareness within Motorsport of the Toyo Tire products. The partnership over the next 3 years will allow Toyo Tires to demonstrate the grip and traction levels on both tarmac and gravel showing what strength and depth they have within their range.

Toyo Tires are currently supplied within the Championship through Mel Williams Tyres and this will continue in 2017 with tyres available for all 6 Categories within the BTRDA Championship.

John Rook the BTRDA Championship Manager said; *"The Championship keeps going from strength to strength and now with a Worldwide brand on board such as Toyo Tires it really does raise the Championship to the next level. This deal doesn't only enhance the Championship but for the drivers they will receive a cash incentive of £150 per A Final won whilst racing on Toyo Tires throughout an event"* Kenta Kuribayashi the President Toyo Tire Europe GmbH said; *"Toyo Tires are extremely pleased to be supporting the 2017 BTRDA Clubmans Rallycross Championship. This dramatic Motorsport format is enjoying a surge in popularity in its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. The excitement and accessibility of the sport make Rallycross the perfect partner for Toyo Tires".*

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# Autosport International Clubmans Rallycross Championship in partnership with Toyo Tires

## Blyton Circuit Round 1 - 12<sup>th</sup> March.

The first rallycross event of the year in Britain took place at Blyton Park in Lincolnshire, as the 2017 BTRDA Clubmans Rallycross Championship got underway on March 12.

In the Super Modified category, Paige Bellerby seized the lead of the A final before the first corner in her Lotus Exige, beating pole starter Todd Crooks away from the line. The BMW Mini driver also lost out to Michael Boak in the run to turn one, who started on the second row alongside MB Motorsport team mate Phil Chicken in a pair of Citroen C2s and braved it out around the outside before cutting to the inside in the first corner to claim second, where he would stay to the finish. Behind the leading pair, Chicken and Crooks battled over third position on the opening lap and while Chicken broke free to run alone in third for the rest of the race, Crooks later retired. Reigning BTRDA Super Modified Champion Marc Jones claimed fifth in his title-winning Toyota MR2, chased throughout by Paul Johnson's three-litre BMW M3. Jones and Johnson had graduated to the A final having finished first and second in the B final, ahead of former Historic driver Gary Mitchell, making a maiden appearance in a newly-built V6-engined Ford Puma. Rallycross journalist Hal Ridge was fourth in the B final, driving a Swift Sport Rallycross Championship specification Suzuki Swift, run by Peter Gwynne Motorsport. Despite showing strong form in the

heat races, neither Rob Scott or returning driver Mike Dresser were able to start the Super Modified C final. Dresser was forced out with broken steering on the his freshly-built Lotus Exige while Scott suffered engine problems with his twin-turbo Porsche Boxster in heat three.

Citroen Saxo driver Martin Peters was fastest in heats two and three to secure pole position on the Production A final grid, but it was Jeff Hope-Davis who took the lead at the first corner, and despite being passed by Peters in the closing stages, was able to reclaim the position to secure victory. Reigning Production champion James Orton completed the podium with his Peugeot 106, while new driver to the championship, Graham Rumsey, was fourth, having won the B final ahead of Mark Finch, in a Citroen Saxo and Xsara respectively. Finch finished the final sixth, less than two tenths of a second behind Lee Green, the Saxo driver having qualified third overall. Newcomer Clywd Davies won the Production E final in his Peugeot 206 while Steven Hickey won the D final in his Peugeot 205. Saxo driver Dale Ford won the C final ahead of the similar car of Chris Harper, the latter driver then retiring from the B final.

In the Production 4x4 category, former Supercar star Mike Manning claimed victory in a Subaru Impreza one-two, finishing the final just under two seconds ahead of former Production Citroen Saxo racer Paul Davis. Having made his debut in the BTRDA Clubmans Championship last season, autocross racer James Lyon finished third in his Nissan Pulsar GTi-R to complete the podium. Making his competition debut in the four-wheel drive category, Pete Ellis drove Ian Shelley's Impreza to fourth place. Liam Manning had a torrid first event of the year and failed to finish either of the first two heats with technical problems, putting him out of the event.

Shaun Buckley led home a Ford Escort MkII podium lock-out in the Historic A final, with Brian



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# Autosport International Clubmans Rallycross Championship in partnership with Toyo Tires

Hardman second and the driver that won the C final before finishing second in the B Final, Darren Owen, completed the podium.

R1 Motorsport team mates Scott Stutchbury and Ryan Stutchbury, in a pair of Peugeot 205s sandwiched Michael Grant's Ford Fiesta, the son of Supercar race-winner Andy Grant making his rallycross debut in the A final. The trio were fourth, fifth and sixth respectively. Ian Clark was top Classic Mini finisher with third in the B final.

Seven drivers entered the opening round of the BTRDA Junior category, in which Jaidon Bennett claimed victory in his Seat Arosa. Tom

Constantine finished second in a Suzuki Swift while Thomas Middleton completed the podium in a similar car, having qualified fourth. Morgan Wroot was twice second fastest but retired from heat two with a gearbox problem. He qualified in third and finished fourth in the final. Ethan Rees made his rallycross debut and was fifth, having won the B final, while Laura Boak completed the list of A final finishers. She came out on top of a battle with debutant James Constantine in the B final. The next event for the Clubmans Championship is a double-header weekend at Pembrey in South Wales, on May 6/7.  
**Hal Ridge**



**Blyton Park: Brian Hardman followed by Ryan Stutchbury. Photo: Trevor Coulson**



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# Autosport International Clubmans Rallycross Championship in partnership with Toyo Tires

## Everything Blyton 12th March

Waking up Sunday I was a bag of nerves and unsure of what to expect, unsure of whether I would be competitive enough and seeing people compete on a much bigger budget and full team set-up was daunting.

After scrutineering, the drivers briefing and several toilet journeys I went out for the morning practice session on a damp greasy track and wasn't sure of how I was doing compared to the other drivers, but just kept trying to focus on how to improve before the first race.

Lining up on the grid for the first time I couldn't wait, starting from the back I got a good start and held my own against the other drivers in my race and managed to get a fourth which I was chuffed with.

Second race however, I started on pole. This was the best yet longest most nervous laps of the day trying not to make a mistake. Crossing the line in first I was absolutely buzzing (as everybody watching probably saw and heard me shouting and waving hands inside the car).

Then back at the motorhome for omelette (thanks to Mum and Alli) still on a massive high from race 2 eager to get back out racing.

Race 3 however didn't go as smoothly as we had a fuel pump issue which we just got fixed in time before the race, then forgot to switch my fan on, and then had gear selecting issues. I still managed to get 3<sup>rd</sup> position which after all that drama I was really pleased with.

Unsure about what final I was in, and how the points system worked I had to rush and repair my car to get out for the final race. With Paul Davis and others help we managed to re-bleed the radiator after losing most of my coolant on the floor, then re-connected the gear selector which popped out, and taped up the shifter to get me ready to race. When half way through fixing it I received the news I made an A-final in my first outing, I was stoked. I really couldn't believe that I made it through and qualified in 3<sup>rd</sup>.

With my car repaired I lined up for the final, still amazed that not only was my car fixed using a lot of tape, but I made an A-final in my first outing. However, after a poor start and more problems with my gears I found myself at the back of this final battling hard with Mark Finch, and a late dive up the inside I managed to get him for 5<sup>th</sup>. It was a brilliant fun, fair battle which I loved!!

Throughout the day, I realised that no matter how big some driver's budgets are, or how big their teams are the people involved in this championship are brilliant. The racing during the day was fantastic, made better after I found out that I had been voted Best Newcomer of the Day!

I'd like to thank my Mum and Alli for getting me and the car safely to Blyton and back and for keeping me well fed. Massive thanks to Paul Davis & co for taking time from their day getting muddy and dusty to ensure I got on the grid for the final. Really can't thank people enough (I'll bring some beers to Pembrey), Exmouth Tyre & Exhausts, Dejez Designs, Track Addict and also Fibreglass Solutions for their help!

And to all the organisers, marshals and people helping to put on such a brilliant race day. Words can't explain how brilliant it was.

Now just to get my car fixed and ready for Pembrey. I can't wait!

Thanks, Lee Green, 94, Production, Citroen Saxo VTS

**Blyton Park: Lee Green – Production Category.**  
**Photo: Trevor Coulson**



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AVM are proud to be sponsoring the BTRDA Clubman Rally Cross series this year. Proprietor (Dave Attiwell) completed his first full season in 2016 and won the Super-modified up to 2.0 Litre class in his Race prepared Peugeot 106 GTi. This season he will be competing in a 1600 Nova which he has built from the ground up, specifically for the 2017 season.

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The Motorhome Department are proud to be sponsoring the BTRDA Clubmans Rallycross Championship this year.

Karl Skitt is found driving his Vauxhall Calibra V6 in the Historic Category in all rounds this year.



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# Autosport International Clubmans Rallycross Championship in partnership with Toyo Tires

## Results after Blyton Round 1

BTRDA Championship Overall		
1 <sup>st</sup>	Phil Chicken	40
	Jeff Hope Davies	40
	Shaun Buckley	40
4 <sup>th</sup>	Marc Jones	37
	Martin Peters	37
	Brian Hardman	37



### BTRDA Supermodified Category



### BTRDA Production Category

#### Supermodifieds Championship Overall

1 <sup>st</sup>	Phil Chicken	40
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Marc Jones	37
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Paul Johnson	35
4 <sup>th</sup>	Todd Crooks	33
5 <sup>th</sup>	-	

#### Production Championship Overall

1 <sup>st</sup>	Jeff Hope Davies	40
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Martin Peters	37
3 <sup>rd</sup>	James Orton	35
4 <sup>th</sup>	Graham Rumsey	33
5 <sup>th</sup>	Lee Green	31

#### Up to 1600cc

1 <sup>st</sup>	Phil Chicken	33
2 <sup>nd</sup>	-	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	-	

#### 1600 8V

1 <sup>st</sup>	Leigh Hickey	33
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Steve Hickey	30
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Luke Mason	28

#### 1601 to 2100cc

No Points scored to date

#### 1600 16V

1 <sup>st</sup>	Jeff Hope Davies	40
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Martin Peters	37
3 <sup>rd</sup>	James Orton	35

#### Over 2101cc

1 <sup>st</sup>	Marc Jones	40
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Paul Johnson	37
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Todd Crooks	35

#### 1601 to 2000

1 <sup>st</sup>	Mark Finch	40
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sue Lane	37
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Clwyd Davies	35

#### BMW Mini

1 <sup>st</sup>	Staios Hatzistefanis	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	-	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	-	

[www.clubmansrallycross.weebly.com](http://www.clubmansrallycross.weebly.com)

BTRDA Clubmans Rallycross Championship.

# Autosport International Clubmans Rallycross Championship in partnership with Toyo Tires



**BTRDA Historic Category**

### Overall

1 <sup>st</sup>	Shaun Buckley	40
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Brian Owen	37
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Darren Hardman	35
4 <sup>th</sup>	Scott Stutchbury	33
5 <sup>th</sup>	Shayne Dutton	31

### Supermodified

1 <sup>st</sup>	Shaun Buckley	40
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Scott Stutchbury	37
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mike Grant	35

### Modified

1 <sup>st</sup>	Brian Hardman	40
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Darren Owen	37
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ryan Stutchbury	35

### Classic Minicross

1 <sup>st</sup>	Craig Truelove	40
2 <sup>nd</sup>	-	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	-	



**Production 4 x 4 Category**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Mike Manning	40
2	Paul Davies	37
3	Peter Ellis	35



**Clubman 4 x 4 Category**

No Points scored to date



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**Junior Rallycross**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Jaidon Bennett	40
2	Tom Constantine	35
3	Morgan Wroot	33



**Mark Finch & Sue Lane**  
**Production Category Race**  
**Photo: Trevor Coulson**



# Autosport International Clubmans Rallycross Championship in partnership with Toyo Tires

## “Snippets”

Binfield's Paul Davis will graduate from the Production category in 2017, having sold his Citroen Saxo to newbie Lee Green, this will see Paul move upto the new Production 4x4 category. Paul will race a former Rally car which has been extensively re-built by R1 Motorsport over the winter and he is planning a full season in the car.

Having not raced for over 10 years the former circuit racing driver Nick Abbott has teams up with Tony Lynch to race Tony's BMW Mini Cooper S in the SuperModified category in 2017. Nick has never done Rallycross before and has also never raced on a loose section. 2017 will be a year of learning the tracks and the art of Rallycross but will see Nick doing a full season. In 2018 it is highly likely that the Lucas Oils team will grow to 2 cars with Tony Lynch also racing in a full BTRDA Championship.

Another former production driver Richard Todd is also changing classes in 2017. Having sold his Peugeot 106 to another newbie (Neil Caddick), Richard has purchased the ex Ian Shelley Vauxhall Powered Historic Mini. Richard will race in the Historic category and is planning a full season along with one of his friends Luke Mason who will drive a Peugeot 205 GTi in the Production category.



Nick Abbott

The former BRDA Chairman and rallycross driver Mike Dresser will return to the sport in 2017 having spent a couple of seasons finishing off the build of his Lotus Exige. During the 2015 and 16 seasons Mike has had a taster of Rallycross by driving his partners Honda Civic and soon realised he had the bug again and decided to finish his SuperModified car ready for the 2017 season. The home built car powered by a 2.4 Honda engine, 2017 will be a development year but Mike is planning a full season.

Former Historic driver Gary Mitchell is moving up to the SuperModified category in 2017 with a brand new home built car. Having raced a V6 Vauxhall Vectra in the 2016 season Gary has decided to transfer the running gear in to Rwd Ford Puma. The car made its debut at Blyton on March 12<sup>th</sup> and Gary is planning a full season.

Paul Johnson



Another newbie who will be seen in the Championship in 2017 is former drifter Paul Johnson from Oxford. He has spent the winter building a BMW M3, jointly put together by fellow BMW competitor Andy Brinkley's AB Bodyworks and is planning a full season in his new car.

# BTRDA® Allrounders Championship

## Supported by NuCasa

### ALLROUNDERS First Quarter

Our Championship is GO for this year and we all look forward to another competitive year of SERIOUS FUN. As usual in the first news of the year we record our winners from last year's championship which concluded on 31st December

Champion	- Peter Cooper Trophy	- Jamie Yapp	100.54
Runner up	- Darbyshire Trophy	- John Fox	96.65
Third	- Margot Young Trophy	- Richard Crozier	96.19
One Car	- Davijon Trophy	- Jamie Yapp in the family Nova	
Under 25	- Duckham Trophy	- No qualifiers	
Other qualifiers	- Alan Wakeman, John Wadsworth and Richard Yapp.		

Todd Crooks, whose photo appears later within these pages, came so close to winning the Duckham Trophy with good points from five events in two groups, just missing out on his last event when the car broke on the penultimate stage of the Trackrod Rally. That was tough.

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It was encouraging to see a number of BTRDA members at the January Autosport show visiting the Association's stand. Our sports were represented by cars from all branches and it was good for the BTRDA to be at this prestigious show.

Our AGM, Luncheon and Awards Presentation was held at Drayton Manor Park Hotel with an excellent attendance of 147 members and friends enjoying an excellent meal and picture show. The BTRDA display of silver and glass awards is quite magnificent and is regarded within motorsport as one of the premier presentations. Although the Rally Series and Sporting Trials have traditionally held their own separate awards presentations, which again were well supported, the overall winners also attend the luncheon to collect the major awards.

We are delighted that our championship sponsor NuCasa will be with us for another year and thank Liam Yapp for his support of the Allrounders Championship. Have a look at his website for some funky homeware.

# BTRDA® Allrounders Championship

## Supported by NuCasa



**Bill Bourne & Tim Machin at Peter Blankstone Trial  
Shelsey Walsh**  
Photo: Calvin Samuel

One of the 17 events scheduled before copydate in the BTRDA Calendar of Serious Fun was our first rally, the Cambrian, which was cancelled during the first stage when exceptional weather conditions in the forests of North Wales prevented marshals and other safety crews entering the area. Result: Weather 1 Organisers 0.

The early points table is in this news and on the website [www.btrda.com](http://www.btrda.com). The website will be updated periodically.

Early leader John Fox as well as Rich Yapp and John Wadsworth have already amassed points from three events, with John W entered for Loton Park on Mothering Sunday. It's still very early days with many events in the BTRDA calendar plus all those National B Speed events to choose from. A timely reminder that it's always a good idea to plan your Allrounders calendar. Early points can often be improved upon as the year progresses and you manage to get your important third group done and dusted.

At the copy date of this news we have 25 registered entrants and we expect a few more in the coming months. It's not too late. Interesting to note the age spread of our contenders spans more than 60 years! Something for

everyone whatever your age and whichever branch of motorsport is your special interest. Don't forget the Duckham Trophy for the best qualifier Under 25.

There is disappointing news with regards to our Groups for points. This year there will not be a Group D as the Asphalt Rally Championship is taking a sabbatical, so only Group C counts for Rally points this year - both driver and co-driver. Both Forest and tarmac rallies are included in this Group so check the list of events and full details on their dedicated website:-

[www.btrdarally.com](http://www.btrdarally.com).

Fantastic News - BTRDA Clubman Rallycross events will be on the tele. Look out for programs on Freeview 91 (Front Runner), Sky 447 and Virgin Media 545. More details of this are included within the rallycross pages of this news.

We welcome all our Championship 2017 contenders and I look forward to seeing you around at events this year. The initial aim is to qualify with your six events from at least three groups to guarantee an award at the end of the year.

Whatever the weather, enjoy your motorsport,

**Phil D**

**Todd Crooks at Blyton Park**  
Photo: Trevor Coulson



# BTRDA® Allrounders Championship

## Supported by NuCasa



NuCasa BTRDA Allrounders Championship  
Provisional Overall Scores as at 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017

		Score	Group	Score	Group	Score	Group	Total
	John Fox	15.00	A	16.92	H	17.14	H	49.06
	Alan Wakeman	18.00	H	11.43	H			29.43
	Dave Evans	13.33	A	15.00	A			28.33
	Richard Yapp	7.69	H	10.00	H	10.00	H	27.69
	Jamie Yapp	13.85	H	13.33	H			27.18
	Barrie Parker	17.14	B					17.14
U25	Todd Crooks	12.00	E					12.00
	Duncan Wild	6.67	A	5.00	A			11.67
	John Wadsworth	8.00	B	2.22	H			10.22
	Bill Bourne	8.33	F					8.33
	Richard Egger	4.44	A					4.44
U25	Tom Easson	Rtd	C					
	Peter Stephenson	Rtd	C					

A - Autotest      B - Car Trials      C - Forest Rally      D - Asphalt Rally      E - Rallycross  
F - Sporting Trials      G - Speed      H - AutoSOLO

\* Indicates Rally Co-driver    Names in *italics* indicates Davijon score

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# Demon Tweaks Direct BTRDA® Autotest Championship

## From the Hot Seat

The Championship kicked off early this year with a trip to the Trac Mon Race Circuit on Anglesey at the end of Feb, courtesy of the Caernarfonshire & Anglesey Motor Club. An entry of 21 Championship contenders, ably supported by a good Clubmans entry, enjoyed themselves around the wide-open spaces of the circuit, the downside of which was its exposure to the ever-increasing gale force wind. This eventually caused the event to be brought to an early close after 9 tests as drivers were forced to stand at 45 degrees into the wind to prevent them being blown over! That said this did not stop a close battle being fought between the top drivers with FTD finally going to Malcolm Livingston in the Lindsay Special from Chris Chapman in the Striker and Dave Evens in the Blitz, who only just pipped Willie Keaning in his Nova. The remaining Class win went to Dave Fox in the Nova engined Mini.

Two weeks later saw the circus move to Curborough Sprint Course, which is infamous for being able to provide all 4 seasons' weather in one day, but this year the Gods smiled on the Hagley & District Light Car Club and provided a dry sunny, and at times, warm day. The event

saw an excellent turnout of competitors, several of which were on their first shakedown of the season. The entry included 6 of our friend from Scotland and the North East contingent of Mark Thornton, Keith Walton and Richard Pinkney and it was Richard who set the standard for the day with some outstanding performances while driving the only way he knows – flat out. Malcolm Livingston took the Specials Class some 7 sec behind; with again Chris Chapman on his tail only 6 secs behind. Dave Fox again took the depleted Mini Class and Willie Keaning established his dominance in the Novas over Warren Gillespie and Roger Holder. Class E went to Allrounder John Fox in the 205, but it was also great to see Gavin Dixon reliving a dream of his youth in his immaculate VW Beetle, as he tried to emulate his father and the greats of Irish Autotesting from the 70's and 80's.

So, now we move on to the Herefordshire Motor Club event at Foxley on the 9<sup>th</sup> April, which will be swiftly followed by Whitchurch Motor Club who have acquired a new venue at Harper Adams University in Newport, who have a thriving motor club – get your entries in early.

**Steve Layton**



Pictures from Hagley & DMC  
Autotest at Curborough.

Top left: Richard Pinkney

Left: Chris Chapman

Above: Daf Roberts

Photo: Fern Motorsport



# Demon Tweaks Direct BTRDA® Autotest Championship

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## From the Pits

I have to start this article with a tribute to Trevor Smith, the Flather Gold Star Autotest champion in 1972, 73, 75 and 77 who sadly passed away in December. Trevor and I started autotesting at roughly the same time in the early 70's and often competed against each other on local association rounds. I don't think I ever beat Trevor then and certainly not when we both were doing BTRDA championship rounds for the next few decades. To be at the top of the Autotest sports car tree in the 1970's your name had to begin with S, the others being Dick Squire and Steve Stringer. This was not forgetting Denis Beare who was also in the mix for FTD having been a Gold Star champion in 1969. It was such an exciting period of autotesting watching the top sports car drivers. It was also the age of the revolution in the scoring system with originally just the top 5 open cars and top 5 closed cars scoring Gold Star points. Specials came into the open group but with a 5% handicap on times. There was also a class system with the A C Westwood trophy for the best large (over 7ft 1 in wheelbase) saloon/sports cars. The arrival of Steve Stringer in the Lotus 7 made a bit of a nonsense to this class which was originally meant to cater for the likes of the MGB. It was the BTRDA Autotest committee who charged Squadron Leader Len Gibson, Trevor and myself to come up with a universal class system which didn't name any specific car type and a revised points system for the Gold Star. We met at the RAF College in Bracknell one afternoon where Len said there was a squash court available which we could use before evening meal in the officer's mess. As a young lad at the time I was playing quite a bit of squash and Trevor agreed to play. Well, I can now say that this was the only time I have ever beaten Trevor at anything! Luckily for me there was only time for one game, I reckon Trevor would have won the second one. The 3 of us came up with what is essentially the current grouping and points scoring system which has lasted for over 30

years. I hope that, in itself, will be a tribute to Trevor.

Looking at the list of BTRDA championship entrants for 2017 it's good to see 38 autotesters registered so far. That's only 2 less than in 2016 and no doubt by the end of the Hagley round in the middle of March we will have an increase. Some of the new to the list are from other BTRDA sports whilst there is Gavin Dixon who is no stranger to the sport and is rumoured to be bringing out the rebuilt Beetle his father was so successful in. The black Beetle had a run at the Ken Wharton event last October, sporting stickers that I hadn't see for a long time – like the 1972 BTRA championship entrant one! New to the BTRDA is Thomas Dodd from Grantham and being a member of the Loughborough CC it is no surprise that he is driving a Nova in Class B. There were a good number of them out on the first round and Thomas did well to score points there to put him top of the list in Bronze Star. He is on the list as Tom so whether it is Tom or Thomas, welcome to the BTRDA!

There has been a thread running on the british rally forum website about "*Handbrake or rather Lack of?*" and comments about the inability of many drivers to use the handbrake to get around tight corners on tarmac stage events. There are several comments that drivers should start their motorsport with autotests where they will learn the art of using that lever. On the other hand, Steve Stringer comments that perhaps he uses it a bit too much! However, as they say, the proof of the pudding is in the eating as going back to Trevor Smith he went on from Autotest Gold Stars to win the Gold Star for the BTRDA Rally championship in 1981 and 82. Together with Gold Stars for winning the Allrounders in 1978 and 79 that makes Trevor a truly great champion. He will be sorely missed for his wisdom and wit – many of us have been a victim of the latter!

**Peter Cox**



# Demon Tweaks Direct BTRDA® Autotest Championship

## Championship Positions after Round 2 Hagley & DLCC

<b>Gold Star</b>			
1	Malcolm Livingston	Lindsay Special 1600	39
2	Chris Chapman	RAW Striker	37
3	Dave Evans	Blitz Special 2000	35
4	Willie Keating	Nova 1600	30
5	Warren Gillespie	Nova 1600	25
6	Roger Holder	Nova 1400	23
7	Dave Fox	Mini 1600	21
8	John Moffatt	Westfield Seven	21
9	Richard Pinkney	Caterham 7 1600	20
10	Ian Chapman	Xmoor Riot	19
<b>Silver Star</b>			
1	Dave Fox	Mini 1600	18
2	Mark Thornton	Nova 1600	14
3	John Moffatt	Westfield Seven	12
4	Dafydd Roberts	Corsa	11
5	Chris Atkinson	Westfield 1600	9
<b>Bronze Star</b>			
1	Dafydd Roberts	Corsa	50
2	Brynne Cook	Nova 1600	27
3	Murray Walker	Nova 1600	14
4	Tom Dodd	Nova 1600	14
5	Kelsey Gillespie	Nova 1600	10
<b>CLASS A</b>			
1	Dave Fox	Mini 1600	20
2	Dave Mosey	Mini 1380	9
3	Mike Biss	Mini 1098	9
<b>CLASS B</b>			
1	Willie Keating	Nova 1600	20
2	Warren Gillespie	Nova 1600	18
3	Roger Holder	Nova 1400	16
4	Mark Thornton	Nova 1600	14
5	Dafydd Roberts	Corsa	11

<b>CLASS C</b>			
1	Chris Chapman	Striker 1800	19
2	Steve Morten	RAW Striker	13
3	Ian Chapman	Xmoor Riot	13
4	John Moffatt	Westfield Seven	12
5	Richard Pinkney	Caterham 7 1600	10
<b>CLASS D</b>			
1	Malcolm Livingston	Lindsay Special 1600	20
2	Dave Evans	Blitz Special 2000	18
3	Paul Fobister	Haigh Special 1400	14
4	Duncan Wild	ABS Special 1380	13
5	Dave Mosey	Mini Special	8
<b>CLASS E</b>			
1	Gavin Dickson	VW Beetle 1600	8
<b>CLASS H</b>			
1	Kelsey Gillespie	Nova 1600	10
<b>CLASS J</b>			
1	Malcolm Livingston	Lindsay Special 1600	40
2	Dave Evans	Blitz Special 2000	38
3	Ian Chapman	Xmoor Riot	34
4	Paul Fobister	Haigh Special	34
5	Duncan Wild	ABS Special 1380	32
<b>CLASS L</b>			
1	Helen Perren	Retrotester 1590	10
2	Kelsey Gillespie	Nova 1600	9



Gavin Dixon in his orange Beetle & a 1972 championship entrant sticker recently seen on his father's black version



# Meath Engineering (tools) Ltd BTRDA® AutoSOLO Championship

## Going Solo

As usual our registrations got off to a slow start but the end of January saw the first round of our AutoSOLO season with Knutsford & District taking over the newly expanded Demon tweeks car park at Wrexham, with 6 registered contenders taking part as well as several faces from previous years. FTD went to Andy Williams in his Micra hotly pursued by Dan and Nick Darkin sharing the Nova and BTRDA Allrounder John Fox in his Mini. On the Championship front best score went to Stephen Mather in his Clio followed by Jamie Yapp in the Nova.

The second round at Kemble, run by the Devizes District Motor Club, saw increased BTRDA numbers with Richard Pain in his Starlet again putting in a good performance in Class A, while Alan Wakeman was back to winning ways in his Class B Clio against the Olsens and the Yapps made the sneaky move to Class C in Jamie's very quick Golf 6R4. Whilst in Class B Mark Summers in his MX5 took the honours from Pete Cox in the Honda.

Unfortunately, venue issues resulted in the cancelation of the Bristol Motor Club's event at Chepstow, but they will return later in the year, which left Ross & District's event as the next round. The event saw five Championship contenders travel to the Forest of Dean, with Alan Wakeman having to be content with a third in class behind the 2015 Champion Steve Connor in a Puma and that man John Fox, again in his Mini. Mark Summers and Richard Yapp both decided to run in the sports car Class in their respective MX5s, with Mark taking 4<sup>th</sup> and Richard 5<sup>th</sup> behind the very quick Jim Bryant who claimed FTD.

So, after the first three rounds only three of our registered contenders to date are yet to score and with another fourteen rounds to go there they still plenty of time to start scoring, as do any of you who are yet to register. Also don't forget that the Boundless by CSMA round in June is also the Inter Association AutoSOLO so there is a chance for you to represent your area as part of their team.

Finally, as you will be aware at the end of last year the BTRDA lost a good friend in Trevor Smith, who had been our sponsor for the AutoSOLO Championship under the Meath Engineering banner since its inception and I am delighted that his family have agreed to continue this in 2018 as Trevor had wished.

## AutoSOLO Championship Provisional Scores

		EVENT	1	2	3	no. events	Best 7 Scores	Class	O/A
<b>CLASS A</b>									
Richard Pain	Toyota Starlet	1332	5	7		2	12	1	5
Jamie Yapp	Vauxhall Nova SR	1297	7			1	7	2	-
Richard Yapp	Vauxhall Nova SR	1297	3			1	3	3	-
<b>CLASS B</b>									
Alan Wakeman	Renault Clio 172	1998		10	8	2	18	1	1
Stephen Mather	Renault Clio	1998	8			1	8	3	7
Richard Olsen	MGZR	1800		8		1	8	3	7
Emma Olsen	MGZR	1800		7		1	7	5	9
David Graves	Sport Ka	1600	5		5	2	10	2	6
Mark Summers	Ford Puma	1700	3			1	3	6	-
Richard Mortimer	Saxo			2		1	2	7	11
Ben Heggs	Fiesta	1988			7				
<b>CLASS C</b>									
Jamie Yapp	VW Golf	2000		9		1	9	1	-
Richard Yapp	VW Golf	2000		8		1	8	2	-
<b>CLASS D</b>									
Mark Summers	MX5	1840		8	7	2	15	1	-
Peter Cox	Honda S2000	2000		5		1	5	3	10
Rich Yapp	MX5	1840			6		6	2	-
<b>COMBINED</b>									
Jamie Yapp			7	9		2	16		4
Richard Yapp			3	8	6	3	17		3
Mark Summers			3	8	7	3	18		2

Minutes of the 35th Annual General Meeting of The British Trial & Rally Drivers Association Ltd  
Held on Sunday 22nd January 2017 at Drayton Manor Hotel, Tamworth at 11.00 a.m.  
(70th AGM of the Association)

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The Chair was taken by the President, Mike Broad, who welcomed 37 members and their guests to the meeting. The President explained that a slightly revised agenda for the meeting was now to hand because Trevor Smith, a director of the Association, had been nominated for re-election to the Association Board; Trevor had sadly passed away suddenly early in December. Mike Broad gave a brief yet poignant portrayal of his colleague and friend, and there followed a period of quiet reflection.

1. Apologies for Absence

Angela Danby, Janet Darbyshire, Colin Hilton, Gemma Price, Paul Price, Norman Robertson, Kath Skermer, Andy Stevens, Sue Underwood.

2. To receive & approve the Minutes of the 34th AGM held on the 24th January 2016.

The minutes of the 34th AGM were passed as a correct record of the meeting and were signed by the President.

3. Treasurer's Report

Mike Sones reminded members that the financial year-end had been changed from 31<sup>st</sup> August to 31<sup>st</sup> December and as a consequence there was insufficient time for the full and final accounts to be prepared and professionally examined. Nevertheless, draft management accounts were made available; these showed a deficit for the 16 months of some £7,000, a function of reduced subscription income coupled with 16 months' expenditure.

4. Election of President of The British Trial & Rally Drivers Association Ltd

Mike Broad was unanimously re-elected as the President of The British Trial & Rally Drivers Association Ltd. There were no other nominations.

5. Election of Directors of The British Trial and Rally Drivers Association Ltd.

Richard Yapp was unanimously elected as a Director of The British Trial & Rally Drivers Association Ltd. There were no other nominations. The Secretary informed the meeting that Trevor Smith had signified his willingness to stand for re-election and Richard's nomination came about because Trevor's passing had created an absolute vacancy. Richard was welcomed to the Board, on which he was expected to be a valuable new member.

6. Election of a Director of BTRDA Ltd.

Gemma Price was unanimously nominated for re-appointment as a Director of BTRDA Ltd. There were no other nominations.

7. Election of Council Members of BTRDA Ltd.

David James was unanimously nominated to be appointed as Council Member of BTRDA Ltd. There were no other nominations and two vacancies remained unfilled.

8. Announcement of all Committee Chairmen and Committee Members.

Steve Layton introduced the following representatives of the Specialist Committees, who gave a brief résumé of their disciplines' activities during the year and listed their committee members:

Allrounders – Peter Cox

Asphalt Rallies – Andrew Hail

Autotests & AutoSolos – Steve Layton

Car Trials – Neil Mackay

Forest Rallies – Andrew Hail

News – Pat Egger

Rallycross – Mike Sones

Sporting Trials – Julian Fack

Steve thanked all committee members, including those on Council and BTRDA Ltd, for their time and contributions over the last year.

9. Any Other Business

Mike Stephens advised that a controversial clause in the Sporting Trials Rules had come to his attention and he wondered if the policy of having a Council Representative on sub-committees still existed. This was confirmed to be the case and Julian Fack responded by explaining that, contrary to the wide-ranging policy and ethics of committees (whereby committee member's individual interests are not to be satisfied through rule changes) the Sporting Trials committee had succumbed to such a situation and the resultant controversy had given rise to several resignations from the committee; Julian had stepped in as chairman to rebuild the committee and limit any further damage.

Peter Cox mentioned that the Allrounders committee were currently assessing the impact of the Asphalt Rally Championship not running this year; it was agreed that their decision be taken to Council for ratification and the outcome publicised as soon as practicable.

Richard Yapp confirmed that he had taken over the bookkeeping role from Mike Stephens and asked for Mike's long service to be recognised in the traditional manner.

There being no other business, the President thanked members for their attendance and the meeting closed at 11.58 a.m.

# BTRDA® 2017 Championship Events

April 2017

ALLROUNDERS: With the exception of "invitation by qualification" events such as the Car Trial and Sporting Trial Finals all events qualifying for all BTRDA® Championships within the calendar year (1 January – 31 December) will be qualifying events for the Allrounders Championship. Additional events may be selected, of which notice will be given in BTRDA® NEWS and on www.btrda.com. Events for the Speed Group G will be any NON-BTRDA CHAMPIONSHIP Autocross, Sprint or Hill Climb of National A or National B status. Entrants may choose which of the events to enter and it is unnecessary to advise BTRDA Ltd in advance of the selected events.

*Please check the BTRDA website for updates*

	Autotest	AutoSOLO	Car Trials	Rallycross	Rally - Forest	Sporting Trials	
Apr	22						
	23	Whitchurch MC	Oxford MC	Ernest Owen Owen MC Tim Beard 01527 576123		Pennine Airedale & Pennine	
	29						
	30			Taster Day MG Car Club Tony Lake 01604 589104		Jiggers Jug NPTCC	
May	1	Bank Holiday Monday				Raymond Baxter NPTCC	
	6				R2 Pembrey Circuit		
	7			Warwickshire Cov. & Warks MC Steve Burn 07814 809457	R3 Pembrey Circuit Carmarthenshire Organiser - BARC Wales		
	13						
	14		Ilkley Motor Club/ Farnborough & DMC			Plains Rally Welshpool	Four Turnings Camel Vale MC,
	20						
	21	Wolverhampton & SSCC	Sixty & Worcs MC				Spring Trial Midland Trials CC
	27			Derwydd Bala & District MC Emyr Hall 01490 420789			
	28			Mathews Auto Salvage Caernarvonshire & Anglesey MC Lee Mathews 07778 905571			
	29	Bank Holiday Monday					
Jun	3				Coventry Motofest		
	4				Rallycross display		
	10		Abingdon CAR-Nival			Carlisle Stages Rally Incl. MSA English Longtown	
	11	Hartlepool & DMC		Wyre Forest Kidderminster MCC Mac Roath 01562 752950			
	17						
	18		Boundless CSMA NW				
	24		Loughborough CC				
	25	Knutsford & DMC		Wye Valley Ross & District MSL Simon Harris 01531 820761			
July	1/2						
	8						
	9	Alwoodley MC	Bristol MC			Nicky Grist Stages Incl. MSA English Builth Wells	
	15						
	16		Under 17 MCNW				

	Autotest	AutoSOLO	Car Trials	Rallycross	Rally - Forest	Sporting Trials	
<b>July</b>	22	<b>South of Scotland MC</b>					
			<b>Cymru</b> North Wales CC Dave Thomas 01492 584872				
	23		<b>HCC Wales</b> Clwyd Vale MC Peter Williams 07738 457471				
	29						
	30						
<b>Aug</b>	5			<b>R4 Pembrey Circuit</b>			
	6			<b>R5 Pembrey Circuit</b>			
				Carmarthenshire			
	12			Organiser -			
	13			BARC Wales			
	19						
	20	<b>CSMA (NE London)</b>	<b>Bath MC</b>				
	26						
	27						
	28	<b>Bank Holiday Monday</b>					
<b>Sep</b>	2				<b>Woodpecker</b>		
	3				Incl. MSA English Ludlow		
	10	<b>Loughborough CC</b>	<b>Gaby Mohr</b>				
	11		Wolvs & SSCC John Fox 01902 844399			<b>Robin Jager</b> NPTCC	
	16					<b>Robin Alexander</b> Camel Vale	
	17		<b>Ross &amp; District MSL</b>			<b>David Ayres</b> North Cornwall & Launceston CC	
	23			<b>Castle Coombe Rally Day</b>			
	24			Static display & track action		<b>Pete Fear Pauntley</b> Ross & District MSL	
	30				<b>Trackrod Rally</b> incl. MSA English Pickering		
<b>Oct</b>	1	<b>Oxford MC</b>	<b>Grand Final</b> c/o Wolv & SSCC John Fox 01902 844399			<b>John Southern</b> NPTCC	
	7						
	8					<b>Charles Pollard</b> Peterborough MC	
	14						
	15			<b>R6 Blyton Park DC</b>			
				Lincolnshire			
	21			Organiser - MDA		<b>Training Day</b> BTRDA	
	22		<b>Sixty &amp; Wores MC</b>			<b>Mercian Trial</b> Coventry & Warwickshire MC	
	28/29						
<b>Nov</b>	4						
	5			<b>R7 Croft Circuit</b>			
				North Yorkshire			
	11			Organiser -			
	12			DDMC		<b>Roy Fedden</b> Bristol MC	
	18						
	19					<b>Loughborough Trial</b>	
	25					Loughborough CC	
	26						

	Autotest	AutoSOLO	Car Trials	Rallycross	Rally - Forest	Sporting Trials
Dec 2						
3						Gloster, 750 MC
9/10						
16/17						
23/24						
30/31						

## Membership Report April 2017

Forest Rally	229	Allrounders	25
Asphalt Rally	N/A	Car Trial	25
Autotest	40	Rallycross	78
Autotest Challenge	N/A	Sporting Trial	53
AutoSOLO Championship	15		

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

For advertisements, articles, photographs, reports and results in this issue of BTRDA NEWS the NEWS TEAM would like to thank:

Mike Broad, Trevor Coulson, Peter Cox, Janet & Phil Darbyshire, Julian Fack, Fern Motorsport, Lee Green, Andrew Hail, Simon Harris, John Kendrick rallyphotoswales, Steve Layton, Neil Mackay, Barrie Parker, Geoffrey Pickett, Paul Price, Hal Ridge, Norman Robertson, John Rook, Calvin Samuel, Bill & Kath Skermer, Mike Sones, Duncan Stephens, Andy Stevens, Duncan Wild our sponsors

THE EDITORS DO NOT NECESSARILY AGREE WITH THE VIEWS EXPRESSED WITHIN THE VARIOUS REPORTS

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John & Jerome Fack  
look like they are  
having  
“Serious Fun”

Photo: Duncan Stephens

# SPECIAL AWARDS 2016 WINNERS

## The Stross Rally Trophy

**Matt Edwards**

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

**Sacha Kakad**

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

**Jamie Edwards**

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

## The Patricia Baldwin Trophy

**Kath Skermer**

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

## The Automobile Club de Monaco Trophy

**Robin Shuttleworth**

Awarded to the winning driver in 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. Phil is still a member of Council and has served on the Rallycross committee since 1984. Additionally they have been involved in the production of the BTRDA News

**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 to take an active interest in the BTRDA.

**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 its 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 from 1988 until 2013, 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 book-keeping, and the 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 its conversion to a Limited Company, and was subsequently elected as President in 1989. His tenure of that position saw the Association make great strides forward, both in its 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.

**MIKE SONES:** Mike joined BTRDA in 1972 specifically to contest the Production Car Trial Championship, and moved on to the Autotest Championship in 1974. Having been rallying since 1963, he joined the Rallies Committee in 1977 and ran the Road Rally Championship until its conclusion in 1987. Membership of the Allrounders/NEWS Committee began in the mid '70s, and the organisation of the AGM and Luncheon followed the retirement of Ron Kemp in the mid '80s. He was elected Treasurer in 1982 and served in that role until 1993. The Autotest Committee was joined in 1994, a membership that continues to this day. The Sporting Trials Championship was contested for a few years in the late '90s. In addition, he chairs the Rallycross Committee and is involved in the management of the MSA Asphalt Rally Championship. He was involved in the Association's conversion to a Limited Company, in the formation of the Holding and Operational companies that exist today, and in organising the 60<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations. He was elected Chairman of Council in the Golden Jubilee Year of 1988 and continued in that position until retiring in 2014.

**BERNARD BAKER:** Bernard joined the Autotest Committee, representing event organisers, when Eastern Counties MC won the best event award for their Felixstowe round in 1977. He subsequently became committee secretary in 1980, a role he finally relinquished in 1997. His accountancy skills also brought him to the attention of BTRDA Council, when he was asked to take the role of Treasurer during 1994, a position subsequently confirmed at the AGM in 1995. He continued in the role until the end of 2014, having successfully reported on the financial affairs of both the Holding and Operational companies for 20 years.

# **Gold Star<sup>®</sup> Champions 2016**

Allrounders

Autotest

Car Trial

Forest Rally Driver

Forest Rally Co-Driver

Rallycross

Sporting Trial

Jamie Yapp

Alastair Moffatt

Henry Kitching

Charlie Payne

Carl Williamson

John Ward

Josh Veale

## ***AutoSolo Championship***

Alec Tunbridge

## ***BTRDA<sup>®</sup> Challenge Winners***

Asphalt Rally FWD

Asphalt Rally RWD

William Hill/Richard Crozier

Geoff Glover/Keith Baker



**Gold Star Champions at the Luncheon**  
**Photo: Duncan Wild**