

# E - Nevs

# No. 229 Aug 2021



Tony Simpson/Ian Bevan - MJ Almond



Alastair Moffatt - Fern Motorsports

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Co-ordinated and Edited by Jennifer Wardle and Caleb Wind-Leonard

If you have any feedback or short stories and photos you'd like to tell us about, contact us at: Editors@btrda.com

# **President's Notes**

A few weeks ago, Jane Evans let us know that she will be stepping down from her role as coordinator of the Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship at the end of this year. She has had a promotion at work, which is brilliant, and she feels that she will be unable to give up the time required to run the series, which is completely understandable, and we wish her all the best for the future. Jane has injected much energy into the series, selected some different events and has certainly promoted the Championship into one of the top series in the UK.

Thank you, Jane, for everything and all the best for the future.

We announced Jane's departure a couple of weeks ago and I have been really surprised at the number of people who are interested in taking over running the series. We shall be announcing a new coordinator in the near future.

Seven of our eight Championships have now started their seasons. The Asphalt Rally Championship starts on August 29<sup>th</sup>. As predicted, the layoff due to Covid, has created big demands on entries and all our sports are reporting near record numbers which is brilliant, even the Sporting Trials series, which is having its summer holidays at the moment, had a record turnout at their last event in June.

I had a wonderful weekend out on the Nicky Grist Rally, which was the first of the Forest rallies to run since February 2020. Well done to Neil Cross and his team for putting on an exceptional event. It was most important, that after such a long layoff, forest rallying came back in such a super way.

The BTRDA Boards continue to meet by Zoom every month to make sure we are on top of the situation, and we are very happy with the numbers so far both from the membership and financial sides. Let's hope that we can now get back to some regular motorsport.

Best wishes and stay safe.

Mike Broad



## A Piece of History

#### **Warwick Banks Part 2**

Subsequently this led to being a member of the BMC race team and some interesting drives including winning the class at Sebring's 12 Hours with Paul Hawkins in the Works Healey 3000 and overall, at the 1000 Miles Race at Brands Hatch in 1965 in the Works supported, Don Moore prepared famous MGB 8 DBL with John Rhodes. Paddy Hopkirk and Warwick shared a 1275 Mini in a 3-hour race at Sebring but after rectified fuel feed problems couldn't make any impression on the local opposition who were just as quick.

On another occasion he tested some of the rally and race cars at Silverstone under Mr Turner's watchful eye, including a Works rally Healey 3000. Great car on a circuit but getting over enthusiastic he managed to do a 360-degree spin in front of Ken Tyrrell and Stuart at the very fast and tricky Abbey Corner. The skid marks were there for the rest of the year but having set off again, my next lap was only 8 seconds slower! So much for rallying but he also did a lot of racing which allowed him to get to bed most nights although Le Mans in 1961/2 and Spa 24 hours were exceptions!

An interesting comparison of racing rally and racing driving occurred during the 6-hour saloon car race at the Nürburgring. Timo Makinen had just won the Monte and was paired with Warwick in his 970S Mini. Having demonstrated his left foot braking and hairpin technique on the way to the circuit, Warwick started the race and was leading the class, lapping in 10 min 40 sec (about only 30 seconds more than in an E-type earlier in the year) when Timo took over. Being some 30 seconds per lap slower than my time we were losing the class lead, so Warwick had to take over again. The point is that no way could he have won the Monte, but Timo's race technique was not as quick as his.

Warwick started racing via hill climbing in 1959, initially with a 328 BMW and then the famous Le Mans Replica Frazer Nash XMX 4, both of which he would dearly like to own now!

From these he progressed through two Lotus XIs, an AC Ace, a Vauxhall VX 4/90, and Paddy McNally's E-type to, in 1963, "Tatty Turner" the well-known Turner Climax which they ran in the 1150cc class finishing the season with 13 wins and 5 lap records.

Warwick then spent some time in Australia until in March 1964 Ken Tyrrell got in touch and invited him to a test day at Goodwood together with another aspiring young driver, J Y Stewart. This resulted in his signing with Ken and Coopers to campaign the F3 Coopers, with JYS, all over Europe and to drive the 970S Mini Cooper in the European Touring Car Championship which they managed to win as well as sweeping the board in the F3 cars. They repeated the exercise in 1965 in the British Saloon Car Championship although having initially won it, a disqualification in another class led to relegation to runner up but with a class win. The BMC engined F3 cars were outclassed by the Fords in 1965 so after a second at Oulton Park and a win in a very wet Silverstone race, Ken wisely decided to call it a day with those cars. Another Silverstone race day was also red lettered by having a great drive in a 250F Maserati -- surely the best loved of all GP cars.

At the end of 1965 Warwick was getting a little burnt out with too much motor racing and too much commercial flying and decided to concentrate on the latter.

At the season's end he retired to concentrate on his flying which he was enjoying more, until in 1988 when he went to California and was asked to drive a Lotus 7 in a mixed race which surprisingly, he won, beating Cobras, Brabham's etc. Back in England he was offered a drive in 8 DBL at Snetterton and found that he was keeping up with a hard driving Gerry Marshall so thought he had better have another go but believe him, it is a whole lot more expensive not having a "works" car.

Nevertheless from 1988 until 2010 Warwick enjoyed some very close racing in various MGBs, Arnolt Bristol, V8 MGB (380 bhp), Ginetta, various Minis, MGZT V8 (520 bhp), Wolseley 1500 (at Goodwood) and a Porsche 964 as well as his favourite Cooper Bristol. He also drove the big MGB at Watkins Glen beating all the other MGs to win the Collier Cup. Warwick came to his senses and retired 12 years ago but enjoyed almost every minute, met some wonderful people and still great friends, and went to some very interesting venues.

A massive thank you to Warwick for taking the time to write us his incredible story in racing and rallying. I know so many of us have really enjoyed reading his feature and learning about his adventures!

## The History of the Rallycross Championship

Officially speaking, Rallycross is a speed event taking place on a permanent track consisting of both sealed and unsealed surfaces. Unofficially, Rallycross is the wild child of motor sport. The offspring of a liaison between circuit racing and rallying. A place where it's kosher to use the kerbs and grass. Where sideways is good. Where fun is top of the agenda.

The main Clubman's Rallycross Championship within the UK is the BTRDA Clubman's Rallycross Championship which was established in 1977 and continues to be successful, providing both newcomers and 'budget' racers with a strong series of events at the best UK venues. Since 2014 the BTRDA have run a stand-alone Championship across 6 to 8 rounds at 4 top circuits in the UK: Pembrey Circuit, Knockhill Circuit, Blyton Circuit and Lydden Hill.

The Championship caters for all 2wd and 4wd rallycross cars, features top TV and social media coverage and its main headline sponsors are Autosport International and Cooper Tires. In recent years the Championship has been won by a wide variety of competitors from across all categories including our youngest ever champion Luke Constantine in 2018 and 2019.

In 1986 Dave Fuell decided to gift to us the trophy that was given to him after he won the original Castrol Rallycross Championship 3 times, some may remember him driving his Faberge/Brut33 sponsored Escort in a very flamboyant manner, the Castrol engraving was replaced, and handles were added. That is the coveted Overall Champions trophy that you see today.

For 2021 it looks like being another amazing season with 6 rounds across 4 venues. To date the Championship registrations have topped the 100+ mark which is the highest number ever received for the Championship at any time in its history.



Luke Constantine 2018 and 2019 Champion



Dale Ford 2020 Champion

The rallycross team tell us discounts are available with Irish Ferries to all BTRDA Members



# A Celebration of Life John Wadsworth 1937-2021

The news about John came as a shock as it was only 5 weeks after he had been diagnosed with cancer, indeed only about 6 weeks after his last competitive event in the MX5. He was itching to get better as he'd put in several entries for events through the summer, sadly it was not to be.

From his teens John was involved in motor sport, his father Edgar was a serious competitor in all sorts of motor sport including at Le Mans. John rallied and raced a variety of cars in the 60's, TVR, Minis, an Allardette, Sprites and Cortinas, but his 1964 Spa Sofia Liege rally with Mike Wood was always a great story, John is the only driver of a Mini to finish the incredibly tough Liege, he was very proud of that. Throughout the years spent as a family man John harboured a desire to return to motor sport, so in 2008 with lifelong friend John Waddington, when both were already in their 70's, they successfully shared a KA in BTRDA and British Car Trials.

At the same time John was competing with his 2 MX5's in Sprints, Hillclimbs and AutoSolos, often doing 2 events in a weekend from his homebase at Harrogate. In 2017, aged 80, John competed on 51 events, he was Class 1 MSA Car Trials Champion, and was 3<sup>rd</sup> overall in the prestigious BTRDA Allrounders Championship.

We will all have great memories of John; he has many friends in various branches of motor sport. It was an amazing life for such a wonderful character, a gentleman whose friendship and stories will be missed by so many, it was a privilege to have known him.

As you may know we were looking back at John's amazing story in motorsports, written by the man himself, however due to this sad news we decided that this edition should be a chance to remember John and his legacy within the BTRDA. We will continue his story in the next edition as a celebration of the memories he created through the years and the lives that he made brighter along the way.



John at Goodwood in his MX5, 2019



The two John's at a Car Trial Photo Credits: Chris Judge

John in his KA at a Car Trial last year

### BTRDA® Allrounders Championship Supported by Crystal Images

By the time you read this there could be no less than 8 qualifiers for the 2021 Crystal Images supported BTRDA Allrounders championship. That's quite an impressive number at this stage of the championship year. And it's before all the championships have started! The last to have its first event is the Asphalt series where the Mewla on August 29<sup>th</sup> will be running over the military Epynt ranges.

Targa rallies have helped many competitors score points from either the left-hand or righthand seats (the conventional name for navigators and drivers but these days there are many stage rally cars with Ihd!).

Two of those eight championship entrants have already got the required 6 scores with Jamie Yappy having a highly commendable total of 104.26 which equates to an average of 17.38 per event. Bob Milligan has an average of 15.70 for his 5 events in his mini whilst another top contender and past champion, John Fox, has an average of 17.34 for his 4 events. It rather does show up my average of 4.44 for my 5 events!

However, the 2021 format including Targa Rallies did get me out and I've done a Car Trial for the first time for 35 years. Thankfully I only scored one 12 penalty hill on the Ross Wye Valley event, and I even got up to the 4 posts on one hill. And I did find out that my screen washer fluid was low as the car went along the hill side at 45 degrees and there was a bleep bleep and flashing light on the dash of my Skoda.

There is going to be one event at the end of August when I will predict that Jamie and John will score the same number of points – it will be the Forresters MC Targa Rally at Caerwent when Jamie will be in the left-hand seat of John's Clio. It's good to see the friendly cooperation between the top crews.

Peter Cox

Provisional Scores as of 30<sup>th</sup> June https://btrda.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/4.-Prov-to-30th-JUNE.pdf



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# Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship

#### Jane Evans to hand over Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship Co-ordinator reins at the end of 2021

Jane Evans is to step down as Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship Co-ordinator at the end of the 2021 season, having run the series on a day-to-day basis on behalf of the BTRDA for four years.

The former rally co-driver took over the reins in 2017 and masterminded the return of the series in 2018 after its one-year sabbatical.

With title sponsorship from Protyre, an exciting calendar of events and a new promotional team working under Jane's leadership, she was able to return the Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship to the status of the UK's premier sealed-surface series.

2020 was to be a record-breaking year, with the largest number of competitors – well in excess of 100 – registering for the Championship before the opening round.

Instead, Jane was left to steady the ship through the Covid-19 crisis – reacting to the many event postponements, cancellations, and uncertainties. Despite this, she was still able to create a magnificent calendar of events for 2021, which starts with The Old Forge Garage Mewla Rally on Sunday 29 August. An event that received 100 entries in the first 10 minutes of entries opening!

"I have thoroughly enjoyed working as the Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship Coordinator for the BTRDA, in what has both been an extremely rewarding and, because of the Covid-19 pandemic, challenging four years," says Jane.

"When I took over the role, the series was on a sabbatical and resetting itself for the future. It's now developed into one of the most popular rally championships in the UK, with much loved and established rallies and exciting new closed road events putting asphalt rallying at the top of the agenda.

"I would very much like to continue, but a new job with increased responsibilities, together with the demands of family life, means that I can no longer dedicate the time that being the Protyre Asphalt Rally Championship Co-Ordinator demands.

"I'd very much like to thank the team of people who have helped me, most notably Wayne Goldring, Phill Bramhill, Mark Sims, Howard Davies and Paul Evans – and to Cerys Cooke for helping me at signing on and at selected events. I also want to thank the BTRDA Rallies Committee, all the competitors and all the event organisers for helping to make the job so enjoyable.

"I am proud to be able to hand over the Championship in very good health. It certainly has a very bright future, and the next few years will in particular, with more and more top-quality asphalt rallies

being proposed, be a very exciting time for the series."



Jane Evans with Geoff Doe (Championship Scrutineer) and Mark Quayle and Mark Ellison (Manx Auto Sport)



Jane Evans with John Stone in his Ford Fiesta WRC.





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# **Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship**

The BTRDA is incredibly proud of the work that Jane has done to both run and develop the Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship over the last four years.

"Not only has Jane done a fantastic job, but it has been a pleasure to have her on board," says Mike Broad, President of the BTRDA.

"Jane successfully guided the Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship out of its one-year sabbatical and has built it into an incredibly strong series – attracting a large number of top competitors with an exciting calendar of events and rewards, prizes and incentives right across the class structure. We appreciate all her hard work, professionalism, and dedication – and she leaves the Championship in a very healthy and buoyant state.

"We'd like to congratulate Jane on her work promotion and wish her all the very best for the future."

Jason Pritchard won back-to-back Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship driver titles in 2018 and 2019 in his North Road Garage Ford Focus WRC05 and is also full of praise for Jane.

"I'd personally like to thank Jane for all the hard work and long hours that she has put in behind the scenes to make the Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship what it is today – it's a credit to her," says Jason.

"Every year she has added something new. She's not just sat there and given us the same events year on year. As a competitor it's nice to have new challenges, and she has given us this.

"It's always a pleasure turning up to a round of the Championship. Jane's not just the co-ordinator but a friend too. We go away rallying to relax and have fun, and she makes sure we all do this.

"The rewards and sponsors Jane has brought to the Championship are extremely attractive to anyone in any class, which means that we can all win something. There are not many championships with prizes on offer like she's managed to get for each class.

"We will certainly miss Jane in the Championship, and whoever takes on the job has some big boots to fill.

"Thank you very much Jane for everything you've done for us and the sport over the past four years."

Paul Evans

i e		
29 August	Old Forge Garage Mewla Rally	
5 September	Hills Ford Three Shires Stages Rally	
1/2 October	PokerStars Rally	
24 October	Ford Parts Cheviot Stages Rally	
6 November	MJE Wheel Repair Specialists Tyrone	

Stages Rally

## 2021 Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship – revised calendar

#### VACANCY:

#### Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship Co-ordinator

The BTRDA is looking for a Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship Co-ordinator – which is an incredible opportunity to guide and develop the UK's premier sealed-surface rally series from the beginning of the 2022 season onwards.

They will join the Championship at an exciting time, with a very proactive title sponsor, one of the largest numbers of registered Championship contenders in the history of the series and both well-established and brand-new closed road stage rallies to consider for future calendar announcements.

The successful applicant will report directly to the BTRDA Rallies Committee and will have sole responsibility for the day-to-day running the Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship.

#### **Experience and Skills**

- A good understanding of rallying is essential and a previous involvement in the sport (event organisers, competitor, etc.) at national level would be advantageous.
- Good communications skills and an ability to get on with a wide variety of people from different walks of life.
- > A genuine passion for developing the sport of asphalt rallying in the UK.
- > An ability to apply the rules and regulations in an unbiased and fair way.
- Good written communication skills.
- Good event management skills.
- The ability to dedicate the necessary amount of time to the role, which includes a number of on-event weekends away from home.
- The ability to create new trade and commercial incentives that would benefit all parties involved and provide added incentives to registered competitors.

#### **Benefits**

- The role of Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship Co-ordinator is an unpaid volunteer position, although operational expenses (details to be agreed) incurred in carrying out the duties will be repaid (in full and at cost).
- The opportunity to spearhead one of the most exciting and rapidly developing rally championships in the UK at the moment.
- The opportunity to work with a great team, and to mould that team for the future success of the Championship.

#### How to Apply

Interested applicants should contact:

Mike Broad E-mail: mike.broad@live.co.uk Mobile: 07785 355607

# **BTRDA® Car Trials Championship**

#### **Low Down Torque**

The Car Trials Championship is well under way and at the time of writing the circus has just returned from North Yorkshire, the weekend comprising one new championship event from Airedale & Pennine MCC, which within the 21 competitors, it was a pleasure to welcome Chris Morison and his Toyota-powered Liege to one of our championship events and it was equally good for us to come across a new tranche of drivers and passengers.

There was also a welcome return to llkley &DMC's premier trial of which the 22 starters were made up from a good number from the Saturday trial plus, for most of us, some new faces.

Looking back over the last three months you'll see from our snippets some interesting stats, but you can decide amongst yourselves which is your favourite.

Also, at the time of writing, in a few days I will be attending John Wadsworth's funeral and will be honoured to pass on the messages of sympathy I've received to John's nearest and dearest. Time for us now to look in John's rear-view mirror and admire what we see.

We're now up to part 3 of our insight into the Moffatt family, this month featuring our 2012 champion John, who we've not seen much of recently. Time to return to the mad, mad world of Car Trials, John!

In the May edition I mentioned that a full review of championship classes was underway, and a brief consultation paper has been issued, quite rightly resulting in some reaction and feedback. There is no monopoly on good ideas, as the saying goes, and a wider cross-section of feedback will be most helpful in guiding us along this twisty path. As for EV's and Hybrids, we can focus on those in slower time, but these new cars are not cheap and to my mind it is doubtful that owners will want to submit their cars to off-roading too early on in their ownership. We'll have to wait and see but be mindful of being one step ahead so that the cars can at least enter a Class rather than be excluded.

Keep safe and well.

Neil Mackay

#### Car Trials Snippets

- The opening round was fully subscribed, and first place overall was shared by Mark Hoppe and Dick Glossop, both penalty-free for the whole event
- Rupert North garages his yellow Mini to successfully debut an ageing but tidy Suzuki Alto 1.0, achieving 3 class wins and 1 overall win
- Barrie Parker's Reliant-engined Liege shows up the more powerful cars with a fine win in Devon
- Dave Oliver emerges from isolation to demonstrate that the Hillman Imp can still take 1st overall
- > Tie-deciders featured on at least 3 events, either for overall or class winning positions
- The winning car has come from Class 3 (rwd) on all but one event (when it was a fwd car in Class 1)
- > Most unusually, no driver has won more than one event so far this year

#### Miss any reports or news? Check them out here:

https://btrda.com/championship/car-trials/events/?status=result

# **BTRDA® Car Trials Championship**

#### The Moffatt Trialing DNA, part 3

#### John Moffatt

Unlike brother Trevor's former company vehicle (see part 2 of this series) John's has amber lights on its roof and is painted orange, as befits an RAC breakdown van. As for the nature of any roadside conversation, one can only guess that they may have differed somewhat!

John's driving days started at the age of 8 when with brother Alastair they did a lot of karting practice days in all weathers, including snow. Their abilities to control the kart in slippery conditions necessarily became refined as they only had one set of tyres and they were slicks! They kept this up until they couldn't fit in the junior kart, with John competing in just one race. After this the two lads spent a few years driving old Imps and Escorts around the family field after school and at weekends.

At the age of 15 John did a season of PCTs, double driving his father's Clan Crusader, and a year later started Autotesting in a Nova saloon, winning the MSA championship in 1999, aged 18. He drove at the Ken Wharton International Autotest twice in 1998 and 1999. Along the way he passed his driving test at the first attempt.

John moved on to Rallying in 2000 with a Talbot Samba, competing on some ANCRO and BTRDA events. In 2002 he did 2 seasons of the Ford Ka Rally Championship, and in the second season finished joint second but lost it on a tie-decider. John went on to test a works Ford Puma Super 1600 rally car. He moved on to a Group N Mitsubishi Evo 5 for 2 seasons in the BTRDA Forest Rally Championship with best results of 18th o/a on the Wyedean and around 11th o/a on the Quinton. Then he ran out of money, sold the car and had a few years off to recover.

In 2008 John returned to Autotesting, this time in a Nova hatchback, and spent the next few years doing events in the BTRDA championship and in Ireland, achieving various class wins and a 3rd place in the MSA championship. Such was John's commitment to Autotesting he recalls the time when he broke his ankle a few days before an event and not wanting to miss it he carried on through the pain, won his class, and drove to A&E straight afterwards. After that season, he sold the car, and it went over to Ireland.

A week later, Bill Moffatt had a call from John Ludford to see if John M was interested in his old Nova trials car; indeed, he was and after around £80 had changed hands it was his. After spending a few evenings on it to get it running, John went back to Car Trials for the next few years and won the BTRDA championship in 2012 and his class a couple of years later. He also did the 2011 MCC Edinburgh classic reliability trial in it.

Not one to sit still, in 2012 John somehow found some time to build a Westfield for Autotesting. A couple of other memorable events happened that year – he got his first precision-driving world record for the tightest parallel park and his eldest son, Benjamin, was born one week later (no, mum had not been in the stunt car at the time!). We'll cover brother Alastair's exploits in the next issue, but the records show he achieved the same award for the same stunt on the same day.

In the last few years John has spent his time doing selective events in the Westfield, trying to learn the art of RWD and doing some other world record attempts with Alastair and Trevor.

John tells me he hasn't got a favourite car - there are too many to choose from - but a Nova would be in the top 5.

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## Autosport International BTRDA® Clubman's Rallycross Championship Presented by Cooper Tires

#### 2021 Season the story so far.....

The 2021 BTRDA Rallycross season is proving to be an epic one so far, with 2 rounds down and 6 to go. The season started at Lydden back in early May with a huge 82 car entry, this was followed up with a 61 car entry at Round 2 which took place at Blyton.

The points table is already an intriguing one with 2020 Champion Dale Ford seeming to struggle in the first 2 events, making it look likely that the overall Championship will go to a new home.

Heading this charge is Championship newbie Jason Bleasdale in his Vauxhall VX220. The former six-time Pro Freestyle National Jet Ski Champion has been pushed hard but has come away with 2 maximum scores. The only other driver to have maximum scores is former WTCC & BTCC driver Harry Vaulkhard in his Citroen Saxo in the Production category.

Hot on their heels for the overall crown is a wide mix of cars and drivers headed up by the flamboyant Vince Bristow in his Classic BMW, then 4 juniors drivers headed up by Owen Robbins, Caitlin May, Kacper Potyra and Corey Padgett.

The season is shaping up nicely with new drivers, new cars and large entries as the season now heads to South Wales at the Pembrey Race Circuit on August 7th and 8th. John Rook



Car 80 - Harry Vaulkhard



Photo Credits: Sarah Hall Motorsport and Media



Car 927 - Owen Robbins

# BAUTOSPORT

THE RACING CAR SHOW

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#### Miss any reports or news? Check them out here:

Championship Points https://clubmansrallycross.wee bly.com/uploads/1/5/9/2/159239 16/2021\_btrda\_rallycross\_cha mpionship\_points\_after\_r2.pdf

#### **Blyton Report**

https://clubmansrallycross.wee bly.com/uploads/1/5/9/2/159239 16/r2\_article\_blyton\_and\_repor t.pdf

## Autosport International BTRDA® Clubman's Rallycross<sup>1</sup> Championship

#### <u>"Rallycross Snippets"</u>

- The 2021 championship has now received over 106 championship registrations which is the highest numbers since the inception of the championship in 1977.
- Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, the day before the final round has been confirmed as the date for a Rallycross test afternoon at Knockhill between 3-5pm.
- Dan Pollard will make his debut in Rallycross at Pembrey on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> August driving the ex-Rob Bond Citroen Saxo in the Production Category.
- Max Langmaid will make a return to the BTRDA Rallycross Championship at Pembrey driving his Suzuki Swift in the Junior category.
- Ian Platts will make his debut in the Championship at Pembrey on August 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> driving the ex-Daniel Flitcroft/Ben Eastwood Citroen C2 in the Production category.
  BTRDA CRX Committee



#### TV Broadcast Information

Every round of the BTRDA Championship can be seen in 2021 on the following broadcast channel's:

Motorsport TV – Online platform – Free subscription in 2021

Freesports – Freeview/TalkTalk TV/BT TV Ch:64, Sky Ch:422, Virgin CH:533, And Freesat CH:252 Front Runner – Sky 468 & 469

Premier Sports - Sky 412 in HD & 435 / Virgin 551 & 552

Showcase and Sporty Stuff on Sky will also show each event along with Samsung TV

In Addition to the above broadcasters and once the coverage has been aired it can also be seen on the BTRDA Rallycross Championship 'YouTube' Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCy-qPxyTEgGHOrKOCcpBzkQ/videos



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## **MRF Tyres BTRDA® Rally Series**



motorsport uk 2021 English Rally Championship



SPECIALIST LOGISTICS SOLUTIONS

All of a sudden, the 2021 MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series has become somewhat akin to waiting for a bus – nothing happens for sixteen months and then two events come along in very quick succession!...

The Builth Wells-based Nicky Grist Stages was the first to run – deluged with entries, the organisers had the unenviable task of selecting the permitted maximum of 170 cars to start and, from them, the Fiesta of Elliot Payne/Cameron Fair completed the necessarily spectatorless route a handful of seconds ahead of Callum Black's similar car.

Builth Wells resident Jason Pritchard scored a 'home' win by taking maximum points in both the MRF Tyres BTRDA Silver Star Championship and Jordan Road Surfacing BTRDA Historic Cup in his Escort MkII, while Steve Black/Paul Morris scooped maximums in the Fuchs Lubricants BTRDA 1400 Championship, bringing their Suzuki Swift to the finish ahead of Richard Jordan/James Gratton-Smith's MG ZR and the Nova of Dave & Toby Brick.

The Motorsport UK 2021 English Rally Championship in association with Seacon UK also began on the Nicky Grist and, as always after the opening encounter in the class-based series, there are multiple joint leaders - the aforementioned Payne, Pritchard and Black are joined by George Lepley (Lancer EVOX), Frank Kelly (Escort MkII) and Ioan Lloyd (Peugeot 208R2).

A fortnight later, Lockerbie welcomed competitors for the Scottish Rally, and it was Duns resident Garry Pearson who came up trumps in his Skoda Fabia, ahead of Elliot Payne (Fiesta) who retains the Gold Star Championship lead.

It wasn't a good day for the Black family in the Scottish Borders - Callum retired after his Fiesta suffered two simultaneous punctures and Steve put his 1400 Suzuki Swift off the road...

Similar to the situation on the Nicky Grist, the leading the two-wheel drive (Silver Star) runners in Scotland, Paul Street/Ian Jones (Escort MkII) also 'won' the Historic Cup on the day, while Richard Jordan/James Gratton-Smith inherit the Fuchs Lubricants BTRDA 1400 Championship lead following victory in their MG ZR.

Contenders for the MRF Tyres Mixed-Surface Challenge were present on both events and, in spite of a challenging day on the Nicky Grist Stages, Terry Pankhurst currently holds a slender lead in his Escort RS2000.

Further details of the MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series are available at : www.btrdarally.com/ while information on the Motorsport UK 2021 English Rally Championship, in association

with Seacon UK, can be found at : www.englishrally.co.uk/

Andrew Haill



This is the latest BTRDA gazebo which lan Arden has arranged and the Fack brothers supplied to our Forest Rally series, you can't miss it!







**Credits: Kevin Money** 





Paul Street/Ian Jones **Credits: MJ Almond** 





## **MRF Tyres BTRDA® Rally Series**

#### Nicky Grist Stages hosts successful rally return to the Welsh forests

This year's Nicky Grist Stages was an outstanding success – with 170 crews enjoying four super smooth mid-Wales Forest stages (run twice) through Llyn Login, Monument, Halfway and Crychan.

Equally as important was the fact that the event heralded the return of rallying to the Welsh forests – 518 days after the last major gravel rally.

The relaxation of Welsh government Covid-19 guidelines meant that the Nicky Grist Stages was given the go ahead at short notice, and Quinton Motor Club rose to the challenge by organising everything in just 10 weeks.

And at the request of the MOD, upon which the majority of the event took place, the event was held without spectators.

This created its own challenges and significant additional costs, and a big push to raise awareness of the non-spectator element proved a success – measured by the fact that the MOD was extremely pleased with what it saw.

Rally fans were instead treated to a live action streaming service, with the stage side and drone footage viewed as it happened by 75,800 people, with 2,380 likes and reactions, 1,202 comments and 251 shares. As well as in the UK and Ireland, the live streaming was viewed in France, Germany, Belgium, Netherlands, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Greece, Finland, Australia, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

There was naturally a significant amount of strict Covid-19 compliant measures put in place. These included paperless documentation and results, minimising the number of people on the stages and in the service, area not having a start or finish ceremony and the distribution of hand sanitizers, courtesy of Nicky Grist Motorsports.

The event played host to eight major rally championships, with Matt Edwards/Darren Garrod winning the event overall in their Yuasa Rally Team Volkswagen Polo GTI R5 and taking the lead of the British Rally Championship. They were fourth after the opening stage and overcame a morning misfire and brake bias issues to finish five seconds ahead of Tom Cave/Dale Furness (Ford Fiesta Rally2) after all 44 stage miles had been completed.

Osian Pryce/Noel O'Sullivan (Volkswagen Polo GTI R5) finished just a further seven seconds behind in third, as the top three pulled away from the rest of the field.

Indeed, so close was the battle for victory that Edwards, Cave and Pryce each led the event at some stage and were separated by only a second or two on most of the stages – with Edwards and Pryce tied for the lead after SS2, and Cave and Edwards tied for the lead after SS3.

An equally impressive performance came from Callum Black/Jack Morton, who won the Interclub section of the rally in their Ford Fiesta R5 and were top point scorers in both the MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series and Pirelli Welsh National Rally Championship. Unlike the National section, the Interclub competitors could not do a recce, yet the 586 Sports team crew finished an incredible seventh overall.

Indeed, big congratulations must go to the 170 crews who took part – most of which hadn't rallied for eighteen months, and many for a lot longer than that.

"We've had a great day and we're absolutely over the moon with the win," said Matt Edwards.

"It means a lot to come out on top against such a quality field. It's been one hell of a fight all day and we haven't been able to give away a tenth. It was a fantastic effort by the Melvyn Evans Motorsport team to fix the few issues we had with the car at service and then we tried to stick it in the trees a few times on the final stages, but it all came good in the end!"

## **MRF Tyres BTRDA® Rally Series**

#### Nicky Grist Stages National Rally – Top 6

- 1. Matt Edwards/Darren Garrod (Volkswagen Polo GTI R5)....42mins 30secs
- 2. Tom Cave/Dale Furness (Ford Fiesta Rally2)....42mins 35secs
- 3. Osian Pryce/Noel O'Sullivan (Volkswagen Polo GTI R5)....42mins 42secs
- 4. Rhys Yates/James Morgan (Ford Fiesta Mk2 R5)....43mins 26secs
- 5. Matthew Wilson/Stuart Loudon (Ford Fiesta Rally2)....43mins 30secs
- 6. Elliott Payne/Cameron Fair (Ford Fiesta R5)....44mins 11secs

Nicky Grist Stages Interclub Rally – Top 6

- 1. Callum Black/Jack Morton (Ford Fiesta R5)....44mins 20secs
- 2. Ian Bainbridge/Will Atkins (Škoda Fabia R5)....44mins 41secs
- 3. George Lepley/Tom Woodburn (Mitsubishi Evo X)....45mins 16secs
- 4. Tom Llewellin/Ross Whittock (Mitsubishi Mirage)....45mins 17secs
- 5. Conor McCourt/Caolan McKenna (Ford Fiesta Rally2)....46mins 05secs
- 6. Gareth Sayers/Gareth Gilchrist (Ford Fiesta R5)....46mins 12secs

Nicky Grist Stages – Top 10 combined (overall)

- 1. Matt Edwards/Darren Garrod (Volkswagen Polo GTI R5)....42mins 30secs
- 2. Tom Cave/Dale Furness (Ford Fiesta Rally2)....42mins 35secs
- 3. Osian Pryce/Noel O'Sullivan (Volkswagen Polo GTI R5)....42mins 42secs
- 4. Rhys Yates/James Morgan (Ford Fiesta Mk2 R5)....43mins 26secs
- 5. Matthew Wilson/Stuart Loudon (Ford Fiesta Rally2)....43mins 30secs
- 6. Elliott Payne/Cameron Fair (Ford Fiesta R5)....44mins 11secs
- 7. Callum Black/Jack Morton (Ford Fiesta R5)....44mins 20secs
- 8. Josh Moffett/Andy Hayes (Hyundai i20 R5)....44mins 22secs
- 9. Steve Petch/Michael Wilkinson (Ford Fiesta R5 WRC)....44mins 34secs
- 10. Sam Moffett/Keith Moriarty (Ford Fiesta Rally2)....44mins 41secs

# **BTRDA® Sporting Trials Championship<sup>21</sup>**

Sporting Trials is currently enjoying its summer break after a shorter than normal first half of the season. I'm delighted to report that our clubs managed to run seven trials in the three and a bit months between the loosening of lockdown and our normal summer break that kicks in after the Spring Trial in June.

We also managed to run the Gold and Silver Star final finally alongside the Pennine Trial on May 30<sup>th</sup>. Despite it being away from its traditional slot in the depths of winter that did not detract from the quality of event and a very tricky trial was held it must be said. Martin Grimwood and the rest of the NPTCC team did a great job taking on the running of the event and they successfully found some of the slipperiest bluebells in Cumbria to test the days runners and riders.

The Gold and Silver Star finally provided a bookmark for what was a very unique 2020 season and it perhaps fittingly ended in a unique achievement for Ian Veale who followed his success in the 2020 Motorsport UK championship by taking home the 2020 Gold Star championship. Since 1948 the league and cup double as it were, has only been done 15 times and only twice in the last 20 years. Before Ian the last man to do this was Ian Wright in 2010 and before him John Fack in 2007. As was the case in the Motorsport UK championship son Josh followed Ian home in second in the Gold Star to round off a very successful championship year for the Veale's.

Entry numbers are beginning to build again as moving around the country becomes less restricted and it has been great to see some new and old faces back out on the hills again. Thomas Bricknell has spent a few years on the sidelines but has dusted off the Crossle and has proved very quickly that class is indeed permanent taking two wins so far this year. Mike Salton continues to impress in his new Hamilton also taking two wins in the first half of the season, to set himself up well for the rest of the year. We now look beyond our summer break to September for the first event of the second half of the season and hope for a full, competitive and enjoyable autumn season.

Sporting Trials is also currently undertaking the building of a brand-new website which we hope will go live in the coming months so look out for that. When finished the website will be found at www.sportingtrials.co.uk

Sandy Veale

## Demon Tweeks Direct BTRDA® Autotest Championship

Phew, its hot as I write this, which means that, being Britain, by the time you get to read this in about a week you will have switched the central heating back on and be watching the garden disappear under six inches of rain. Fortunately, the climate has had no effect on the Autotest Championship with four events completed so far now that we can go out to play. Wolverhampton; overcast and cold, Alwoodley; sunny and dusty, Knutsford; intermittent showers just to make things interesting and Scotland; Scorchio – yes in Scotland.

Whatever the weather Alastair Moffatt is on a roll and driving brilliantly taking all four FTDs despite being harried by Malcolm Livingston with two thirds and two seconds. Neither can relax however as Willie Keaning, Dave Evans, Dave Mosey, etc. are waiting to pounce on any mistake. At the moment the Classes are being led by Dave Fox (Mini), Chris Morrison (Nova), Willie (Striker) Alastair (Mini Special) full details be found and can at https://btrda.com/championship/autotest/news/btrda-autotest-championship-provisionalscores/.

The good news is that the events have been well supported and we are seeing some new faces at events. Not yet registered for BTRDA, but making good progress are Cameron Pinkney and Sean Kell. The saloon class is once again being well supported with Chris Morrison, Joel Conlan and George Harris battling for top Nova honors when Warren Gillespie doesn't spoil their fun and are now joined by Liam Harkness. Also, it's great to see Kelsey Gillespie back out and enjoying herself in Scotland after an enforced sabbatical.

Unfortunately, we have lost another round in our calendar with Loughborough Car Club having to cancel their event due to a sudden withdrawal of the agreed venue by Coventry City Council and, with Rhyl unlikely to run, we have three events remaining including the rescheduled CSMA event:

September 5th	Boundless by CSMA NE London
September 19th	Caernarfonshire & Anglesey MC
October 3rd	BTRDA

Finally, if you want to see any of the action from this year's events go to <u>https://www.facebook.com/btrdaautotestchampionship</u> where video and more photos can be found.

Steve Layton



SOU

Willie Keaning

Kelsey Gillespie



#### Miss any reports or news? Check them out here:

https://btrda.com/championship/autotest/events/?status=result

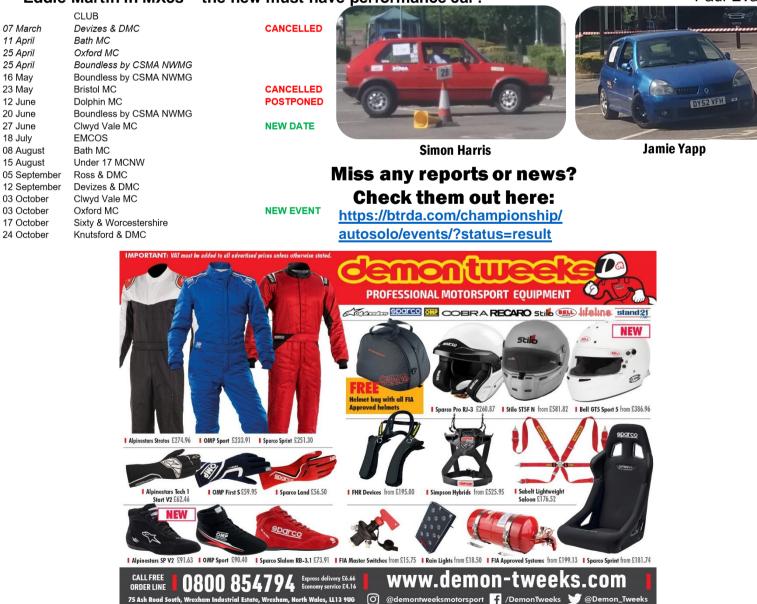
# Demon Tweeks Direct BTRDA® AutoSOLO Championship

It may be the end of the year for many leaving school but for the BTRDA AutoSOLO Championship contenders it is only half term. In a 14 round championship 7 have run leaving 7 to go and with 7 to count. Actually, it's not 7 to go as 2 of those events are on the same day in different parts of the country.

Confused? Well, the current points leader Neil Jones in his MX5 certainly isn't because with 5 good scores he stands a good chance of reclaiming the champion title from Jamie Yapp who has only scored on 3 rounds so far in the Clio 172 Cup he shares with his father Richard. Championship newcomer Craig Johnson has scored well in his Fiesta, the turbocharged engine putting him into the over 2000cc class and up against the mainly bigger bodied cars. Craig is a worthy 3<sup>rd</sup> overall at the moment.

There was an interesting remark at the EMCOS round at Cheltenham Racecourse where Allrounder Simon Harris was competing in his Mk 1 Golf GTi. Steve Conner commented to Simon that 19 years ago he drove a similar car to FTD at the very first AutoSOLO held in the UK at the Aust M4 (now M48) services. I was the Steward at the event having been part of the MSA working group who devised the rules for the new branch of motorsport. It was extremely pleasing to see an ordinary type of performance car doing so well. In 2021 Simon drove his GTi with the same skill as Steve did 19 years ago but only finished 8<sup>th</sup> in class.

Since then, the performance car has moved on and at Cheltenham it was Jamie who the top saloon driver but only in 4<sup>th</sup> place overall behind Alec Tunbridge in his Caterham 7 and Steve and Eddie Martin in MX5s – the new must have performance car? Paul Evans



# BTRDA Targa Road Rally Championship

After only one Championship event to date this year, Targas are now coming up thick and fast.

Make sure that you know when entries open for events as they are filling within minutes. Targas are VERY popular!

In these changeable times, details may change suddenly. As soon as I've written this, things could be out of date!

Please keep visiting the BTRDA Targa Road Rally Championship Facebook Page for the most current information.

Will John Davies hold on to his Championship lead in the Drivers' Championship? Sasha Heriot leads the Navigators' Championship, sitting alongside Steve Rethchless who could pass John.

At such an early phase in the Championship, there are many others who could make a move up the order, with the bonus points currently making the difference. It's close. It's also still possible for somebody to enter the Championship and make their mark, with only three rounds to count.

#### See you out there!

Alan Wakeman

1	9th May	Bath MC	Kemble Targa
2	8th August	Ross & District MSL	Hatsford Targa
3	22nd August	Forresters	Venta Silurum Targa
4	5th September	North Devon	Ilfracombe Targa
5	11th September	061	061 Targa
6	18th Sep	Kent	Kent Forestry Targa
7	24th October	Caernarvonshire & Anglesey Motor Club	Trac Mon Targa
8	21st November	Knutsford and District Motor Club	Knutsford Targa

The current Provisional Championship dates are:

#### Miss any reports or news? Check them out here:

#### **Championship Points**

https://btrda.com/championship/targa-road-rallies/news/2021-btrda-targaroad-rally-championship-points/

Targa Rally Facebook https://www.facebook.com/btrdatargaroadrally/

# **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 All rounders 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 some 50 years, initially as a Production Car Trial committee member and many times PCT Champion. He was Secretary of the Rallies Committee during a period of great development in road and stage championships and he became BTRDA Chairman in 1982. He then took on the demanding role of General Secretary in 1988 through until 2004. Hazel oversaw organising the AGM and Awards Presentation event from 1988 right through until 2013, between them Mike and Hazel's household performed the distribution of BTRDA News for some 30 years.

**HOWARD WILCOCK:** Howard joined the BTRDA Rally Committee in 1979 and has been involved with the BTRDA Rally Championships since 1987, firstly with the Clubman's 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 MSUK 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 MSUK 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 60th and 75th 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 s ecretary 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.

**SIMON HARRIS:** Simon joined the BTRDA in 1994 and has been a member of the Car Trials (formerly Production Car Trials) Committee since 1997, whilst his other motorsport interests include our Allrounders and AutoSOLO championships and the HRCR/HERO Historic Rallying series. In November 2003, when the company restructure took place, Simon was appointed the first Company Secretary to BTRDA Ltd, a position he held for the next 15 years. Alongside this role, Simon took on the now unofficial role of General Secretary, acting as committee secretary to BTRDA Ltd and to Council, together with being a central contact point for the BTRDA brand. Simon finally retired from this position in November 2018, where the breadth of his duties and responsibilities have had to be divided between several other individuals!

**PAT EGGER:** Since the mid 1970's Pat has been an active competitor and organiser. Driving on Autotests, AutoSolos, Car Trials, Autocross events, and co-driving on gravel and asphalt rallies mainly with her husband Richard. In the autumn of 2004, she took over the collation and production of BTRDA News from Janet Darbyshire a role she continued for 16 years until her last edition, the Winter News 2020.





# **Gold Star<sup>®</sup> Champions 2020**

Allrounders – JOHN FOX Autotest – MALCOLM LIVINGSTON Car Trial – TREVOR MOFFATT Rallycross – DALE FORD

**AutoSOLO Champion – JAMIE YAPP** 

A massive thank you to everyone who contributed to this edition of the magazine! Without your help and support we wouldn't be where we are today. So, Thank You!

**Edited by Jennifer Wardle and Caleb Wind-Leonard**