

BTRDA[®]

The **MOTORSPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS** **.COM**

News

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Elliot Payne & Patrick Walsh
MRF Tyres BTRDA Gold Star Champions

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President's Notes

For most of our BTRDA Members, the last two months of the year are often the quietest, although our Sporting Trials competitors are still hard at it until the final on the 21st January.

For our Championship organisers and committees they are the busiest! The event calendars have to be sorted with the clubs and the Regulations have to be written and approved by Motorsport UK. In addition our valued Sponsors have to be agreed and publicity, such as our Streaming Services and TV costed into the budgets.

We always look to run our Championships on a break even basis which is very difficult as costs of almost everything are rising at the moment. All our coordinators and their teams are volunteers and I would remind you all that none are paid for their considerable time and effort.

As if that is not enough, they also have to organise their Awards Presentations, and this time we are back to pre-covid times.

We shall have 4 evening presentations and our Awards Lunch. They are as follows: Forest Rally 14 January; Rallycross 21 January; Sporting Trials 21 January and Asphalt Rally 04 February.

The BTRDA Awards Lunch, which covers Allrounders, Car Trials, Autotest, AutoSolo, Targa and our Special Awards, will be on **Sunday 5th February** at the Drayton Manor Park Hotel. You will find a booking form enclosed with further details.

Our AGM will be held by Zoom on **Tuesday 24 January** at 1930hrs. We shall be sending out an invitation to join us after Christmas and I very much look forward to virtually seeing you! It will be your opportunity to hear our statements of how our Association has fared over the last 12 months and you will be given an opportunity to ask any questions of our Committee Chairs or Board or Directors. It is your Association, so please get involved.

In the meantime may I wish you all a safe, prosperous and competitive New Year.

Mike Broad

Minutes of the 40th Annual General Meeting of The British Trial & Rally Drivers Association Ltd
Held on Wednesday 26th January 2022 at 7.30 p.m. as a "Zoom" webinar
(75th AGM of the Association)

The Chair was taken by the President, Mike Broad, who welcomed the 29 members and their guests to the meeting. He observed that this is our second running of an Annual General Meeting as a virtual "Zoom" webinar independent of the prizegiving luncheon, which returns on Sunday after last year's enforced cancellation due to the Covid pandemic.

1. Apologies for Absence:

Ernie and Patricia Lee, Brian Midgley, Norman Robertson, John Rook, Brian and Margaret Stapleton, Jamie Yapp.

2. To receive & approve the Minutes of the 39th AGM held on 3 February 2021.

The minutes of the 39th AGM were passed as a correct record of the meeting.

3. Treasurer's Report

Mike Sones commented on the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020: membership numbers and income were down as a consequence of the pandemic and with a full year of costs to pay the small loss of around £1,900 was quite an achievement. The Association had kept faith with its members and succeeded in keeping in touch through eNews and News. Most Championships had run to some extent. With the Covid disruption following on into 2021 we can expect another abnormal year in the financial position, but we are well placed to weather this unprecedented storm. Mike thanked Tim Beard and Richard Yapp for their additional work in adopting the digital accounting required of HMRC.

The President thanked Mike for his report, adding that some Championship fees had been rolled over from 2020 to 2021.

Draft results for 2021, with its compressed series of events, presented a better outcome than 2020.

4. Election of a Director of The British Trial and Rally Drivers Association Ltd.

Neil Mackay was unanimously reappointed as a Director of the Association; there were no other nominations.

5. Election of a Director of BTRDA Ltd.

Nick Pollitt was unanimously nominated for reappointment as a Director of BTRDA Ltd; there were no other nominations.

It was noted that Nick had recently retired as Chair of the Motorsport UK Trials Committee.

6. Election of Council Members of BTRDA Ltd.

Ian Arden, Peter Cox and Duncan Wild retired by rotation and were all re-approved for nomination as Council Members of BTRDA Ltd; there were no new nominations. The President commented that he would like to see someone take up the remaining vacancy.

7. Announcement of all Committee Chairmen and Committee Members.

Steve Layton, as Chair of BTRDA Ltd and Council, presented a slide listing the members of all our committees with thanks to all committee members and gave a brief resumé of all the championships. Steve also thanked all event organisers, competitors and sponsors for their efforts in supporting us through another difficult year. The President added special thanks to Alan Wakeman for his work in launching the new Targa Road Rally Championship.

8. Any Other Business

The President summarised the year with thanks to all directors for their time and attendance at the monthly Zoom meetings, together with Gemma Price for her behind-the-scenes work on this virtual meeting.

In the wake of a successful Rallycross awards presentation, the return of the traditional Association annual luncheon and prizegiving is expected to see around 70 seated at the Bugatti Owners Clubhouse, Prescott Speed Hill Climb.

There being no other business, the President thanked members for their attendance and the meeting closed at 7.56 p.m.

Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship



Steve Wood is the 2022 Protyre Asphalt Rally Champion!

Steve Wood became Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally champion for the first time in 2022, winning the drivers' title by finishing second on the final round of the series, the Chris Kelly Memorial Manx Stages.

Five high scores (which included one win, one second and two thirds) and dropping just one point in the mandatory two scores don't count rule gave the Aberystwyth driver the title after an impressive year-long performance in his City East Ford Fiesta RS WRC.

Neil Roskell had been a title challenger all season after some fine performances in his ND Civils/Burdens Ford Fiesta R5, and took second on a tie-break with John Stone (Legend Fires Volkswagen Polo GTI R5) – courtesy of victory on the Isle of Man.

Dai Roberts took the overall co-drivers' title, thanks to three wins with two drivers. He ended the season just five points ahead of Andrew Roughead, with Dale Bowen in third.



Steve Wood & Dale Bowen

Wood receives the coveted Protyre Trophy, Roberts picks up the Motordrive Seats Perpetual Trophy and both win prestigious BTRDA Gold Stars.

Another outstanding season saw Darren Atkinson/Phil Sandham win both the class B13 and Ford Escort Challenge titles in their rapid Escort Mk2. Such was their speed that on several occasions they only just missed out on an overall podium finish – with Atkinson ending the season fifth in the overall drivers' points table.

It hadn't been easy, however, as Brad Cole/Jamie Vaughan had led both categories going into the final round – only for alternator failure to put them out.

There were other very close class battles, with well-earned titles going to Johnnie Mackay (Junior and N3), William Mains (B9), Lewis Gatt/Callum Young (B10), Paul and Julian Doroszczuk (class B11), Jonathan Stepney/Aled Davies (B12) and Steven Ormond-Smith/Dafydd Evans (B14).

The 2022 Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship gala prize-giving will take place on Saturday 4th February at the Drayton Manor Hotel in Tamworth, Staffordshire.

Booking forms and information on how to receive the special discounted accommodation rate are available from Paul Morris:

pmorris81@hotmail.co.uk

Paul Evans



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Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship



2023 Protyre BTRDA Asphalt Rally Championship in association with Motorsport News



2023 Protyre BTRDA Asphalt Rally Championship Calendar

A new-look calendar of events for the 2023 Protyre BTRDA Asphalt Rally Championship in association with Motorsport News has been announced* – with seven rallies/eight scoring rounds taking place over nine months and a good geographical spread of events.

With continued support from title sponsor Protyre Motorsport, the opening round will be new to the UK's premier sealed-surface series, The Reed Group East Riding Stages Rally. Organised by Beverley & DMC. The event takes place on Sunday 26 February and will feature a similar (yet extended stage mile) format to 2022 – with two loops of four stages held on closed roads in East Yorkshire. The ceremonial start and prize-giving will take place in a new fan zone in the historic Market Cross in Beverley Market Place, there will be a new centralised service area located just outside the town, the maximum number of entries will increase from 100 to 140 and there will be a spectator area located at the magnificent Burton Constable Hall.

Rounds 2 and 3 will be the Manx National Rally. Organised by Manx Auto Sport, it will feature many of the classic Isle of Man stages in a 130-stage mile route and will be a double header event with full championship points awarded after Leg 1 on Friday 12 May and after Leg 2 on Saturday 13 May. Round 4 will be the Duns-based Beatson's Building Supplies Jim Clark Rally. Organised by the Jim Clark Memorial MC, there will be eight stages featuring around 67 competitive miles on classic closed Scottish Borders lanes. There will be two stages on Friday (26 May) evening and six stages on Saturday (27 May). There will also be a pre-event shakedown stage.

The series remains in Scotland for Round 5 which will be the Dunoon presents Argyll Rally on Friday 23 / Saturday 24 June. The Mull Car Club organised event will have closed road stages around the Cowal peninsula in the picturesque Argyll and Bute region, plus its popular Dunoon town centre stage. In total, there will be 14 stages totalling 70 stage miles.

It's over to Northern Ireland for Round 6, the Rathfriland MC and Ballynahinch & DMC organised Down Rally. Taking place on Saturday 22 July, the event will feature some classic closed road stages in County Down in its eight stage/ 60 stage mile route, including the famous Hamilton's Folly test.

The seventh and penultimate round of the series will be the ever-popular Nigel Ferguson Fabricators Tour of Epynt. Organised by Port Talbot MC, the first motor club to bring rallying to the rollercoaster military range above Sennybridge back in 1965, next year's event will take place over the weekend of 5/6 August.



William Mains

Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship



2023 Protyre BTRDA Asphalt Rally Championship in association with Motorsport News



The eighth and final round of the 2023 Protyre BTRDA Asphalt Rally Championship will be the Ford Parts Cheviot Stages Rally on Sunday 22 October. Organised by Whickham & DMC and Hadrian Motor Sports Club, the event will take place over the Otterburn Military Range in Northumberland and will provide a challenging and fitting end to a hard-fought season.

The best six scores from eight rounds will count.

Following feedback from competitors, there will be more Historic classes next year. Amongst the changes will be the separation of Pinto and BDG engined cars into different classes to allow more competitors an opportunity to win class awards. The modern class structure will remain largely unchanged, albeit with a few updates to accommodate the maximum variety of cars possible.

The refreshed 2023 calendar is part of the Protyre Asphalt's exciting development strategy led by championship co-ordinator Paul Morris and his team which includes fellow co-driver Paul Wakely and Donna Preston.

Paul Evans



Darren Atkinson & Phil Sandham



Neil Roskell & Andrew Roughead

2023 Protyre BTRDA Asphalt Rally Championship in association with Motorsport News *

26 February
12/13 May
26/27 May
23/24 June
22 July
5/6 August
22 October

The Reed Group East Riding Stages Rally
Manx National Rally**
Beatson's Building Supplies Jim Clark Rally
Dunoon presents Argyll Rally
Down Rally
Nigel Ferguson Fabricators Tour of Epynt
Ford Parts Cheviot Stages Rally

* Subject to final approval by Motorsport UK

** Denotes a double header round

Demon Tweeks Direct BTRDA® Autotest Championship

Yet another year gone by already and as we prepare our regulations for the 2023 season its time to acknowledge our worthy winners in 2022. Alastair Moffatt (Mini Sp.) always looked like a man on a mission and the one to beat, so it proved with four outright wins and one second overall to take his eight Gold Star Championship with 99 pts.

Second place went to the driver who has improved dramatically since he moved to the Sportscar class in Willie Keaning (Striker), who despite only beating Alastair once to take FTD this year, added four second places to make up his score to 96pts.

The Silver Star Championship saw the return of Toby Cook in his remarkable Micra, which, despite being under powered compared with the plethora of quick Nova in the Saloon Car Class, was always the one to beat giving him two Class wins and three seconds to take the Championship for the first time. Runner up and winner of the Bronze Star in his first Championship year was Sean Kell (Mini Sp.) who soon came to terms with the opposition.

A full list of award winners follows, but I should mention that worthy winners of the Flather Shield for the best event of the year, as voted by the competitors, were the South of Scotland Car Club, assisted by un-Scottish dry and sunny weather as you will see from the attached photos.

Regarding the awards for 2022, which will be presented at the Annual Luncheon on 5th February, in memory of our good friend Mike Sones the Committee has decided that, for the Class awards, they will be re-presenting some of the glassware that he won over his illustrious Autotesting career suitably engraved.

So, what of 2023. The new calendar is being finalized and should see a return to 11 rounds, which will include Alwoodley and Knutsford doubling up again and, hopefully, the return of an old favorite. As for new cars we know that Fern Motorsport are creating a Puma engined Mini, whose debut we look forward to, but we will have to wait and see what else appears. Don't forget that the first round of the Championship will be the Jon Mackenzie on the 12th of March so get the spanners out.

Steve Layton



Toby Cook



Willie Keaning

Demon Tweeks Direct BTRDA® Autotest Championship Awards

Gold Star

Overall Champion – Flather Star Autotest Trophy and Award – Alastair Moffatt

Runner-up – Frank Livingston Memorial Trophy and Award – Willie Keaning

Silver Star

Winner – AC Westwood Trophy and Award – Toby Cook

Runner-up – Castrol Trophy and Award – Sean Kell

Bronze Star

Winner – Ian Mantle Trophy and Award – Sean Kell

Class A

1st in Class – Andrew Larkin Memorial Trophy and Award – Dave Fox

2nd in Class - The Harrow 79 Trophy – David Mosey

Class B

1st in Class – Motorsport Trophy and Award – Warren Gillespie

2nd Class – An award – Toby Cook

Class C

1st in Class – Richard Squire Trophy and Award – Willie Keaning

2nd in Class – Trevor J Smith Trophy and Award – Richard Pinkney

3rd Class – An award – Chris Chapman

Class D

1st in Class – Rifleman Trophy and Award – Alastair Moffatt

1st FERWD & 2nd Class – Paul Fobister

Class H

Winner – Darbyshire Trophy – Cameron Pinkney

Class J

1st in Class – John Larkin Jubilee Trophy and Award – Paul Fobister

2nd in Class – An Award – Ian Chapman

Leading points scorer 65 and over – Stephen Morten

Best Event

Winner – Denis Flather Shield – South of Scotland Car Club

Silver Spoons: Alastair Moffatt – 4, Willie Keaning – 1, Richard Pinkney – 2, Malcolm Livingston – 1



Alastair Moffatt



Sean Kell

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Demon Tweeks Direct BTRDA® AutoSOLO Championship

For the third time Neil Jones has won the BTRDA Demon Tweeks AutoSOLO championship but he will also receive a very different additional award – a BTRDA Gold Star. Neil will be the first ever Gold Star winner for AutoSOLO and it will be thoroughly deserved. A change of car, well actually model, at the end of last year to a Mk3 MX5 has made him even more difficult to beat from the days in his Mk 2 version. In fact, at the 11 rounds that Neil entered in 2022 it is only Michael Dolby (MX5) at Ruthin Market and Alec Tunbridge (Caterham 7), twice at Lymm services, who have managed to finish ahead of Neil.

It took the 2022 Champion, Alec Tunbridge until round 6 before he got his first overall win of the year, such was the form of Neil on the more open tests at the larger venues available in the south (defined as anything below Birmingham!). Last year's challenger, Jamie Yapp in his Clio 172 Cup, had a few car problems this year and it wasn't until May at Wroughton Airfield where he headed the championship entrants.



Neil Jones



Gary Ridgway

One of the outstanding performances of the year has come from Kieran Belcher in his Renault Meganne R26 who dominated Class C and not only did he win the class but was the best under 25 driver, winning the BTRDA AutoSOLO Challenge Cup. There was an interesting contest at the September Wroughton round when he competed against his father Kevin who was the BTRDA AutoSOLO champion in 2013 and who drove the same championship winning Subaru Impreza. On the day, Kieran's car broke down after 6 tests and shall we say the times were very close up to then, just 1.65 seconds between them in favour of dad. Maybe a comeback in 2023 for Kevin?

Another commendable performance came from Gary Ridgway who, like Neil, swapped his MX5 version but did so mid-season. It took a while to acclimatise to non-supercharged engine and the newer Mk3 handling compared to the previous version. He also took part in several other local championship events to get it all together – and won the competitive CMSG championship in the process. The end result was a brilliant drive at the last event to be held at Cheltenham Racecourse, an event FTD and a well-deserved 2nd in the BTRDA championship class to Neil.

It has been so close in the sports car class with often 4 or 5 entrants all capable of winning. In that class there has been a warm welcome to Steve & Michael Dolby from Stone in Staffordshire who scored well in the rounds at Lymm services and were well located for those rounds south of Birmingham. Dad Steve was the top family Dolby MX5 driver this year and picked up the 3rd in class award with son Michael not too far behind in points with the 4th in class award.

Whilst we have primarily talked about the latest fashion in grass roots motorsport, modern sports cars, like the MX5s, Bob Milligan showed that you do not need something new to win by heading the Class A for up to 1400cc saloons in his late 1980s registered mini. The mini may be small and quick but then so are the much later more powerful Nissan Micras that Bob was up against.

Demon Tweeks Direct BTRDA® AutoSOLO Championship

Just one event was lost this year (due to the cancellation of the large MotoFest Coventry motoring event) and the 2023 series will continue with the same basic layout of events at locations throughout the UK with good opportunities to score well at 7 of the 20 rounds.

We have looked at the inclusion of electric vehicles in the championship but there is still a reluctance of some clubs to accept them and an outright ban of their use at some venues - Education is needed!

A final thought for 2023 was the sight of umbrellas being needed in August. See the picture of competitors walking round the course with them up. No, it wasn't to protect them from the invisible rain but to protect them from the heat wave which was the weather for August and that was the only way to keep cool at Kemble airfield. The event also finished early to avoid the higher afternoon temperatures. Maybe we should change to a winter series but then, as the other picture shows, it got a bit wet at the final Knutsford event in October!

See you somewhere in 2023!!

Peter Cox



**Umbrellas at Kemble to protect from
the sun in August whilst...**



**... in October it was soft tops up to
protect from the rain!**



Kieran Belcher



Steve Dolby & Eddie Martin

MRF Tyres BTRDA® Rally Series



Payne Clinical in Securing Gold!

The Trackrod Forest Stages, the penultimate round of the MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series, took contenders on to the North York Moors at the end of September and saw David Henderson (Fiesta Rally2)) take victory on the only event he contested during the year. However, the runners-up spot – less than 10s behind – was sufficient to ensure that Elliot Payne/Patrick Walsh (also Fiesta Rally2) could not be beaten for the MRF Tyres BTRDA Gold Star® Championship. At 19 years old, we reckon Elliot is the youngest driver ever to win the coveted title (computerised results weren't up to much when the series first ran back in 1953!) and, of course, follows in the footsteps of his dad, Charlie, who was the 2016 Champion!

Fast forward a month to the end of October and the BTRDA Rally Series descended on Llandudno for the Visit Conwy Cambrian Rally at which the unfinished business – and there was plenty! – would be concluded. Not least of the 'unknowns' were the other podium places in the Gold Star Championship – several permutations were possible but, by taking their third outright win of the season (the only crew so to do), Matthew Hirst/ Declan Dear (Fiesta R5) laid claim to 2nd place, ahead of the absent Stephen Petch/ Michael Wilkinson who had led the race for a while after their victory on the opening round of the series, the Malcolm Wilson Rally.

Although we didn't realise it at the time, the MRF Tyres BTRDA Silver Star® Championship was also sorted following the Trackrod. Rob Wright/ Mark Fisher (Escort MkII) travelled home from Filey leading their respective tables, but aware that Nick Dobson could upset the appcart, should he win the two-wheel drive category (nothing less would do!) on the Cambrian. In the event, neither crew took the start of the final round, maintaining the status quo at the top. Jez Rogers, BTRDA Rallye R2 Cup winner with Jonathan Jones in their Fiesta, was 2nd Co-driver while Michael McDaid/ Declan Casey made five trips from Ireland during the year, scoring two 1st places, two 2nd and one 3rd, to finish a fine 3rd overall.

Having had a pretty dismal first season in the BTRDA Series, it was nice to see James Lepley, whose older brother George was Silver Star Champion in 2018 & 2019, end it on a high with maximum points in his Escort! We hope the experience has given him the impetus to join us again in 2023...

Having contested all eight rounds, and In spite of a couple of retirements, Grant Inglis/ Gavin Chisholm have led the Jordan Road Surfacing BTRDA Historic Cup virtually from the off in their Escort MkII. From just five events, their nearest challengers were Michael McDaid/Declan Casey whose Escort earned four maximums and one second (five maximums for the co-driver!).



Jonathan Jones & Jez Rogers



Grant Inglis & Gavin Chisholm

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MRF Tyres BTRDA® Rally Series

Sheer consistency – not to mention speed! – had seen Lewis Hooper owning the Fuchs Lubricants Bronze Star® Championship in his Rally First spec. Micra for much of the season and so it was prior to the start of the final round. Pete Gorst/Mark Twiname's Nova had already claimed three consecutive maximums but these were book-ended by a couple of retirements which served to keep the pair off the top of the table. Nigel Jenkins' appearance from mid-season onwards had also raised eyebrows – his Nova had scored two maximums and one 2nd from three events and, while obviously a force to be reckoned with, could only hinder the plans of others rather than fight for outright Championship victory itself.

So, to the Cambrian and Hooper had previously amassed the requisite six scores such that he could only improve on his lowest to date, while Gorst could overtake him for the title (and Bronze Star) but had to finish the event in order to do so. As the cars returned to Llandudno, the all-important order was Jenkins, Gorst, Hooper and Ed James/Charlie Mason whose Micra Kit Car had been there or thereabouts all season.

So, Pete Gorst/Mark Twiname emerged as the 2022 Fuchs Lubricants BTRDA Bronze Star Champions, ahead of Hooper and James. Should Jenkins opt for a full season in 2023, the opposition will already have a fair idea as to what they'll be up against!...

We had to wait until the first weekend in December and the Grizedale Stages Rally before we knew who had won the Motorsport UK English Rally Championship, in association with Seacon UK. Having arrived at the start of the final round in pole position, Nick Dobson did more than enough to ensure that his Escort MkII was still there at the end of the event and, likewise, 3rd overall in the Lake District saw to it that Steve Link took the Co-drivers' title – with a little help from Russ Thompson, obviously(!), in the latter's Mitsubishi Lancer EVO9.

Congratulations to all our winners and thanks to everyone who has helped the MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series maintain its position as the most popular UK Championship as it heads into its 70th season in 2023.

Further information on the MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series: www.btrdarally.com
& Motorsport UK English Rally Championship: www.englishrally.co.uk

Andrew Hail



Pete Gorst/Mark Twiname



Lewis Hooper



Nick Dobson

Photos Courtesy of Kevin Money



BTRDA® Allrounders Championship Supported by Crystal Images

Since 2015 either Jamie Yapp or John Fox have been at the top BTRDA Allrounder and won the prestigious Gold Star. At the moment the score is 4 - 3 to John but it looks as if Jamie will level this in 2022.

However, this is by no means certain as it is Alastair Moffatt who is in second place and there is still a chance of Alastair finding a sprint right up until the 31st December to improve his Group J speed score. Alastair needs at least 3.89 points more than his best current speed group score to overtake Jamie. It won't be easy!

One thing which is absolutely certain is that Jamie will be the best competitor using a single car in 2022, winning the Davijon Trophy. In his blue Clio 172 Cup he has scored points in AutoSOLOs, Sprints and Targa Rallies. In the first of his Targa points scores in 2022 Jamie navigated John Fox in John's Clio. Then, at the smooth Three Sisters circuit late in November Jamie swapped over and used his own Clio with John doing the navigating to complete a full set of points in his own Clio. A fine 5th overall was the result and 4th in a big class – the event only has classes for Experts and Novices and Allrounder points are calculated on event classes.

Another top allrounder was in 4th place overall with Bob Milligan navigated by Ben Amos. Bob is also in 4th spot in the BTRDA Allrounders table and in second spot in the one car award with his Mini. Bob is the only one of the 4 one car competitor qualifiers to have scored in Car Trials - Alan Wakeman (Micra) and Richard Yapp (MX5) have gone down the AutoSOLO, Targa and Speed routes.

One competitor who has scored well in Car Trials is Garry Preston who ended up the Silver Star Car Trial champion at the final held on the grass and wood areas at the Prescott hill climb venue. It was here that Garry used the Mike Sones red and white Mini Cooper S 582 DMR to win that award (see picture). Garry is one of those who couldn't quite get the full 6 scoring points from at least 3 different groups. Another one is Luke Powell who got adventurous in his Westfield SE to score points in an AutoSOLO, two Autotests and a speed event in the same car (see picture). It could well be a promising start to a serious challenge in 2023.

Crystal Images

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BTRDA® Allrounders Championship Supported by Crystal Images

Showing the versatility of Allrounder competitors Simon Harris is another one who has sat in both the left and right hand seats on Targa rallies whilst also scoring points on Car Trials and AutoSOLO. It's also good to report that the first AutoSOLO Gold Star winner, Neil Jones, also had a go at a Targa Rally at the end of the year. I have said have a go but that is rather an understatement as, navigated by his father Barry, he won the Knutsford Three Sisters Targa event outright. One of the potential outright winners did in fact break a driveshaft but that shouldn't detract from Neil's performance. More Targas for the MX5 in 2023?

With 8 Allrounder qualifiers in 2022 it has been a good season so let us all look forward to 2023, continued assistance from Crystal Images and try and get the number of qualifiers up to double figures. The events are there!

Peter Cox



Garry Preston



Jamie Yapp
(Photo: SJ Media)



John Fox



Luke Powell



Bob Milligan

Mr Tyre Motorsport BTRDA® Targa Road Rally Championship

I don't believe it. It's been almost two years since I posted the first message about the BTRDA Targa Road Rally Championship on Facebook.

A great deal has changed in those two years and we've all gone through massive challenges. But here we are and the Targa Championship has been awarded Gold and Silver Star status for 2023, recognition for all those who have assisted, organised events and competed in the Championship. Great thanks to all.

So what does 2023 hold?

It's pretty simple – Gold Star is for the best crews on the best Targa events in the UK. There are also class awards so the Gold Star isn't just for the elite few winning events overall, but also for those who wish to prove themselves in class.

Silver Star is for those who wish to compete on smoother Targas in anything from a standard to a fully prepared car. This Championship is very appropriate for those wishing to take part in a smaller Championship and also possibly compete in other disciplines and Championships, such as BTRDA Autosolo and Allrounders.

With a large number of events to choose from and points for Marshaling/Organising events, you can create your own calendar of events and locations which suit you.

Inevitably there's more detail, refer to the BTRDA Targa website for more detailed information.

But what about the 2022 Mr Tyre Motorsport BTRDA Targa Road Rally Championship?

A real highlight for the end of the 2022 Championship on the Knutsford Targa. With two Drivers able to win the Championship and also two Navigators fighting for the top spot, it was going to be close. Ethan Davies needed to finish as the first registered BTRDA Targa contender to take the Drivers' Championship.

15-year-old Sam Weller had led the Navigators' Championship all year, but Nick Bloxham could take the Championship with a solid result.

Ethan and Nick teamed up for the event and were running well, being exactly where they needed to be to take the Championships. However, on Test 5 a driveshaft decided that it didn't like being in the Puma's gearbox. Ethan and Nick made a repair and ventured out onto Test 6. But the shaft didn't last long and the same issue occurred again halfway through the Test.

This left Ethan's father, John Davies, to take the Drivers' title for the second year. However Ethan does win the Under 25 Drivers' title, so he receives recognition for some fabulous drives this year, winning many events overall.



Bleddyn Thomas & Sam Weller



Ethan Davies & Nick Bloxham

Mr Tyre Motorsport BTRDA® Targa Road Rally Championship

Sam Weller wins the Navigators' Championship after a fantastic year navigating for Bleddyn Thomas, demonstrating what a young Navigator can achieve.

Sam will be the first recipient of the new Mike Sones award for the winning Targa Navigator. Mike was a noted Navigator as well as a driver, a very appropriate award. I'm sure Mike will be looking down, delighted that a young Navigator has won his trophy for the first time.

Congratulations Sam, your name will be the first on the trophy!

The BTRDA Gold Star Autosolo Championship Winner, Neil Jones, was competing on his first Targa for some time in his Autosolo MX5. Neil showed his class by taking the overall win on the Knutsford Targa, demonstrating that it's possible to compete in many disciplines in the same car.

Jamie Yapp and Bob Milligan were chasing BTRDA Allrounders points (three different disciplines over the year) and finished 4th and 5th overall on the event in their cars which are also used on Autosolos, Car Trials and other events.



Neil Jones & Barry Jones

The 2023 BTRDA Targa Silver Star Championship is aimed at these competitors who wish to compete in a wider range of disciplines.

Congratulations to all those who took part in the Championship, especially those who won awards.

The Awards Luncheon is at Drayton Manor Park on Sunday, 5th February.

Now to look to the bigger and better 2023 BTRDA Targa Rally Championship. Register early to receive information on events, I feel that 2023 is going to be a great year.

Who will be the winners of the first-ever BTRDA Targa Gold and Silver Stars, you'll go down in history!

Alan Wakeman



Martin Freeman & Kathy Woodward



Chris Phillips & Mike Phillips

Photos Courtesy of Jason H Media

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Autosport International BTRDA® Clubman's Rallycross Championship

Presented by Cooper Tires

The curtain came down on the 2022 Autosport International BTRDA Clubmans Rallycross Championship at round eight, Knockhill on Sunday, October 23rd, although a curtain of fog threatened the action throughout the event, especially during the morning, practice being run behind a safety car and the start of the heats delayed. A slightly smaller than usual field of around 40 cars made the pilgrimage north of the Border, a smattering of locals joining the Championship regulars plus a pair of regular visitors from Northern Ireland.

Perhaps the furthest travelled driver was Devon-based Owen Robbins and he was set to do battle with Corey Padgett for the **Cooper Tires Junior** title. Padgett won two heats to one for Robbins and the former led off in the A Final with local lad Finley Scott slotting ahead of Robbins and chasing Padgett hoping for a debut victory. Robbins however was soon through for second and began to hunt down his title rival for the lead, things coming to a head as many expected at the start of the final lap as Robbins went down the outside on the brakes through Duffus Dip but through McRae's there was contact and the Devonshire driver was pushed sideways by Padgett who retook the lead. He went on to take the flag at the front but was penalised one second for the collision handing Robbins the win and the Championship. Debutant Scott held off a rather subdued Tyler McAlpin for third while Holly Woolley completed the finishers.

There was just one point between Alex Fletcher and James Avison in the **All Tool UK Modified** standings heading into Scotland and the former's Civic made a great start to lead, but it all came apart early on for Avison as his Focus hit the tyres at the Triangle and dropped back. More problems emerged behind Fletcher as Allan Laidler and newcomer Flynn Watt made contact at McRae's sending the former's Saxo off and scattering more tyre stacks, and after he rejoined Avison hit the tyres again damaging his Focus's front end and leaving the car doing a veritable impersonation of a steam locomotive.

A couple of laps later and Watt's Suzuki performed more target practice on the McRae's tyre stacks before Laidler's luckless season came to an end in the tyre wall on the bottom straight having been caught out by the "Big Dipper" bumps. The race was finally red-flagged and counted back to lap two giving Fletcher the win and the Championship to the delight of the Loughborough College team, Watt and Avison's battered cars completing the podium.

The 4x4 titles had already been won by the BMW Mini Countryman of David Bell (**SJ Wheeler Vehicle Repairs Clubman 4x4**) and Mitsubishi man Tomas Ramanauskas (**Cooper Tires Production 4x4**) and with a lower than anticipated entry, the classes were set to run combined and also include the **Rally Car** class. As it turned out the Production 4x4s were in *absentia* and Clubman 4x4 attracted just Graeme Reid's Nissan Pulsar which promptly broke down in heat one, leaving lone Rally Car entry Ian Biagi's lovely Ford Escort Mk3 R3 on its own. He ran his other two heats in with the Pre-'95 Classic division before completing the A Final running solo.

Andrew Hawkes outscored **Bone Street Autos BMW Mini** title rival Abbie McGuinness by two heats to one and built up a lead in the A Final, but McGuinness knuckled down and clearly blotted out any memories of her crash at Knockhill last season as she closed the gap. The recent Pembrey final winner got to within two Mini lengths of Hawkes on the final lap, but Hawkes held on to win and retain his title. Further back Stephen Bleasdale just beat Harvey Harman home after a good scrap for his best result of the season.

Champion-elect Lee Wood scored two heat wins in the Motaquip Escort in the **Melius Ltd Pre-95 Classic** division while the other saw a welcome first success of the season for David Ewin who finally got the Fiesta Evo running to its full potential after a troubled season – also entertaining onlookers as ever with a full 360-degree spin over the finish line in heat one!

Autosport International BTRDA® Clubman's Rallycross Championship

The A Final saw Ewin make a cracking start and lead briefly only to run wide onto the gravel at McRae's allowing Wood to take over with Davy Crockett's Chevette also sneaking through, while Pembrey victor Jamie McBain's Peugeot was early retirement further back. Wood led all the way to secure the title, while Ewin's pursuit of Crockett almost paid off as a last corner mistake saw the Ulsterman almost hit the pit wall but he just clung on to second place. David Attiwell was a lonely fourth in his Nova with David Martin's 205 and Helen Crooks completing the finishers, the latter retaining her Classic Mini title.

Attiwell also made his debut in the **FIA Cross Car** class, taking two heat wins to regular Luke Holly's one and then holding off his rival all the way for a debut A Final win. With his only regular opponent Paul Batson absent, Holly wrapped up the inaugural title.

The two Charlies, Moroney and Titcombe, were set to fight for the **SG Haulage Ltd Production** title in their Saxos and the former, still in his second car of the season following his Blyton rollover, scored two heat wins while Mark Henry's Alfa 147 took the other. Moroney set off into the lead from pole with Sam Noye's Saxo battling Henry for second until on lap two Noye ran wide at McRae's and almost rolled as he hit the bank. The defining moment was into Triangle as Titcombe lost it under braking, spun and hit the inner barrier nose-first and was out of the race. Moroney led all the way to secure the Championship with Henry taking his best ever result in second, Dan Cofield likewise as his 206 beat Noye to take third place. John Rook also scored one of his best results as he passed James Ashe (C2) for fifth with Graeme Cuthbert in another C2 the final finisher.

With seven A Final wins out of seven in the **AS Performance Super Modified** class, Darren Bleasdale only needed to take the start at Knockhill to be assured of the overall title, but he attacked in his usual style. The brother of outgoing champion Jason won the first two heats at a canter in his VX220 with Ulster visitor Stan Bovill taking the other in his Escort, while the C2s of Phil Chicken and David Watt succumbed to problems during the heats. Another attraction in the class was the long-awaited debut of Richard Moore's V8-powered Mercedes SLK (featuring some input from a certain Martin Schanche) although it would sadly fail to start the A Final leaving just four contenders to line up. Bleasdale as always was off like a shot and completed his unbeaten record in 2022 to keep the Championship trophy in the family. Bovill took second while Todd Crooks (BMW Mini) passed Darren Scott's C2 for third, but Scott secured second in the Super Modified points and due to the "one title per driver" quirk of the rules he took the category title thanks to Bleasdale's overall success.

So ended another superb Autosport International BTRDA Clubmans Rallycross season, with every driver a credit to their sport and providing hugely entertaining racing across the UK.

Full credit must also be given to Championship Co-Ordinator Jordine Crooks, Championship Manager John Rook and all the officials and helpers for their tireless work behind the scenes to promote and administer the series, which is a true credit to motorsport.

Close-season festivities will now follow including the annual awards night before everything is ready to go once again in 2023!

Dave Goddard

TV Broadcast Information

Every round of the BTRDA Championship can be seen in 2022 on the following broadcast channel's;

Motorsport TV – Online platform – Free subscription in 2022

Freesports – Freeview/TalkTalkTV/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 SamsungTV

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

Autosport International BTRDA® Clubman's Rallycross Championship

Presented by Cooper Tires

The BTRDA Rallycross Championship has confirmed not 1, not 2 but 3 static stands at the Autosport Show. The championships long standing partnership with ASI has allowed for an increased presence which will be part of the weekend show on 14th and 15th January, NEC Birmingham.

The 3 stands will mean 1 main stand featuring 7 cars from the Championship along with a presence from our main sponsor Cooper Tires. The other 2 stands will be smaller but alongside the main stand and will feature 2 and 3 cars on each stand. This means our presence at the show will feature 12 Rallycross cars.

Confirmed line up for the main stand are as follows:

- 2022 BTRDA Champion Darren Bleasdale, Super Modified, Vauxhall VX220
- 2022 BTRDA Production 4x4 Champion Tomas Ramanauskas, Mitsubishi Lancer EVO 6
- 2022 BTRDA Production 2ltr champion, Mark Henry, Alfa Romeo
- 2022 BTRDA Classic Champion, Lee Wood, Ford Escort MK2
- 2022 BTRDA Modified Champion, Alex Fletcher, Honda Civic Type R
- David Attiwell, FIA Cross Car
- Tyler McAlpin, Junior Suzuki Swift

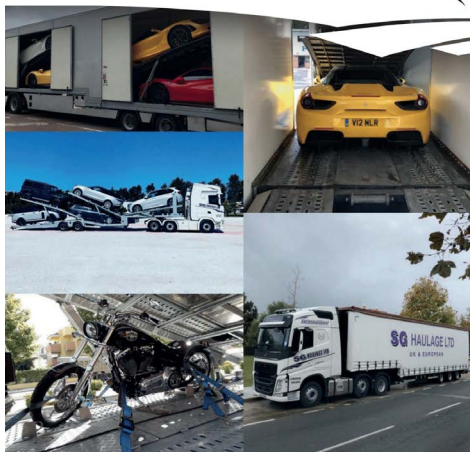
Confirmed line up for the other 2 stands are:

- Jamie McBain, Classic, Peugeot 205 GTi
- Charley Moroney, BMW Mini Cooper S
- Richard Moore, Super Modified, Mercedes SLK V8
- TBC, BMW ALL4, Countryman
- TBC, Production Category



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Autosport International BTRDA® Clubman's Rallycross Championship

Presented by Cooper Tires

The 2023 BTRDA Rallycross Championship has now been confirmed (subject to MSUK approval), which will see a similar calendar to 2022 with 8 rounds, over 6 weekends at 4 venues. In addition to the Championship events there will also be a test day at Blyton on February 19th.

All 2022 awards winners will be presented with their trophies on January 21st at Drayton Manor Hotel, Tamworth, along with a 3 course dinner, dancing and an official 2023 launch. Tickets are selling fast and will still be available until sold out or latest 10 days before the event.

A raft of Championship changes including; double points, a brand new up to 1600cc class within the classic category, a newly titled 'Modified 4x4' category (replacing Production 4x4) along with other changes will all be announced on the 21st January as part of the 2022 awards and dinner dance.

2022 Super Modified champion Darren Scott, Citroen C2, will return in 2023 to defend his title with his car fitted with a brand new 1800cc engine.

Current 1600cc Nova driver in the classic category David Attiwell will make the switch to the new FIA Cross Car category in 2023. The option to use the FIA Cross car along with entry fee sponsorship from the UK importers of the vehicle make it too good an option to miss. He plans to return to his faithful Nova for the 2024 season when he will race in the brand new up to 1600cc class within the classic category which will be launched within the 2023 season.

Kent's Dan Swayland is planning a full 2023 BTRDA season driving his Ford Escort MK1 in the brand new up to 1600cc class within the classic category.

John Rook



Proud Sponsors of the 2022 BTRDA Clubmans Rallycross Championship Classic Category



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BTRDA CLUBMANS RALLYCROSS CHAMPIONSHIP 2023

Knockhill Racing Circuit, Fife

Blyton Park, Lincolnshire

Pembrey Motor Racing Circuit, Wales

Lydden Hill, Kent

1 Blyton Park 26th March	5 Lydden Hill 29th July
2/3 Pembrey Circuit 22-23rd April	6/7 Pembrey Circuit 2-3rd September
4 Blyton Park 2nd July	8 Knockhill Racing Circuit 22nd October



BTRDA Ltd

Monday 31st October 2022

Important Information

Dear driver,

We have recently been made aware of some important information with regards to Cooper Tires, applicable from the end of 2023.

Cooper Tires Europe have announced that they will enter a consultation period, on a proposal to close the tire production site at Melksham and phase out all Melksham based operations, by the end of 2023. This will include the Cooper and Avon Motorsport tyre program.

Cooper have stressed that it remains business as usual at the moment, and they remain committed to serving customers and to meeting customers' needs until the end of 2023.

This will mean that, like many other Championships currently serviced by Cooper Tires, we will be speaking with alternative tyre suppliers for the 2024 season and beyond.

Should we receive any further update, we will communicate this with you as soon as possible.

With kind regards,

BTRDA Clubman's Rallycross Championship Committee

BTRDA® Sporting Trials Championship

The dust (or mud) has now settled on the 2022 season with the final event of the year taking place at Gloucester on the 4th of December.

We have had a really strong end to the season in terms of entry numbers with 43 drivers at the Mercian in October; 37 making the trip to Tulleys Farm in Kent; 35 at the Johnson in November and 39 at the Gloucester despite a clash with the historic sporting trial taking place on the same day.

We also had no less than 10 rookies competing at the Gloucester which is great news for the future of the sport. We hope they all had an enjoyable day, and look forward to seeing them progress in the sport next year.

We have already seen some very impressive performances from the Rookies this year with Nick Beere particularly impressive in his beautifully restored Facksimilie and Simon Cowley going from strength to strength as he transitions from once upon a time to passenger to competitive drive.

Looking back across the whole season the year has been dominated by Thomas Bricknell in his Crossle. Thomas won 9 of the 15 events that he competed in this year with an amazing average of 29.8. Congratulations Thomas on a great season and the Motorsport UK championship win, we wait to see whether he is able to continue his form into the Gold Star in January, after coming close to the main prize last year.

Other than Thomas the wins have been shared fairly evenly with Josh Veale picking up three wins, Richard Sharp bookending his season with a couple of victories and several drivers picking up a win or two throughout the season.

Beyond the overall victories, the various classes have seen some good battles this year. Arthur has shaken off the sleepless nights of being a new father to have a great season in the Live Red Class, after his normal season-long battle with Bob Packham.

John Cole has dominated the Blue Independent Class and in the Blue lives, Matthew Sharp and John Firth have had a great battle with Matt coming out on top in that one.

In the Rookies class Simon Cowley, Stewart Stamp and Nick Beere have been the most regular competitors and that class title may go down to the wire with the final totals still being counted after the Gloucester.

With the club season now complete, we look forward to the Gold and Silver Star final which will be taking place at the Gloucester site on the 21st of January.

The Annual dinner and presentation evening will be taking place on the same date at Tortworth Court 20 mins or so from the trials venue. We look forward to crowning all our winners from the day and from across the season.

From all, in Sporting Trials, we look forward to seeing you on the hills in the New Year.

Sandy Veale



Tom Bricknell & Lester Smith



Matt & Dawn Sharp

BTRDA[®] Car Trials Championship

I opened my last column with the observation that “this year has flown by”. I can now confirm this to be true given that my laptop tells me it is nearing the end of the first week of December and I can’t even remember eating Easter eggs or my August birthday. I’d better seek an update to my medications...

It has been an interesting year with complex forces at work. Perhaps we hadn’t really emerged from Covid; maybe the sport as we knew it from days of old is reaching its sell-by date; are modern cars evolving into a digital world unsuited to Car Trials? And who is realistically going to subject an expensive EV or hybrid to being squeezed through minimal gaps in bushes and then requiring a strong pull on a handbrake to keep the car in section? Handbrake? No chance of an electronic handbrake staying on if the accelerator pedal is pressed. Grrrrr! Welcome to the world of historic Car Trials.

Moving on... As you’ll be aware, after many months of debate the working party taking on the unenviable task of recommending updates to the car classes finally nailed their colours to the mast. Essentially, there have been two significant changes, one is to make the so-called ‘new car’ class a little younger and the other is to pull out non-historic RWD prod cars and sports cars into their own class. We look forward to seeing more sports cars and small prod cars such as BMW 1 series in Car Trials.

We congratulate Kevin Roberts, a stalwart of Bala & District MC, on his first Gold Star Championship win, sealed at the fabulous Prescott Speed Hillclimb venue back in October. Kev’s report ably demonstrates his enthusiasm for Car Trials.

It seems to have been a year for apologising – be it my brief commentaries or indeed the absence of reports on events. As for the former, my excuse this time is that we are moving house and joining the GL postcode fraternity (from NG). As for the event reports, our readership would surely welcome reading reports, long or short, from new writers who have taken a few minutes to sit at their keyboard and share their enthusiasm for a trial they have just enjoyed.

Mention of ‘enthusiasm’ leads me directly to my regular plea for new members of the championship management committee. In this new world of endless virtual meetings, the good news is that we meet infrequently (although need to make more use of short, effective meetings) and there are no travel costs. Please have a good think about this.

We now look forward to our winter break (for most of us, at least) and a return to our favoured motorsport championship in 2023. Meanwhile, a big thank you to everyone who has supported us this year.

With the best seasonal greetings

Neil Mackay



At Prescott on the Final, 2022 Car Trials Gold Star Champion Kevin Roberts (hiding behind the headlamp) and Aled Charles, the Bronze Star Champion

BTRDA[®] Car Trials Championship

VERY PROVISIONAL 2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

This calendar represents dates rolled over from 2022 unless the date is Bold & Underlined as a confirmed date.

Date	Event	Club	Approx Location
<u>April 15 Sat</u>	Derwydd Car Trial	Bala & District MC	Corwen
<u>April 16 Sun</u>	Clwyd Trial	Clwyd Vale MC	Dyserth
<u>April 23</u>	Ivinghoe Spring Trial	Falcon MC	Tring / Dunstable
April 29 Sat	Spring Trial	Windwhistle MC	Axminster
<u>April 30 Sun</u>	Golden Springs Trial	Woolbridge MC	Crewkerne
May 14	Ernest Owen Memorial Car Trial	Owen MC	Telford
June 11	Wyre Forest Car Trial	Kidderminster MCC	
<u>June 25</u>	Wye Valley Car Trial	Ross and District MS	Ledbury
July 8 Sat	Matthews Auto Salvage	Caernarvonshire & Anglesey MC	Anglesey
July 22 Sat	A & P Car Trial	Airedale & Pennine MCC	Bolton Bridge
July 23 Sun	Filtrate Trophy Car Trial	Ilkley & DMC	Bolton Abbey
Aug 5 Sat	Gerry Evans Memorial Cymru Trial	N Wales CC	Abergele
Aug 6 Sun	Derwydd Car Trial	Bala & District MC	Corwen
Sept 10	Gaby Mohr Memorial Car Trial	Wolverhampton & SSCC	Bridgnorth
<u>Oct 7 Sat</u>	GRAND FINAL (Note Saturday Date!)	c/o Woolbridge MC	Crewkerne

For more information regarding the calendar, including postcodes and contact information, please visit the website: **[BTRDA.com/about-car-trials](https://www.btrda.com/about-car-trials)**

BTRDA® Car Trials Championship

Gerry P Evans Memorial Trial

6th August 2022

Sat here in the dark of late October now the 2022 season is all over, looking back to a summer's day knowing it's going to be many many months to the beginning of the 2023 season feels a bit sad. For me the days and weekends away trialling are something to look forward to, a break from the normal bedwork routine that dominates adult life.

Looking back over quite a few years now class 1, for post-1998 cars, has always been well supported I had a great season in 2021 with many good results but 2022 had seen entries tail off sharply with sometimes only 2 or 3 of in the class which makes it very hard to win overall with the index scoring system, had some great battles throughout the year but not the overall wins which come with bonus points in the MSUK championship and silver spoons in the BTRDA.

So seeing the final instructions for this event my eyes lit up at a class of 6!!!! That's enough for a decent index calculation!! All my Christmas' have come at once!!!

It was a lovely sunny day in a beautiful part of the world and once the normal pre-event formalities had been taken care of we headed off to the 8 laid-out sections to see what day had in store for us.

I don't know what happened if I am honest but I had a storming round 1, while everyone else seemed to struggle I climbed almost everything, dropping a mere 3. In class 1 the next closest competitor was on 9 and I was even 1 mark ahead of the lowest-scoring class 3 car.

The sections were changed ahead of round 2 but I was still climbing well and finding grip or lines nobody was finding.

By lunch I was a long ahead of everyone in my class and only one of the big guns in the RWD class was a couple of points ahead of me... If anyone knows the answer as to why I was going so well can they let me know!! Just seemed to be one of those occasions where everything clicked I guess.

Lunch break arrived, a good chance to catch up with everyone and swap tales of woe or success. I was doing great, a nice big gap in the class to the next competitor who was on form local, not even my normal class 1 sparring partner Trevor Moffatt. I could almost taste the victory and it tasted good!!

The day had remained dry and altering the sections to stop cars, starts to get harder and harder, this normally leads to low scores where every mark counts. I was a fair bit ahead all I had to do was be careful and not do anything stupid.



BTRDA® Car Trials Championship

All this has sounded a bit big-headed so far...me romping to an easy win.....but motorsport has a way of humbling people very quickly, and this is where everything started to unravel for me. All my earlier good work was quickly undone by me missing a 12 gate out... I can't write here what went through my head or came out my mouth at this moment in time, away from people the air was as blue as my car!! From elation to crushing disappointment in a matter of seconds. I pretty much walk every section looking out for this type of change all the time but somehow this one escaped me. A loss of grip on a climb is one thing; missing a gate out has to be the worst way to lose marks and a 12 gate is the very worst.

I had to regain composure after that, the rest of the round was fine but that was a massive loss and my once large class lead had been severely trimmed. I was more than kicking myself, for the first time this year I had enough people in the class to make it count and that happened. Round 4 saw me and Trevor back trading marks on different sections like we normally do, this round I lost another 4 to Trev. Was glad there weren't 6 rounds!!

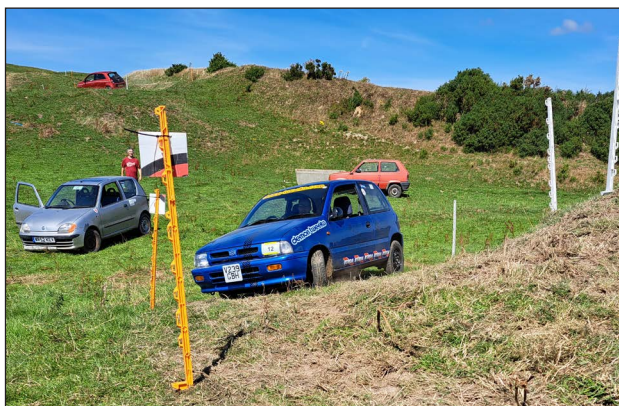
I always said the best you can do is win your class in trials, after that, other factors come into play like how many people are in your class, and how they did on the hills compared to you. You need big gaps between the scores to separate you and the other competitors to get a good index and I had just handed away big chunks of marks in the afternoon.

Thankfully my morning efforts were enough to let me claim my one and only overall victory for the year. I was very happy to have a win for the year but I feel lucky, normally a mistake like the whopper I made would have been way too big to recover from.

A most enjoyable day trialling in Wales, a truly beautiful setting, you can see Snowdon from this venue.

Onwards to 2023 and a new class structure which sees the older class 1 cars merging into existing class 2. Will be interesting to see how I fair.

Rupert North



BTRDA® Car Trials Championship

Grand Final

23rd October 2022

Our trip down started badly on Saturday when I reversed the tow vehicle into the garage door and smashed my rear window. Not deterred, picked the Dutton up and Aled and headed down. After arriving and checking in to the accommodation we met up with Rupert and Mr and Mrs Hoppe for a meal and a chat.

Got up Sunday morning to the most horrendous of downpours "Oh no, no roof on the Dutton!!!".

But luckily by the time we unloaded the rain started to ease, with only 16 entries, it wasn't going to be a long day.

CL 2 looked the favourite for ov with 6 in class and all experienced drivers.

The event ran at The Prescott Hillclimb Complex with 7 hills laid out.

Our class (CL3) started on hill 3, a long hill on nice green grass that got tighter towards the top and I got a 3, most got a 3 except Simon that got a 1.

Hill 4 was another nice long twisty hill and got a 1.

Hill 5 interesting track, long downhill into a hairpin onto a road section and then up a muddy and leafy track, I cleared it and got a 0, most of the others got 3 or 4, but Trevor also got a 0.

Hill 6 Very tricky hill a lot of leaves, mud and very slippery, I trickled to a 1, with most of the others on 3 or 4, and Mark got a 2.

Hill 7 really enjoyed this one, the long road section, hit the mud sideways uphill and got a 3, Mark had a 5, Dave Oli 0, Simon 0.

Hill 1 with Mike Stephens marshalling could be a tricky hill. Long and twisty with a bit of a lump in the middle which wasn't too bad except for Mark, who took a wrong turn on the 8 marker (not happy) most of the others cleaned it.

Hill 2 a long twisty hill quite easy and most cleaning it.

The scores at dinner CL3 Kev 21, Aled 27, John C 29. CL2 Simon 20, Rupert 24, Trevor 24 CLUB Dave O 20, Steve C 24.

Got to watch class 2 and thought "keep concentrating and everything will be alright".

With one round to go only one thing happened really the downhill section on the very last hill (Mike Stephens Hill 1) my car stalled and I tried starting it in gear but it locked up and I span out on pole 5 "Oh no" this could have been a disaster and meant that I could have lost the whole event.

Scores at the end:

CL2	Simon	31	1st in class	92.8%
	Rupert	36		
	Trevor	38		
CL3	Kev	36	1st OV	88.2%
	Aled	47	1st in class	
	John C	49		
CLUB	Dave O	33		
	Steve C	51		

Although Simon scored less I won on percentage which after 27 years of competing I still don't understand.

With Aled taking Bronze on his 1st year of trialing (must be the passenger – or an excellent built car).

A very good day and I really enjoyed the event, thanks to all the marshals and organisers. See you all next year.

Kev Roberts

BTRDA® Car Trials Championship

2022 Trophy Winners

Gold Star® Winner	Kevin Roberts
Silver Star® Winner	Garry Preston
Silver Star® Runner up	Simon Harris
Bronze Star® Winner	Aled Charles
Bronze Star® Runner up	Ian Nute
Class 1 Winner	Not contested
Class 2 Winner	Rupert North
Class 3 Winner	John Charles
Jack Williams Trophy	Kevin Roberts
Nancy Mitchell Trophy	No qualifiers this year
Mac Hazlewood Trophy	Trevor Moffatt
Mike Stephens Trophy	Woolbridge Motor Club

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IRISH FERRIES

Honorary Members for Life

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 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.

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.

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 in 2020.

BTRDA[®]

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Gold Star Champions 2021

Allrounders

Asphalt Rally Driver

Asphalt Rally Co driver

Autotest

Car Trials

Forest Rally Driver

Forest Rally Co driver

Rallycross

Sporting Trials

Jamie Yapp

Jason Pritchard

Phil Clarke

Alastair Moffatt

Trevor Moffatt

Garry Pearson

Niall Burns

Jason Bleasdale

Simon Kingsley

Auto Solo Winner

Targa Rally Winning Driver

Targa Rally winning co driver

Alec Tunbridge

John Davies

Sasha Heriot

Edited by Jennifer Wardle