

# BTRDA<sup>®</sup>

*The* **MOTORSPORT  
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

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# News

**No. 239**

**Jan 2024**



**Barrie Parker 10 time Car Trial Gold Star Champion**

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# ***President's Notes***

The BTRDA organises a total of nine Championships covering six different club motorsport disciplines. Over the next few weeks, we shall have five awards presentations to honour our winners.

I am organising the Annual Luncheon and Awards presentation on Sunday 4th February at the Drayton Manor Park Hotel in the Park View Suite. This year we are asking you to book through our membership shop at [www.btrdamembership.com](http://www.btrdamembership.com)

We have not included a booking form in this edition of BTRDA News to encourage you to use the website booking facility but for those who have any problems with this method of booking you can contact me directly at [mike.broad@live.co.uk](mailto:mike.broad@live.co.uk) and I should be able to help.

The Luncheon is primarily for the Car Trial, Autotest, Autosolo, Targa Rally and Allrounders awards, but we also hand out our Special awards given by the BTRDA Council. I look forward to seeing you.

Our Annual General Meeting will be virtual and has been arranged on Wednesday 24 January at 1930hrs.

We shall send out our invitation for you to join the meeting in early January. It is your opportunity to find out from our Board and Committee Chairs about the 2023 season, our finances and our Championship details for 2024. I would encourage you to join us and if you have any comments or ideas for the future then I hope you will not be afraid to put them forward.

Congratulations to all our winners of our Championships and may I say a big thank you to all our members who participated in our events in 2023 even if you didn't win anything.

Finally, may I say, "Thank You" to our Council, Committee members, Championship organisers, our clubs who put on the events for us to compete in, to all the club officials and marshals and a very special "Thank You" to our sponsors who help us fund the Championships during the year.

Brand BTRDA is strong and healthy.

I wish you all a very competitive, safe and enjoyable 2024.

**Mike Broad**

# **Shepherd Compello BTRDA® Targa Road Rally Championship**

What a finish to the Championships! Both Gold and Silver Star Championships went down to the last event, the Knutsford Targa.

But what a route to get there.

Gold Star was hit hard by event cancellations in 2023, mainly due to MoD venue availability. Having up to 3 Silver Star rounds counting towards Gold Star points made a huge difference to the Gold Star Championship, filling in date gaps during the year. Other established Targas, such as the Exmoor and Bustard, were drafted in to complete the calendar.

Silver Star fared better, just losing one event due to venue availability.

In Silver Star, John Fox and Oliver Beart jumped into an immediate lead in their Clio. Simon Phillips and Thomas Horst were hot on their heels, plus the Baileys and Phillips not far behind.

Chris and Jamie Woolley also entered the fray from Gold Star, they seemed to be out on every event and scored some notable overall results.

Multiple BTRDA Autosolo Championship winner, Neil Jones, with Navigator Aled Jones joined the fray at the Kemble Targa. They won the event overall by 1 second!! Two more outings on the Bob Budd and Trac Mon Targas saw two more overall wins for Neil and Aled and maximum points. contenders have an opportunity to gain points from Marshaling. This supports events and demonstrates that contenders are putting something back in to helping events run.

However, they still needed one more point score to clinch the Silver Star Championship, obtaining their Marshal points on the Knutsford Targa. If their van had failed on the way to the Knutsford Targa, the win would have gone elsewhere, but their MX5 and van proved reliable enough to seal the Championship win.

On the Gold Star front, things were a little different.

With the Woolleys competing on so many events, they immediately leapt into the Championship lead. This they held until the last weekend of the Championship ...

Due to the insertion of a reserve event, we had two Championship Targas in two days. Not ideal, but we were happy to have enough events in the Championship. But surely no one would attempt to complete two gruelling Targas in two days, one in Somerset (Worthy Farm, venue for the Glastonbury Festival) and the other near Bradford in Yorkshire (Parkwood Activity Centre)?

The Woolleys entered the weekend leading both the Drivers and Navigators Championships. It looked like Chris had the Driver's Championship in the bag, but Jamie had Zak Linham close behind him. Whoever won between Jamie and Zak on the Bustard Targa would take the overall Navigator's title and Under 25 Navigators award.

The Woolleys finished 3rd overall. Zak, navigating for Lucas Redwood, finished a lowly (for them) 14th overall. Jamie had the two Navigator's titles.



# **Shepherd Compello BTRDA® Targa Road Rally Championship**

However, in the Driver's, John Davies won the Bustard overall, with son Ethan navigating (Ethan had already won the Under 25 Driver's title, but the results demonstrates that he can navigate as well!).

So, John had maximum points. Some rapid calculations showed that John could take the Driver's Championship if he finished first BTRDA points scorer on the Knutsford Targa, the following day. John and Ethan had the foresight to enter the Knutsford Targa some weeks beforehand, so John and Ethan headed to Yorkshire from Somerset, via Wales!

It was wet at Parkwood, but everyone was in high spirits. Different faces with Northern BTRDA crews entered to collect points.

John and Ethan immediately moved into the overall lead; they needed that finish for points. By the end, they'd been passed and "only" finished 3rd overall, but that was enough for John to rip the Gold Star Driver's Championship from Chris Woolleys agonised fingers. Sorry Chris, so near, but there's always next year.

Inevitably there's a host of notable mentions for Championship Contenders, but I can't mention them all.

Zak Linham has navigated a large number of events this year. This has also stood him in good stead in BTRDA Allrounders (three disciplines over the year).

James Appleby has always been in the overall mix with his Fiesta.

Colin and Harri Evans had a fantastic year, growing in all respects during the year and had some insightful views for the future.

Martin Freeman and Kathy Woodward suffered from some car issues during the year but were always positive and forging ahead. Fit your wedding around Targas in 2024!

David Lobb was out in his relatively new Vauxhall Adam, constantly developing the car. Is this a sign of the future, the first regularly used forced induction car in the BTRDA Targa Championship?

Steve and Tilly Burles were out on a large number of Targas. The well-used ZR fared well in 2023, but the new 1800 will be anticipated in 2024.

John Rhys Owen and Sandra Loton Jones are long-term BTRDA Targa Championship supporters and clearly enjoy themselves out on the Tests. A van failure prevented a better result this year, failing on the way to the Kent Forestry Targa. But still awards are to be collected for 2023 efforts.

It was fantastic to see so many Under 25 Navigators out competing. This is the second year that an Under 25 Navigator has taken the overall Navigator's title, demonstrating that the Championship is a great environment to develop Navigators.

Considering wider BTRDA Championships, the majority of those qualifying for BTRDA Allrounders are now including Targa scores in their points tally. An increasing number of BTRDA Autosolo Championship Contenders are now including Targas in their schedules. Those competing in Autosolos should also consider the Targa Championship and Allrounders, just one more discipline to qualify.



**Neil & Aled Jones**

# **Shepherd Compello BTRDA® Targa Road Rally Championship**

The 2024 calendar is being put together. There's a great deal of flux in established Targa events, with some not expecting to run in 2024 for a variety of reasons. However, there are some new Targas appearing with established organising teams behind them, 2024 is looking good.

The ability for Gold Star Contenders scoring points on Silver Star Targas has been reduced to two events, but Silver Star crews can now likewise count two Gold Star rounds in their Silver Star tally. This is mainly to enable Silver Star Contenders to sample Gold Star events, providing a progression path. This also provides more Targas on which to compete, enabling wider choice to suit location and budgets.

The 2024 BTRDA Targa Rally Championship Regulations are now available at [btrda.com](http://btrda.com)

Membership and Championship registration is now also open at [btrdamembership.com](http://btrdamembership.com)

Great thanks to Shepherd Compello for supporting the 2023 Championship. News will be out soon around support lined up for 2024 but may be delayed until a big splash at the Autosport Show. Stay tuned for some exciting announcements!

So, the season has come to an end. We have our first ever BTRDA Gold and Silver Star Targa Champion Drivers and Navigators!

Congratulations to:

John Davies (Gold Star Driver),  
Jamie Woolley (Gold Star Navigator),  
Neil Jones (Silver Star Driver),  
Aled Jones (Silver Star Navigator),  
Ethan Davies (Under 25 Driver),  
Jamie Woolley (Under 25 Navigator).

See you in 2024!

Alan Wakeman



**Ethan Davies & Dafydd Evans**



**John Davies & Nick Bloxham**



**Colin & Harri Evans**



# **BTRDA® Sporting Trials Championship**

The sporting trials season has now finished, with the final event of the year taking place at a wet and muddy Frocester with John Fack taking the Gloucester trophy home. It was John's first win of the season and indeed first win for a while and marked a solid second half of the season for him. Overall, we have had another great season with a good mix of winners, and a wonderful variety of trials over the 24 events in this year's calendar.

As we did last year we must once again tip our hats to Thomas Bricknell who has dominated the season to take home the MSUK Sporting Trials championship and finish the year as the leading Red Independent driver.

Thomas has won eight trials this year and despite a slow start to the year (by his standards) he picked up his first win at the Stuart Butterfield and followed that up by stringing together a sequence of four wins in a row and six wins within a seven-trial period to stamp his authority on our season long championships.

He coupled up that purple patch with stunning consistency once again finish top of the tables. Congratulation Thomas and I'm sure everyone will be looking forward to next year and trying and knock you off your perch!

Richard Sharp was once again Thomas's closest challenger and indeed managed to finish in the top two 11 times, showing tremendous consistency and skill across the course of the season.

Looking towards the Blue Independents drivers we were treated to one of the most competitive classes this year. John Firth and Matt Sharp, after previously impressing in live Axle machinery, have decided this year to invest in new machinery and take their chances within the Independent ranks.

They have both adapted quickly to their new cars, taking the challenge to the likes of John Cole, Martin Grimwood and Alan Murton who have both been very competitive in this class for a number of years. John Firth took the top spot and will be looking to kick on I'm sure and mix it with the Red drivers next year.

Moving on to the Live Axel classes, which are always keenly contested, we had some great battles across both Red and Blue. Bob Packham proved to be the man to beat in the Red and took the top spot. However, Sam Beare certainly took the challenge to him and with a few more events under his belt may have challenged him for the title of best Red Live driver in the final standings. What will give Sam cause for encouragement and indeed celebration will be the fact he took the overall trial win at a very wet and muddy Tulleys trial to record his first BTRDA win.

Congratulations Sam, I'm sure it will be the first of many. If you want to see how he did it check out the clips on Facebook and YouTube where commitment and determination were very much on show from Sam and Jemima.

In the Blue Live class, Mike Readings has ended up on top of the tree after a successful return to his Yellow CAP after buying it back from Ian Fullwood. Mike has grown in confidence in the car over the year, taking the top spot in the class and achieving some great overall results throughout the season.

It's been great to also see a strong cohort of Rookies taking to the hills this year. Francis Regan based in Northern Ireland finished the year as the leading Rookie. Francis competed in seven BTRDA events this year including several trips across the sea. We look forward to seeing him develop and improve both at home in Northern Ireland and when he pops across to see us on the mainland. Honourable mention must be given to Simon Cowley who has really started to improve and progress over the last couple of years taking runners-up spot this year.

We once again look forward to our season finale with the Gold and Silver Star final at Gale Hall in January. We hope many of this season's runners and riders will make the effort to attend what I'm sure will be a tremendous event run by Northern Phoenix. We look forward to seeing whether Thomas can do the double, double or will someone new take home our top titles.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy Trialing New Year

Sandy Veale

# BTRDA® Sporting Trials Championship



**Sam Beare & Jemima Perham**



**Rookie drivers are getting more impressive!**



**Arthur Carroll**

## BTRDA Sporting Trials Championship Calendar 2024

Date	Event	Club
Sat January 20th	Gold Star Final	BTRDA
Sun February 4th	J B Taylor	Kentish Border
Sun February 18th	Geoff Taylor	Hagley and District
Sun March 3rd	Walsingham	750MC
Sat March 16th	Whiteman's	STCC
Sat March 16th	Training Day	BTRDA
Sun March 17th	Peter Blankstone	MAC
Sun March 31st	Easter Day	
Sat April 6th	Stuart Butterfield	NPTCC
Sun April 7th	Stone Trough	NPTCC
Sun April 21st	Presidents	Southsea MC
Sun May 5th	Jiggers Jug	NPTCC
Mon May 6th	Raymond Baxter	NPTCC
Sun May 19th	Four Turnings	Camel Vale
Sun June 2nd	Jacobean	Midland TCC
Summer Break		
Sun September 1st	Robin Jager	NPTCC
Sat September 7th	Robin Alexander	Camel Vale MC
Sun September 8th	David Ayres	Launceston & District
Sun September 22nd	Peter Fear "Pinford"	Ross & District
Sun October 6th	John Southern	NPTCC
Sat October 12th	Training Day	BTRDA
Sun October 13th	Mercian	Midland TCC
Sat October 26th	English Visitors	STCC
Sun October 27th	Tweeds	STCC
Sun November 3rd	Tulleys	Kentish Border
November 10th	The Roy Fedden	Bristol MC
Sun November 24th	Johnson	BTRDA
Sun December 8th	Gloucester	Midland TCC



# **BTRDA® Allrounders Championship Supported by Crystal Images**

In the last eNews I was predicting the number of qualifiers as between 6 and 14. Well, at the time of writing, there are 11 with another potential 6 championship entrants who could join them. Please don't ask me to predict the winner of the Grand National! Now I suspect the numbers qualifying could be a record which will be celebrated by everybody.

A record that has definitely been broken is for the youngest qualifier where Holly Woolley has made her mark by scoring points in Rallycross, AutoSOLO and Speed. In all 3 sports there have been gradual changes to the age and vehicle requirements over the years which has helped Holly compete at an age substantially less than that for being allowed to drive on the public road. In qualifying she also heads the U25 contenders – although that may have changed on December 10th depending on the results of the final AutoSOLO of the year.

It does mean that the Duckhams Trophy for best U25 will definitely be awarded for 2023 having been kindly looked after by Phil and Janet Darbyshire for the last 5 years. It is quite a unique trophy which was presented to the BTRDA by the oil company of the same name.

I was also going to suggest that the potential 2023 Gold star winner could be setting a record for the number of Stars won in a single year. That person is Neil Jones who is currently heading the Allrounder points scorers, has won the Silver Star for Targa Road Rally and is inline to win the Gold Star for AutoSOLO. However, Janet has suggested that Duncan Stephens' achievement of winning the Gold Stars for Car Trials, Sporting Trials and Allrounders back in 2013 could top trump this. I never knew how to play that game, but it could be a good debate!

If Neil is declared the winner on December 31st, it will be only the fourth time that the winner has used the same car to achieve this. The first time was back in 1996 when Phil Darbyshire used a Maestro. Then there is a leap forward to 2016 when the current champion Jamie Yapp used the Nova (still in use) and then again in 2022 it was the Clio Cup 172. Perhaps it is now a case of there being more suitable types of BTRDA motorsport that the more standard type of car can compete in?

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# **BTRDA® Allrounders Championship Supported by Crystal Images**

It is also demonstrated by 4 of the 11 qualifiers have scored using a single car, these being Neil (MX5), Liam Rollings (MX5), Alan Wakeman (Micra) and Luke Powell (Westfield). Jamie has had to resort to using 3 of the Yapp family fleet this year to score his points which have ended up above the difficult target of 100 yet again. The problem is that Neil has also achieved this and scored 2.62 more!

One driver who has used his ingenuity has been Kieran Belcher who normally drives a Renault Meganne R20 on AutoSOLOs. This year he has used the same car to pick up points in standard car classes at Sprints but got stuck with a third group. In the past he has been a regular navigator on local 12 car rallies, so, the solution - recruit the driver of the road rally car, ask if Kieran can borrow it for a Targa event and then ask him if he will navigate on the event! It all worked out so well on the Bob Budd Memorial Targa where Kieran and Derek Looker won the class. Derek is now in his 80's and was a bit worried about it but after a few coaching sessions from me over a pint of beer it all worked out so well.

The Allrounders committee has had a thoughtful meeting and revised the rules for 2024. The changes are that entrants must drive on at least 1 event and that you can count an event where you didn't finish as one of your qualifying events, but with a score of zero. The definition of a finisher varies so much across the qualifying events that we thought this change will assist some entrants who have done their best but fallen foul of their sports rules.



**Alastair Moffatt at Rallye Prescott**

An example of the wide range is where for Autotest and AutoSOLO you have to complete just half of the tests to Forest and Asphalt Rallies where you have to complete all the stages and report to the Main Finish Time control.

I must admit that when sitting in the left-hand seat navigating, reading up in the regs what the definition of a finisher is one of the first things I do. This may be due to my early days of road rallying, which was certainly a good grounding for activities in many sports. Perhaps there should be a rule that says that all drivers should navigate at least once!

We look forward to seeing as many qualifiers as possible at the Luncheon which is being held at Drayton Manor Park on February 4th. Tickets will only be available via the BTRDA membership website, so something to do when renewing your membership and Allrounders championship entry.

Peter Cox



**Holly Woolley**

**(Photo with thanks to John Rook)**



**Richard Egger at Rallye Prescott  
(Photo with thanks to Simon Tarling)**

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# Autosport International BTRDA® Clubman's Rallycross Championship

## Presented by Cooper Tires

THE FINAL round of the 2023 Autosport International BTRDA Clubmans Rallycross Championship saw the series make its annual pilgrimage north of the Border to Knockhill, just over 50 cars across nine divisions putting in the miles for the title decider. Fred Ling and Lee Wood were the protagonists for the overall crown, and thankfully conditions were cold and breezy but dry after a week when much of Scotland was pretty much under water.

Ling started as the favourite in the SG Haulage Super Modified class after winning every A Final he had contested in 2023, and could afford to give best to a pair of non-scoring guest drivers in the heats with 2021 Champion Jason Bleasdale blitzing the field to win the first two races before sitting out heat three which went to Alan Crockett's classic Vauxhall Chevette. Bleasdale completed a clean sweep in the A Final with Ling following Crockett in third place to do exactly what he needed and come home as the highest points-scoring car, while further back Phil Chicken crashed his Citroen allowing fourth place finisher Todd Crooks (BMW Mini) to move above him in the points chart.

Wood therefore needed to win the Melius Ltd Pre-'95 Classic A Final to remain in contention for the title, but after a win in heat two with welcome returnee Vince Bristow's BMW having taken heat one, the Escort man pulled off before the start of heat three with a cracked exhaust manifold. Jamie McBain (205) won this race – the car repaired after an off in heat one – while Wood was able to repair for the A Final which he led all the way, holding off David Ewin in the Fiesta Evo with McBain third, and with dropped scores accounted for a tie-break would be required for the overall Championship.

Away from the biggest prize, there was success for Alex Fletcher in the MOT Group Production division after sharing the heat wins with title rival Martin Peters (Saxo) and Will Noon's Clio.

Fletcher thrust his Civic into the lead at the start of the A Final and led all the way to seal the title for a jubilant Loughborough College team, while Noon entertained en route to fourth as his Clio shed several body panels over the bumps of the loose section!

The 4x4 classes ran combined, and with the MacG Racing Modified 4x4 title already sewn up Tomas Ramanauskas could afford to take things easy in his Mitsubishi and he finished third in the A Final behind All4 Mini duo Max Langmaid and David Bell, the former taking the sub-class title. Graeme Reid (Pulsar) had meanwhile already taken the Cooper Tires Clubman 4x4 crown as the season's only regular entrant, but his car let him down in the A Final.

### BTRDA CLUBMANS RALLYCROSS

## 2024 CALENDAR\*

\*PROVISIONAL, SUBJECT TO MOTORSPORT UK APPROVAL

Knockhill Racing Circuit, Fife

Blyton Park, Lincolnshire

Pembrey Motor Racing Circuit, Wales

Lydden Hill, Kent

<p><b>1</b> <b>Blyton Park</b> 17th March</p> <p><b>2/3</b> <b>Pembrey Circuit</b> 27-28th April</p> <p><b>4</b> <b>Blyton Park</b> 30th June</p>	<p><b>5</b> <b>Lydden Hill</b> 17th August</p> <p><b>6/7</b> <b>Pembrey Circuit</b> 7-8th September</p> <p><b>8</b> <b>Knockhill Racing Circuit</b> 20th October</p>
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# Autosport International BTRDA® Clubman's Rallycross Championship

**Presented by Cooper Tires**

The biggest stories outside the main title battle were perhaps reserved for the SGS Gases Cross Car division, with Max McRae making his debut and not surprisingly racing to a double in the heats before winning the A Final. He however was not competing for points, and with heat one winner Will Butler finishing third just half a second ahead of David Attiwell and second placed Max Weatherly also a non-points runner, Butler snatched the title from Attiwell by a single point!

Three drivers entered the Bone Street Autos BMW Mini finale with a chance of the title, with Harvey Harman striking first with a double heat win and Abbie McGuinness bouncing back from a heat two retirement to win the third encounter. Ben Sayer had played it safe through the heats, and in the A Final came back after a mistake on the first corner and as Harman held off McGuinness to score his maiden A Final success, third for Sayer was enough to win the title.

Will Ovenden and Tyler McAlpin had locked out the top two throughout 2023 in the AVM Motors Junior Rallycross class, and the former scored two heat wins to McAlpin's one and led throughout in the A Final to make his long trip from Kent worthwhile and wrap up the title.

The Rally Car class is always a feature of the Knockhill round, and this year Jamie McBain brought along a second Peugeot 205 and scored a clean sweep, defeating local star Ian Biagi's Mk3 Escort G3 each time.

The meeting ended with a good old-fashioned Superfinal for the King of the Hill Trophy, and after a red flag at the first attempt when Allan Laidler's BMW Mini hit the tyre wall, Bleasdale led all the way on the restart. Behind him the last corner turned into something of a demolition derby as Ramanauskas's increasingly battered Mitsubishi finally fell apart and cannoned into Todd Crooks followed by the pit wall, the 4x4 champion finishing things with a burnout before climbing out and proudly unveiling a Lithuanian flag!

Attention then turned to the tie-break, and after some sterling work on the sidelines by Championship co-ordinator Jordine Crooks, a proud Fred Ling was proclaimed as the new Autosport International BTRDA Clubmans Rallycross Champion. Congratulations to Fred and his team, and well done to everyone for a brilliant season.

Dave Goddard



**Todd Crooks**



**Will Butler**

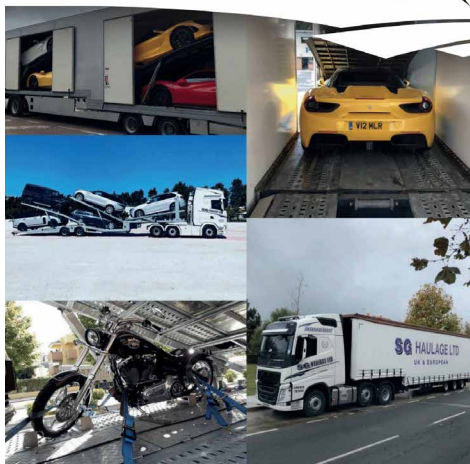


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# **Autosport International BTRDA® Clubman's Rallycross Championship**

**Presented by Cooper Tires**

The 2023 Autosport International BTRDA Clubman's Rallycross Championship was certainly one of the most competitive in many years, and undoubtedly one of the closest ever.

The title race boiled down to a duel between Super Modified man Fred Ling (Fiesta ST) and Pre-'95 Classic star Lee Wood in his beautiful Motaquip Mk2 Escort. The two Ford pilots scored maximum points in every A Final they contested across the season, and with both finishing as top scorers in their divisions at the final round at Knockhill it meant a tie-break was needed to crown the overall Champion. With the mathematical work concluded Ling was king, a deserved triumph for the young man from Kent.

Wood was consoled with the Pre-'95 Classic title, while Ling's overall success meant that the Super Modified championship went to BMW Mini man Todd Crooks, his total overhauling Phil Chicken at the final round. The Citroen pilot took his sub-class title, with the others in the category going to Gary Cook (Fiesta) and Cameron Whitley's new Polo.



**Fred Ling**



**Lee Wood**

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# Autosport International BTRDA® Clubman's Rallycross Championship

**Presented by Cooper Tires**

A three-way shootout at Knockhill for the BMW Mini championship saw young gun Ben Sayer outpoint Abbie McGuinness and Harvey Harman for his maiden title, while Alex Fletcher (Civic) fought off the attentions of Saxo pilot Martin Peters to take the Production crown, the latter and Mark Henry in the unique Alfa 147 winning the sub-class titles. Sub-classes in the Classic division meanwhile went to Jamie McBain's Peugeot, the lovely Mk1 Escort of Dan Swayland and John Cross's Stratos clone.

In 4x4 land, Graeme Reid's Nissan Pulsar topped a poorly supported Clubman 4x4 season while Tomas Ramanauskas retained the Modified 4x4 title in his Mitsubishi, Chris Baker's Subaru suffering engine trouble in the second half of the year but still taking a sub-class title while Max Langmaid topped the All4 Minis.

Will Ovenden enjoyed a season-long duel with Tyler McAlpin en route to winning the Junior category title with Corey Padgett never far behind the top two, Ben Bartlett the best of the newcomers in fourth overall. FIA Cross Car meanwhile saw a dramatic title decider, with Will Butler snatching the championship from David Attiwell by a single point in the final round.

The Championship continues to go from strength to strength, ably guided by Championship Co-ordinator Jordine Crooks and Manager John Rook and all their supporters and helpers. Entry numbers are set to rise further in 2024 and with a combined event with the Five Nations Championship having been announced for Lydden Hill, the year ahead is set to be a very special one for this burgeoning Championship.

Dave Goddard



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AVM Motor Mechanics are proud to sponsor the Juniors in the BTRDA Rallycross 2023 season. After competing successfully in the Vauxhall Nova last year (pictured to the left) in the classic car category, she is having a well-deserved break this season.

Exciting news for AVM this season as we are now running and Hiring out the YaCar Cross Karts as pictured to the right and below. Keep an eye out for us at the BTRDA events this year. Please feel free to pop by and ask any questions relating to the karts.



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# MRF Tyres BTRDA® Rally Series



## FILLING IN THE BLANKS!

Before the start of the Visit Conwy Cambrian Rally, the final round of the 2023 MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series, we already knew that Elliot Payne/Tom Woodburn (Fiesta Rally2) were the Gold Star® Rally Champions, with newcomer Arron Newby and co-driver Jamie Edwards (Skoda Fabia R5) taking the runners-up spot. Nigel & Kaz Jenkins (Nova) had also put the Fuchs Lubricants BTRDA Bronze Star® Championship beyond the reach of anyone else with a round to spare which, at a stroke, turned our attention to the MRF Tyres BTRDA Silver Star® Championship in North Wales.

As they headed for Llandudno, Boyd Kershaw/Keegan Rees (Escort MkII) were top dogs in the two-wheel drive category but having already accrued six scores, no matter how well they performed, could only improve on their lowest to date. Early-season leaders Ben Friend/Cliff Simmons (Escort MkII) had not only rediscovered their form following a problematic couple of months in the spring but also had a score in hand over their rivals. With just the final Cambrian stage to go, Friend/Simmons were in the Top Ten overall only to suffer a puncture, costing them 3½ minutes and any chance of a good result. Kershaw/Rees took maximum points but some swift calculations showed that, although only finishing just inside the Top 30, Friend/Simmons had still done enough to claim the Silver Star title by a solitary point. Phew!

So, to back-track for a moment, Russ Thompson/Steve Link (Lancer EVO9) started the Cambrian in 3rd place in the Gold Star Championship points but, dependent on the performance of others, could possibly have been demoted. However, outright victory on the event (the first time a B13 car has won a BTRDA Series round since the 2016 Nicky Grist Stages!) was more than sufficient to maintain the status quo!

Come to the end-of-season prize-giving (Drayton Manor Hotel – 27th January 2024) Ernie & Karen Graham's solid season in their Escort RS1600 could lead to the requirement for a longer mantelpiece or larger trophy cabinet! For starters, they were 3rd Silver Star and Jordan Road Surfacing BTRDA Historic Cup winners and then, a couple of weeks later, took their fifth consecutive maximum in the Motorsport UK English Rally Championship, in association with Seacon UK, on the Wydeean Stages to confirm them as 2023 Champions there as well!

Staying with 'maximums', Nigel & Kaz Jenkins' BTRDA Bronze Star® Championship was earned with five of them and one 2nd place – so, supporting the series to the end and contesting the Cambrian Rally allowed them to finish the season with a 'full-house' – six maximum scores. The records show that that's exactly what they did, with Lewis Hooper/Rhys Edwards and Dylan Fowler-Bishop (both Micras) in the remaining podium spots.



Ben Friend & Cliff Simmons



Ernie & Karen Graham



# MRF TYRES




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# MRF Tyres BTRDA® Rally Series

With the exception of the Border Counties which saw Tony Simpson/Stefan Arndt's Fiesta take top honours, Robert Proudlock/Steven Brown (Adam) & Liam Clark (Fiesta) dominated the BTRDA Rallye R2 & R2 Junior Cups during the season, with the former crew's five wins sending the trophies north of the border for the next twelve months.

Danny Shalev (Fiesta) succeeds Lewis Hooper as the MRF Tyres Rally First Champion while the Micra driver has won the MRF Tyres Motorsport Trophy, earning himself some free entries and sets of MRF tyres to be used on 2024 BTRDA Rally Series events.

We had to wait until the first weekend in December for the Motorsport UK English Rally Championship, in association with Seacon UK, to reach its conclusion with the running of the Grizedale Stages Rally and, once again, while we knew the name of the winner (Ernie Graham), there were some gaps in the table still to be sorted.

However, the very heavy snow that engulfed Cumbria that weekend forced the curtailment of the event after only three of the proposed seven stages had run. The results were declared at that point and 2nd place was enough to confirm Elliot Payne (Fiesta Rally2) as Championship runner-up. However, Russ Thompson's retirement allowed Robert Proudlock to slip ahead of him to claim the final podium spot.

Further information on the MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series: [www.btrdarally.com](http://www.btrdarally.com) & Motorsport UK English Rally Championship: [www.englishrally.co.uk](http://www.englishrally.co.uk)

Andrew Haill



Robert Proudlock & Steven Brown



Elliot Payne & Tom Woodburn



Nigel & Kaz Jenkins

Photos Courtesy of Kevin Money



# MRF Tyres BTRDA® Rally Series



Russ Thompson & Steve Link

2024 BTRDA Rally Series calendar is as follows:



EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
MALCOLM WILSON RALLY	9 <sup>th</sup> MARCH	Cockermouth / Lake District
RALLYNUTS STAGES	13 <sup>th</sup> APRIL	Royal Welsh Showground
BORDER COUNTIES RALLY	11 <sup>th</sup> MAY	Jedburgh / Tweed Valley
KIELDER FOREST RALLY	15 <sup>th</sup> JUNE	Heham / Northumberland
NICKY GRIST STAGES	13 <sup>th</sup> JULY	Builth Wells / Mid Wales
WOODPECKER STAGES	7 <sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER	Ludlow / Shropshire
TRACKROD FOREST STAGES	28 <sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER	Filey / Yorkshire Forests
Visit Conwy CAMBRIAN RALLY	26 <sup>th</sup> OCTOBER	Llandudno / North Wales

2024 Motorsport UK English Rally Championship calendar is as follows:



EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
MALCOLM WILSON RALLY	9 <sup>th</sup> MARCH	Cockermouth / Lake District
BORDER COUNTIES RALLY	11 <sup>th</sup> MAY	Jedburgh / Tweed Valley
KIELDER FOREST RALLY	15 <sup>th</sup> JUNE	Hexham / Northumberland
WOODPECKER STAGES	7 <sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER	Ludlow / Shropshire
TRACKROD FOREST STAGES	28 <sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER	Filey / Yorkshire Forests
WYEDEAN FOREST RALLY	16 <sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER	Coleford / Forest of Dean
GRIZEDALE STAGES RALLY	30 <sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER	Ambleside / Lake District

# **BTRDA® Car Trials Championship**

2023 has been rather eventful for me with my first full year as a member of the retired community being overrun with major work on our newly acquired (but old) house and extensive garden, having to move into nearby rented mini-accommodation when the builders needed us out of our home, having the wind taken out of my preferred activity-driven lifestyle after a kidney removal (causing me to duck out of the Car Trials Grand Final Trial, at least as a competitor) plus all the usual BTRDA behind-the-scenes activities on many levels. Next year will be different for a number of reasons.

It is some decades ago that I was persuaded by the inimitable Steve Courts to take up the chairmanship of the then PCT Committee, during which time we have wrestled with the manner in which motor cars have evolved in ways generally making them difficult to compete in our sport alongside their forebears.

To set the scene for my driving infancy, I learnt to drive on farm tracks in a Morris Minor and a “sit up and beg” Ford Popular E93A; I took and passed my test for the first time of asking in a Mk I Ford Cortina in 1970. Fast-forwarding to today, I’m searching for a car in which I can achieve greater success than the now scrapped Suzuki Ignis. Watch this space!

2024 will hopefully see the continuation of the efforts of a recent consultant to our committee – Mark Hoppé’s enthusiasm has been seen at first hand by many of us on the hills and can be seen in print in his contribution to this edition of News. Mark was our Gold Star champion in 2014 and 2018. In the meantime, my thanks to the committee for their enthusiasm and time devoted to our worthwhile cause! And to our 2023 Championship Contenders – thank you for your support.

For the benefit of readers not already involved in our Championship, details are, of course, readily available on the Car Trials pages of the main BTRDA website, but for convenience can be summarised here. The car Classes w.e.f. the 2024 Championship will be:

Class S – 2009 onwards fwd and rwd road-taxed standard Series Production Cars, unmodified and unballasted;

Class A – fwd Series Production Cars, unmodified and unballasted;

Class B – fwd Series Production Cars with permitted modifications and/or ballast;

Class C – 1990 onwards rwd Series Production Cars & Sports Cars;

Class D – Series Production Cars not eligible for any other Class and approved Kit Cars.

These classes readily accommodate cars looking to engage with Motorsport UK’s StreetCar initiative.

We look forward to welcoming renewals, returnees and newcomers to our Championship

With season’s greetings and best wished for the New Year.

Neil Mackay

# **BTRDA® Car Trials Championship**

Generally, in life, I believe that if you put effort in, you will get benefits out – maybe not benefits for you but for the wider audience. Therefore, when I first came to car trials, after 30+ years of Autograss racing, it was no surprise that I wanted to start adding value. I joined Woolbridge Motor Club committee and involved myself with organising and growing car trials within WMC.

After several years competing at club, regional and National level, I took on the role of championship co-ordinator for ASWMC and AWMCC with an intent to grow both championships into something “worth” winning – this is heading in the right direction but is still a work in progress.

My next goal is to bring some renewed enthusiasm and growth to the BTRDA car trials championship.

I've made it known that I am willing to take the lead of the committee and put in some effort to grow the appeal of the championship through several focus areas.

- Appealing classes
- A better calendar
- Improved communication
- Increased competition

I believe after the slightly flawed class A for 2023, that we will have a better set of classes in 2024 and this has the opportunity to appeal to more of the regional competitors, coupled with a need to penetrate “Streetcar”. I believe this will be a benefit – but we need to shout about this to make sure those competitors out there see an easy way to compete – perhaps even giving more Allrounders opportunity to score points at our trials.

The calendar seems to have become less Midlands centric, and this has no doubt had an impact on competitor numbers, as the travel distances have increased with our top competitors in recent years mainly coming from Dorset, North Wales and Yorkshire. We are looking hard at a better spread of dates and geography – but would love to get more Midlands based events.

I am a great believer in communication being key to the growth – we need to tell people about our championship, we need to communicate with our hosts and tell them what works and what offers opportunities for improvement. We need to make them feel part of the championship and more than just a host- without losing their unique appeal.

We need to create a bit more camaraderie in the sport through social media, social events, gossip and news.

Overall, this is a competition and I believe strongly that we all want to compete against more cars every week. We also need to think about some new twists in the rules – such as tyre pressure penalties for winners, joker rounds etc – to try and make it a strategic and competitive sport.

I hope this snapshot may capture your interest and hope that you will come and join us for 1, 2, 3 or more events during our 2024 season and maybe have a fresh look at car trials and the enjoyment and competition it can offer.

Mark Hoppé



Nick Pollitt



# **BTRDA® Car Trials Championship**

## **The Grand Final**

With a bit of an odd mid-season break, missing the Gaby Mohr event in early September, I went to get the car ready for the BTRDA Grand Final weekend in early October. The car wasn't really willing to join in with a completely flat battery to greet me, not even enough left in it to run the digital clock! A quick jump brought it straight back to life and I treated it to a drive round the block. Nine weeks of sitting idle, even the local evening events had been cancelled due to heavy rain.

The Grand Final this year was being run by the expert team of Woolbridge Motor Club in Somerset at a massive venue they use. It's a bit of a haul down and rather than pay for 2 nights of accommodation, I had elected to set off in the very early hours of Saturday morning, and with a small entry of 11, from the possible 14 qualifiers, they pushed the start back to midday. It still meant a 5 am start... but I've had worse.

The long drag passed quickly and without incident, once at the venue we were met by the most ducks I've ever seen in one place. There must have been a flock of around 200 wandering around quacking at us. Once the normal pre-event formalities were dealt with, we headed off to the 8 sections laid out for us.

These were tough sections, as they should be at a national final! And the venue is steep, and the hills long, and doesn't lend itself towards small cc cars. I was struggling, but not as much as I thought I would be, I had set my sights on trying not to finish stone cold last over! Not much of a goal but against the other cars in the class it felt like a realistic goal.

It was going pretty much as I expected, although a bit more in touch with some people than I thought I would be. The closest competition was happening in the RWD class, in Class 2 the all-conquering Clio was miles in front.

Now motorsport can be quite cruel and Tim in the Clio was well on target for a brilliant end to the season having already won the Motorsport UK British Championship with a round to spare he was so well poised to romp away with the Gold Star as well, but about 3 hills from the end of round 3 something in the drive train began to fail, they managed to limp it to the end of the round to be classed as a finisher, but that was both Tim and his son Charlie's Gold Star hope dashed. I did feel it was a sad way to finish the season for him.

The BTRDA Gold Star is the one award that eludes me, I was close a couple of years ago, bar one section for two rounds which I couldn't get up to let slip through my fingers.

The RWD class battle was close, and the 2022 winner missed out with a couple of poor climbs towards the end of the day to gift it to BTRDA front runner Barrie Parker who had an excellent day and was a worthy winner at the end of a tough season.

I wasn't last as it turned out which I take as a little win.

A group of us headed out afterwards for some drinks and a curry, a great evening in good company which ended a 20-hour day off well!!

Rupert North



**Rupert North**

# BTRDA® Car Trials Championship

## 10 Gold Stars over 45 years for Barrie Parker

Barrie Parker was delighted to win the 2023 BTRDA Car Trials Championship and on the day of the Grand Final trial was unsure how many times he had won it previously.

We have great pleasure in setting out Barrie's Gold Star History in PCT's / Car Trials:

1978 Peugeot 104

1980 Peugeot 104

1987 Peugeot 205

1992 Peugeot 205

1999 Peugeot 104 ZR

2000 Peugeot 104 ZR

2001 Citroen AX GT

2002 Citroen AX GT

2011 Toyota MR2

2023 Liege R Sport



**Barrie Parker**

## 2024 Provisional Calendar of Events

*The calendar will be updated when dates are confirmed - highlighted in green.*

		<u>Event</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Approx Location &amp; Main Road</u>	
2024					
April	7 ?	Ernest Owen Memorial Car Trial	Owen MC	Telford	A442
April	21	Ivinghoe Spring Trial	Falcon MC	Tring / Dunstable	A505
May	4 Sat	Spring Trial	Windwhistle MC	T.B.A.	
May	5 Sun	Golden Springs Trial	Woolbridge MC	Crewkerne	A30
May	25 Sat	Derwydd Car Trial	Bala & District MC	Corwen	A5
May	26 Sun	Peter Williams Trial	Clwyd Vale MC	Dyserth	A55 / A5151
June	9	Wyre Forest Car Trial	Kidderminster MCC	Stourport on Severn	A451
June	23	Wye Valley Car Trial	Ross and District MS	Ledbury	A438
July	7	Matthews Auto Salvage	Caernarvonshire & Anglesey MC	Anglesey	A55 / B5110
July	20 Sat	A & P Car Trial	Airedale & Pennine MCC	Bolton Bridge	A59
July	21 Sun	Filtrate Trophy Car Trial	Ilkley & DMC	Bolton Abbey	A59 / B6160
Aug	3 Sat	Gerry Evans Memorial Cymru Trial	N Wales CC	Abergele	A548
Aug	4 Sun	Disgarth Car Trial	Bala & District MC	Corwen	A5
Sept	1	Gaby Mohr Memorial Car Trial	Wolverhampton & SSCC	T.B.A.	
Oct	13	GRAND FINAL	c/o Falcon MC	Tring / Dunstable	A505

# Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship



## 2024 Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship calendar announced

The 2024 Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship will feature some of the UK's most challenging, well organised and popular events – with the emphasis on giving crews the very best closed road stages to compete on.

The BTRDA organised sealed surface series will contain seven rallies next season. One, the Manx National Rally, will be a double header – with the six best scores from eight rounds counting towards the overall and class titles.

The championship will be supported by title sponsor Protyre Motorsport for a seventh consecutive year. Protyre is the largest supplier of Pirelli, Michelin and Hoosier motorsport tyres in the UK and since 2018 has supplied registered championship competitors with the very best motorsport tyres, an on-event fitting service and a generous tyre reward incentive for drivers in all classes.

Next year's Protyre Asphalt Championship will run in association with Motorsport News, whilst all the events will be filmed and streamed live by Special Stage TV.



John Stone

"I'm really excited by the 2024 Protyre Asphalt calendar," says Callum Black, the reigning Protyre Asphalt champion.

"It's got some classic rallies, combined with some fresh new and ambitious events. Going to the likes of the Isle of Man will bring some nostalgia, while it's refreshing to see some newer events like Rali Ceredigion on there again, which is showing real ambition and will provide a benchmark against international competition.

"Every event in the calendar is there on merit and over the course of the season I think it has something for everyone. Paul [Morris] and the team have put together an exciting championship and I'm really looking forward to being a part of it again next year."

"We are delighted to announce the calendar for the 2024 Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship, which contains seven of the very best asphalt rallies in the UK, a good geographical spread of events and a championship which starts in March and finishes seven months later in September," says Paul Morris, Protyre Asphalt Rally Championship Co-ordinator.

"And finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the organisers of the Reed Group East Riding Stages and the Carryduff Forklift Down Rally for hosting rallies in the 2023 championship."

More information on the Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship is available at: [asphaltrallying.com](http://asphaltrallying.com).

Paul Evans



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# **Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship**

## **2024 Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship calendar**

22/23 March	Legend Fires North West Stages
10/11 May	Manx National Rally
24/25 May	Beatson's Building Supplies Jim Clark Rally
21/22 June	Dunoon Presents Argyll Rally
3/4 August	Nigel Ferguson Fabricators Tour of Epynt
31 August/01 September	JDS Machinery Rali Ceredigion
14/15 September	Hills Ford Stages
Reserve Round	
19/20 October	Whites Bakery Penistone South Yorkshire Rally



**Darren Atkinson**



**Callum Black**



# **Demon Tweaks Direct BTRDA® Autotest Championship**



## **Testing Times**

Now is the time to congratulate our 2023 Championship winners for their performances during the year. Alastair Moffatt took his Mini Special to all but one of our Championship rounds and came away with five FTDs to win the Gold Star® Championship.

Hot on his heels was Willie Keaning (Striker) who, despite the long drives from Scotland, competed at every round to take three FTDs and Gold Star® runner up. Surely it is only a matter of time before Willie takes the top spot. Richard Pinkney (Caterham 7) and Malcolm Livingston (Lindsay Sp.) shared the remaining two event wins.

The Silver Star® saw Sean Kell also attend every round and take the Championship in his Mini Sp. with Chris Morrison (Nova) being second. Luke Powell took his genuine, full weight, road going Westfield to seven events to win the Bronze Star® with Ben Haigh, in his first full year of Championship Autotesting, being runner up having used a Westfield in the first event and his newly acquired Retrotester for the remaining nine.

A serious lack of Minis resulted in no award for Class A as Dave Mosey came out in his Nova for the season in a quest for reliability which resulted in the Class B win from Chris Morrison. As usual the most contested Class was C, the Sportscars, which inevitably went to Willie Keaning from Richard Pinkney and Chris Chapman (Striker).

The second biggest Class was D, Specials, which comfortably went to Alastair with a maximum score with Sean second and Dave Evans (Blitz) third despite major engine issues at the start of the year. Luke Powell won the Road-going Class E, Ben Haigh the Junior Class H and Stephen Morten the Senior Class J.

All of the above Awards will be presented at the Annual Luncheon which will take place at Drayton Manor Hotel on February 4th. Tickets can be acquired via the BTRDA® Membership website shop [www.btrdamembership.com](http://www.btrdamembership.com)

So, what for 2024, it has now been confirmed that Maidstone & Mid Kent and Hartlepool will be returning to the Championship, although Knutsford have understandably decided to only run one round in 2024. Will there be any new cars out and more importantly new faces, as we really need to get extra people into the sport. On the other hand, will everyone, as usual, leave it until the week before the first event to prepare the car!

Finally following the end of the season, a good number of our contestants made the trip to Northern Ireland to compete in the Ronnie Trouton Autotests at Nutts Corner organised by Mark King and Team. This was an excellent event, despite a very soggy start, split into an Expert and Clubman competition with the former making up an International Team event, which inevitably was won by Northern Ireland. The event attracted a huge entry and saw excellent performances by all of our competitors.

Steve Layton

# Demon Tweeks Direct BTRDA® Autotest Championship



**Dave Evans**



**Richard Pinkney**

## 2024 Provisional Autotest Championship Events Calendar

Date	Event / Club	Location
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Jon Mackenzie Autotest Hagley & DLCC	Curborough Sprint Circuit
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Foxley Autotest Hereford MC	Foxley
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	The Stephen Stringer Memorial Autotest Maidstone & Mid Kent Motor Club	Ashford Livestock Market, Ashford, Kent
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Staffordshire Knot Autotest Wolverhampton & SSCC	Stafford Driving Centre, Seighford
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Nic Ayre Memorial Autotest Alwoodley MC	Acaster Airfield,
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Loughborough CC	Coventry City Council Motofest
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Tim Sargeant Memorial Autotest Knutsford & DMC	Demon Tweeks, Wrexham
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	"Maximum Attack" Autotest South of Scotland CC	TBA
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> August	Hartlepool & District Motor Club	Oakwood Autotest Arena, Eaglescliffe
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> August	Fern Motorsport Autotest Alwoodley MC	Acaster Airfield
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	Kennings Autotest Caernarvonshire & Anglesey MC	Trac Mon - Anglesey Circuit

# Demon Tweeks Direct BTRDA® Autotest Championship



**Luke Powell**



**Malcolm Livingston**



**Paul Davidson**



**Sean Kell**



**Willie Keaning**



**Ian Chapman & Ben Haigh**



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# **Demon Tweaks Direct BTRDA® AutoSOLO Championship**

This must be the first time ever that I have written for BTRDA News in December without knowing who is the BTRDA AutoSOLO champion. Here is the scenario. IF there is 6 inches of snow at Three Sisters Kart circuit on the 10th December and the Bolton-le-Moors CC cannot run their Warburton Trophy AutoSOLO event then the champion will be Alec Tunbridge in his Caterham 7. Alec is the one at the moment with the highest number of points, a maximum of 210 from his top 7 scores. IF the event does run and IF Neil Jones, in his MX5 beats Alec they will end up with the same number of points. BUT Neil has a better tie decider and so will retain the Gold Star Trophy. I hope you all follow that!

Whatever, it has been a very competitive season over the 17 rounds so far. Alec and Neil have dominated the overall top scores but then John Fox (Mini), Jamie Yapp (Clio) and Liam Rollings (MX5) have also scored maximums. Then there have been some outstanding performances like Kieran Belcher in the Renault Megane R20 who has won Class C and also heads the U25 drivers - in the last year he can win this! Then there is Patrick Horrocks in a Fiat Cinquecento who only started championship events mid-season and could end up almost in the top 10 overall.

I was down at the local regional championship event at Brands Hatch a couple of weeks ago where Patrick got his very first championship event FTD in the Fiat. You can see him in the picture giving his maiden speech. Mind you, he did admit it was partly due to a bit of good luck in that he was one of the first runners on the rally course test before the drizzle started and made it even more slippery than it was in the dry. Then again, luck can still play a part in any motorsport event.

A driver who has been a pleasure to watch this year has been youngster Ian Kent who shared the 1348cc Micra with his father Chris. It has only been a couple of years since Ian started driving in AutoSOLOs and I will predict it won't be long before he is beating his dad on a BTRDA round – a feat he has achieved at regional championship events!

No doubt the Micra will have a good winter overhaul and you never know, may come out next year with a few tweaks. Add on 20 years to both of them and you will have the up-to-date example of father and son with Richard and Jamie Yapp. Dad now struggles to get within several seconds of his son. So, Chris, make the most of being in front whilst you can!

Also, in the club of those exciting to watch has been Liam Rollings in his orange MX5. It's the only one with that colour and reflects that Liam has built up the car from scratch and had any colour to choose from. It's been a year of continual development for Liam and his 2 overall wins have been at venues where top speeds were not essential and which rewarded neat driving.



**Alec Tunbridge**



**Patrick Horrocks**



# Demon Tweeks Direct BTRDA® AutoSOLO Championship

No less than 10 venues have been used in 2023 and even then, when different clubs have used the same venue the style of the tests have been different. 2024 could see some new venues being used with the season opener being one of them – Donington Park on February 17th. We have been invited by the Loughborough CC and Mid Derbyshire MCs to take part in their final round of their winter series at a venue which has been well received by many championship entrants. Now they will be able to score BTRDA points as well!



**Ian Kent**

The same applies to Cannock & DCC events at Curborough where the style of events is slightly different but they put on some cracking events on the Sprint course and it will be good fun for all BTRDA championship entrants.

There is plenty to look forward to in the new year. Make sure that you, and your car, are fit for the 17th February!

**Peter Cox**



**Kieran Belcher**

Provisional events for 2024 demon tweeks BTRDA AutoSOLO championship

Date	Club	Venue
17 February	Mid Derbyshire MC	Donington
17 March	Devizes & DMC	Kemble
17 March	Knutsford & DMC	Demon Tweeks
31 March	Cannock & DCC	Curborough
07 April	EMCOS	Aston Down
14 April	Bath MC	Kemble
21 April	Oxford MC	Shenington Kart
21 April	Boundless by CSMA	Lymm
02 May	Clwyd Vale MC	Ruthin
19 May	Bristol MC	TBA
01 June	Loughborough CC	Coventry
08 June	Dolphin MC	Abingdon
16 June	Boundless by CSMA	Lymm
14 July	EMCOS	Aston Down
04 August	Bath MC	Kemble
11 August	Boundless by CSMA	Lymm
18 August	Basingstoke CC	Thruxton
01 September	Devizes & DMC	Kemble
06 October	Clwyd Vale MC	Ruthin
13 October	Oxford MC	Shenington Kart
20 October	Knutsford & DMC	Booths Hall
08 December	Bolton-le-Moors CC	Three Sisters

# ***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<sup>®</sup>**

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## ***Gold Star Champions 2022***

**Allrounders**

**Asphalt Rally**

**AutoSOLO**

**Autotest**

**Car Trials**

**Forest Rally**

**Rallycross**

**Sporting Trials**

**- Jamie Yapp**

**- Steve Wood**

**- Neil Jones**

**- Alastair Moffatt**

**- Kevin Roberts**

**- Elliot Payne**

**- Jason Bleasdale**

**- Thomas Bricknell**

**Targa Road Rally Champion - John Davies**

**Targa Road Rally Champion Navigator - Sam Weller**

***Edited by Jenny Wardle***