

Blackwood Plant Hire Scottish Tarmac Rally Championship

June Report



2017 CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING ROUNDS

12 th Feb	Grant Construction Stages, Knockhill	www.borderecossecarclub.com
1 st April	DCC Stages, Ingliston Edinburgh	www.dunfermlinecarclub.co.uk
27 th May	Granite Rally, Leuchars	www.admc.org.uk
17 th June	Kingdom Stages, Crail Airfield	www.glenrothes-msc.com
15/16 th July	Mach 1 Stages, Machrihanish	www.dunfermlinecarclub.co.uk
5 th Aug	Solway Coast Rally, Dundrennan	www.solwaycarclub.co.uk
6 th Aug	Tyneside Stages, Otterburn	www.alnwickmotorclub.co.uk
27 th Aug	Pendragon Stages, Warcop	www.pendragonstages.co.uk
13/15 th Oct	Beatson's Mull Rally,	www.mullcarclub.co.uk (cancelled)
11 th Nov	Crail Stages, Crail Airfield	www.glenrothes-msc.com

Presentation of Awards Dinner Ceremony (Date and Venue to be confirmed)

Round 2 DCC Stages, Ingliston 1st April

Once again the support from competitors was immense with over 90 entries received for 75 spaces within a couple of hours, but event organisers, Dunfermline Car Club, got approval to run an additional 5 cars on the day, enabling all reserves get a run. The venue itself is undergoing massive redevelopment and it was touch and go whether the event would run, but thanks must go to the Royal Highland Centre and their contractors who managed to complete enough of the ongoing works to enable the event take place.

The event format was 8 stages, 45 miles, all within the confines of the venue, and with faster following routes, was a great success to all who competed, marshalled and officiated.

Overall honours went to:

- 1st Alan Kirkaldy / Cameron Fair Ford Escort 2499cc
- 2nd Nigel Feeney / Phil Sandham Mitsubishi Evo X 1998cc
- 3rd Taylor Gibb / Jane Nicol Mitsubishi Evo 8 1998cc

Class honours to:

- Class 0 Gordon Reid / Johnnie Mackay Nissan Micra 998cc
- Class 1 Stuart MCBride / Shona Hale Vauxhall Nova 1400cc
- Class 2 Gareth White / Harry Marchbank Peugeot 208 R2 Vti 1598cc
- Class 3 George R Auld / Richard Stewart Ford Escort 1998cc
- Class 4 Tom Blackwood / Gordon Winning Ford Escort 2500cc
- Class 5 Brian Watson / Caroline Will Mitsubishi Evo 2000cc

In addition to this event, the Club also organised a Junior only event the following day (first round of the Junior1000 Ecosse Challenge Championship). This event also incorporated a marshalling training session, thanks to Rupert and his team, with some classroom modules undertaken, and 'hands on' training whilst marshalling at the event with 20 marshals gaining valuable training and further knowledge and experience.

Round 3 Granite Stages, Leuchars 27th May

This was the second running of an event at this new venue since the RAF departed the base. The route was all within the confines of the base and a near capacity entry tackling the tight and tricky stages. This ideally located venue will grow in popularity with Tarmac competitors.

This event organised by Aberdeen and District Motor Club also incorporated a Junior event, with valuable points being gained in their Championship.

Round 4 Kingdom Stages, Leuchars 27th May

Round 4 of the Blackwood Plant Hire Scottish Tarmac Rally Championship stayed in Fife, and this event, the 40th Anniversary of the Kingdom Stages, organised by Glenrothes Motor Sport Club, utilised 2 venues, Crail and Leuchars airfields, with non-competitive road sections. The event was run, in what could only be described, as a scorcher of a day, with temperatures reaching 29 degrees. Although there was a very attrition rate with only 31 cars finishing out of 65, this unique event format proved very popular and a great success. And again this event also incorporated a round of the Junior Championship, with the Juniors competing at Crail, whilst the Seniors 'visited' Leuchars.

With the Blackwood Plant Hire Scottish Championship points still to be tallied up officially after the Kingdom Stages, the provisional top three overall drivers are:

- 1st Alan Kirkaldy (Ford Escort)
- 2nd Gordon Morrison (Subaru Impreza)
- 3rd Taylor Gibb (Mitsubishi Evo)

One of Raymond Mann's many talents is 'number crunching' our Championship points table, and we, as many others will be, wishing him a speedy recovery. Although he had a substitute for the day, (thanks to Stan Thorogood) fulfilling the results service at the Kingdom Stages, Raymond was 'tweeting' and posting results from his hospital bed. What a man !!!

Round 5 Mach 1 Stages, Machrihanish 15th /16th July

The next round of the Tarmac Championship is the eagerly awaited 2 day event at Machrihanish, and again, the event organisers were overwhelmed with the support of competitors, with nearly 80 entries being received with hours of opening.

A new event has been added to the 2017/18 Motorsport News Circuit Rally Championship, a first in Scotland, when Dunfermline Car Club will be organising, on behalf of Knockhill, a round of this growing in popularity championship on the 3rd December at Knockhill Racing Circuit.

All tarmac rally news is not always good news, and the statement released by Mull Car Club regarding the 2017 Beatson's Mull Rally, unfortunately comes into the bad news category.

'It is a matter of considerable regret for the organisers and the Motor Sport Association, the sport's governing body, that the Beatson's Building Supplies Mull Rally cannot run as a closed road event in 2017 due to insurmountable insurance issues'