

RACRMC Newsletter No1

Dear Member

Welcome to the first Newsletter for the 2018 season.

I am hoping to send the latest news out to members every month during the year.

You will have noticed that FUCHS Lubricants are now sponsoring both the MSA British Historic Rally Championship but also the Clubs Asphalt Historic Rally Championship and I would like to thank Sally Travis for working with us.

Also new for this year is a new sponsor for the Carlisle Stages in June and I would like to welcome ATL Transport Carlisle for agreeing to sponsor this year's event which will be running to a new format.

The Club are also promoting a new Rally2WD Challenge which is aimed at all two wheeled drive cars, which will be running with the Historic Championship on the gravel rounds.

The club have now launched its new web site which can be found at <u>www.racrmc.org</u>

Come and see us at Race Retro on Friday and Saturday where you will find us on the FUCHS Lubricants stand where Championship Registrations can be taken.

This year should be busy year and we look forward to seeing you during the year.

Best regards Colin & Nicola Heppenstall 19 February 2018 Email: <u>colin@racrallychamp.org</u> or <u>colin@historicrallying.org</u>





FUCHS LUBRICANTS to partner 2018 British Historic Rally Championship

FUCHS LUBRICANTS will be the title sponsor of the 2018 MSA British Historic Rally Championship in a partnership that further strengthens the links between FUCHS and the Roger Albert Clark Rally Motor Club.

FUCHS LUBRICANTS will now be the headline sponsor for both the MSA British Historic Rally Championship and the established FUCHS LUBRICANTS RACRMC Historic Asphalt Rally Championship.

The popularity of both championships, aimed at historic two-wheel drive cars primarily from the 1960s, 1970s and early 1980s, will give FUCHS a strong platform to showcase its range of high performance lubricants, including the soon to be launched improved CLASSIC range of four-wheel engine and gear oils. All competing cars will feature FUCHS branding, which will carry across into the TV, social media and print media footprint of the twin championships. The RACRMC now has a total Facebook following of more than 20,000.

The new BHRC partnership comes at a time when gravel rallying for historic cars is poised for a strong season as events move towards formats that offer greater appeal for the historic crews. Meanwhile, the Historic Asphalt Rally Championship is continually building support from those who prefer to compete on sealed surfaces.

Colin Heppenstall from the Roger Albert Clark Rally Motor Club said: "We're delighted to build on our already strong links with FUCHS LUBRICANTS. I think the BHRC is set for a very strong season in 2018 and the Historic Asphalt Championship continues to attract new competitors. We would like to thank the team at FUCHS for its extended support."

Sally Travis from FUCHS LUBRICANTS said: "We have been lucky enough to work with Colin and the team at the RACRMC for a few years now, and so I am excited about the chance to have the FUCHS name in partnership with both the UK's top two historic championships. We have a long history in motor sport and our proven products are demanded by track day enthusiast to professional racer."

The BHRC schedule is: Saturday 24 March: North Wales Stages (Dolgellau) Saturday 28 April: Pirelli Rally (Carlisle) Friday/Saturday 8/9 June: Carlisle Stages (Carlisle) Sunday 24 June: Red Kite Stages (Neath) Sunday 29 July: Harry Flatters Rally (Brecon) Thursday-Saturday 13-15 September: Rally Isle of Man (Douglas) Friday/Saturday 28/29 September: Trackrod Historic Cup (Filey)

The Historic Asphalt schedule is: Saturday/Sunday 3/4 March: Bovington Stages (Dorset) Sunday 22 April: Rallye Salamandre (Belgium)











Sunday 3 June: Mini Epynt Stages (Brecon) Sunday 29 July: Harry Flatters Rally (Brecon) Thursday-Saturday 13-15 September: Rally Isle of Man (Douglas) Friday/Saturday 12/13 October: Jersey Rally (St Helier)

Champions celebrated at RACRMC awards night

The award winners for the 2017 Mintex MSA British Historic Rally Championship and the Fuchs Lubricants RACRMC Historic Asphalt Rally Championship were celebrated at the Casa Hotel in Chesterfield on Saturday (3 February).

Around 130 competitors and their guests were on hand to cheer the major winners. In addition, Marty McCormack and Barney Mitchell collected the major award from the 2017 Roger Albert Clark Rally.

The overall champions for the BHRC, completing a record-breaking hat-trick of titles, were Jason Pritchard and Phil Clarke and they received their awards from Simon Blunt, General Secretary of the MSA. Meanwhile, Dessie Nutt and Geraldine McBride picked up the major Fuchs Asphalt Championship award. Other category winners in the Asphalt championship who collected awards included Bob Seager, Ian Robertson/Andrew Scott and Lyndon Barton/Simon Hunter.

Clarke also collected the BHRC 'over 55 co-driver' award, while Phil Jobson took the 'over 55 driver' award. For the second year running, Ben Friend won the 'under 25 driver award' and Siobhan Pugh won the 'under 25 co-driver' award.

The award for the most entertaining driver went to Friend who, along with co-driver Cliffy Simmons, shared the RSR Historic Engineering Category 3 title with Tim Freeman and Paul Williams. Phil Jobson and Arwel Jenkins won the Capital Construction Category 2 and Phil Harris/Richard Suter won the Vintage Car Radiator Company Category 1 title.

2018 ATL Transport Carlisle Stages is unveiled

A new title sponsor and a new format are the key elements of the 2018 ATL Transport Carlisle Stages (Friday/Saturday 8/9 June), which brings together the FUCHS LUBRICANTS MSA British Historic Rally Championship and the Jordan Road Surfacing BTRDA Rally Series as well as several regional championships.

The rally, which runs over top quality stages in the Kershope and Newcastleton complexes, will feature two elements. Running on Friday evening and Saturday morning will be the 2WD section of the rally for contenders in the British Historic Rally Championship, the Motoscope Northern Historic Rally Championship and the new Rally2 Championship.

Running throughout Saturday will be contenders in the BTRDA Rally Series, the MSA English Rally





Championship, the S G Petch Association of North East and Cumbria Car Clubs Stage Rally Championship and the Association of Northern Car Clubs Forest Challenge and Border Challenge.

Building on the success of the first five editions of the Carlisle Stages, the Roger Albert Clark Rally Motor Club will run a compact event based at H&H Auctions in Carlisle next to junction 43 of the M6.

The 2WD section of the rally will feature 21 stage miles in three stages in daylight on Friday evening, starting at 6pm and finishing at 9pm. These crews will then join the BTRDA event on Saturday morning for three more special stages and a further 22 stage miles before finishing back in Carlisle at 12.30pm. There will be no double usage of stages for the 2WD event. On Saturday morning the entire entry will be seeded in one block based on expected performance.

The BTRDA event will start from Carlisle at 8am on Saturday for five special stages and 43 stage miles, with only five miles of second use stages. This element of the event will finish at H&H Auctions at 3pm on Saturday. Scrutineering and documentation for both sections of the event will be held on Friday afternoon.

Most of the stages have not been used since the 2017 Carlisle Stages, with only a limited section of Kershope having been used once on the Roger Albert Clark Rally last November.

Clerk of the Course Nicola Heppenstall said: "We are delighted to welcome ATL Transport as title sponsor for the Carlisle Stages. We have an innovative format for 2018 with stages on Friday evening when we will have daylight until nearly 10pm. We look forward to delivering a first class event with excellent road conditions for all crews."

Director at ATL, Pete Ascott, said: "We are excited to be sponsoring such a highly regarded event in motor sport. This is also a fantastic way to bring visitors to Carlisle and support local businesses. We look forward to working with Colin and the team at the RACRMC."

ATL is a family-run logistic service provider with roots going back over 150 years. It has approximately 220 employees and operates across 1.1 million square feet of warehousing, much of which is high-bay, located at its Head Office in Foston and in Carlisle. ATL's fleet includes 90 commercial vehicles and 150 trailers to provide all logistic solutions. ATL is also a shareholder member of the national Palletline network, with depots in Foston and Carlisle.

The ATL Transport Carlisle Stages will be organised by the Roger Albert Clark Rally Motor Club. Event regulations are due to be published in April.

Runaway BHRC response to Rally North Wales

The FUCHS LUBRICANTS MSA British Historic Rally Championship is set for a spectacular start on Rally North Wales (Saturday 24 March) after a massive response from championship contenders eager to enter the rally.

As soon as the entry list opened at 11am on Friday 19 January, the organisers from Wolverhampton





and South Staffs Car Club were swamped with entries and more than 50 BHRC contenders have entered the rally in the first three days. It is an unprecedented avalanche of entries for a rally that has now filled 97 of 120 available places.

As well as quantity, the BHRC field is packed with quality and is headed by the crew that came so close to taking the overall title in 2017. Nick Elliott and Dave Price will return to the event they won the historic section of in 2017 in a bid to get another title challenge off to a flying start.

Importantly, the event's new format has caught the imagination of those planning to contest the newly-announced BHRC2, which has been created to turn the spotlight on the Category 1 (pre-1968) and up to 1600cc cars in the championship.

The entry to date for Rally North Wales includes an incredible tally of 16 Category 1 cars and nine 1600s. These are numbers not seen since the changes to event running orders took a heavy toll on competitors in these groups. The format of Rally North Wales has encouraged these cars back into action and it will be a tremendous start for BHRC2.

Rally North Wales, which is sponsored by North Wales Rally Services, is the first rally to run to the new Rally 2WD format, which means that all of the 2WD cars will complete all of the 45 stage miles before the 4WD entries.

The on-line entry system can be found via the event website: <u>www.rallynorthwales.co.uk</u>. Go to the `competitors' tab to enter the rally.

2019 Roger Albert Clark Rally announced

The organisers of the Roger Albert Clark Rally have revealed outline details of the 12th edition of the rally, which will run in November 2019.

After the runaway success of the 2017 edition, Rally Manager Colin Heppenstall has confirmed that the 2019 rally will build on that success by following a broadly similar format. The provisional date is 21-25 November 2019, but this remains provisional subject to the date of Wales Rally GB.

Heppenstall's outline plan is for an event covering between 250 and 300 stage miles across four days with legs in Wales, Kielder and Scotland. The rally will start from Brightwells in Leominster, which will also be the base for documentation and scrutineering. Meanwhile, there will be a new finish venue on Monday afternoon within easy reach of Kielder Forest.

"We were overwhelmed with the hugely positive feedback from the 2017 event; from competitors, marshals and spectators," said Heppenstall. "So we are not going to re-invent the wheel. However, of course, there will be lots of detail changes and we plan to introduce some new stages to ensure the rally remains fresh."

A deposit system for entries will be set up and deposits will be taken from July 2018. More details will be announced in due course.

