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2019 British Historic
Rally Championship



RACRMC Newsletter No 3

Welcome to the early April club newsletter.

Over the last two months both the British Historic Rally Championship and the Asphalt Championship got off to great starts.

At the start of March mixed weather greeted 7 championship contenders down at Bovington covering all the categories. After a full weekend rallying on the Tank testing area Jerry Bailey and Graham Lacey in the MK2 Escort lead from start to finish to take overall championship position and 5th overall on the event.

Moving onto the end of March and for once fine weather treated the BHRC as it started the season in Wales on Rally North Wales in Dolgellau, a strong contingent of 35 crews had some fine road conditions with all 2 wheeled drive cars running first on the road which Nick Elliott and Dave Price coming out on top taking full championship points.

Round two of the Asphalt Championship at Clacton on Sea saw the entry for the second running of the closed road event fill within 24 hours, once again a strong historic field will see some close competition.

Unfortunately Round three of the Championship Mini Epynt on Sunday 26th May has been cancelled and the championship will now run five rounds with the best four to count and therefore the next round will be the Harry Flatters on 28th July.

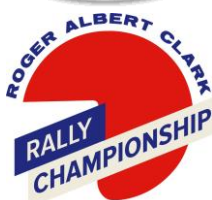
Regulations are currently out for round 2 of the BHRC and Rally 2 Championships the Pirelli International Rally <http://www.pirelliinternationalrally.co.uk/competitors/online-entry-form/> remember this event is all single use and two wheeled drive cars run first on the road.

During April the regulations will be published for the ATL Carlisle Stages on Saturday 8th June which will be the third round of the BHRC and Rally2 Championships

For those members who are competing on the Roger Albert Clark Rally in November, can I please remind them that the second payment of £500 is due before the end of April and an Entry Form needs completing, currently we have 80 completed entry forms, an additional 17 crews who have paid the second instalment. This leaves 65 crews still outstanding, we also have 18 reserve entries who would like your place on the 1 May if payment is not received.

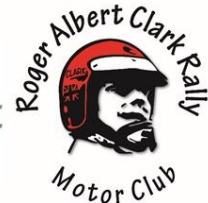
Regards

Colin & Nicola



**Carlisle
Stages
Rally**





Elliott takes maximum BHRC points on Rally North Wales

Nick Elliott and Dave Price got their season off to a flying start by taking maximum points in the opening round of the **FUCHS LUBRICANTS** Motorsport UK British Historic Rally Championship, Rally North Wales (Saturday March 30).

The forests of Wales were in prime condition and there was even dust as a bumper historic entry gathered in Dolgellau. Elliott and Price always headed the BHRC contenders, although Joe Price/Chris Brooks were never far adrift as a fine performance from Stanley Orr/Grahame Henderson netted third overall and Category 2 victory. Category 1 went to Bob Bean and Malcolm Smithson (Lotus Cortina).

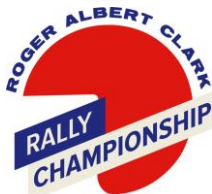
As well as being the first of seven BHRC rounds, Rally North Wales was also the first round of BHRC2 supported by **Sherwood Engines**, which puts the emphasis on the Category 1 (pre-1968) and up to 1600cc cars in the championship, and the first round of the BHRC Forest Challenge, supported by **Rally and Competition Equipment**. Elliott and Price also bagged the early lead in the BHRC Forest Challenge.

The unexpected dust, in Wales in March, detracted nothing from the success of the Wolverhampton and South Staffs Car Club event. The stages in Dyfi and Gartheiniog were in perfect order and the reverse seeded 2WD pack ran first. The dry stages held up well and a low retirement rate completed a great day's rallying.

Elliott, on his first gravel rally in an Escort for 10 months, kept to his plan of going quickly from the start and focusing on maximum points rather than taking big risks trying to chase the non-registered Osian Pryce. In fact, it was another Price that held Elliott's attention for much of the day as Joe Price and Chris Brooks mounted a decent challenge and rounded out the top three overall, just 24s down on the Cheltenham crew.

One of the most notable drives of the rally netted third overall BHRC points and Category 2 victory for Stanley Orr and Grahame Henderson. Competing on Welsh gravel for the first time in two years, the Northern Irishman pedaled his Escort Mk1 in style to open his title challenge with a very strong result.

Next up in the BHRC ranks was impressive BDG-debutant Ben Friend and Clifly Simmons, having their first rally since stepping up from Pinto power. Rob Smith/Alun Cook and Steve Bennett/Osian Owen were also in a top 10 packed with quality and Alan Walker/Will Rogers would have been among but for an ignition problem that cost close to two minutes in the second Cwm Celli stage.

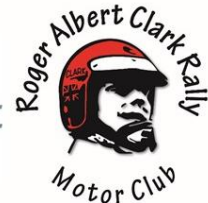


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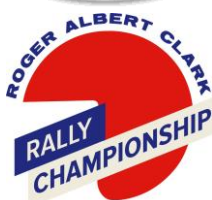
Notable in the Category 3 classes were Josh Browne and Jane Edgington in their Pinto-powered Escort Mk2. They set a cracking pace on the way to a commanding class D3 victory and an overdue first finish together. Brothers Malcolm and Ron Mounsey (Talbot Sunbeam) ran first on the road and also bagged the class D2 win.

Orr and Henderson stormed to Category 2 victory but could never relax too much as John Perrott and Andrew Sankey took second in their Escort Mk1 and fended off Chris Skill/Tom Murphy by 20s while Warren Philliskirk and Max Freeman in turn kept Skill on his toes.

Simon Pickering/Colin Jenkins (Escort Mk1) claimed class C3 but the other star of Category 2 was young Rory McCann from the Isle of Man who, partnered by car owner Tim Tugwell, won class C2 and finished 28th overall in their Hillman Avenger. On his first experience of both gravel rallying and a rear-wheel-drive car, McCann was very impressive and topped the Sherwood Engines BHRC2. Finally, in Category 1 Bob Bean and Malcolm Smithson dropped two minutes in a Gartheiniog ditch in Bob's Lotus Cortina, but recovered to claim the BHRC category.

Full results for Rally North Wales, which was organised by Wolverhampton and South Staff Car Club, are at: <http://results.djames.org.uk/results/?m=112>

For information on FUCHS LUBRICANTS, visit: www.fuchs.com/uk



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