



## CHAMPIONSHIP NEWSLETTER No. 2 – 2021

It seems a while since we sent you the first newsletter for the 2021 MRF BTRDA Rally Series, the Motorsport UK 2021 English Rally Championship, supported by Seacon UK and the MRF Tyres Mixed Surface Challenge.

There is just two weeks to go until the season kicks off with the Nicky Grist Stages which has attracted a bumper entry. We thank the hard-working team at Quinton Motor Club for persevering with their event, to ensure that the 2021 Nicky Grist Stages will take place. The 75<sup>th</sup> Scottish Rally has also attracted a large and varied entry.

There have been several important announcements from our events. The Nicky Grist Stages & the Mewla Rally have both confirmed that they are closed to spectators due to ongoing military training. The events need your support in promoting this important message. The Woodpecker Stages has also announced an exciting new format for 2021 with all the stage mileage in the Radnor Forest complex.

As we return to stage rallying things will be different; the old-style signing-on has been superseded by online pre event signing-on declarations, so our BTRDA on-event team will no longer be in Rally HQ to meet and greet you. As restrictions allow, we plan to be based in the Service Area under our new BTRDA Gazebo, but unfortunately Covid-19 restrictions on the Nicky Grist Stages mean the debut will have to wait a while longer.

Social distancing and a 'hands-off' approach will be with us for a while, so to keep in touch with the Team please follow our Facebook, Twitter and other Social Media outlets

As a reminder the 2021 MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series calendar includes 7 very popular one-day forest events. Your final championship results will be based on your **best 5 scores**.

1	Nicky Grist Stages	10 <sup>th</sup> July	Builth Wells
2	75 <sup>th</sup> Scottish Rally	24 <sup>th</sup> July	Lockerbie/Scottish Borders
3	<del>Plains Rally</del> <b>Cancelled</b>	<del>14<sup>th</sup> August</del>	<del>Mid Wales</del>
4	Woodpecker Stages	4 <sup>th</sup> September	Shropshire/Welsh Borders
5	Trackrod Rally	25 <sup>th</sup> September	North Yorkshire
6	Cambrian Rally	30 <sup>th</sup> October	North Wales
7	Rallynuts Stages	13 <sup>th</sup> November	Mid Wales

### CHAMPIONSHIP SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

We are pleased to confirm our 2020 sponsors are continuing with us in 2021. **JORDAN ROAD SURFACING** are supporting the Historic Cup, and **Fuchs Lubricants (UK)** will be supporting the Bronze Star for up to 1400 cars, whilst **Revolution Wheels, Mintex,** and **REIS** will again be providing valuable support.

Our new headline sponsor is **MRF TYRES**, through our old friend Jerry Freeman of Service & Sport, do contact Jerry for exciting deals exclusive to our championship contenders.

We are grateful to all our sponsors and we look forward to working with them during the forthcoming year.

We are always looking for additional supporters, so if anyone wishes to be associated with us in 2021 and beyond, please contact Neil Cross, Rally Committee Chair [trec1.nec@btinternet.com](mailto:trec1.nec@btinternet.com)

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## NEW AWARDS FOR SOME OF OUR CATEGORIES

### JORDAN ROAD SURFACING BTRDA HISTORIC CUP

The first driver on each of the seven rounds of the BTRDA Rally Series will receive **£250**, the second **£150** and third **£100**, and the overall BTRDA Historic Champion will be presented with the prestigious AC de Monaco Trophy at the end-of-year BTRDA awards ceremony.

### BTRDA JUNIOR R2 1600 CUP

Running within the **2021 MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series**, the BTRDA is delighted to announce an exciting new initiative for Junior drivers, i.e. those under 25 years old on 1st January 2021.

The top three drivers in normally-aspirated R2 1600's will benefit from **cash awards on each round – 1st £150, 2nd £125 and 3rd £75** – and the driver of the highest-placed Fiesta on each event will also receive a parts voucher, to the value of £150, from reigning double British Rally Champion Matt Edwards. [Subject to a minimum of five registered competitors]

There will be a free pre-season test session at **Forest Experience Rally School** for all the BTRDA 1600 R2 runners (not just juniors).

In addition, at the end of the season the **BTRDA Junior R2 1600 Cup winner** will be in line for: –

- **A Kielder WT Tools package**
- **'On the Pace Note' notes + DVD's for the following year** (max of 6 and subject to OTPN being involved in the events they contest)
- **'Next Steps' coaching via Trevor Agnew** (plus a group session for all contenders prior to the start of the season)
- **1-2-1 coaching at their own test from Tom Williams** (ex JWRC Driver)
- **A R5 20km test from 586 Engineering + insurance from Shepherd Compello** (This does not include any excess)

**Can we ask all competitors who intend to compete for this fantastic prize to notify us before the Nicky Grist Stages so we can ensure you stand out as an entrant?**

### CHAMPIONSHIP RUNNING ORDER

We have asked all our events to run classes 1400C, 1400S, RF1.4, RF2.0 and H1/2 at the front of the field in reverse seeded order, followed by all other classes seeded in order of anticipated performance. However, please look out for individual event regulations for details of how each event will be structured.

### DECALS – FIRST ISSUE AND REPLACEMENT

Championship decals will be posted out on 23 June to all drivers who are BTRDA registered for 2021, those that register after that date will have the decals sent out as soon as possible. You should receive them in time to put them on before the first event. These decals (1 x screen strip and 2 x sponsor panels- 375mm x 265mm; one for each side of the car) must be displayed on the rally car to qualify for Championship points. Replacement decals are available, but a small charge may be made to cover admin costs.

### SPECIAL STAGE REVIEW

Once again Special Stage Review will be out on the Stages and in the Service Parks on every event again this year bringing all the action to our screens across several media platforms, for more details follow them on Twitter or check out their Facebook page.

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### CHAMPIONSHIP ELIGIBILITY PRE AND POST EVENT SCRUTINEERING

It is an important part of any Championship to ensure that competing cars meet their eligibility requirements as set down in the Championship Regulations and the Motorsport UK Yearbook (Blue Book). When current Covid 19 restrictions allow; at the end of every event cars will be selected for post event Scrutineering by the Championship Eligibility Scrutineers. You should not be concerned if you are asked to attend such checks as we would much prefer to confirm your car is correct than find a problem. If you have any doubts about eligibility, please contact the Championship Eligibility Scrutineers. For any FIA homologated cars, especially classes NR4, N3 or R2, please remember to carry an original set (not a copy) of the relevant homologation forms in the car at all times. By not carrying them or having incorrect ones, you risk not scoring any championship points on that event. Simple, but often forgotten.

### ON EVENT FUEL / RE-FUEL

Vital Equipment are the recommended fuel supplier to the BTRDA Rally Series and will be providing a refuelling service at all the events. We strongly emphasise the convenience, safety and organisational benefits that using the Vital Equipment re-fuel facility brings to all competitors. **To order your fuel please use the on-line order facility listed in the Competitor Section of the BTRDA Rally Series website.** [www.vitalequipment.co.uk/btrda-fuel-order-form-30-w.asp](http://www.vitalequipment.co.uk/btrda-fuel-order-form-30-w.asp) Tel: 01981 241169.

### Motorsport UK 2021 ENGLISH RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP, in association with Seacon UK

For the **Motorsport UK 2021 English Rally Championship, in association with Seacon UK** we have reverted back to an all-gravel surface format which is open to **all** cars that comply with the Motorsport UK Safety and Technical Regulations. The 2021 Championship will include a selection of the best 'English' forest events. A total of five events now make up the Championship, with the final round being the Grizedale Stages in the Lake District in December. The best four scores will count.

### Motorsport UK 2021 English Rally Championship - Calendar

1	Nicky Grist Stages	10 <sup>th</sup> July	Builth Wells
2	Woodpecker Stages	4 <sup>th</sup> September	Shropshire/welsh Borders
3	Trackrod Forest Stages	25 <sup>th</sup> September	North Yorkshire
4	Wyedean Stages	16 <sup>th</sup> October	Forest of Dean
5	Grizedale Stages	3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> December	Lake District

The Championship will be split into 7 championship classes with the scoring system reflecting achievement against other competitors in the same class as in previous years.



The class structure has changed as follows:

#### CLASSES

<b>Class E7</b>	All WRC with a sequential gearbox, RRC, R5, S2000 and FIA Rally2 cars & all derivatives
<b>Class E6</b>	Over 2000cc 4WD cars not eligible for class E7
<b>Class E5</b>	Over 2000cc 2WD cars including all FIA R3T cars
<b>Class E4</b>	Over 1600cc up to 2000cc plus Historic category 3 cars with multi cam engines over 1600cc, category 4a cars over 1600cc and 4b cars up to 1600cc and FIA Rally4 specification cars
<b>Class E3</b>	Cars over 1400cc up to 1600cc plus current & former FIA Group N3 cars and all FIA R2 cars.
<b>Class E2</b>	Cars up to 1400cc not eligible for Class E1, plus Historic category 1 & 2, category 3 with single cam engines and category 4a up to 1600cc
<b>Class E1</b>	All BTRDA Rally First cars.

*All forced induction engines (except Diesel engines) are subject to an additional capacity coefficient of 1.7:1 (except when FIA Appendix J, Art 260 applies).*

Remember: **Registration for the Motorsport UK 2021 English Rally Championship, in association with Seacon UK is all part of the 2021 MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series and BTRDA membership package.** More information about the Motorsport UK 2021 English Rally Championship, in association with Seacon UK can be found at [www.englishrally.co.uk](http://www.englishrally.co.uk)

#### MRF TYRES MIXED SURFACE CHALLENGE

New for 2021 is the **MRF Mixed Surface Rally Challenge**. It is open to all competitors holding a minimum of a Motorsport UK Interclub competition licence.

The MRF Challenge is open to all vehicles that comply with the 2021 Motorsport UK Safety and Technical Regulations for Special Stage Rallies, and FIA Technical Regulations where appropriate.

All MRF Mixed Surface Challenge cars must use MRF branded tyres on every event, but the tread pattern and profile are free. See MRF Motorsport Tyres in UK at [www.serviceandsport.com](http://www.serviceandsport.com)

Contact: Jerry@Serviceandsport.com Tel +44 (0) 7789 392080.

The MRF Mixed Surface Challenge includes a selection of the best UK forest and asphalt stage rallies. The final points tables will be based on a competitor's best 6 scores.

1	Nicky Grist Stages (G)	10 <sup>th</sup> July	Builth Wells
2	Scottish Rally (G)	24 <sup>th</sup>	Lockerbie/Scottish Borders
3	<del>Tynside Stages (A)</del> <b>Cancelled</b>	<del>1<sup>st</sup> August</del>	<del>Otterburn/Northumberland</del>
4	Mewla Rally (A)	29 <sup>th</sup> August	Mid Wales
5	PokerStars Rally Leg 1 (A)	1 <sup>st</sup> October	Isle of Man
6	PokerStars Rally Leg 2 (A)	2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Isle of Man
7	Rallynuts stages (G)	13 <sup>th</sup> November	Mid Wales
8	Grizedale Stages (G)	3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> December	Lake District

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The class structure is the same as the Motorsport UK English Rally Championship. The ST Trophy will follow the MRF Tyres Mixed Surface Challenge in 2021. If through 'force majeure' any of the qualifying rounds cannot take place the organisers reserve the right to either include another event on the same date and / or to alter the number of scores to count.

#### **MOTORSPORT UK GENERAL REGULATIONS**

Competitors are reminded that they should have up-to-date knowledge of the current General Regulations and any amendments that are issued. The current Yearbook already has some amendments and further details can be found at [www.motorsportuk.org](http://www.motorsportuk.org)

Competitors are also reminded to check the current liding requirements of helmets, seats and seatbelts.

#### **CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM**

Ian Arden continues as the BTRDA Rally Series Co-ordinator and will be out on each round of the MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series, supported by other members of the BTRDA Rally Committee.

Ian Arden:                      Email: [ian@btrdarally.com](mailto:ian@btrdarally.com)                      Mob: 07917 355169

#### **CHAMPIONSHIP ELIGIBILITY SCRUTINEERS**

John Cooper:                      Email: [jccmstech@gmail.com](mailto:jccmstech@gmail.com)  
Geoff Doe:                      Email: [geoff@doemotorsport.com](mailto:geoff@doemotorsport.com)  
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Just before this newsletter was due to be issued the Plains Rally and the Tyneside Stages have announced they have cancelled their respective events this year.

We know this is disappointing for our competitors and our organising clubs alike, the committee will be meeting in the next few weeks to discuss our options

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