

Road Events Report

September 2018

2018 SAMSC Scottish Navigational Rally Championship

After a long layoff during the summer months the Championship got started again on 25th August with an excellent Highland Car Club organised Autumn Rally, based in Cawdor, to the east of Inverness. It was encouraging to see not just a reasonably good entry, but also a great turnout of marshals. This allowed the organisers to have several manned route checks as well as judges of fact at a number of give way junctions. The route, as expected on this event, included some excellent roads to challenge the drivers. Navigation clues were also not too extreme with all crews managing to make it to the end without telephone number penalties. At the end of the night the winners after a timed navigational test were:

Michael Cruickshank / Richard Crozier (Saltire) on '0' penalties in Suzuki Ignis Sport

1st Non-Expert: Gary & Alan Ross (SDMC) with 62 penalties in Citroen C2 VTS

1st Novice: Stephen Rochford / Kate Proctor (HCC) with '0' penalties in Mini Cooper

It was also good to see that local photographer Jim Sutherland was out taking photos.



Michael Cruickshank / Richard Crozier - 1st o/a



Gary Ross / Alan Ross - 1st Non-Expert



Stephen Rochford / Kate Proctor - 1st Novice

The next rounds in the Championship come thick and fast with 63CC's Seafield Rally on 15th September and Saltire's Oktoberfest 2 weeks later on 29th September. There is then a month's gap until SDMC's Hairst Rally on 27th October, primarily to give competitors the opportunity to join in the fun of going over mid October to compete in Mull Car Club's Beatson's Mull Targa Rally (13th October).

The concluding round in the Championship is 750MC's Boontree Birl Rally on 1st December.

Other events

As I wrote in my last report as well as the Championship events many clubs are running 12 car events which prove quite popular and are an ideal training ground for those wanting to compete on the larger events. From my experience the more events you do the better you become! Keep an eye on the Events Calendar on the SAMSC website to find an event near you - or why not be prepared to travel a bit further than 'near'!

Beatson Mull Targa Rally - (13th October)

Will follow roughly the same format as 2017 event (tests and regularities) and is open to both Historic and Modern cars. It has a hugely improved route largely thanks to the support of the Forestry Commission, North West Mull Community Woodland Company and TSL Contractors. The organisers did read all the feedback and retained the best parts from 2017. They have dropped the rough and unpopular sections and have added some brilliant new sections. It's sure to be an enjoyable event with just the right amount of challenge.

Saltire Classic Rally (Take 2) - (18th November)

The Saltire Classic Rally was postponed from 4th March to 18th November due to the very heavy snow that fell over the rally route. Quote from Saltire FB page:

'We are delighted that our sponsors, AtoB Vehicles & Dales Subaru, Blair Athol Distillery and Nicolson Digital have supported us through this difficult time as have the competitors and venue owners. Over 40 of the original full entry have confirmed their entries for November. We can take a few more and if necessary will hold a reserve list. Inevitably some may fall by the way as the season takes its toll on cars and crews.'

There's no doubt that there are plenty events for people to do in the next few months!

Dave MacKintosh (Co-ordinator for Road Events)