

Blackwood Plant Hire Scottish Tarmac Rally Championship

November Report

2016 CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING ROUNDS

10 th Jan	Grant Construction Stages, Knockhill	www.borderecossecarclub.com
2 nd April	DCC Stages, Ingliston Edinburgh	www.dunfermlinecarclub.co.uk
18 th June	Crail Summer Stages, Crail Airfield	www.glenrothes-msc.com
2 nd /3 rd July	Mach 1 Stages, Machrihanish	www.dunfermlinecarclub.co.uk
6 th Aug	Solway Coast Rally, Dundrennan	www.solwaycarclub.co.uk
7 th Aug	Tyneside Stages, Otterburn	www.alnwickmotorclub.co.uk
11 th Sept	Pendragon Stages, Warcop	www.pendragonstages.co.uk
14 th /16 th Oct	Beatson's Mull Rally, Isle of Mull	www.mullcarclub.co.uk
5 th Nov	Kingdom Stages, Crail Airfield	www.glenrothes-msc.com

Presentation of Awards 28th January 2017, Grange Manor Hotel, Falkirk



Kingdom Stages Round 9

The final round of the 2016 STRC was building up to be an exciting fun filled day with the potential for a number of competitors winning the championship as well as class battles to secure positions, the sad news brought to us all within the rallying family on the week prior to the event was that STRC regular and gentleman of the sport Robin Laird lost his life in a tragic accident.

Most of us knew Robin as a quiet man who was always in the navigator's seat with Ricky Wheeler but mostly with his lifelong pal Gordon winning in the distinctive orange mark 2 Escort, Robin also sat with young Taylor Gibb in the junior championship and if he wasn't in a car he was always seen servicing for somebody. Robin will be a sad loss to the sport. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his partner Fran and all close family and friends at this sad time.

Crail in November can present us with varying weather conditions, but this year we managed to avoid the rain but it was bitterly cold all day, there was 6 stages with the first couple of tests proving to be particularly slippery for most crews and this was evident after stage 2 with the majority of front runners crossing the line with either panels or bumpers missing or some form of damage.

Early leader of the event was Aaron Newby in the Teg Sport Subaru Impreza and in fact Aaron went on to win the event not without any worries as Local man Alan Kirkaldy was champing at the bit to secure first spot but just didn't manage it in the end losing out by 6 seconds.

Favourite for the 2016 Championship title was John Marshall in the Subaru as he only needed to finish top 3 in his class to clinch the title but when John came in with substantial front end damage the team were wondering if it was going to be all over, the team managed to repair the damage and thankfully no further damage was noted

With Gareth White/Sean Robson/Neil Thompson all having issues of their own, and Kenny Moore in the immaculate Avenger was keeping it fast but tidy, it was all looking rather interesting going into the afternoon stages.

The normally long open flowing stages of the 1940s Airfield were tightened up in sections proving it was not all down to -flat out foot to the floor- driving, as a few other cars found out by rolling their cars after clipping some larger lorry tyres.

Gareth was pushing the 208 to the limit and lost the front bumper and thus some time, Sean had some electrical issues on the first few stages which gave him a bit of a disadvantage in the early stages.

Neil was really going well until the final stage when it was all looking so good for him he snapped a driveshaft putting him out the rally and out the equation for top honours.

The battle went on right to the last stage and what a finale it was, the winner of the 2016 Scottish Tarmac Rally Championship was John Marshall co driven all year by Scott Crawford.

2nd overall went to Sean Robson while third place was tied between Gareth White and Stuart Walker in the Skoda S2000.

The Blackwood Plant Hire Tarmac Rally Championship is growing in popularity each year and for that, we thank all marshals, officials, medic, rescue and recovery crews, scrutineers, photographers, sponsors and competitors who have provided us all with entertainment throughout the year, and look forward to welcoming everyone in 2017.

The championship organisers are delighted that yet again the Championship has recorded the high number of 119 registered competitors. 2016 has been another exciting year to be involved in this sport, and popular, with entries filling up extremely quickly, especially in the Championship events. This is a sport that is loved deeply by all those involved, and we will continue to make this sport seriously good fun – and just as importantly, strive to ensure it is safer than ever.

We look forward to welcoming all the awards winners, friends, families, club members, marshals at the Annual Awards Ceremony, on Saturday the 28th January at the Grange Manor, Falkirk, when we acknowledge the triumphs, efforts and contributions of those who have made our sporting season the success it has been, and also look forward to everyone in 2017 for another exciting rallying season. 2017 has some interesting times ahead with new venues, new routes on existing ones and some new faces coming out to challenge the hardy regulars, also a welcome return to the some championship events will be some old faces who have been away from the scene for a few years.

2016 Championship Award winners

Award	Driver	Co-driver
O/A	1st John Marshall	1st David Crosbie
	2nd Sean Robson	2nd Harry Marchbank
	3rd equal Stuart Walker	3rd Richard Wardle
	3rd equal Gareth White	
Class 1	1st Steven Hay	1st Steven Brown
	2nd Stuart McBride	2nd Derek Cassells
	3rd Eamonn Kilmurray	
Class 2	1st Neil Thompson	1st Fiona Moir
	2nd Beefy Fraser	2nd Ben Diamond
	3rd Greg Inglis	3rd Thomas Purvin
Class 3	1st Kenneth Moore	1st Stewart Hurst
	2nd Stephen Thomson	2nd equal Lewis MacDougall
	3rd Tom Hynd	2nd equal Sue Hynd
Class 4	1st Fergus Gray	1st Colin Inglis
	2nd Gary Adam	2nd Gordon Adam
	3rd Alistair Inglis	3rd Nicola Ritchie
Class 5	1st Ian Paterson	1st Scott Crawford
	2nd Alan Wallace	2nd Derek Keir
	3rd Colin Gemmell	3rd Allan Paterson

Junior (under 25)

Driver	Richard Hemingway Memorial Award to Steven Hay
Co-driver	Graham Lewis Memorial Award to Harry Marchbank

On behalf of Dunfermline Car Club and all clubs involved in the Blackwood Plant Hire Scottish Plant Hire Tarmac Championship we take this opportunity to express our thanks for the support of our 2016 sponsors, Tom Blackwood of www.blackwoodplanthire.co.uk, sub sponsors, Bob & Vicky Grant of www.grantconstructionservices.co.uk, Gerry Gaffney of www.facebook.com/HQgarage, John & Fiona Young of www.johnyoungsigns.co.uk, Ronnie & Daisy Thom of www.wheelsaround.com Anne & Andrew Wood of www.woodsport.co.uk and new sponsor for 2017 www.touraloo.co.uk

The championship Committee is also indebted to Raymond Mann who 'number crunches' the results from each round and produces the points table. Raymond also provides a results service for many events in Scotland www.scotresults.co.uk

Qualifying Rounds 2017 (Subject to MSA approval)

February (date tbc)	Grant Construction Knockhill Stages, organised by www.borderecossecarclub.com
Saturday 1st April	DCC Stages, Ingliston organised by www.dunfermlinecarclub.co.uk
Saturday 17th June	Summer Stages, Crail organised by www.glenrothes-msc.com
15th/16th July	Mach 1 Stages Machrihanish organised by www.dunfermlinecarclub.co.uk
Saturday 5th August	UsedCarParts Solway Coast Rally, organised by www.solwaycarclub.co.uk
Sunday 6th August	Tyneside Stages Rally organised by www.alnwickmotorclub.co.uk
Sunday 10 th September	Pendragon Stages, Warcop organised by www.pendragonstages.co.uk
13/14/15th October	Beatson's Mull Rally, organised by www.mullcarclub.co.uk
Saturday 4 th November	Kingdom Stages, Crail organised by www.glenrothes-msc.com