

# Blackwood Plant Hire Scottish Tarmac Rally Championship

## September Report

### 2016 CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING ROUNDS

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

Presentation of Awards (Date and Venue to be confirmed)



### Round 7 Pendragon Stages, Warcop Ranges

The Warcop Military Ranges greeted 21 crews from the Blackwood Plant Hire Scottish Tarmac Rally Championship amongst full entry of 95 crews for the Pendragon Stages on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September. This was yet another event that was oversubscribed within hours of the entry system opening.

Although there were many STRC registered crews picking up honours and great results, the event took its fair share of casualties. The first of eight stages began with drama; when Lee Hastings came off and hit a tree, rolling his Impreza. Thankfully both crew members were unharmed.

John Marshall complained of soft suspension settings in his Impreza for the first two tests, rectifying in service, but still sitting a respectable 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. Alistair Inglis, meanwhile, lost the rear clamshell housing on his Lotus, making good at service with his trailer board and lights to allow him to continue. Gary Adam in his Escort Mk2 was sitting 2<sup>nd</sup> overall going into stage three against serious WRC cars. Gordon Morrison in his Subaru took an unexpected trip through the undergrowth on stage 1 but survived and made repairs at the next service. Fergus Gray also went off-road, dropping 30 seconds getting to grips with the starting procedure of his BMW after fitting a new gearbox after Mach 1.

After stage two there was a delay of 30 minutes due to a total of 13 cars having gone off. Alistair Inglis was the first victim of stage three, beaching the Lotus in a deep ditch, closely followed by the WRC Subaru of Simon Bowen. Ian Patterson also pulled up after a puncture destroyed the front bodywork, ripping the wiring loom apart. Kevin Mathers in his class 3 Peugeot 205, ripped a wheel off and retired. Gary Adam came off and hit a wall after setting a blistering pace, ending his day early. Equally disappointed was Championship sponsor Tom Blackwood, out in his new Den Motorsport Millington powered Escort with Gordon Winning in the navigator's seat. He came over a crest, ran wide on the grass and hit an immovable object head on, putting an end to his first trip to Warcop.

Colin Gemmel was on a mission with navigator Derek Keir in the seat for the day, with no real issues and climbing the leader board throughout the day. Kenny Moore in the pristine JRE-powered Avenger was continuing with his quick but steady pace with no issues except brushing against some bales at chicanes. Stephen Thomson was having a great run up to 5<sup>th</sup> overall by stage 5. Barry Renwick took a wrong split on stage six resulting in a stage maximum for the East Coast veterans.

Sean Robson was absolutely flying in his C2R2 and managed to climb up to 10<sup>th</sup> overall from a seeding of 40. On stage six the car stepped out on a bumpy section over a bridge and knocked the car into a post damaging the nearside door and sill but managed to collect it and continue.

### Event Award Winners

<b>Overall</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Greg McKnight / Laura Marshall	Mitsubishi Evo 9	Class 5
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Martin Hodgson / Tony Jones	Ford Escort Mk2	Class 4
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Colin Gemmel / Derek Keir	Subaru Impreza	Class 5
<b>Class 1</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Stephen Bethwaite / Ann Forster	Vauxhall Nova Sport	
<b>Class 2</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Sean Robson / Dave Robson	Citroen C2R2 Max	
<b>Class 3</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Stephen Thompson / David Crosbie	Ford Escort Mk2	
<b>Class 4</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Alistair Tough / Dee Addison	Ford Escort Mk2	
<b>Class 5</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Stuart Paterson / Allan Paterson	Subaru Impreza	

## Blackwood Plant Hire Scottish Tarmac Championship standings after Round 7

Overall Drivers	Car	Class	points
Kenneth Moore	Hillman Avenger	3	113
John Marshall	Subaru Impreza	5	109
Sean Robson	Citroen C2R2 Max	2	104
Overall Co-drivers	Car	Class	points
Richard Wardle	Hillman Avenger	3	107
David Crosbie	Ford Escort Mk 2	3	103
Harry Marchbank	Peugeot 208 R2	2	97
Leading Class Drivers	Car	Class	points
Steven Hay	Vauxhall Corsa	1	101
Neil Thompson	Vauxhall Corsa	2	97
Stuart Walker	Skoda Fabia	3	99
Gary Adam	Ford Escort Mk2	4	85
Alan Wallace	Mitsubishi Evo 6	5	92
Leading Class Co-drivers	Car	Class	points
Steven Brown	Vauxhall Corsa	1	94
Fiona Moir	Hillman Avenger	2	63
Stewart Hurst	Ford Escort Mk2	3	76
Gordon Adam	Ford Escort	4	64
Scott Crawford	Subaru Impreza	5	83

The next round of the Championship is the Beatson's Building Supplies Mull Rally taking place on the beautiful island of Mull over the weekend of October 14-16, with the final deciding round The Kingdom Stages being held at Crail Airfield on the 5th November. This is the last event in the 2016 Blackwood Plant Hire Scottish Tarmac Rally Championship, and with the dropped scores (6 counting out of 9) it promises to be another exciting finale to this great Championship. Many of the 119 registered competitors (72 drivers, 47 co-drivers) have competed in every round of the Championship and many are entered for the Mull Rally and always there will be a rush to enter the final round, the Kingdom Stages when the entry system opens this Sunday, the 25th September.

The fitting end to the Championship season is the Awards ceremony when we congratulate those who have done well and commiserate with those who haven't fared quite as well as they would have hoped. It is also a time for us to thank our Sponsors, marshals and officials, whom without their support and assistance, these events and Championship would not be possible. For a variety of reasons we have decided to delay this Awards Event till a date in the middle of January which as well as concluding the 2016 season will also be a welcome to the 2017 season.

With planning well under way by the various event organising Car Clubs, the 2017 season is shaping up to be yet another exciting and popular Championship.

As well as organising and planning for the DCC Stages and the Mach 1 Stages, many of the organising team of Dunfermline Car Club have been attending training days for Rally Marshals and Officials organised by the MSA and SACC to ensure the implementation of current and future Stage Rally Safety Requirements. On behalf of Dunfermline Car Club and the organising team of the Blackwood Plant Hire Scottish Tarmac Rally Championship we would like to take this opportunity to thank Rupert and his SACC marshals training co-ordinating team and trainers for their hard work and excellent training days/evenings that have been held throughout Scotland.

### Trix Grant

on behalf of  
Dunfermline Car Club,  
promoters of the Blackwood Plant Hire Scottish Tarmac Rally Championship