## **NEWS INFORMATION**



## THE JIM CLARK MEMORIAL RALLY, 8/9 November 2019

## **Preparations Well Underway**

Planning for the forthcoming Jim Clark Memorial Rally has stepped up a gear with the announcement of a new Clerk of the Course to further strengthen the experienced organising team.

David Gray from Newry in Northern Ireland will oversee the preparation and running of the rally which is scheduled to take place on Friday 8th and Saturday 9th of November 2019.

David brings with him a huge amount of experience and knowledge in running major events in Northern Ireland where Closed Road Rallying is the norm rather than the exception. A former highly successful competitor in his own right he has switched roles over recent years first through motor club activities and local events and later to National and International competitions.

In 1995 he 'retired' from active competition and commenced duties as a Steward with Motorsport UK, the sport's governing body throughout The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. In 2004 he was appointed Steward and Observer with the FIA, the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile, which is motor sport's world governing body.

In addition to his ongoing duties with Motorsport UK and the FIA he is Chairman of a unique Northern Ireland body called 2&4 which represents both Regulated Car and Motorcycle Clubs at Government Level.

He therefore brings to the Jim Clark Rally organising team not just his huge experience and wide ranging knowledge, but he has a knack for dealing with volunteers and amateur sports people, and an ability to deal with motor sporting governing bodies and politicians at local and national level. He also brings a fresh insight into the sport of Closed Road Rallying which to date has only had two regular events on Scottish soil, here in the Borders and on the isle of Mull.

Commenting on his appointment David Gray said: "I'm looking forward to the challenge and working with a new team."

Rally Chairman Dan Wright added: "It's a great pleasure to welcome David, our new Clerk of the Course, to the Jim Clark Memorial Rally. We have the same ambitions for the future of the rally and are looking forward to working together to deliver it!"

The Jim Clark Rally on 8th and 9th November represents the culmination of the work and the willingness of many people throughout Berwickshire, from farmers to shopkeepers, hoteliers and business folk as well as MPs and MSPs, Councillors and Police to ensure that this major sporting event returns to the area.

The organising team are currently finalising the Event Regulations and Entry Forms for competitors and more details on the planned route will be announced shortly.

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Enclosed copyright free photograph shows: David Gray ( Photograph courtesy of 'Pacenotes' Rally Magazine )

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Issued by John Fife on behalf of the Jim Clark Memorial Motor Club, 29 August 2019 72 Carfin Street, New Stevenston, Lanarkshire ML1 4JN

Tel: 01698 833949

E-Mail: johnfife@blueyonder.co.uk

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