

Road Events Report

November 2017

2017 SACC Scottish Navigational Rally Championship

It was refreshing to have an event which had never run before and was using a part of the country that hasn't been used for navigational rallying since the 55CC events running as part of the old ESACC Championship. So to the Saltire Rally Club's Oktoberfest Rally on 7th October. The event attracted 14 entries, which was a bit disappointing considering most of the entries were Saltire's own members! I really do wish more crews were prepared to travel to other club's events.

The navigational clues for the event were refreshingly easy, however that brings with it the dilemma of too many clean sheets. Whilst I say 'clean sheets' all crews failed to pick up on one code board near the end of the event so it didn't make any impact on the results. The fact that so many of the crews (6) had reached the end with only that code board missing meant that timed navigational tests were introduced to determine the winners. This resulted in:

Expert Class - Harry Merry / Graham Couser (Fiesta)
Non-Expert - Stuart Cobb / Stewart Douglas (Yaris) #
Novice - Craig Wallace / Charley Sayer-Payne (Corrolla)

Entered Clubman event therefore not eligible for Championship points

The next round in the Championship was SDMC's Hairst Rally on 28th October which took the crews to deepest, darkest West Aberdeenshire. As is the norm on this event the navigation was at times tricky, but fair, as demonstrated by a good range of penalties from 0 penalties to 111, which ironically were amassed by the winning crew from the last round. Graham just doesn't seem to be able to tune his mind into that of Gerry Potter the Clerk of Course for the event!

Overall winners of the event went to a delighted Stuart Cobb (Yaris) who this time had chosen to enter the Expert Class of the Nat B event whilst teaming up with, probably the individual that does the most events Navigational, Road, Targa, Historic & Stage rallies in any given year, Richard Crozier. Richard is always keen to go back to his roots in Stonehaven when SDMC organise events. They finished the event with 2 penalties.

Non-Expert - No entries
Novice - Allan Patterson / Bob Shearer (Fabia VRS) #
Nat B Novice - John McKay / Johnnie McKay (Golf)

Entered Clubman event therefore not eligible for Championship points

The final round is 750MC's Boontree Birl Rally on 2nd December set in the Angus roads and based at Balkeerie, near Glamis. Regulations are out and entries are being accepted. Please contact Charlie Brown for information (charliebrown750@yahoo.co.uk). It is hoped that there will be a good entry.

After 7 rounds where 44 competitors have competed and some dropping scores the class leaders are:

Drivers	Club	Total
Harry Merry	SSCC	49
Dave MacKintosh	SDMC	39
Des Campbell	HBCC	22
Navigators		
Duncan Cameron	SDMC	53
Graham Couser	Saltire RC	50
Richard Crozier	GMSC	34
Non-Expert Drivers		
Allan Patterson	Saltire RC	46
Peter Humphrey	BDMC	12
Non-Expert Navigators		
Bob Shearer	Saltire RC	46
Douglas Humphrey	BDMC	12
Novice Drivers		
David Heirs	WMC	41
Gary Ross	SDMC	32
John McKay	SDMC	24
Novice Navigators		
Findlay Leask	Saltire RC	41
Emma Steeley	SDMC	40
Alan Ross	SDMC	30

Blue Door Dental Practice Doonhamer Rally (17th September)

South of Scotland Car Club's Doonhamer Historic and Targa Rally happened on 17th September. The event started and finished at the Lockerbie Lorry Park and has attracted a healthy entry with a good mix of Classic and Targa crews.

Well done to Andy Beaumont & Andrew Fish on their win in the amazing Sunbeam Rapier H120, what a season it's been for them. As this was a Historic event it can't be won by an M6 Targa class car. The 'modern' Targa class was headed up by Chris Hunter / Fiona Tyson in a Mazda MX5. Fiona also won the 1st Lady award.

Mull Targa Rally (13th October)

With the unfortunate cancelling of this year's Mull Rally, the Guardians of Mull Rally Mull Car Club Ltd (in association with the Saltire Rally Club Ltd) organised the Beatson's Building Supplies 2017 Mull Targa Rally "Spirit of 88" on Friday 13th October 2017 under a Clubman Historic Road Rally Permit and, for cars not qualifying within Historic Regulations, a Clubman Targa Rally Permit. The event started and finished in Tobermory 47/505551. The Rally was not a qualifying round of any championships.

The event proved a great success with entries coming from stage rally crews, Navigational Rally crews and Historic Rally crews in a weird and wonderful selection of vehicles. In all there were some 73 entries for the event - not as many as on a 'real Mull' stage Rally but nevertheless an excellent entry for an event of this type.

Yet again it was that pairing of Andy Beaumont / Andrew Fish in the Rapier H120 who topped the field some 39secs. ahead of Garry Pearson / Richard Crozier in the somewhat unusual competition car for Garry, a standard road going Renault Clio! They in turn were exactly 30secs ahead of Craig Wallace / Clifford Auld in their Toyota Corrolla.

The event was so successful that competitors were wanting to run again next year! I suppose much will depend on whether or not the Mull Stage Rally will be running.

Dave MacKintosh (Co-ordinator for Road Events)