

# The BRITISH MOTORSPORT MARSHALS CLUB



SAFER MOTOR SPORT

MOTOR SPORTS ASSOCIATION RECOGNISED

FOUNDED 1957

Issue 9

Sept 2021



NORTHERN IRELAND REGION MAGAZINE

---

# Newsletter

**ISSUE 9**

**Sept 2021**

## **Cover Story.**

**Yorkshire farmer and one of the top runners in the British Sprint Championship for several years in his wild and wonderful Audi Supercar must hate Kirkistown. His first visit 2018 he was setting impressive times before a serious crash on the back straight tore most of the front end off the car.**

**2019 and another decent times in practice before a engine fire ruined his weekend.**

**2021 another quick time in practice before retiring the car with suspension failure.**

**Will we ever see this fabulous car reach its true potential?**



## **New Car News.**

**Big news is Gordon Murray's long awaited supercar is now in production. This £3 million road legal track day car has a very special V12 Cosworth engine , no turbo's , thank you so linear revving all the way to 11,000 RPM. And to pay tribute to his banned Brabham Fan car Gordon has designed and fitted a fan to increase downforce. Only 25 car will be built 2021 /2022 but he has already several orders. The limited Niki Lauda edition has over 725 BHP in a car lighter than a Ford Focus.**



**V.W. have announced a new Golf Clubsport 45 to mark 45 years of the GTI. Front wheel drive , 300 BHP and a special sports exhaust , larger wheels , etc, the car costs £44,000. Strange one this it's more expensive than the base Clubsport ( same performance ) slower than the Golf R and with two wheel drive can't come close in terms of road holding yet it is almost £3 grand dearer ?**

**It's a lot to pay for a couple of fancy badges and an aftermarket exhaust system.**

## **Maserati Trofeo.**

**This limited edition of their 4 door saloon boasts a revised 3.8 litre V8 with 580 BHP and a top speed of just over 200 MPH. Big surprise is the price which starts at under £150,000. For a full sized saloon car with supercar performance this must be considered cheap.**

## **AUDI S8 Quattro.**

**New top of the range Audi 8 runs a twin turbo V8 4 litre engine with 571 BHP and in lurch mode 0 to 62 MPH in only 3.8 seconds. It's four wheel steering and 5 drive modes means it can be driven like a limo , can be a long distance touring car , or can be quicker than a Group B Audi Quattro of the 1980's.**

## **Hyundai Genesis G80.**

**This one I am not sure about , Genesis the luxury brand have produced a Lexus type saloon with 2.5 litre engine 4 wheel drive and 304BHP. Like Lexus the interior is full of nice quality materials , real leather , big information screen but 0 to 60 in 6 seconds is not anything special and at a cost of £47,950 it faces an uphill battle.**

**Just a thought , I bought my wife's Hyundai i10 under the scrap age scheme in 2010 , with only 39,000 on the clock after 11 years I have lost £3995. Bought for £4995 can sell for £1000.**

**The top of the range Kia Stinger with over 350 BHP loses more than that after 6 months and I fear the Genesis , nice car that it may be, will lose at least £10,000 a year.**



**From the Archives.**

**In September 2002 ( is it really 19 years ago ) Classic Car Mag. Celebrated the 40<sup>TH</sup>. Birthday of the Ferrari 250 GTO of which only 39 were built between 1962 and 1964.**

**They reported that a lightweight 250 LM Ferrari had just been sold for £1 million, and were sure that the next Ferrari GTO to reach the market would also sell for at least £1 million..**

**They would not have believed that in 2016 one sold for £21,000 and in 2018 a 1962 car sold for over £28,000,000. Some return on someone's investment.**

**However 2002 was also a year where wise car buyers could make money ! It was possible to buy a decent E Type for £25,000 , a well known Bentley IV special for £22,000 , a nice XK 140 for £35,000 and biggest bargain of all the 1961 Abarth Monza 850SS ,restored with racing history and sold for £11,000. Today a hundred grand would not buy this piece of Abarth history.**

#### **CLASSIC NEWS.**

**Firstly let me pay tribute to Rory who worked for many hours on the Vincent , off the road for almost a year after it blew the head gasket and warped the head. Rory spent many hours getting it back on the road , the work including the fitting of a new freeflow inlet manifold , an almost new 32/36 twin choke weber and a replacement of most of the ignition system as the overheating had fried the electronic system fitted. Can't thank the guy enough.**

**Prices paid in July and August continue to confound the experts. I am aware of demand for Toyota Corolla GT Coupe has been growing but the recent sale of one with over 90,000 miles on the clock sets a record at £46,250 ,over double the estimate. A very ordinary 1970 Wolseley 16/60 with a reserve of 3 grand attracted several bids and sold for £12,300 another record.**

**Porsche 944 cars have been seeing a small increase over the last couple of years with late 1980 and early 1990 cars rising above the £5000 you could have bought one for five years ago ( I was offered one needing a clutch by a friend for under £3 grand a few years ago) . Historics have just sold one with over 100,000 miles on the clock but with full history for £15,800.**

**In early 2019 a nice 1995 Escort RS Cosworth sold for £38,000 , three grand above it's top estimate which probably came as a pleasant surprise to the seller. He might not be so happy today as another 1995 RS Cosworth sold for over £70,000 in July !**

**Bargain of the month has to be a 1970's Mini Mayfair professionally restored in 2016 when it was upgraded to Cooper S spec , uprated 1300 CC engine with only 17,000 miles on the clock , modified suspension , bigger disc,s , alloy cage , twin tanks and bills for over £22,000. Sold in July and still looking like a new car someone paid just over £12 grand for it .**

## Robert's RallyBuzz

### Outstanding Northern Ireland Championship

The 2021 NI Rally Championship is turning out to be a really exciting series. Three former champions are among seven drivers in contention for the title with two rounds remaining.

2018 champion Jonny Greer leads the points race, but he is just 5 ahead of the reigning champion Stephen Wright who in turn is 6 points in front of 8-time champion Derek McGarrity. Add in Desi Henry back in seventh but on scintillating form at the moment despite a round one retirement, and the recipe is set for a thrilling end to the tarmac series. This is fantastic to see after the disappointment of last year, when COVID-19 called a complete halt to rallying in Northern Ireland.

#### DOGLEAP RALLY

The Maiden City Motor Club put on a great second round of the 2021 Motorsport UK Northern Ireland Rally Championship on Saturday 7 August. The single venue event was based at the old Shackleton Airfield complex in Ballykelly, County Derry and consisted of six sealed surface stages totalling 42.12 miles. From the original maximum entry of 100 cars, 92 actually started stage one. 71 of these competitors made it to the rally finish.

Jonny Greer continued his winning form from round one at Bishopscourt in June. The Carryduff man and co-driver Kirsty Riddick set the pace in their Citroen C3 R5. Dominating the first five stages Greer missed out on the win when he picked up a puncture at the start of the final test dropping him to fourth place in the end.

It was a very unexpected Desi and Mark Henry who claimed the Dogleap win. The Portglenone pair had been second all day in their Hyundai i20 and were 10 seconds behind Greer after stage 5. Donegal driver and Shackleton expert Aaron McLaughlin was second in his Fiesta R5 while Stephen Wright finished third in his Fiesta. Top 2-wheel-drive car was the Darrian T90 GT+ of Barry Morris. The Dungannon man was eighth overall.

We were covering radio and rescue at the Dogleap Rally and despite some of us "being a bit rusty" not having been out since 2019, everything went extremely well. The weather was mixed, dry in the morning but very wet after lunch. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 regulations unfortunately no spectators were permitted to attend the Dogleap.

## LOUGHGALL COUNTRY PARK RALLY

For the first time ever the Northern Ireland Rally Championship paid a visit to this single venue location in Co. Armagh. North Armagh Motor Club have been running the Loughgall Country Park Rally as a clubman event for years. 2021 would see 96 cars (including top class WRC and R5's) start the short but technical and very slippery six tarmac stages all within the confines of the country park.

Originally the organisers had hoped to run a closed-road test nearby to add to the stage mileage. Unfortunately, stringent COVID-19 regulations meant that that plan had to be binned, so the overall miles would be just 19.89 (two stages repeated three times). A limited amount of paying spectators were allowed to attend under revised regulations.

Desi Henry was back on form in his Hyundai i20 R5. The Dogleap winner from was fastest on SS1 with Stephen Wright's Fiesta R5 second and Jonny Greer's Citroen C3 R5 third. On stage two Greer took over at the top and he continued to set the pace as Henry hit mechanical problems with his i20. Stage three was stopped when a spectator needed medical attention giving Henry time to fix his car.

In the end Greer and Kirsty Riddick won the rally and Desi and Mark Henry were second just 6.4 behind, but it could have been a different story if Desi didn't have his problems, he probably had the fastest car of the day. Stephen Wright was third keeping up his challenge for the championship. Another Fiesta R5 driven for only the second time by Aidan Wray finished fourth.

Damian Toner was the top 2-wheel-drive finisher in fifth with his Escort Mk.2. Toner had been the Loughgall County Park Rally winner on the previous five occasions. This year he had to give best to the four powerful R5 machines in front.

We had marshals on duty as well as providing radio cover. It had been a day of damp conditions with some heavy showers (a huge downpour delayed the last stage by 30 minutes) Although there were the usual accidents associated with Loughgall, thankfully none were serious. In the end there were 79 finishers.

As I said the race for the 2021 NI Championship is hotting up with just two closed-road events due to finish the series in October and November. There are 30 points available for a win so in reality it's anybody's championship this year! Below are the top seven. The full Championship points table is accessible on the ANICC website. I reckon that the 2021 Northern Ireland Championship is so underrated and deserves more publicity and press coverage. This year has been outstanding so far. I can't wait for the last two rallies.

### 2021 MOTORSPORT UK NORTHERN IRELAND RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS (after three rounds)

- 1 Jonny Greer 86
- 2 Stephen Wright 81
- 3 Derek McGarrity 75
- 4 Aaron McLaughlin 70
- 5 Barry Morris 68
- 6 Peadar Hurson 66
- 7 Desi Henry 59

OTHER NEWS:

In the WRC four drivers are in contention for the 2021 title following Ypres Rally Belgium. Ogier leads with 162 points Evans and Neuville are tied on second with 124 while Rovaniemi is third on 99 points.

Just four rounds remain with the Acropolis Rally in Greece next this month followed by Rally Finland. Both of course are gravel events. Spain is in October (all tarmac for the first time in years) and the final event is due to be a tarmac Rally Japan in November.

The complete 13 round 2022 WRC calendar should be announced this month. Rally Northern Ireland organisers will be holding their breath as the final four places still up for grabs may include the Belfast based event. At the moment things have gone quiet on the Rally NI front. I just hope funding can be found and the bid is successful to keep the WRC in the UK. We will know soon enough.

I managed to catch the semi-finals and final of the first two rounds of the 2021 World Rallycross Championship on Red Bull TV. The Hansen brothers dominated both rounds in their Peugeot 208's. Kevin won in Barcelona followed by elder brother Timmy. The rolls were reversed in Holjes, Sweden where Timmy won and Kevin was second. No manufactures this year, all are private teams. Seven rounds are planned the next is Loheac in France (3-5 September) and then Rega, Poland (18-19 September)

Looking forward and the World Rallycross Championship is set to go all electric next season. For 2021 there is a separate RX2E class. Although the Scandinavian drivers tend to dominate, watch out for one British up-and-coming star of the future. Patrick O'Donovan is the son of Irish born Ollie, well known as a competitor and team owner. Young Patrick is just 17 and knows no fear. In round one he finished third in the six-car final and then in Sweden he started on the back row of the final, made some great overtaking manoeuvres to reach third before a wheel fell off on the final lap. He managed to salvage sixth and now lies fourth in the Championship standings. Try to catch the next round either on Red Bull TV or on YouTube.

Back to Northern Ireland and the gravel-based Lakeland Stages Rally scheduled for Saturday 4th September has been cancelled. The organisers Enniskillen Motor Club issued a statement in which they blamed the current COVID-19 regulations as the reason for the cancellation.

## Rally Diary

### Sat. 18th September Bushwacker Rally

Omagh Motor Club are the organisers of this classic gravel event. "The Tyrone Grand Prix" as many have described the rally which utilises three stages in the West of Co. Tyrone. A maximum of 120 cars can start this the first loose-surface event to be held here this year. The 2021 Bushwacker Rally is listed as a round of the ANICC McGrady Insurance NI Forest Rally Challenge (although what other rounds will be included in this series remains to be seen).

The last time the Bushwacker ran in 2019 there was a rally long battle between the BMW of Lithuanian Martynas Samsonas and Portglenone's Desi Henry in his Hyundai i20. Back then Henry eventually won the rally as leader Samsonas hit overheating problems on the penultimate test.

The good news is that these two protagonists will be back this year in competitive cars to hopefully resume that battle. Henry is in his usual i20 but it is unclear what machine Samsonas will turn up with this time.



Other leading entries include Derek McGarrity and Martin Cairns in WRC Fiesta's. Garry Jennings, Stephen Wright, Cathan McCourt, Kenny McKinstry (Fiesta's) and James Wilson (Hyundai i20) are all in potent R5's.

The 2-wheel-drive section of the Bushwacker is always hotly contested and this year will be no different. Frank Kelly, Adrian Heatherington, Paul Barrett and Vivian Hamill are all entered in Mk.2 Ford Escorts while Shane McGirr is out in his faithful Toyota Starlet.

There are three repeated stages; Lough Braden, Carrickaholten and Killeter giving a total of 43 stage miles. We will be providing rescue, timekeepers, marshals and radio cover on the event which is based in Omagh at the Silverbirch Hotel. The service park will at Omagh Showgrounds. The Bushwacker Rally is sponsored for the 12th time by McKelvey Asbestos.

Sat. 16th October Tour of the Sperrins

The fourth and penultimate round of the 2021 Northern Ireland Rally Championship. Organised by Magherafelt and District Motor Club. The 6-stage event is a closed-road tarmac rally. Three stages in the Maghera area will run twice. The rally is probably based at Walsh's Hotel with a service park nearby. A full entry of 100 cars with all the leading championship contenders is expected. We are due to provide timekeepers, rescue, radio cover and stage marshals. The Tour of the Sperrins is sponsored by GO power. I will have full details of this event next month.



**Fabulous photo. Audi Quattro group B in action 1984.**

*CRAP CORNER.*

**Everybody knows that the Christian Brothers Schools have a very strict code of conduct. So when young Patrick failed to turn up for school , Monday , Tuesday and Wednesday , he was expecting trouble on Thursday. Sure enough when he arrived his Housemaster Father Peter was waiting outside the classroom. “ So young Pat , missing school for three days , what can you say ?” barked the Father. “ Sorry Sir , but it was my Granny , she got burned” “ Sorry to hear that , was she badly burned ?” “Oh yes Sir they don’t mess about up at that crematorium” said Patrick.**

**T V quiz Shows.**

**All of these Quiz shows had to be edited due to the Host laughing at the answer.**

**Bob Holness What L do you make in the dark when you don’t stop to consider the consequences ?**

**Contestant. LOVE**

**BOB No No the answer is LEAP.**

**Steve Harvey Any word which follows the word Pork?**

**Contestant upine.**

**Terry Wogan. Which famous Duke lives at Woburn Abbey?**

**Contestant Hazzard.**

**Ben Shepherd Between 1991 and 1998 Peter Schmechel was goalkeeper for which famous English Football Club?**

**Contestant Germany.**

**Jeremy Theakston Where is Cambridge University situated?**

**Contestant Sorry I don’t do geography**

**Jeremy there is a clue in the name**

**Contestant Leicester ?**

**Alexander Armstrong Who was assonated in Dallas by Lee Harvey Oswald?**

**Contestant J R Ewing.**

**Anne Robinson In the Lords Prayer what word meaning Blessed and starting with H comes before “is his name”**

**Contestant Howard Anne Pardon? Contestant Loudly HOWARD**

