

# **Mid Derbyshire Motor Club Spotlight**

## **Newsletter September 2019**



Welcome to the September edition of Spotlight, Mid Derbyshire Motor Club's magazine/newsletter. It is a little later than normal due to an EGM delaying the September committee meeting. August can be a quiet month with holidays taking priority. However, MDMC members still did quite a few things. Planning for our targa gathered pace, Chesterfield Motorfest, a car meet and competing were all on the agenda for members. If you did manage to get away for a bit of a holiday, we hope you had a good time and have come home refreshed ready for a busy autumn!

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### **Targa news**

Our Targa, sponsored by Geoff's Heating and Plumbing, is only 4 weeks away. The test diagrams have been finalised. Motorsport UK have appointed an observer. Entries went live on September 7<sup>th</sup> and, despite a technical hitch, lots of people managed to get their names on the list within hours! At the time of writing we have 34 entries. Others may come in following The Mercian Road Rally last weekend. Also, every cloud does have a silver lining, the cancelling of the Dansport may help attract a few more competitors. As our first targa we

need to make sure it runs successfully, this will mean as many club members as possible contributing. At the moment marshal numbers are looking healthy but we would like more. Please consider what you can do to help and support this new club venture.

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## **Mercian Road rally 2019**

The Mercian Road Rally returned, after taking a year off in 2018, on the night of Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> into the morning of 15<sup>th</sup> September. Based at Woodford Halse, near Daventry, the event covered some of the best roads on maps 151 and 152 including quite a few whites. The route was quick and bumpy! Dennis Cooke and Tom Murphy finished 8<sup>th</sup>. Richard Henman and Dan Tribe finished 16<sup>th</sup>. This was quite an achievement as Dan stood in as a last minute substitute! Shirley Hillhouse and Alex Laidlaw were 17<sup>th</sup>. Quite a coincidence that Dennis and Richard finished in places matching their seeding!

[Clubman Event Results](#)

[Nat B Results](#)

## Chesterfield Motorfest 2019

Chesterfield Motor Fest rolled back into town on August 18th! With lots of vehicles visiting there was something for every car enthusiast to take a look at including vehicles from every decade, American classics, super cars, buses, minis, MX5s, 4 wheel drives and a variety of motorsport cars along with a range of scooters and bikes. A trophy presentation for show winners added to what promised to be a fantastic day for car enthusiasts and visitors alike. Mid Derbyshire were given a prominent position and put on a great display. Chesterfield has rarely been so busy and the whole show took at least a couple of hours to look around. Dennis Cooke and Kev Bell both won “Best in show” awards for their Saxo and 205 respectively. In addition to our winners, Drew Staton, Lee Burgess and Tom Henman represented MDMC. Someone did suggest that the real star of the show was an entirely original escort RS1800 – the original press car. This show would appear to be a “must do” for 2020.





## Closed road rallying

Closed road rallying continues to gather momentum following its relatively recent introduction to our roads. Some traditional closed road events are returning to the calendar with the Beatson's Building Supplies Mull Rally running from 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> October. The Jim Clark Rally will run in Berwickshire/the Borders area on 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> November.

Clacton has seen the Corbeau seats rally running since April 2018. Next year it will be part of the BRC and includes a night stage on the Saturday using the Clacton sea front. It will run on 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

The North West stages will have its 2<sup>nd</sup> closed road event next year. It is scheduled to run over the weekend of 20<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> March. Legend Fires will continue its sponsorship which has been on-going for the last 16 years. The event will be 100% on closed roads next year with visits to Weeton disappearing from the plans. There will be new stages and some of the 2019 stages will be reversed.

It was unfortunate that two of the newer events had to run on the same weekend at the start of September. The Hill Ford Three Shires stages took place on 7<sup>th</sup> September. This event was based at the Eastnor Deer Park close to the town of Ledbury with 6 stages spread across three counties. 5 were on Closed Public Roads and 1 was on the tarmac roads within the Eastnor Deer Park. The 18 stages traversed the Gloucestershire, Herefordshire and Worcestershire. 120 cars started the event which had 48 competitive miles.

The Get Connected Rali Bae Ceredigion also had room for 120 cars competing over 43 stage miles with 8 stages. This event ran some of the longest stages seen on the new closed road events. Stage 2 and 8, Nant y Moch, was a rally challenging 10 miles. The organisation was superb with first class facilities provided for its base at Aberystwyth University. Car parking and accommodation was plentiful. This event used some of the finest rally roads using sections previously seen on some famous Welsh road rallies. Competitors said they compared favourably to Irish events.

Is it only a matter of time before the BRC becomes entirely closed roads on the UK mainland? Will we see crews from overseas coming to compete on our roads rather than British crews going abroad?

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## **Twyford autotest/PCA**

Following the Targa there will be a PCA/Autotest on Sunday 20th October. The event will be requiring further support from MDMC members to marshal on the Sunday. Entries are available online. It will use the smoother parts of Twyford around the crossroads. This will round off what promises to be a great weekend!

## **MDMC Website**

The MDMC website is still relatively new and continues to evolve. We now have a webmaster, thanks to Graham Marshall for volunteering to take charge. All members are encouraged to use the website. Please register on the site and start to use the forum. The club would prefer its members to use the website forum rather than Facebook. Club announcements and information will be on the forum. Everyone has access to the forum but not everyone chooses to use Facebook.

**[MDMC website](#)**

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## **Mid-Derbyshire Motor Club Ltd**

### **Winter Championship Series Rules**

#### **Announcement**

Mid-Derbyshire Motor Club Ltd will promote a Winter Championship Series from September through to April the following year. The Championship will be called the "Winter Championship".

#### **Title and Jurisdiction**

The Mid-Derbyshire Motor Club Ltd 20xx-yy "Winter Championship" is organised and administered by Mid-Derbyshire Motor Club Ltd (referred to as MDMC) in accordance with these Championship Regulations.

#### **Officials**

Championship	Secretary:	TBA
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#### **Eligibility**

Entrants must be in possession of a valid Club Membership Card. All vehicles must comply with the current Motorsport UK road rally regulations and all Supplementary Regulations issued for individual rounds.

#### **Invited Clubs**

All members of a Motor Club that is in the East Midlands Association of Motor Clubs are invited to compete on MDMC Winter Championship Rounds, but must be a current fully paid- up member of Mid-Derbyshire MC to score points. Current Club cards must be shown at signing-on.

#### **Registration**

Registration is free to all fully paid-up members of Mid-Derbyshire Motor Club.

#### **Championship Rounds**

The Winter Championship will comprise of no more than 7 events, a combination of 12 car, navigational scatter rallies and table top. There will be a maximum of one round per calendar month, between September and April.

## Championship

## Scoring

Points for each round will be awarded as follows:

Place	1st	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
Points	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

Competitors who do not finish will be awarded 1 point.

Organisers (who are also registered for the Championship) will be awarded 15 points for the first event they organise in the Winter Championship and 12 points should they organise a second event.

Marshals (who are also registered for the Championship) will be awarded 12 points for marshalling, but may only count this score for two events. Organisers may also Marshal on Championship Rounds but can only count a maximum of two scores (from their combined organising/marshalling efforts) towards their final score total.

An organising team may comprise of a maximum of two Championship registered competitors. To be eligible to score points the competitor must compete on a least one event.

Scores will be counted as follows:

7	rounds	–	best	6	to	count
6	rounds	–	best	5	to	count
5	rounds	–	best	4	to	count
4	rounds	–	best	3	to	count
3	rounds	–	best	2	to	count

Any less than 3 rounds, the Championship will be declared null and void.

## Classes

Competitors will compete in four classes, using the following criteria:

Class 1 (Beginners): Competitors having not competed on more than three 12-



cars and / or navigational scatters.  
 Class 2 (Novice): Competitors having not finished in the Top 20 on a 'National B' Road Rally.  
 Class 3 (Semi-Expert): Competitors having finished in the Top 20 (but not in the Top 10) on a 'National B' Road Rally.  
 Class 4 (Expert): Competitors having finished within the Top 10 on a 'National B' Road Rally.

Classes will be applied only to a Competitor's chosen discipline. For example, an 'Expert' driver (who has finished in the Top 10 on a 'National B' Road Rally solely as a driver) may enter as a Class 2 Novice Navigator if he / she has not finished in the Top 20 on a 'National B' Road Rally as a navigator.

A competitor's class will be determined by results up to and including August at the start of the championship for that year. Once a competitor registers for the Winter Championship Series, they shall remain in that class for the duration of the Championship, irrespective of any subsequent results obtained whilst competing on 'National B' Road Rallies.

## **Results**

Championship results will be published on the MDMC Website and Forum, and / or by magazine / club newsletter, as soon as possible after each round. Copies of intermediate results may also be obtained by contacting the Championship Secretary.

After the final round of the Winter Series, the onus is on the competitors to point out any discrepancies with the Championship results (by email or in writing) to the Championship Secretary within 7 days of the Championship results being declared 'Provisional'. Should no queries be received within this time, the Championship results will be declared 'Final'. The Championship Secretary will endeavour to publish Provisional results within 14 day of the final round of the series.

In the event of a tie, a 'tie-breaker' decider will be applied: firstly by the greatest number of '15 point' scores, then if still not resolved, by the greatest number of '12 point' scores, '11 point' scores....and so on until a 'winner' is established. In the event there is still a tie, the competitor with the least 'pre-Winter Championship Series' driving / navigating experience will be declared the

‘winner’. The Championship Secretary will adjudicate on this ‘ultimate’ tie-breaker decider and his / her decision will be final. NB: Engine capacity cannot be used as a tie-breaker for the final Championship results, as a driver may use different cars during the series and a navigator may navigate for different drivers....and doesn’t have an engine CC!

If there is a conflict of interest, then 3 non-affected committee members will make the decision.

### **Awards**

The awards will be presented at the Mid-Derbyshire Motor Club ‘Awards Presentation Evening’ to be held at a date ‘to be announced’, and will be allocated as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> overall drive  
1<sup>st</sup> over navigator

1<sup>st</sup> drive in each class (ie 4 individual awards)  
1<sup>st</sup> navigator in each class (ie 4 individual awards)

Best ‘All rounder’. (All Registered championship competitors are automatically considered for this awards, irrespective of class, but subject to having organised or marshalled on a least one event.

No competitor may win more than one award with the exception of the ‘all rounder’ cup.

To be eligible for an award the competitor must compete on at least one event.

### **Judicial**

Mid-Derbyshire Motor Club is run for the benefit of its friendly, enthusiastic and ‘amateur’ members. With this in mind, no protests will be entered into. The Championship Secretary’s decision will be final in all arising. If there is a conflict of interest, then 3 non-affected committee members will make the decision.

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## **MDMC 70th Anniversary**

2020 sees the 70<sup>th</sup> birthday of MDMC. The intention is to celebrate this in style. Lee Burgess has volunteered to do lots of “daft” challenges with the intention of raising money for charity. If you would like to join him, or have any idea for what he could do, please let our Chair Person know! There will also be a large range of MDMC merchandise produced to mark the occasion. There is a reunion planned for all those that remember the Drystone Road rally. A focal point of our celebrations will be a party on June 27<sup>th</sup> at Lumb Farm. This will be an all-day event with a variety of activities

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### **2020 championships dates already announced**

#### **BRC**

8 February – Visit Conwy Cambrian Rally, Llandudno, Wales

14/15 March – Clonakilty Park West Cork Rally, Clonakilty, Republic of Ireland

25/26 April – Corbeau Seats Rally Tendring & Clacton, Clacton-on-Sea, England

25-27 June – Renties Ypres Rally, Ypres, Belgium

21/22 August – Today's Ulster Rally, Newry, Northern Ireland

19 September – Armstrong Galloway Hills Rally, Castle Douglas, Scotland

Reserve Round – Wales Rally GB – Date TBC – NB there are strong rumours that Rally GB will move to Northern Ireland next year.

#### **BTRDA**

(subject to Motorsport UK approval)

- Cambrian Rally 8th February

- Malcolm Wilson Rally 14th March

- Rallynuts Stages Rally 18th April
  - The 75th Scottish Rally 6th June
  - Nicky Grist Stages 11th July
  - Woodpecker Stages 5th September
  - Trackrod Forest Stages 26th September
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## Upcoming Events Calendar

### September

- 19<sup>th</sup> – Winter championship round 1, Tic Tac Toe Table Top Rally – 19.45
- 26<sup>th</sup> – Final car meet of the year – from 6.30 pm
- 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> – Trackrod Rally Yorkshire based in Filey

### October

- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Winter championship round 2, Scatter – organised by Chris, Kev and Reg
- 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> – Rally of Great Britain – based in Llandudno
- 8<sup>th</sup> – East Midlands delegates meeting
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Committee
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Dukeries Donington Rally
- 17<sup>th</sup> – pre targa meet
- 19<sup>th</sup> - Geoff's Plumbing and Heating Twyford Targa
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Twyford Autotest/PCA
- 24<sup>th</sup> – post targa de brief
- 31<sup>st</sup> – natter

### November

- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Malton Forest Rally
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Winter championship round 3, Scatter – organised by Simon
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Donington winter series round 1
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Committee
- 21<sup>st</sup> – Club meal, **organiser needed**.
- 21<sup>st</sup>- 25<sup>th</sup> – Roger Albert Clark Rally – starts in Leominster
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – Hall Trophy – Blyton
- 28<sup>th</sup> – Natter

## December

- 5<sup>th</sup> – Winter Series Round 4, 12 car organised by Richard and John
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Grizedale Stages
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Committee
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Donington Winter Series Round 2
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Walkabout, usually starts in Wetherspoons in Ripley. Christmas jumper time!
- 26<sup>th</sup> – Still recovering from the previous day
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Jaffa Stages, Pembrey

## January 2020

- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Natter if anyone has the energy and Lumb Farm is open!
- 9<sup>th</sup> - Winter Series Round 5, 12 car organised by Dennis and Tom
- 16<sup>th</sup> - Committee

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## Motostop Belper

Motostop, in King Street, Belper, have kindly offered a discount to club members. All you need to do is present a current club card. The discount will increase as more orders are placed. Motostop can source a wide variety of parts for most vehicles. Further information will be provided in the following newsletters. In the meantime, why not have a look at their website <https://www.motostop.co.uk/>.

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## **A pint with.....Tom Murphy**



**How long have you been a member of MDMC?**  
5 years

**Have you held any posts on the committee?**  
So far I've only held a position on the committee as competition secretary.

**What got you interested in cars and motorsport? When?**  
My dad and his side of the family have always been interested and involved in motorsport, so guess I was born into it in 1998!

**What do you think are the strengths of MDMC?**  
Friendship and teamwork.

**Do you have any history as a competitor in either seat?**  
Currently approaching 100 events overall in the navigator's seat, with 5 years' experience in the BTRDA rally series. Competing abroad in recent years as well as competing on the RAC two years ago and once again this year. Still getting out on the odd night event, but slowly doing less and less due to too many events clashing!  
Nothing as a driver...

**What is your highlight in motorsport?**  
Winning the 2nd section of the Nicky Grist Stages this year, beating top local driver Jason Pritchard and George Lepley – even sweeter when it involved



proving a rubbish seeding wrong!  
Also the RAC two years ago, getting to the finish of that event after everything that had been thrown at us will be a feeling I won't experience ever again.

**In the interest of balance, what is your lowlight?**  
Crashing out of 1<sup>st</sup> Silverstar on this year's Cambrian, or making a timing error on any event!

**If you could go for a drink with your motorsport hero or heroine, who would it be? Why? What would your drink of choice be?**  
I'd love to have been able to go for a pint (or 10!) with Colin McRae. When I was on the MSA Academy, Nicky Grist would tell us some brilliant stories about Colin and his antics before and after a rally – and more often than not they involved having a few drinks! The pint of choice would have to be a pint of Pilsner, probably a Staropramen.

**How do you see motorsport changing in the next few years?**  
Sadly similarly to Jason (previous A pint with) – a further decline in road rallies and single venue stage rallying, more Targas and hopefully more local closed road stage rallies

**If you controlled MotorsportUK what would be the first change you'd make?**  
I would make the whole thing a lot clearer for everyone to understand – my main issue with the blue book is the areas where it is too vague and leaves the rules up to the opinions of different scrutineers.

**If you weren't interested in motorclub things, what else might you spend your free time doing?**  
I would definitely be playing a lot more sport, probably still playing football during the winter and cricket during the summer. I'd probably also be working a lot more at the weekends!

**Finally, what would your motorsport motto be?**  
It's all flat!

