

# MSA British Historic Rally Championship: 2015 guide



A comprehensive guide to the 2015 season for competitors, sponsors and partners



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# MSA British Historic Rally Championship 2015

**Welcome**

Welcome to the 2015 MSA British Historic Rally Championship

Welcome to the Championship Guide for the 2015 MSA British Historic Rally Championship, organised by the Roger Albert Clark Rally Motor Club. This Guide should provide all the information you need when making plans for 2015.

After two years running the West Wales Rally Spares R.A.C. Rally Championship, the club was delighted to be awarded a five-year contract to organise and promote the MSA British Historic Rally Championship.

This major development will be another important step in the evolution of historic rallying in the UK and the championship organisers are working hard to deliver a championship that is affordable, accessible, competitive, sporting and well-supported. The clear plan is to run a championship worthy of the prestigious MSA British title.

The target is to attract more than 100 registered contenders to an eight-event, nine-round calendar covering some of the best gravel stages in Great Britain as well as bringing asphalt events to the

schedule. Competitors will count their best six scores when calculating end of season totals.

The 2015 MSA British Historic Rally Championship will be open to cars from historic Categories One, Two, Three, Four and FIA Appendix K. In line with the now well-established format, all cars from Category One and up to 1600cc cars from Categories Two, Three and Four will run at the head of the rally on all gravel events.

The organisers look forward to welcoming all registered contenders to the MSA British Historic Rally Championship in 2015.



# MSA British Historic Rally Championship 2015

The team behind the new-look MSA British Historic Rally Championship has spent the last two years building the R.A.C. Rally Championship into a runaway success, with widespread competitor support amidst tremendously competitive yet sporting rallying.

The founding principles of the R.A.C. Rally Championship will be carried forward into the BHRC from 2015 onwards, with a desire to make the championship inclusive for all competitors in historic cars. A particular emphasis is placed on keeping the Category One cars active and the championship had considerable success in this area in 2014.

Fair, honest and transparent eligibility will be maintained, with firm application of MSA and FIA technical regulations.

The organising team behind the new BHRC remains largely unchanged from the last two years of the R.A.C. Championship, thus ensuring continuity and maintaining the ethos of the championship: to deliver a championship that best meets the wishes of the majority of contenders.

The new BHRC will build on the success of the R.A.C. Championship to offer unrivalled TV, motoring press, online and social media coverage. The media team will be on hand at every round to help ensure competitors receive excellent exposure for themselves and their sponsors.

The 2015 BHRC schedule will include events that cover the best special stages available while offering good value for money, a realistic road to stage mileage ratio, first class organisation and a friendly welcome to competitors.



# MSA British Historic Rally Championship 2015

The 2015 MSA British Rally Championship will be a **National 'A' status championship catering for cars from MSA historic Categories:**

|                |            |
|----------------|------------|
| Category One   | (pre 1968) |
| Category Two   | (1968-74)  |
| Category Three | (1975-81)  |
| Category Four  | (1981-85)  |

Additionally there are classes for cars prepared to FIA Appendix K regulations.

To support the role of the appointed championship Eligibility Scrutineer, an Eligibility Working Group made up of suitably qualified individuals reviews eligibility issues in real time throughout the season.

Championship registration will be £75 per crew and drivers will be able to use more than one co-driver without paying any further registration fees.

The full championship regulations will be published in due course and will be available for download from the championship website at [www.historicrallying.org](http://www.historicrallying.org)



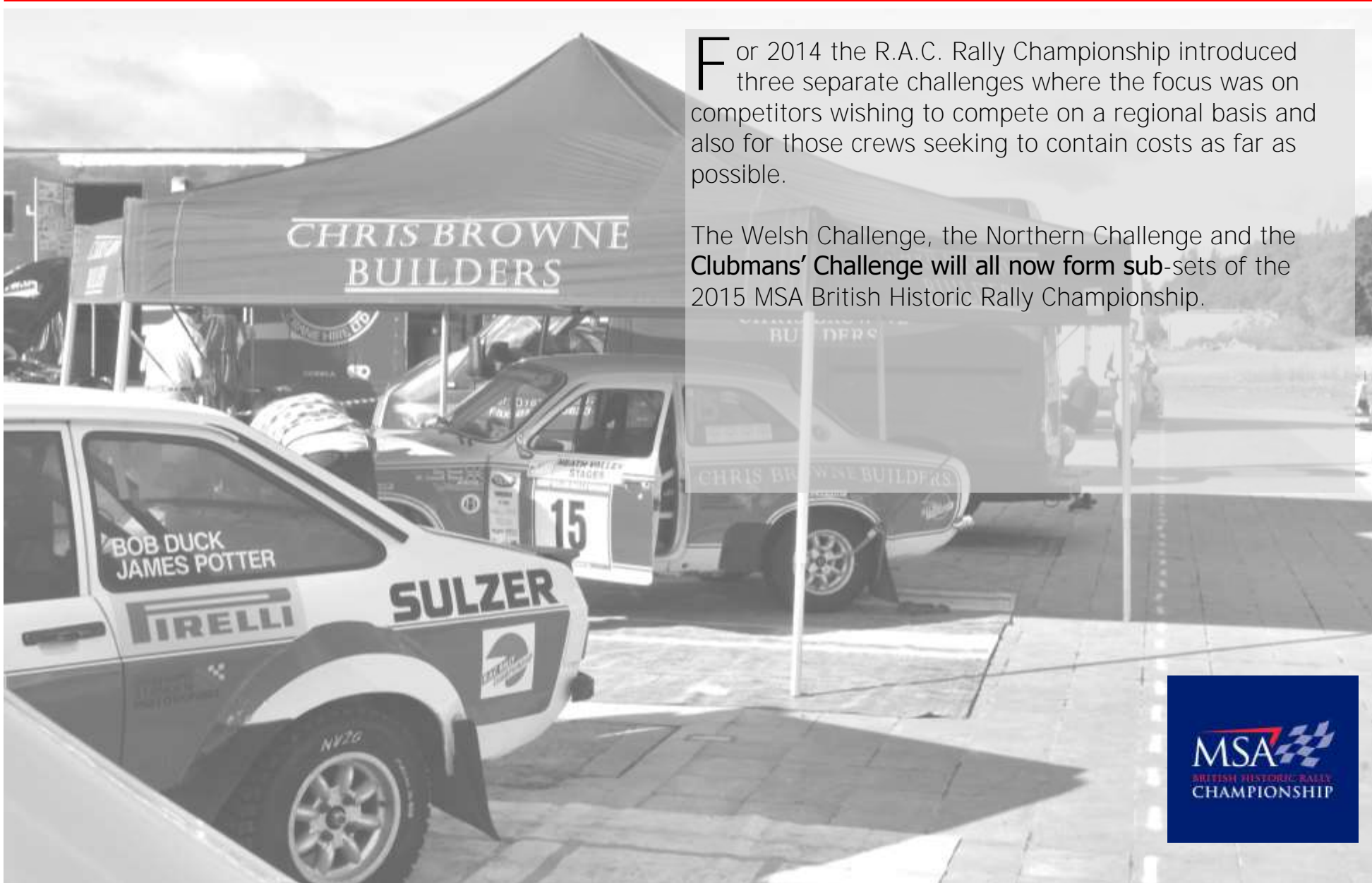
**Regulations and Eligibility**

# MSA British Historic Rally Championship 2015

## The Challenges

For 2014 the R.A.C. Rally Championship introduced three separate challenges where the focus was on competitors wishing to compete on a regional basis and also for those crews seeking to contain costs as far as possible.

The Welsh Challenge, the Northern Challenge and the **Clubmans' Challenge** will all now form sub-sets of the 2015 MSA British Historic Rally Championship.



The MSA British Historic Rally Championship is organised and promoted by the Roger Albert Clark Rally Motor Club Ltd.

# MSA British Historic Rally Championship 2015

## Welsh Challenge

With five first-class rallies in Wales in 2015, the MSA British Historic Rally Championship will feature the Welsh Challenge, first introduced in 2014 on the R.A.C. Rally Championship.

Competitors will count their best four scores from the five events in Wales towards their end-of-season total. The Welsh Challenge will run in tandem with the MSA British Historic Rally Championship but will have a different scoring system: it will be a class and category-based challenge, allowing crews from any of the four categories to be winners of the Welsh Challenge.

Points will be awarded for class position and overall position within each category. In addition to the overall award there will also be category and class awards. The championship runs concurrently with the MSA British Historic Rally Championship and competitors can score points in both series. The Welsh Challenge will be contested over the spectacular roads in Wales, the majority of which have featured in past Lombard RAC and Wales Rally GB events.

They include Halfway, Crychan, Myherin, Hafren, Pikes Peak, Tarenig, Margam, Rheola and Epynt.

No other championship offers the chance to compete on these fabulous stages.



**The Challenges - Welsh**

# MSA British Historic Rally Championship 2015

## Northern Challenge

With three rallies and four rounds in northern England in 2015, the MSA British Historic Rally Championship will feature the Northern Challenge, first introduced in 2014 on the R.A.C. Rally Championship.

Competitors will count all scores from the four rounds in northern England towards their end-of-season total. The Northern Challenge will run in tandem the MSA British Historic Rally Championship but will have a different scoring system: it will be a class and category-based challenge, allowing crews from any of the four categories to be winners of the Northern Challenge.

Points will be awarded for class position and overall position within each category. In addition to the overall award there will also be category and class awards. The Northern Challenge will run concurrently with the MSA British Historic Rally Championship and competitors can score points in both series.

The Northern Challenge will be contested over fantastic special stages covering both gravel and asphalt, including stages in Kielder, on the Isle of Man and in the Yorkshire forests. No other national championship offers the chance to compete on these fabulous stages.



# MSA British Historic Rally Championship 2015

## Clubmans' Challenge

Running as a sub-set of the MSA British Historic Rally Championship will be the Clubmans' Challenge. The principal of the challenge is to recognise those crews competing on limited resources.

At the heart of the Clubmans' Challenge is a six-tyre per event ruling: to be eligible for the challenge, drivers must use no more than six tyres per rally. The crews will compete over the same classic stages as the main championship, with the best six scores from eight rallies counting towards the end-of-season total.

The Clubmans' Challenge will run alongside the main MSA British Historic Rally Championship but will have a different scoring system: it will be a class and category-based challenge, allowing crews from any of the four categories to win the Clubmans' Challenge.

For each car competing in the Clubmans' Challenge six tyres will all be marked at scrutineering at each event and only these tyres may be used during the rally. Any tyres from a previous event that the competitor wishes to use must be taken to scrutineering and re-marked as part of the set of six for that event.

The organisers' pledge is to continue to try and contain costs and maintain a level playing field and the Clubmans' Challenge is a major part of that commitment.

Note: The Isle of Man double-header will count as two events in terms of tyre allocation for the Clubmans' Challenge.



NEATH VALLEY STAGES  
DUNLOP  
XNP 794H



**The Challenges - R.A.C. Clubman**

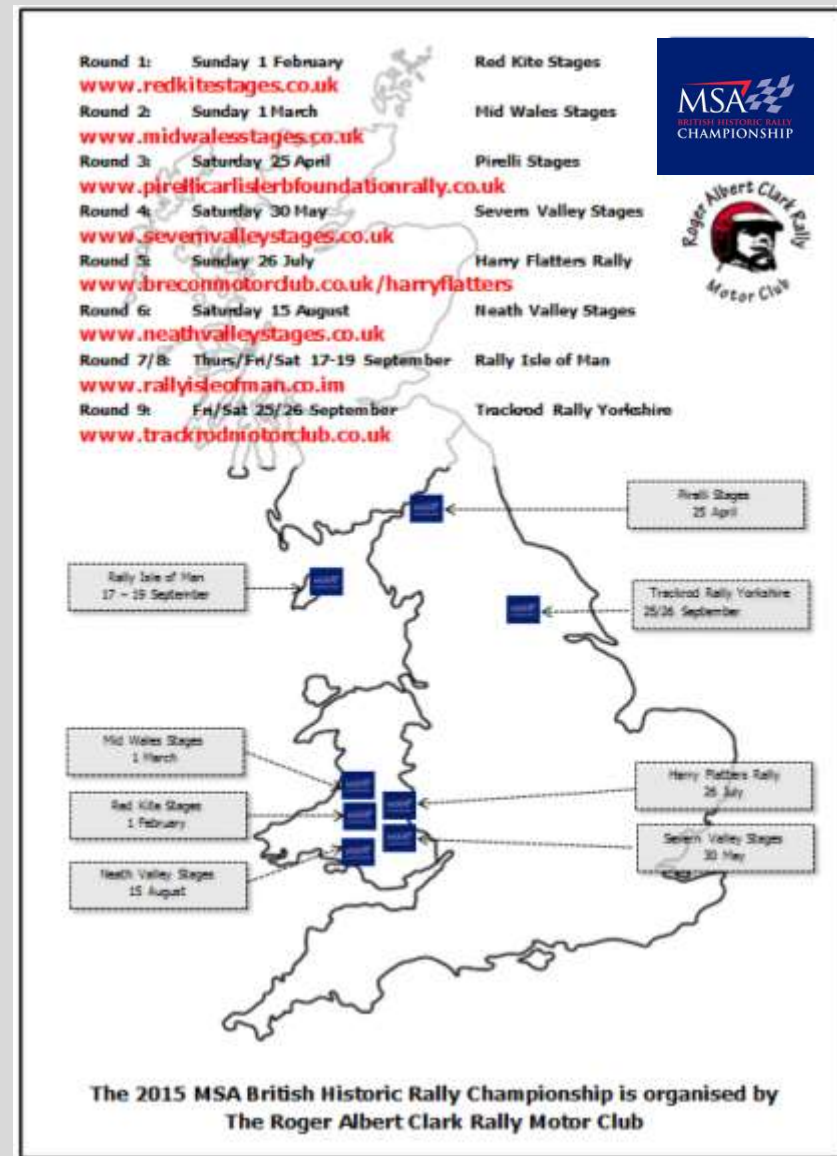
# MSA British Historic Rally Championship 2015

The 2015 MSA British Historic Rally Championship will consist of six gravel rallies and three asphalt rallies.\* The best six rounds scores from the nine events will count towards the Championship and this will be irrespective of the surface type.

The rounds for the BHRC will be:

|   |                               |                          |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
|    | Sunday 1 February             | Red Kite Stages          |
|    | Sunday 1 March                | Mid Wales Stages         |
|    | Saturday 25 April             | Pirelli Rally            |
|    | Saturday 30 May               | Severn Valley Stages     |
|    | Sunday 26 July                | Harry Flatters Rally     |
|    | Saturday 15 August            | Neath Valley Stages      |
|   | Thurs/Fri/Sat 17-19 September | Rally Isle of Man        |
|  | Fri/Sat 25/26 September       | Trackrod Rally Yorkshire |

\* IoM counts as two rounds



Round 1: Sunday 1 February  
[www.redkitestages.co.uk](http://www.redkitestages.co.uk)

Round 2: Sunday 1 March  
[www.midwalesstages.co.uk](http://www.midwalesstages.co.uk)

Round 3: Saturday 25 April  
[www.pirellicarlisierbfoundationrally.co.uk](http://www.pirellicarlisierbfoundationrally.co.uk)

Round 4: Saturday 30 May  
[www.severnvalleystages.co.uk](http://www.severnvalleystages.co.uk)

Round 5: Sunday 26 July  
[www.breconmotordub.co.uk/harryflatters](http://www.breconmotordub.co.uk/harryflatters)

Round 6: Saturday 15 August  
[www.neathvalleystages.co.uk](http://www.neathvalleystages.co.uk)

Round 7/8: Thurs/Fri/Sat 17-19 September  
[www.rallyisleofman.co.im](http://www.rallyisleofman.co.im)

Round 9: Fri/Sat 25/26 September  
[www.trackrodmotorclub.co.uk](http://www.trackrodmotorclub.co.uk)

Red Kite Stages

Mid Wales Stages

Pirelli Stages

Severn Valley Stages

Harry Flatters Rally

Neath Valley Stages

Rally Isle of Man

Trackrod Rally Yorkshire

MSA BRITISH HISTORIC RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP

Roger Albert Clark Rally Motor Club

The 2015 MSA British Historic Rally Championship is organised by The Roger Albert Clark Rally Motor Club

\* Subject to final approval by the MSA

# R.A.C. Rally Championship

Welcome to the 2015 R.A.C. Rally Championship

In 2015, the R.A.C. Rally Championship will run in parallel with the MSA British Historic Rally Championship.

The two championships will share the same organising team from the Roger Albert Clark Rally Motor Club and a similar calendar, but will feature key differences.

The ethos of the R.A.C. Rally Championship is to make the overall package affordable and accessible to crews with historic cars and also to those competing in period cars that do not fall within historic Categories One, Two, Three and Four.

**The R.A.C. Rally Championship will run as a National 'B' status championship and will be for:**

- All crews in cars running to MSA historic regulations
- All cars competing in the Open Category (all pre '87 two-wheel drive cars)
- All cars running to period homologated specification built before the end of 1990

The 2015 R.A.C. Rally Championship will adopt the six-tyre rule for all contenders. Crews may use no more than six tyres per rally, in the same style as the **Clubmans' Challenge within the BHRC.**

Crews in the R.A.C. Rally Championship will enjoy many of the benefits of being associated with the MSA British Historic Rally Championship, including:

- Running first on the road on all gravel rallies
- Category One and 1600cc historic cars to be seeded in with similar cars in the BHRC
- Other R.A.C. cars to be seeded in with the Category 2/3/4 BHRC cars
- Professional championship organisation
- Full TV coverage and media service
- Welcome centre at events
- Full time championship administration

**Welcome**



# R.A.C. Rally Championship

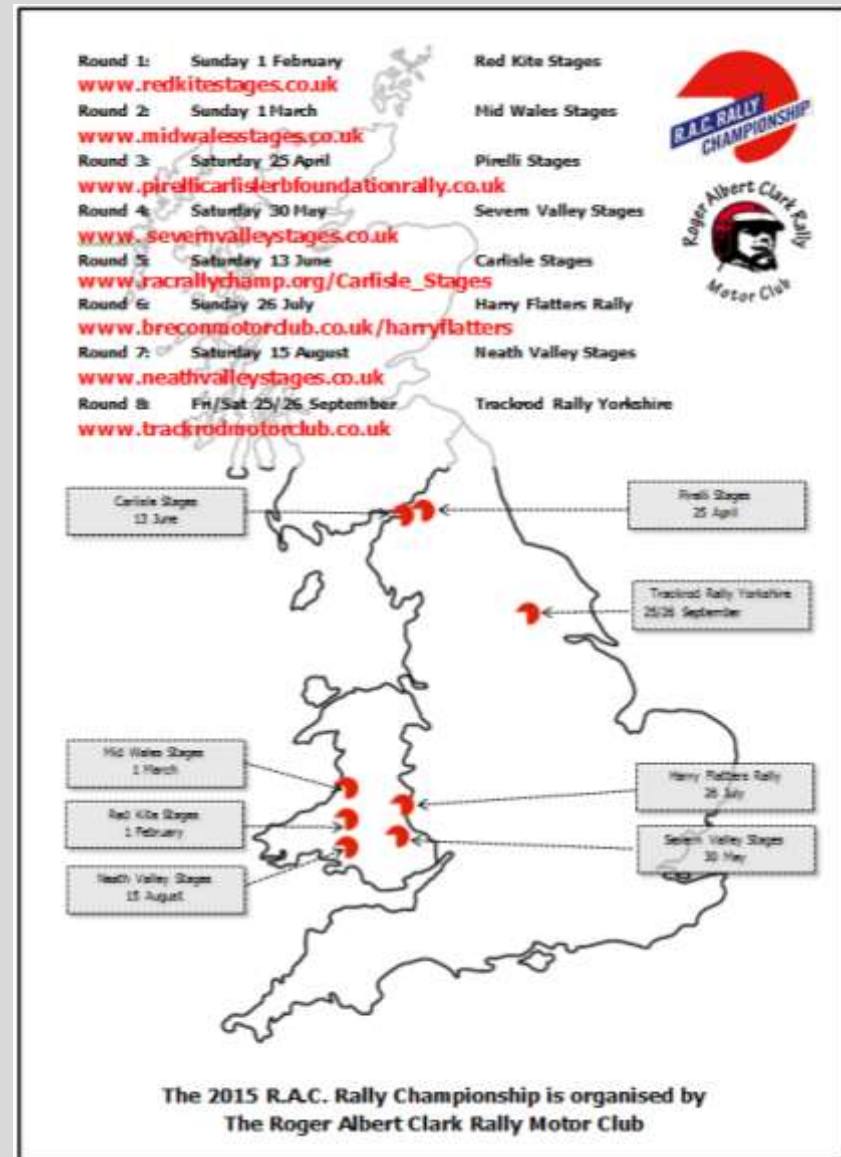
The 2015 R.A.C. Rally Championship calendar will be:

|   |                         |                       |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
|  | Sunday 1 February       | Red Kite Stages       |
|  | Sunday 1 March          | Mid Wales Stages      |
|  | Saturday 25 April       | Pirelli Rally         |
|  | Saturday 30 May         | Severn Valley Stages  |
|  | Saturday 13 June        | Carlisle Stages       |
|  | Sunday 26 July          | Harry Flatters Rally  |
|  | Saturday 15 August      | Neath Valley Stages   |
|  | Fri/Sat 25/26 September | Trackrod Historic Cup |

The 2015 R.A.C. Rally Championship schedule will include events that cover the best special stages available while offering good value for money, a realistic road to stage mileage ratio, first class organisation and a friendly welcome to competitors. The schedule differs to the main BHRC in that the Carlisle Stages (13 June) is included in place of the Rally Isle of Man (September).

Championship registration will be £75 per crew and drivers will be able to use more than one co-driver without paying any further registration fees.

The full championship regulations will be published in due course and will be available for download from the championship website at [www.racrallychampionship.org](http://www.racrallychampionship.org)



\* Subject to final approval by the MSA

# MSA British Historic Rally Championship and R.A.C. Rally Championship

**Audience**

Throughout 2014 the level of interest in historic rallying continued to climb and an estimated 20,000 fans watched the seven gravel rallies within the R.A.C. Rally Championship.

[supervisory or clerical and junior managerial, administrative or professional/skilled working class skilled manual workers], thereby giving sponsors first class access to a very important and affluent consumer group.

The number of people exposed to historic rallying is massively extended on a UK and global basis by the coverage it enjoys on television and the internet.

IN 2015 the MSA British Historic Rally Championship and R.A.C. Rally Championship will both enjoy extensive exposure on television, the internet, across social media and in traditional print media.

An audience in excess of one million people will watch coverage of the Championships during 2015 via TV and the web-based iRally.

With a comprehensive package of national level events on both gravel and asphalt, competitors are able to take advantage of local press in their area to promote their participation, offering a fantastic opportunity for all contenders to reach a significant regional audience.

The spectator demographic for historic rallying is predominantly male in the social classes C1 and C2



# MSA British Historic Rally Championship and R.A.C. Rally Championship

All rounds of the MSA British Historic Rally Championship and R.A.C. Rally Championship will be reported on the Motors TV television channel in dedicated 90-minute programmes. Motors TV is broadcast in the United Kingdom on Sky, Virgin and is now available as a free-to-air service on channel 71 for Freeview users.

The coverage will be edited and produced by Olly Dickinson and voiced by David Addison.









Up to 15 hours of prime-time coverage will detail every round of each championship, with the aim of covering as many registered contenders as possible. With each programme likely to be broadcast at least four times on Motors TV, an overall total of more than 60 hours on television is assured.

Each round of the MSA British Historic Rally Championship will be exclusively reported in a one-hour prime-time TV show, while the R.A.C. Rally

Championship coverage will follow in a dedicated 30-minute programme.

All TV programmes will be made available via the hugely popular iRally app and will also be available through the **championship's YouTube channel.**

The twin championships will enjoy excellent coverage in print media, including:

-  Motorsport News
-  Pace Notes
-  Autosport
-  Classic and Sportscar
-  Octane
-  Retro Ford

Around 60 championship press releases are distributed each year to a wide audience, embracing print media, on-line magazines and websites. The media exposure for the 2014 R.A.C. Rally Championship was impressive and will be built on for the 2015 season.



**Audience - TV & Print Media**

# MSA British Historic Rally Championship and R.A.C. Rally Championship

As we all know, the internet is an integral part of peoples' lives, with recent studies suggesting that the average adult now spends more time browsing the net as they do watching TV.

Here at the championship, we have always been ahead of the game and for the last two years we have run a very successful internet portal, as we recognised very early on that this is a must for any organisation.

For the last two years the R.A.C. Rally Championship has been served by a dedicated web team who have ensured that the site is kept up to date with relevant information and news of every round.

With the move to the MSA British Historic Rally Championship, we have developed a new website, [www.historicrallying.org](http://www.historicrallying.org), which reflects the look and feel of the "website family" of the R.A.C. Rally and the R.A.C. Rally Championship, thus ensuring a continuation which our competitors and supporters can associate with.

Because we recognise the importance of the benefits of web based coverage to our participating

competitors, sponsors, partners and our increasing fan base, our dedicated team ensure that the site is maintained at every round with championship news, results, photographs and video.



**Audience - Internet - Website**

# MSA British Historic Rally Championship and R.A.C. Rally Championship

The Championships Media Team is responsible for the maintenance of the various mainstream Social Media platforms. This successful approach will continue into the MSA British Historic Rally Championship.

Throughout 2013 and 2014, and building on the success of the R.A.C. Rally websites, the use of social media feeds including Facebook, Twitter and YouTube have ensured that during championship events our audience is kept up to date with news on the day.

The real-time feeds ensure that all relevant news is immediately delivered together with video, audio and photographs from the events to feed the high levels of on-line interest in historic rallying.

Because our team is normally centrally located within the rally service area and close to Rally HQ, it is able to deliver up to date stage by stage results [where available], competitor reports and interviews with crews, all of which enhance competitor/sponsor outcomes.

Facebook and Twitter feeds are regularly shared and retweeted by our online community which increases our online audience exponentially.

Our YouTube channel contains video from each event, snippets of previous events and in car footage supplied by our competitors.

Our continuing presence across these platforms will ensure instant coverage of the rallies as they happen to an unprecedented degree.



BHRChamp



RACrallychamp



#TheBHRC



#RACRallyChamp

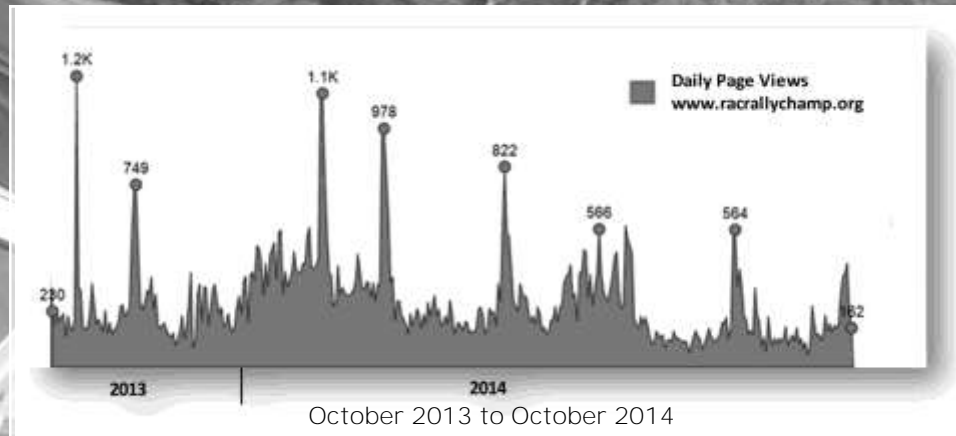


theracrally

# MSA British Historic Rally Championship and R.A.C. Rally Championship

Providing a platform for the organisers and teams to share news with the online community, the website and social media feeds provide a lively means for fans to interact and share stories, images and videos of all the action.

The Championships media team encourages the spectator and supporter to share their experience with others via the various social media platforms which the championship utilises to full effect, thus maximising exposure for competitors and sponsors.



[www.racrallychamp.org](http://www.racrallychamp.org)

Average Views Per Month: **8,185**

Unique Visitors: **56,642**

Total Page Views: **98,228**

[facebook.com/RACrallychamp](https://facebook.com/RACrallychamp)

Likes: **2,195**

Average Event Reach: **7,278**

[#RACRallyChamp](https://twitter.com/RACRallyChamp)

Followers: **918**

Tweets: **823**

[theracrally](https://www.youtube.com/theracrally)

Videos published: **34**

Subscriptions: **51**

Average views: **247**

*All statistics to Friday 3 October 2014*



**Audience - Internet - Statistics**

# MSA British Historic Rally Championship and R.A.C. Rally Championship

## Awards

The end of season awards' evening is an exceptional gathering of all the registered competitors and their crews, at which they can celebrate a job well done and relax in the company of friends and rivals.

This award evening is held at the luxury four-star CASA Hotel in Chesterfield, owned and operated by championship contender Steve Perez. With a high profile guest speaker from rallying history, the evening will conclude the most innovative and competitive yet friendly season of rallying.



# MSA British Historic Rally Championship and R.A.C. Rally Championship

## The Championship Team



Colin Heppenstall  
Role: Championship Manager

Colin has been involved with rallying most of his life.

Through his parents, Colin has had experience at all levels of rallying throughout his adult life being a Clerk of the **Course in his 20's and 30's.**

He brings a wealth of diverse practical knowledge to the Championships and is always to be seen at every round liaising with his competitors.



Nicola Heppenstall  
Role: Championship Co-ordinator

**Nicola's interest in rallying has been heavily influenced by her father who has been involved in the sport for as long as anyone can remember.**

Nicola has grown up going along to events.

When she and Colin got together, this mutual interest led to them working together organising rallies and this partnership has been responsible for the Roger Albert Clark Rally and the Championships.

# MSA British Historic Rally Championship and R.A.C. Rally Championship

## The Championship Team



John Cooper  
Role: Eligibility Scrutineer

Involved in rallying for 44 years.  
Competitor, marshal, timekeeper, steward, Clerk of Course, car builder, team management, service crew and chase driver (original RAC Rally).

Chief scrutineer for the East African Classic Safari, Welsh Rally, Wyedean Stages and Roger Albert Clark Rally.

E-mail: [trenain2@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:trenain2@tiscali.co.uk)



Alan Walker  
Role: Competitor Representative

Involved in rallying for 31 years.  
Successful competitor with a passion for historic rallying, car builder and preparer, championships committee member.

E-mail: [alan@wpcastings.co.uk](mailto:alan@wpcastings.co.uk)



Russ Langthorne  
Role: Competitor Liaison Officer

Involved in rallying for 37 years.  
Competitor, marshal, service crew, service/management. Events include East African Safari, London Sydney, South Swedish, RAC, Scottish, and Midnight Sun to Red Sea.

E-mail: [russ@acornlodge.plus.com](mailto:russ@acornlodge.plus.com)

# MSA British Historic Rally Championship and R.A.C. Rally Championship



Steve Higgins  
Role: Media Manager

Involved in rallying for 43 years.  
Competitor, marshal, closing car crew, radio operator  
and webmaster.

E-mail: [steve.higgins@racrallychamp.org](mailto:steve.higgins@racrallychamp.org)



Malcolm Higgins  
Role: Marketing Manager

Involved in rallying for 37 years.  
Competitor, organiser, MSA clerk of course, marshal,  
closing car crew and radio operator.

E-mail: [marketing@rogeralbertclarkrally.org](mailto:marketing@rogeralbertclarkrally.org)



John Higgins  
Role: IT Manager

Involved in rallying for 24 years.  
Marshal, radio operator, closing car crew, videographer  
and IT guru.

E-mail: [johnhigg@hotmail.com](mailto:johnhigg@hotmail.com)

**The Championship Team**

# MSA British Historic Rally Championship and R.A.C. Rally Championship



Paul Lawrence  
Role: Press and Photography

Involved in rallying for 46 years.  
Organiser, marshal, co-driver, reporter and photographer.

E-mail: [paul@tfmpr.com](mailto:paul@tfmpr.com)



Olly Dickinson  
Role: TV producer

Involved in rallying for 15 years  
Olly has grown up around rallying thanks to his dad Mark, who has been a regular competitor over many years including in an historic specification Ford Escort Mk2.

Olly has a passion for the sport, particularly the historic side of rallying and that combines perfectly with his professional skills in editing and programme direction.

E-mail: [ojd9224@gmail.com](mailto:ojd9224@gmail.com)

**The Championship Team**



For further information, please contact:  
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e-mail: [paul@tfmpr.com](mailto:paul@tfmpr.com) | Tel: 01952 510382

[www.historicrallying.org](http://www.historicrallying.org)

[www.racrallychamp.org](http://www.racrallychamp.org)



We are grateful to Paul Lawrence and Malcolm Higgins for use of photographs.