

Blue Scottish Tarmac Rally Championship

2014 Season Review

Blue Scottish Tarmac Rally Championship

Qualifying Rounds 2014

4th Jan	Grant Construction Knockhill Stages
5th April	DCC Stages Ingliston Edinburgh
1st June	Jim Clark (Reivers) Duns (cancelled)
14th June	Summer Stages, Crail
5-6 July	Mach1 Stages, Machrihanish
3rd Aug	Wilkinson Tyneside Stages, Otterburn
9th Aug	Used Car Parts Solway Coast Rally
7th Sep	Pendragon Stages, Warcop
10-12 Oct	Tunnock's Tour of Mull
1st Nov	Kingdom Stages, Crail

with the Awards ceremony being held again at The Grange Manor, Falkirk on the 22nd November.



Round One: Grant Construction Knockhill Stages

Chris Collie and Quintin Milne took the victory at Knockhill after a closely fought battle with Stuart Walker and Julie McGuire. Paul Ballantyne and Graham Bruce took the early lead in the championship ahead of Walker and McGuire, with Craig Gibson and Chris Lees sitting third.

Round Two: Dunfermline Car Club Ingliston Stages

Bruce Edwards and Ashleigh Morris took the win at Ingliston, finishing 45 seconds ahead of Stuart Baillie and Scott Bathgate. 2013 STRC champions Ian and Kathryn Forgan took the class victory which put them to the top of the championship standings, just one point ahead of Paul Ballantyne and Graham Bruce.

Round Three: Jim Clark Reivers Rally Cancelled

Round Four: Glenrothes Motorsports Club Crail Summer Stages

The Crail Summer Stages saw STRC competitor John Rintoul take his first victory in five years, finishing over a minute ahead of Alistair and Gillian Inglis. Paul Ballantyne and Graham Bruce finished ahead of Ian and Kathryn Forgan, leaving them tied on 66 points each at the top of the championship standings.

Round Five: Mach 1 Stages

Tom Morris and Colin Harkness took the victory at the first running of the Mach 1 Stages, at Machrihanish Air Base near Campbeltown. The two day event was organised by Dunfermline Car Club and attracted nearly 100 entries from across the country. Finishing second in class moved Ian and Kathryn Forgan five points ahead of Paul Ballantyne and Graham Bruce in the championship. Gary Adam remained third in the drivers' standings while Allan William Paterson moved up to third in the navigators' standings.

Round Six: Tyneside Stages

Peter Taylor and Andrew Roughead took the win at Otterburn, with Damian Cole and Elliott Edmondson just 17 seconds behind. Paul Ballantyne and Graham Bruce retook the championship lead after Ian and Kathryn Forgan failed to finish due to transmission failure on stage eight.

Round Seven: Solway Coast Rally

Victory at the Solway Coast went to Mark McCulloch and James Haugh who finished 22 seconds ahead of David Hardie and John McCulloch. Gary and Gordon Adam finished third and were the highest placed STRC competitors. With Paul Ballantyne and Graham Bruce failing to finish, Ian and Kathryn Forgan retook the championship lead, with just three rounds remaining.

Round Eight: Pendragon Stages

Peter Taylor and Andrew Roughead took the win in their Ford Fiesta S2400, finishing two minutes and ten seconds quicker than David Tinn and Reg Smith in second. Craig Gibson and Chris Lees were the highest placed STRC competitors, finishing tenth overall and taking the class three victory, their first ever class win. 11th overall at Pendragon moved Stephen Thompson up to third in the championship standings, while 12th helped Ian and Kathryn Forgan extend their championship lead over Paul Ballantyne and Graham Bruce.

Round Nine: Tunnock's Mull Rally

With an entry of over 135 cars, this rally on the beautiful Isle of Mull is as popular as ever with competitors, marshals, spectators and the people of Mull. Mull residents, Calum and Iain Duffy took victory on in their Ford Escort, finishing almost two minutes ahead of Tristan Pye and Andrew Falconer. With no points scored by the top three championship contenders, the championship would be decided at the final round of the season at Crail, with just 14 points separating the top three in the drivers' standings.

Round Ten: Glenrothes Motor Sport Club Kingdom Stages

With three teams capable of taking the championship victory, there was still all to play for at the Kingdom Stages at Crail. Stephen Thompson and David Crosbie were forced to retire on the first stage when the engine of their Ford Escort blew up, but they managed to secure third place in the championship. Thompson said, "What happened at Crail was disappointing but we held on to third place in the championship so I'm pleased with that. We had a good fight all year with Ian and Paul. We would have loved to have won but we'll try again another year. There was then a closely fought battle for the championship between Ian and Kathryn Forgan, and Paul Ballantyne and Graham Bruce, before the Forgans took a wrong turn on stage five, enabling Ballantyne and Bruce to take their first STRC title. Ballantyne said, "I'm over the moon. We've put in a lot of work over the years, and to finally get that result is very rewarding. We had some bad luck at Crail in the summer, issues with the power steering at Pendragon, engine problems at Mull and two punctures at the Mach 1 Stages so we didn't have a perfect season but everyone else has their issues as well. It was really competitive at the front of our class.

Award		Driver	Co-driver
O/A	1 st	Paul Ballantyne	Graham Bruce
	2 nd	Ian Forgan	Kathryn Forgan
	3 rd	Stephen Thompson	Allan W
Class 1	1 st	Murray Coulthard	Kyle Livingstone
	2 nd	Ross Carbry	Gary McDonald
	3 rd	Iain Miller	Harry
Class 2	1 st	Allan Brodie	Cameron
	2 nd	Ross Pringle	Cammy Reid
	3 rd	Greg Inglis	
Class 3	1 st	Tom Middlemiss	Richard Stewart
	2 nd	Ross McSkimming	Chris Lees
	3 rd	Craig Gibson	David Crosbie
Class 4	1 st	Gary Adam	James
	2 nd	Fergus Gray	Matt Reid
	3 rd	Kieran O'Kane	
Class 5	1 st	Stuart Paterson	Jane Nicol
	2 nd	Lee Hastings	Julie McGuire
	3 rd	Ian Paterson	
Junior	1 st	Richard Hemingway Memorial Award Murray Coulthard	Graham Lewis Memorial Award Richard Stewart



The STRC would like to take this opportunity to thank all 2014 sponsors, including title-sponsor Blue, Howford Hydraulics, John Young Signs, Grant Construction, Wheels Around, HQ Garage and Turner Autosport. We would also like to thank Raymond Mann for his invaluable assistance and advice with preparing the championship result table throughout the year.

Blackwood

PLANT HIRE

Scottish Tarmac Rally Championship 2015

The championship is pleased to announce its new sponsor for 2015, Blackwood Plant Hire. Based in the Central Belt, Blackwood is one of the leading plant hire companies in the country. Managing Director Tom Blackwood said: "Having the opportunity to support this sport through the entire 2015 season is fantastic. We're thrilled to be able to lend our support."

The 2015 STRC kicks off on Sunday 4th January with the Knockhill Stages.

Qualifying Rounds 2015 (subject to MSA approval)

4th Jan	Grant Construction Knockhill Stages
25 th April	DCC Stages, Ingliston in association with Blackwood Plant Hire
31 st May	Jim Clark Reivers (tbc)
13 th June	Summer Stages, Crail
11 th /12 th July	Mach 1 Stages, Machrihanish in association with Blackwood Plant Hire
2 nd August	Tyneside Stages, Otterburn
8 th August	Solway Coast Rally, Dundrennan
9-11 th Oct	Tunnocks Mull Rally
7 th November	Kingdom Stages, Crail

Media and Marshalls

Like all car clubs, Dunfermline Car Club is committed to organising and providing a safe environment at events for all involved, building on safety guidelines already put in place by many clubs this year. DCC is fortunate to have on board, Keith Cowan, a very experienced Chief Marshal and Stage Commander who along with Bob Wright provide additional marshals training and will be overseeing Media Safety Briefings at DCC events at Ingliston and Machrihanish.

For more information on the STRC visit www.dunfermlinecarclub.co.uk.