

7th July 2009

GOLF CLASSIC

The Carlow Car Club, represented by Paddy Phillips (14), Joe Earle (16), Jimmy Dowling (18) and Gerry O'Toole (24), were overall winners by two points of the Irish Motorsport Benevolent Fund/GOAL Charity Golf Classic on May 28, when they returned the superb score of 98 at the magnificently prepared Glen of the Downs Golf Club, Delgany. The David Kelly team of Seamus Kiernan (16), Earl Kelly (17), Colm Cummin (18) and John O'Gorman (19) were second overall with 96 points, followed in third by the Birr and District Club team on 95 points, of John Geary (11), Brendan Foyle (12), Michael Fogarty (13) and Jim Fennelly (16).

The general consensus, after a great day for golf, was that the Classic was once more an outstanding success when 25 teams started, 20 cards were

handed in and good fun, good food and friendship was enjoyed by all. The

where the profits from the Classic will go, and the need for continued



The winning Carlow CC team with Charles McCollum, Chairman of the Motorsport Benevolent Fund and John O'Shea, GOAL.

prize presentation took place in the clubhouse at 7.30 where Michael Lyster of RTE was MC. Short speeches were made by John O'Shea, the CEO of GOAL, and Charles McCollum, the Chairman of the Benevolent Fund. Both explained

support for both worthy charities.

The Co Monaghan Motor Club – Malcolm Totten, James Deery, Willie Smyth and Brendan McCaffrey - took the Cuchullann Trophy in the competition confined to motor clubs. Despite the recession, despite the fact that the entries were down from 35 teams in 2008 to 25 this time, it was felt by those concerned with the organising of the outing at the Glen of the Downs GC, that the occasion should not be missed in the future. The co-operation of Michael and Stephen Doyle of the club, the quality of the course, the good food and friendly atmosphere, have made this event very special over the past five years. It needs an overall sponsor for the future and more teams.

JULY FIXTURES

4	Cork	Summer Autotest
4/5	Leinster	Race Meeting – Anglesey
4/5	Tipperary	Hillclimbs (HC)
5	Skibbereen	Autotest
5	Co Cavan	Autocross (LS)
5	TDC	Multi – Venue Autotest
5	IKC	Kart Race Meeting (KC)
5	Mayo	Autocross (LS)
11/12	Tipperary	4x4 Challenge
12	Connacht	Stages Rally (SR)
12	TDC	Autotest
18/19	Munster KC	Kart Race Meeting (O Plate)
19	MRCCI	Midget Car Race
19	Cork	Summer Sprint
19	ALMC	Stages Rally
25	500MRCI	Race Meeting - Kirkistown
25	Kerry	Rallysprint
25/26	Limerick	Autotest
26	Co Monaghan	Autotest
26	Castle	Sprint

AUGUST FIXTURES

1/2	Killarney	Autocross (LS)
1/2	Limerick	Hillclimb (HC)
1/2	Laois	Autocross (A)
1/2	MRCCI	Midget Car Race
2	Tipperary	V+V Pre 1950 Vintage Run
8/9	Phoenix Park	Race Meeting
9	Tipperary	Stonethrowers Stages Rally (SR)
9	Carlow	Autotest (Closed)
9	Mayo	Autocross (LS)

ELIGIBILITY CHECK

The following competitor's car was sealed by scrutineers at the MEC Race Meeting on 9.5.09 and was found, when checked, to comply with the regulations: No 6 (Punto), Barry Travers (in respect of engine capacity, camshaft, cylinder head, gearbox).

DUNLOP MOTORSPORT IRELAND YOUNG RACING DRIVER OF THE MONTH – MAY 2009

19 year old Aron Smith from Rathfarnham has been selected as the Dunlop Young Racing Driver of the Month for May. The young Dubliner's performances during the month, which included a win at Donington Park, combined with two second places earlier in the season, leave him in fourth position in the highly competitive Renault UK Clio Cup series, in which he finished seventh on his debut last year.

Aron began his Motorsport career in Kart Racing at the age of 14. Since then, he has progressed through the ranks, winning both the Winter Cup and the Irish Open Kart Championships in 2006.

Aron's motor sport ambition is to graduate to a future in Saloon Cars by following his brother Gavin into the British Touring Car Championship. He is currently a Civil Engineering student in

Dublin Institute of Technology, and will begin his second year in September.

With backing from sponsors Smiths' Hire Centre and Smiths' Building Supplies, Aron plans to drive at the famed Spa GP circuit, in Belgium, later this month, and hopes to contest some rounds of the Italian Clio Cup during the year.

Having been selected as the second Dunlop Driver of the Month for the 2009 season, Aron is now a contender for the prestigious €50,000 Dunlop Motorsport Ireland Young Racing Driver of the Year Award. This award is presented annually and is sponsored by Dunlop, the Irish Sports Council and Motorsport Ireland.



MI RALLY EVENT SECRETARIES' SEMINARS

Motorsport Ireland is planning to host some Rally Event Secretaries' Seminars this autumn. The aim of these seminars will be to discuss the current roles and responsibilities of Rally Event Secretaries. The Seminars will be interactive so that current and prospective Secretaries will have opportunities

to discuss items of mutual interest, ask questions and share their knowledge and experiences.

The dates are:

Northern Region: Saturday 3rd October from 11 am to 4 pm

Southern Region: Saturday 10th October from 11 am to 4 pm

In order to gauge the level of

interest in these Seminars and to help us determine suitable locations, Clubs have been written to and asked to return details of prospective attendees as soon as possible. For further information or to register for either of the Seminars, please contact Jacky or Claire at MI on 01-6775628.

FOREST RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP

The National Forest Rally Championship organising committee have arranged an information day at the Abbey Court Hotel in Nenagh on Sunday July 26, aimed at promoting the National Forest Rally Championship and Forest Rallying in general.

The day will start at 13.00 with a static display of Forest Rally Cars. At 14.00 there will be a demonstration of how to use the Safety note DVD in conjunction with safety notes, given by Greg Shinnors.

At 15.00 there will be an open forum to discuss the championship to date, proposed dates for next year, and any other matters that need discussing.

PHOENIX PARK

Phoenix Park Motor Races, August 8/9 – Celebrating the 80th Anniversary of the Irish Grand Prix and featuring the Dublin Grand Prix race for Formula Libre.

This year's event brings a great variety of motorsport to the Park including Racing classes, sprints for Rally, Rallycross, Pre-55, and Evo cars, Classic Bike parades, Kit Cars, and various other attractions. FM104 will be broadcasting from the Park on Sunday at PR Reilly Corner (Dublin

Corner), and the paddock, located in Farmleigh this year, by kind permission of the OPW, will have lots to see.

An Exhibition of racing in the Park will be on show in the Exhibition Centre (access via the Visitors' Centre, Phoenix Park, Dublin) from Saturday August 1 through to Friday August 14. An accommodation deal has been provided by one of our sponsors this year – The Louis Fitzgerald Hotel, Naas Road, Clondalkin. Log onto

www.phoenixparkmotorraces.ie or www.ppmr.ie and follow the links to avail of this great offer. This offer extends to all motorsport and can be used anytime – not just for the Park races.

Also on www.ppmr.ie there are details of Ferry deals with Stena Line and Irish Ferries for those travelling from abroad.

DATE CHANGES

Mayo Autocross 5.7.09 changed from (GS) to (LS); MRCCI Midget Races: 18/19.7.09 to be one day only 19.7.09, 29/30.8.09 to be one day

only 30.8.09, add new dates 23.8.09 and 20.9.09; Imokilly Hillclimb from 27.9.09 to 20.9.09; Kerry Rallysprint from 26.7.09 to 25.7.09; Clare

Autocross (LS) 19.7.09 cancelled; add new date: Cavan Autocross (LS) 3.8.09.

CRONIN TAKES ON EUROPE

MI has selected Keith Cronin, the 2007 Billy Coleman Award winner, as its candidate for the Pirelli Star Driver competition, which will give a number of young rally drivers the opportunity of competing in a series of six World Championship Rallies in 2010.

Cronin, aged 22, is from Bantry in West Cork, and drives a Mitsubishi Lancer Evo 9. He is contesting this year's British Rally Championship, which he currently leads, having won the first two rounds.

Ten Northern European countries have been invited by the FIA to send a driver to the Pirelli Shoot-out for Northern Europe at Jyvaskyla, in

Finland on July 29-30. A panel of judges will select five of these drivers who will go forward to the European Shoot-out at Freistadt in Austria on September 18-20, where they will compete with drivers from other FIA regions for the 2010 Pirelli Star Drives.

The five successful drivers, who must have been under the age of 27 on 1 January 2009, will use identical Group N cars in the six World Championship events in 2010, supplied and serviced under an FIA agreement.

Keith Cronin said: "I am delighted to be representing my country again and it is a fantastic opportunity that could

ultimately result in a paid drive in the World Rally Championship".

Alex Sinclair, Chief Executive of Motorsport Ireland, said: "Last year, Keith came very close to winning one of the drives on offer and with the experience gained since then and his outstanding performances in the British Rally Championship, we are expecting great things from him this time around".

More information on Pirelli Star Driver competition available at www.rally-erc.com/rally_cover.php?sec=12

Licence Statistics

The following figures relate to the number of competition licences issued up to and including 30 June:

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Renewals	1769	1802	1938	2174	2397	2615	2286	2983	2981	3158	3354	3490	3657	3720	3405
First Time	374	446	486	522	537	669	507	595	603	566	524	520	560	575	411
Total	2143	2248	2424	2696	2934	3284	2793	3578	3584	3724	3878	4010	4217	4295	3816

The following figures relate to the FIRST interest as expressed on competitors' licence application forms, up to and including 30 June:

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Special Stage Rallying	1346	1495	1642	1888	1478	2137	2066	2040	2211	2393	2499	2517	2301
Circuit Racing	257	282	248	272	285	291	289	283	275	275	295	325	285
Kart Racing	226	251	284	278	285	302	243	198	204	206	197	202	182
Navigation Trials	166	191	231	194	147	150	143	176	198	191	199	211	173
Rallycross	44	54	66	77	82	82	120	150	127	119	141	144	124
Autocross	76	85	69	86	80	98	115	153	148	160	161	142	114
Hillclimb	see sprint	see sprint	50	71	62	78	116	134	119	105	109	107	91
Historic Stage Rallying	see retro	see retro	44	63	55	64	92	118	105	89	87	85	74
Autotests	60	59	56	59	48	60	62	67	68	67	67	68	73
Sporting Trials	72	62	67	67	66	63	57	64	63	56	53	59	51
Rallysprint	see sprint	see sprint	5	16	17	21	52	98	74	49	42	44	33
Retrospective Trials	51	52	50	50	29	32	24	24	36	39	37	38	28
Sprint	49	59	6	0	7	4	16	28	28	35	19	23	19
4x4 Production Vehicle Trials	35	43	37	32	25	31	27	34	24	20	10	14	15
Midget Car Racing	19	21	31	28	19	29	23	18	17	14	17	16	13
Production Car Trials	see 4x4	see 4x4	0	2	1	1	4	3	2	0	0	1	1
No Interest Indicated	23	42	48	101	107	135	135	136	179	192	284	299	239
Total	2424	2696	2934	3284	2793	3578	3584	3724	3878	4010	4217	4295	3816

DUNLOP HAWTHORN TROPHY

At mid-season, the lead positions are dominated by the Punto/Uno class. This is a little misleading as they and FF1600 are the only ones to have completed 5 rounds of the 8 that are counted. Abarth, Global and Libre are only on two rounds so much catching up can occur. The top dozen at July 1 are shown below:

Gary Miller (Punto/Uno) 188 (5 rounds), Barry Hallion (Punto/Uno) 167 (5), Paul Flanagan

(Punto/Uno) 158 (5), Alan Quinn (Punto/Uno) 157 (5), Vicky Reilly (Punto/Uno) 143 (5), Garry Newsome (Sheane) 140 (4), Trevor Delaney (Vee) 137 (4), David O'Brien (Vee) 123 (4), Stephen Kershaw (Vee) 123 (4), Daniel Polley (Vee) 122 (4), Morgan Dempsey (FF1600) 121 (5), Coilin Clinton (Punto/Uno) 120 (5).

The class leaders outside the top dozen are: Alan Watkins (Stryker)

110 (3), David Kelly (Historic) 96 (3), Bob Cameron (Porsche) 92 (3), Dan Daly (Libre) 68 (2), Liam Denning (Abarth) 63 (2), Keith Dawson (Global) 62 (2).

The allocation of classes to events is still evolving, so it is not clear if all classes will have 8 counting rounds. Two rounds are scheduled during July, at Anglesey and Kirkistown.

CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS

DUNLOP NATIONAL RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP (after 5 rounds):

Drivers: Niall Maguire 94 points, Patrick Elliott 78, Kevin Barrett 66, Thomas Fitzmaurice 59, Garry Jennings 55, Kevin Kelleher 41, Eamonn Daly 38, Mike Quinn 30, Paul Elliott 26, Anthony O'Halloran 23.

Co-drivers: Enda Sherry 94, Paul Goodman 78, Sean Mullally 66, Fionn Foley 60, Grainne McEnergy 33, David Moynihan 27, Anthony O'Conaill 26, Brian Doherty 26, Charlie McEnergy 23, Denis O'Connell 21.

NATIONAL JUNIOR RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP (after 6 rounds):

Jonathan Cunningham 22 points, Craig Breen and John Byrnes 20, Vincent McAree 14, John O'Connor and Kevin O'Connor 12, Kevin Gallagher 8, Chris Molloy 8, Brendan O'Mahoney 6.

PETRO SYSTEMS NATIONAL FOREST RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP (after 3 rounds):

Drivers: Trevor Harding 58 points, Pat O'Connell 52, John Reid 41, Mark Sheahan 40, James Murphy 33, John McLaughlin 31, Stephen McGrath 27, Brian Lawlor 26, Keith Cronin 20, Denis Cronin 17.

Co-drivers: Andrew Purcell 58, Mark Wiley 50, Enda Shiels 42, Jonathan McGrath 39, Anthony Nestor 33, Ray Fitzpatrick 32, Kevin Joyce 27, Peter Kavanagh 26, Greg Shinnors 20, James Lucey 18.

MAGNUS TECHNOLOGY HILLCLIMB/SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIP (after 10 rounds):

Paul O'Connell 87 points, Rory Stephens 58, Simon McKinley 44, Sylvie Mullins and Peter Dwyer 39, Paul McNally 38, Pete Ray 37, Adrian McCallion 34, Jim Doherty 33, Brendan Harpur 28.

Class leaders: Stefan Walsh, John

Bradley, Rory Stephens, Trevor Cullen, Mick O'Shea and Matt Clarke, Scott Milligan, Jim Doherty, Pete Ray, Paul O'Connell.

NATIONAL KART CHAMPIONSHIPS (after 5 rounds):

CADETS: Darragh Cormack 86 points, Ross Hayes and Conor Shaw 77.

MINI MAX: Ronan Shaw 103, Scott Finlay 75, Mark Keane 72.

KF3: Joel Richardson 84, Lee Maguire 64, Conor Dunne 60.

BILANDS SUPER 4: Ivan Thompson 78, David Yamamoto 76, Terence Corcoran 58.

FORMULA 125 GEARBOX: Christopher Maher 105, Darren Maher 81, James O'Keeffe 58.

ROTAX MAX: John Norris 82, Shane Daly 75, Martin Pierce 73.

SUPER PRO KART: Conor McCabe 92, Gabriel Lodge 90, Colin Keegan 63.

CORRECTION TO YEARBOOK

GCR 183.3: Change "Appendix 10" to "Appendix 15".

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