



Carnegie Fuels Scottish Tarmac Rally Championship

Round 6 Dunoon Presents-Argyll Rally pre-event Report

We head to Dunoon this weekend on the Cowal Peninsula for Round 6 of the Carnegie Fuels Ltd STRC this weekend, At the halfway point things are really starting to hot up in the points tables with everything still to play for in the overall and the class positions. Some regular registered crews are giving this event a miss so things could certainly look different by Saturday evening. It looks like it is going to be a hot weekend weather-wise too so hopefully not the usual Midge Fest!

This event is also the first round of the West Coast Challenge which is awarded to the highest placed driver & co-driver upon successful completion of the 3 West Coast Events, Argyll Stages, Mach1 Stages and the Mull Rally.

We wish everybody a safe and enjoyable event and thank all event and championship sponsors for their support and anybody requiring Carnegie Fuels Scottish Tarmac Rally Championship decals please contact Fiona Moir 07751 156943 who will be armed with some at the event.

Here is what some of the STRC registered crews had to say before making the journey "doon the watter":

Car 14 - Joe McKeand/Charlotte McDowall (Subaru Impreza)

Think we've got gearbox fixed, so fingers crossed all is ok now. Looking forward to it! Apart from the midges!

Car 15 - Johnnie MacKay/Richard Crozier (Mitsubishi Evo VII)

The Argyll used to be a big favourite of mine in the Fiesta, but the Evo can be a bit of a bus to handle in the narrow lanes. However, we're looking forward to a push and the challenge of it!

Car 16 - Willie Paterson/Tom Hynd (Mitsubishi Evo 9)

Broke the transfer box at Kinloss so that was replaced. Had alternator issues on the Jim Clark as well, which should be resolved for Argyll, and we managed to find a good set up for suspension etc, so we are pretty confident and positive going into the event.

Car 26 - Orrin McDonnell/Clare Fraser (Mitsubishi Evo 8)

The crew are definitely looking for a change of luck this year on this event. It's an event we both really enjoy so just really looking forward to it and hoping to get a good finish... and result!

Car 33 - Owen Paterson/Calum McPherson (Subaru Gc8)

Looking forward to getting back out in my own car after a spell of co-driving!

Car 40 - Michael Harbour/Cameron Dunn (Ford Fiesta R5)

Just hoping to finally get a trouble free/clean run in the new R5. We both like this event so hoping we can focus and try dial in a good result.

Car 49 - Alan Scott/Shaina Archibald (MG ZR)

Looking forward to the rally, just to head out and enjoy ourselves is the aim as always!

Car 55 - Steven Street/Robert Wood (Ford Escort MK2)

We're both looking forward to the closed roads of Argyll after picking up some valuable championship points at Crail. After a DNF last year, we're hoping for a clean run and finish with no heroics.

Car 57 - Keith Robathan/Ian Nicoll (Vauxhall Firenza)

Looking forward to what is shaping up to be a very warm weekend (for a change!)

Car 62 - Bobby MacDonald/Martin MacCabe (Subaru Impreza)

Hoping to finally get a clean run, and a decent finish, after recent gearbox and lack of power issues.

Car 65 - Andy Scott/Ian Robertson (Ford Escort MK2)

After 2 events co-driving (for my codriver in the Isle of Man, and then my son's first outing driving in the KVR 205) I'm back in the driver's seat for a second attempt at the Argyll. Hoping for a better Friday night this year than previous.

Car 66 - Peter O'Neill/Eilidh Williamson (Vauxhall Nova)

After coming away from Crail unscathed we've had just a few wee niggly things to prep in the lead up to Argyll. This is our first closed road event together. Looking for a clean run and are well stocked up with Smidge!

Car 67 - Alistair Brearley/Peter Carstairs (Ford Escort MK2)

The weather is looking good, but driver would prefer wetter conditions. Peter is stepping in to the co-driver's seat for this one. Looking forward to it.

Car 69 - Chris Thompson/Mark Mason (Ford Escort MK2)

Both driver and co-driver looking forward to the event and a trouble-free run to build on their championship points total. The run through the town on Friday evening is always exciting and great for the spectators.

Looking forward to getting out onto the later technical stages. Having spent most of last year getting to know the new car, new co driver and pace notes Chris is much more confident, so starting to increase the pace, and hopefully secure another good result.

Car 80 - James Wilson/Rebecca Wilson (MG ZR)

Looking forward to something new for us, first time at Argyll. Currently putting the car back together as we speak after our retirement at Crail. No time to do any testing beforehand so hopefully all will be fine. Oh, and fitting new lights too so hopefully we can see!

Car 82 - Fletcher Falconer/Ian Murray (Ford Fiesta ST150)

Had a run out last weekend at Crail to get back into tarmac mode after the McDonald and Munro Speyside Stages and found a few car issues which the team at Stark Motorsport are sorting now. We will be in perfect shape to tackle the incredibly demanding and challenging stages that await on the Cowal Peninsula. The aim this year is to get a solid finish, as sadly last year after an incredible run on the Friday night stages, it all came unstuck in dramatic fashion on the opening stage of Saturday morning.

Car 83 - Charlie Knight/Laurence Knight (Suzuki Swift)

Looking forward to Argyll but knowing it will be a challenge. Everyone says it is similar to Mull, but much more narrow and much harder. I have a few rallies under my belt now so hopefully that experience will help. Very busy looking at the route notes - a challenge for my co driver. Plan is to take it easy on Friday night and push harder on Saturday.

Car 85 - Wattie Warwick/Darrell Clark (Peugeot 206 GTi)

First time for both driver and co-driver at this challenging event but looking forward to it a lot.

Car 96 - Kenny Watt/Gail Whyte (Leyland Mini)

Off the spanners and back on the stages! Another driver changes for me this time jumping into the "Wee Red" Mini. My first time on closed roads too so not sure what to expect, but excited! Aiming just to get to the finish, let's see how we go!

Remember, if you have something you'd like to tell the rest of your fellow competitors (pre, or post event), some craic, some woes, some photos, you can contact Fiona at fiona.moir7@gmail.com or davidh@foxconstruction.co.uk and you'll be included in the next report.

Carnegie Fuels Gold Card STRC £250 Tyre Voucher 2025

A reminder that all competitors registered for the Carnegie Fuels Scottish Tarmack Rally Championship who start each event will be entered into a draw for a Carnegie Fuels £250 Tyre Voucher, so keep your eyes out on the STRC facebook page for the announcement of the lucky winner.

Keep up to date with all Championship information, points table, reports, event information, on Sportity **STRC24**, facebook and www.dunfermlinecarclub.co.uk

Should you have any queries in any way please feel free to drop an email to strc@dunfermlinecarclub.co.uk and one of the team will come back you.