



News

15th – 17th March 2013

September 12

We start the season off in March with the third running of the Poppy Rally. Once again it will be a round of the FIA Trophy for Regularity Rallies. In 2013 we'll be running two rounds – the Rally of the Tests also being one of the rounds towards the end of the season.

The Poppy Regularity Rally will as usual be based in Ypres, the motorsport mecca in the Flanders region of Belgium, just over an hour from Calais and also very convenient for crews from Holland and of course Belgium.



Both previous Poppy Rallies have seen a good mix of crews and variety of cars, technical regulations are kept to the minimum, recognising that permitted modifications vary between the entrant's countries.



This being a regularity rally of course outright speed is not generally the deciding factor – accurate navigation and good



timekeeping being just as if not more important. Even the tests are scored on a class basis minimising any advantage higher power cars may gain.

Scrutineering will be held on Friday evening and the rally starts on Saturday morning in the market square of nearby Poperinge – the traditional Saturday morning market in Ypres making it best for us to be out of the way rather than mixing it with the local greengrocers and fishmongers!

We rally through Saturday with stops for lunch and supper before returning back to Ypres in time for a celebratory drink to conclude the day.

On Sunday we have more regularities and tests before the mid afternoon finish outside the Cloth Hall in Ypres. The early finish allowing those who need to

get back home that night to do so.

All crews are invited to attend the symbolic Last Post ceremony at the Menin Gate on Sunday night before we assemble at the new congress centre for the awards presentation and dinner.

The compact nature of the event suits those who struggle to find time for our usual week long events.



The tight intricate nature of the roads will create a challenge for both driver and navigator, and a good selection of non damaging sealed surface tests (no reversing) will ensure maximum



enjoyment for all competitors. The majority of the route information will be issued in advance along with originals of the IGN 1:50,000 maps giving you plenty of time to plot and mark your map in the style that you prefer. Some route information will be given in the form of marked copies of the same maps allowing you, if you wish to copy the route onto the maps previously provided.



Our Rally HQ for the weekend will be the centrally located Novotel, parking has been arranged for you just around the corner and the bars of the Grote Markt are just a short stroll away.

We are delighted to once again be working with the local organisers in Belgium and as in 2011 those from just across the border in France.



Cars must be of a model type that was first produced prior to the end of 1981. All cars will be eligible for overall awards. The cars will be spilt into classes, based on age and cc. There will no differentiation between sports and saloon cars. The Classic Rally Association will continue to favour older cars and the route chosen has been planned around cars from the 1960's but both older and newer cars would feel equally at home.



The event is aimed at crews who have previously rallied, perhaps either on a longer CRA event or looking to step up from a single day event, we would not suggest it is a beginner's event BUT if you feel you want a challenge please give it a try and we will do our best to help you. You'll find many competitors willing to offer a word of assistance and organisers will be around to advise on Friday night prior to the start.



George Mullins, who many of you will know from other CRA events will once again be Clerk of the Course and route master. He has worked with local club members to plan a route and test venues

up to the standards set on previous Classic Rally Association events. Administrative duties will be handled by Jeremy Dickson, now in his 30th continuous year of organising historic rallies having been the founder of the Coronation Rally back in 1983.



As this event is based in one location we are going to leave you to make your own hotel arrangements. We have negotiated special rates with the Novotel HQ and with the confirmation of entry will be a list of other local hotels. This will allow you to choose an alternative hotel if you prefer.



Meals on the event and the presentation dinner will be included in the entry fee.

Entry forms will be available at the beginning of October from the website and emailed to previous competitors.



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