



The Algarve and Armagh beckon for Breen

Hello and welcome to this month's instalment of Motorsport action. In this issue I report on a very entertaining Willie Loughman Forest Rally in Carrick on Suir and I also look ahead to a busy few weeks for Craig Breen as he takes on World Rally Portugal and his first outing in the Sainteloc Peugeot 2007 S2000 at the Circuit of Ireland.

Carrick Forest Rally

On Saturday the third of March, the Carrick on Suir Motor Club hosted their annual forest rally the Willie Loughman Memorial. Based in the clubs home in Carrick on Suir, the one day event formed round two of the National Forest Rally Championship and the opening round of regional championship, the South East Stages.

The rally itself was dominated by a certain Mr Craig Breen in his Kel-Tech Ford Fiesta. Craig set the pace on the opening loop and held a 38 second lead at the halfway point. Over the second loop which was traversed in darkness, Breen showed his class to round off a convincing win. Apart from Craig there was also class wins for Carrick Club members Shay Power

and John Rafter, who claimed the class 5 honours, finishing 5th overall and the first 2Wheel-Drive drive home. Paschal O'Shea and Robbie Hennessy in their Escort Mk11 took the class 2 spoils just ahead of the Opel Corsa pair of Pierce Doheny and Damien Lawlor. John Murphy with Niall Fitzpatrick in the co driving seat finished 2nd in class 4 and on her first event in her new Subaru Impreza, Gemma Kerley with Lynn Martin calling the pacenotes took the ladies award.

Craig Breen

After a six week break in the World Rally Championship Craig Breen has a hectic two event scheduled for the end of March and the first weekend in April. First up is a trip to Portugal for round three of the Super 2000 World Rally Championship as the series moves to gravel for the first time this year. Breen holds an 18 point advantage after his encouraging start of the opening two events in Monte Carlo and Sweden. Then a week later Breen returns home for his eagerly awaited maiden outing in the IRC (Intercontinental Rally Challenge) at the wheel of a Peugeot 207 S2000. Early in March Breen announced a new 4 event deal involving French team, Sainteloc Racing

with backing from Peugeot Sport. I will cover reports on both events next month as we keep an eye on Craig's progress through the 2012 season.



Breen drives the 207 for the first time



Craig Breen at the wheel of the peugeot 207