

Peter Lloyd Rallying Stages – 24th February 2002

This Sunday (24th February 2002) sees contestants in the First Choice Mobiles Welsh Tarmacadam Championship return to the Welsh Motorsport Centre at Pembrey for the third round of the series, the Peter Lloyd Rallying Stages.

Carmarthen Motor Club has attracted a strong entry for the event, and no doubt competitors will be hoping for drier conditions than on the Championship's opening round, the Rali Cwm Gwendraeth, which ran at Pembrey on an extremely wet day.

Leading way the high quality entry is event sponsor Peter Lloyd driving his familiar M. G. Metro 6R4, with Paul Cook in the co-drivers seat. Undoubtedly the most successful driver at the venue, Lloyd starts very much as pre event favourite, and will take some beating, whatever the conditions.

Lloyd's greatest challenge is likely to come from fellow Metro 6R4 drivers Gareth Griffiths and Lyndon Barton. Championship sponsor Griffiths took a fine second on the opening round, and re-united with regular partner Mike Panes will be looking to go one better on this occasion. As for Northerner Barton, he lacks the local knowledge of the two Welsh drivers, but will be keen to put on a good showing in his recently rebuilt car, which initially led the recent Oakington Stages Rally.

A puncture dropped Ian Godney's Sierra Cosworth down the leaderboard on the Rali Cwm Gwendraeth, and so he and Justin Davies will be looking for a good finish on this occasion. Meanwhile, Pontypool's Paul Chapman / Paul Laking, who have finished in the top three placings on each of their last three events, will be keen to maintain their run of good form in their DAM 4100Gti.

Reigning Welsh Champion, Damian Cole, is the first of the two wheel drive runners in his Darran T9, and he will be followed away by locals Nigel Gibbard / Darren Mansell, who were class winners on their last outing in their similar car.

Fifth place on the Cwm Gwendraeth got John Thwaites' season off to a good start, and his Subaru is followed away by the similar car driven by Chris Martin from Andover, who has enlisted the services of local navigator Ieuan Thomas for the event. The top ten is rounded off by the Escort Cosworth crewed by Martin Parkinson and Andy Howdle.

The action gets underway at 9.30am at the Welsh Motorsport Centre at Pembrey, where the competitors will face six special stages, and spectators are welcome.

For further information, please contact Simon Gronow – tel./fax 01792 885295.