

## **NEWSLETTER 1 - 18 January 2016**



There is just over ten weeks to go now to the great Circuit of Ireland Rally reunion and what a lineup we have for you!

### **OUR SUPER SEVEN**

Seven former winners will be in Killarney, representing an amazing total of twenty-three wins in the marathon event's long history.

Our latest addition is the five-time winner **Paddy Hopkirk**, **MBE** who flies in to be our special guest on Saturday night. He may be known as 'Mister Mini' but Paddy's first three wins were not in the little BMC bombshells. In 1958 he was in a Triumph TR3A when he chalked up his first Circuit win, and then in '61 and '62 he drove Sunbeam Rapiers to victory.

Following his famous Monte win in '64, Paddy brought a Cooper S to Ireland in 1965 and triumphed: he repeated that Mini victory two years later, both times with **Terry Harryman** in the co-drivers seat. Terry will join him at Circuit Déjà Vu.

Adrian Boyd at nineteen became the youngest Circuit winner to date when he and Maurice Johnston crammed themselves into an Austin Healey Sprite in 1960.



There was no cramming required when Adrian and Beatty Crawford led the event in a Humber Super Snipe. However their limo became jammed between two ditches so it was not until eleven years later that 'The Boyder', with Déjà Vu's joint creator **Beatty Crawford** was able to win his second Circuit driving a Mk I Escort.

Adrian will be in another of his Circuit entries in Killarney, his recently restored Renault Alpine 110.



When **Cathal Curley** and **Austin Frazer** brought their Porsche 911 home to Newcastle in 1974 as the winners, it started a riotous rally celebration led by **Phil Coulter**. All three are likely to be in Killarney.



Paul Phelan was alongside **Billy Coleman** in 1975 when the Corkman had his first Circuit win in an Escort RS 1600 and he repeating that achievement with **Dan O'Sullivan** a year later.

Dan and **Ronan Morgan** will be reunited with Billy to reminisce on their wins and Dan's early adventures in TUI 250. Billy was triumphant again in 1984 winning his third Circuit in the Rothman's Porsche 911.



PJ Lehy is bringing his 'Andrews Heat for Hire' Sunbeam Lotus for **Russell Brookes** to drive and **John Brown** will be present to recall their Circuit winning partnerships in 1977 and '78 (Escort RS1800). Brookes won his third Circuit win in 1983 when Mike Broad partnered him in a Vauxhall Chevette HSR.



Then we come to the start of the **Jimmy McRae** era. Nike Nicholson was the first to partner the Scottish ace to Circuit glory in 1980, but it was **Ian Grindrod**, (who will join Jimmy in Killarney), who sat with him in '81 and '82 (Opel Ascona), in 1985 (Opel Manta) and in 1987 (Sierra Cosworth).

Jimmy took two further Circuit wins in '88 and '89 (Sierra Cosworth) with the late Rob Arthur to give him a total of seven - the greatest Circuit of Ireland Rally driver of all time.





We will have one more guest Circuit winner with us - **David Llwellin**. The event had moved away from the Kerry town when our affable Welshman brought his Metro 6R4 back to Belfast in 1986, ahead of a quality field. With him that day was **Phil Short**, who will also be with him in Killarney.

Di returned in 19—to take his second Circuit win in the Phill Colins run Group A Toyota Celica and again 'long' Phil Short was by his side.

So that completes our super seven and what a line up it is! There are other winners who sadly are no longer with us from this era - Kevin Sherry (1959); Ian Woodside (1963 - but his winning co-driver **Esler Crawford** will be present); Ronnie McCartney (1964); Tony Fall (1966); the great Roger Clark (1968, '69, '70), and Pentti Airikkala (1979).

I am delighted to say that Robin McKinney (1955 & '56) and Jack Tordoff (1973) are still very much alive but for various reasons are unable to attend.

### CIRCUIT DÉJA VU ITINERARY

#### Saturday 26 March

14.30 - 18.00 Registration - The foyer of the Malton Hotel.

Sign in, meet and greet.

Collect your registration pack, dinner tickets and get your Sunday Run starting time.

14.30 - 18.00 Circuit Déjà Vu Lounge - The foyer of the Malton Hotel.

19.00 - 19.30 Welcome Reception Malton Hotel function suite.

Break the ice over a glass of sparkling wine.

19.45 Welcome Dinner Malton Hotel function suite. (Don't forget your ticket).

Meet the 'Circuit' winners and enjoy some real Kerry entertainment and

excellent food.

#### Sunday 27 March

10.00 Sunday Run Start - In front of the Malton Hotel.

Cars leave in groups of ten at five-minute intervals. Know your start time. Enjoy the classic stages with time to take in the views . You could snap up a magnum of champagne in the fun competition along the way.

16.00 - 18.00 Circuit Déjà Vu Lounge - The foyer of the Malton Hotel.

19.30 Rickety Bridge Gala Dinner Dance in the Function suite of the Malton

Hotel. (Don't forget your ticket).

Meet more Circuit winners. Enjoy the fine complimentary wines. Savour the fine food, more entertainment and dance into the small hours.

#### Monday 28 March

10.30 - 13.00 Circuit Déjà Vu Lounge - The foyer Malton Hotel.

11.30 - 12.30 Farewell Coffee Reception - The fover of the Malton Hotel.

#### **DON'T FORGET TO BRING**

A SatNav if you have one. Helpful but not compulsory.
Digital Camera or Camera on a Cell Phone.
Circuit memorabilia. Old photos, programmes etc.
But chiefly your memories!

#### **DRESS CODE**

Saturday Dinner - Smart casual Sunday Dinner - Jackets & Cocktail Dresses

#### WHATS NEXT?

There's more to come from Déja Vu Motorsport!

Details will be announced shortly on:

www.rpm-motorsport.com

In the meantime here's a taster!



# 29 OCTOBER - 5 NOVEMBER 2016

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