



A BRIEF GUIDE TO 2027

TUESDAY 8TH - FRIDAY 11TH JUNE



- 2027 sees the twenty-third running of the Three Castles Trial. It's for any car of a make and model first introduced between 1923 and 1990. Those introduced by 1st January 1954 run in the Heritage category. Cars from the period 1954-1990 run in the Classic categories. New this year, we return to results based on class index on tests, so that any car may win outright. Also new, we now admit Historic Road Rally Cars of a model introduced by 31.12.90. All cars share the same route, halts and entry fee.
- The Trial will again run Tuesday - Friday. This is to maximise the availability of venues, to reduce traffic on the last day, and to allow crews the option of a weekend after the event for relaxation.
- Rally HQ remains at the Imperial Hotel: you are free to stay where you wish, but we have a rally deal here. Double or twin standard rooms start from **£185** B&B for 2 per night and may now be booked online using a code word accompanying your entry acceptance. Venue Cymru returns to host the Welcome Dinner and the Imperial hosts the Gala Awards dinner. We plan lunch halts beside the sea in Criccieth at Dylan's Bistro, in Mold at Bryn Williams @ Theatr Clwyd and near Bala at the 5 star Palé Hall Hotel. Excellent coffee or tea halts include Pant Du Vineyard, Bodnant Welsh Foods, Tower, Caer Rhun Hotel and the irreplaceable Mostyn Hall.
- Competitive mileage will be around 40% of the total, and each day will comprise a mix of touring, regularities and tests. Average speeds set on the event will be mindful of older cars. The event is intended to be fun; both competitive and friendly.
- Our usual highly experienced team will organise the event: Baz Green is Clerk of the Course and Route and Test Designer, Robbie Jones is his Deputy, Matthew Vokes is Assistant Clerk of the Course and Regularities and Roadbook Designer, and Ifor and Peredur Davies are Joint Chief Marshals. Kerry Bate is Secretary of the Meeting, Rick Bate is our Safety Officer. Chief Timekeeper Lee Vincent returns, as does Graham Raeburn, our hard-working Competitor Liaison Officer. Ian Crammond runs communication; Wendy Crammond runs hospitality. Peter Keel, Ronnie Sandham and Myf Owen are Club Stewards.
- Historic Road Rallies with driving tests and regularities can be run on scratch timing or on class index, the method by which performance on tests is assessed by comparison within your own class. This year, and going forward, Class Index will be used to determine your position Overall as well as your position in class, giving vehicles of any age the chance to win outright if their performance in class on the driving tests is strong. The penalty system itself is also revised, see the Regulations for more..
- **Key features of the event include:**
 - ▶ Tests on both the Penderyn Prologue and the Trial are marked on Class Index. At all times crews will be able to see their class and overall positions in the results.
 - ▶ Our "Joker" system reduces the highest RTP lateness penalty on each day to 10 secs. There will be three Jokers, one each day. Regularity penalties will be 1 second per second early or late, capped at one minute for each RTP visited.
 - ▶ The ratio of regularities to tests will be around 1:1, we aim to run 20 of each. As many as six road regularities may feature easy non-tulip diagram navigation; we may include more than one private land regularity.
 - ▶ Start times will be rotated. In setting them on days one and two, attention will be given to running experienced crews ahead of the less experienced, so as to minimize inadvertent baulking. We'll seed for the last day in overall rally order at halfway (lunch on day 2).
 - ▶ This year we will run a new, separate rally open only to VSCC members in prewar cars, called the Pomeroy Challenge. This will share much but not all of the Trial route, will have some simplified tests, and will run half an hour behind the Trial each day.
 - ▶ We will also run a separate one-day "taster" rally open only to new entrants on Tuesday June 8th. The Mostyn Trophy will have its own route and lunch halt in the morning and will then share route with the Three Castles Trial Prologue in the afternoon, running before it. Expressions of interest to info@three-castles.co.uk, please.

- Tests will be smooth, simple, forward and flowing. The keynote is fun. Classic venues such as the Great Orme, Parc Lleweni, Plas Faenol, Mostyn Hall, Hartsheath and Parc Glasfryn are already confirmed. We return to Penrhyn Park.
- Trailer parking and overnight locked rally car parking will be available, covering five nights 7th – 11th June.
- The Imperial Concours D'Elegance will as usual be a stand-alone event. Crews wishing to participate should tick the relevant box on the Entry Form.
- The popular Prologue will run with a timed test and regularity. It doesn't count towards the main competition and isn't compulsory though everyone enjoys it. Scrutineering will be on Tuesday morning 08.00-13.00. A few cars can be accommodated on Tuesday afternoon if needed.
- Brit Assist will provide full mechanical support, and we again plan to arrange an evening Llandudno garage facility to support them.
- Penderyn, Brantz, Clwydian, Concours and Vintage Tyres return as generous event supporters. We also extend a warm welcome to Octane magazine, our new media partner.
- Our Official Charity remains the **Ogwen Valley Mountain Rescue Organisation**.



Welsh history and hospitality always hand in hand.



The long and winding roads less travelled are the natural habitat of the Three Castles Trial.

To encourage entrants we have actually **reduced** the initial entry fee by £100 this year. We will not compromise on quality, in which regard this will be, as always, the best event we are able to run. **Enter early to save up to £850.**

The entry fee will be:

For entries accepted on or after 01.04.27

£3,995.00

For entries accepted on or before 31.03.27

£3,745.00

For entries accepted on or before 31.01.27

£3,495.00

For Entries Received On Or Before 30.11.26

£3,245.00

New: Easy payment plan: Five equal monthly payments by bank transfer of £725, the first £725 must be dated on or before 30.11.26; four further instalments of £725 per month payable by 31.12, 31.01, 28.02, 31.03 total **£3,625 (completed by 31.03.27)**. *Credit cards not accepted.*

Loyalty Bonus

In October 2026 previous entrants can deduct a £100 loyalty bonus.

Tick the relevant box on the on-line Entry Form, send £3,145.00 before October 31st.