



Mid Wales success for Geoff Jones Motorsport

Geoff Jones Motorsport enjoyed a successful weekend of rallying when the team took the top two positions overall and a total of five awards on a hot and dusty Rally Marketing Mid Wales Stages on Sunday 20 June.

The past week has been very busy with drivers swapping cars and Geoff was busy ensuring that everyone was properly acclimatised to their new steeds. Neville Jones was debuting the ex Gary Kenna Subaru Impreza N14 plus and despite only a brief test beforehand Neville and codriver Ian Capewell immediately felt at home in the car. Strong times all day on a rally that had previously not been kind to Neville saw the Stone based driver record his best ever finish of second overall, finishing 15 seconds ahead of Peter Egerton's Hyundai World Rally Car!

Ahead of Neville, and winning every single stage on his return to a four wheel drive, was young Matt Edwards, ably co-driven by Sam Collis. The pair, who are pace setters in the BTRDA 1400cc rally series in an MG ZR, had not driven a four wheel drive competitively for almost two years but adapted to the ex Neville Jones Subaru Impreza N12 quickly and disappeared into the distance at a pace that no-one else could match.

Seventh overall and third in class were Julian Jones and Ian Blethyn in their Subaru Impreza B13. Julian is still a relatively new convert to four wheel drive and this weekend was his best ever gravel result! The highlight of the day was taking three seconds out of his brother in law, Neville, on the final run through Sweet Lamb!

Slightly further back, but trying just as hard, was young James Watkins on only his second ever gravel rally. James loved every moment of it and took his 1 litre Nissan Micra to second in the 1400cc class and 20th overall! Having studied in-car footage of Sebastian Loeb through Sweet Lamb, James admitted to "keeping it flat" all the way down the hill into the bowl on the final stage, sparking a comment from co-driver Chris Evans... "did you take your brave pills for this stage?"

Two of Geoff Jones' students were also in action on the event. Sara Williams had been bang on the pace in her Subaru Impreza N10, lying second overall until her turbo let go on Stage 4. Osian Pryce took his third podium of the year and his first ever top ten finish when the 17 year old brought his Ford Fiesta ST back to Newtown ninth overall and third in class, rounding up a pretty successful weekend for the team!

Just 24 hours later Geoff was back in Sweet Lamb testing with Gary Kenna. Gary had an incredible opportunity to fulfil a long time dream and has now taken delivery of an ex Tommi Makinen Subaru Impreza World Rally Car! The day was all about ensuring that Gary knew what the multitude of buttons do and adjusting to life with a paddleshift gearbox! His first event in the car will be

the Quinton Stages in July but, judging by the grin on his face at the end of the test session, we think he likes the Subaru already!