



SQUARE LEFT

NEWS

Malcolm Wilson scrapped but Mid Wales returns



The Malcolm Wilson Rally will not run in 2018 after event organisers couldn't find a suitable date in the UK calendar for it to run, while the Mid Wales Stages will now be held on Sunday 27th May.

The two events were due to be staged on Saturday 3rd March and Sunday 4th March respectively, but were postponed due to the heavy snowfall the United Kingdom was experiencing.

The Malcolm Wilson, held in Cumbria, was meant to stage the second round of the BTRDA but instead won't feature in the 2018 calendar at all despite the best effort of the organisers to find a suitable date.

A statement read: "We have tried for the last two weeks to find a new date, and wish to thank the Malton Forest Rally and the Cheviot Rally for their cooperation and the Devils Own Rally which was prepared to change dates to allow us to run.

"However our negotiations have come to nothing as the North Lakes forests were not available to us and without the mileage these stages offer the event it would not be worthy of a BTRDA or a historic stage rally.

"Thank you to the backing received from both championships, we are sorry to have let you down."

The Mid Wales Stages was meant to be the second round of the Pirelli Welsh Rally Championship, but will still be a round of the series despite not running in its original calendar slot.

"We were of course disappointed to have to postpone the event originally but we truly had no choice, we couldn't even get into the stages to use them," said Wayne Jones, Mid Wales Stages Clerk of the Course.

“Ever since then we have been in talks with our championships and landowners and we are delighted to announce this new date.

“We truly hope it will suit the competitors that had entered and of course we will welcome them back to the rally with open arms.

“We would also be delighted to see anyone else that would like to sample some classic Welsh forest stages. We look forward to seeing everyone in Newtown on Sunday 27th May.”

There has been no news yet on the fate of the Border Counties Rally, the other event to be postponed in the wake of the ‘Beast from the East.’

The Scottish event was due to host the opening round of the Prestone British Rally Championship and the second round of the ARR Craib Scottish Rally Championship.