

## POPPY RALLY, BELGIUM



**MARCH 2011:** The Classic Rally Association is one of the leading organisers in the field and runs some tough, competitive events. However, the CRA's season starts with a less demanding weekend event run in the area surrounding the town of

Ieper in Belgium – an easy drive from the channel ports.

The Poppy Rally is suitable for novices and takes in roads in an area steeped in rallying history. Relaxed vehicle regulations allow most pre-1981 cars to enter, and the event runs through Saturday and Sunday before a prize-giving dinner. The rally includes regularity sections and special tests, and is a perfect entry-level event for newcomers.

*Format: regularity and special tests. More details at: [www.classicrally.org.uk](http://www.classicrally.org.uk)*

## TARGA TASMANIA

**APRIL 2011:** For anyone wanting to explore the Australian island state of Tasmania in a classic car, the annual Targa Tasmania is the perfect event.

While the main event is an all-out, week-long competition for classic and modern cars running on special stages over closed public roads, there is a concurrent touring event for those who want to sample the atmosphere and scenery at a more leisurely pace.

Inevitably, this event is a big commitment for UK-based participants involving considerable logistical planning. Tasmania is an absolute jewel, with around 37 per cent of the island dedicated to national parks and World Heritage Sites, making it a very special place to visit.

*Format: tour. More details at: [targatasmalia.com.au](http://targatasmalia.com.au)*

## THREE CASTLES WELSH CLASSIC TRIAL

**JUNE 1-4 2011:** Based in north Wales, the Three Castles Welsh Classic Trial has built an enviable reputation over nearly a decade as a very popular event blending regularity sections, timed special tests and great scenery over four days and around 500 miles of classic motoring.

The event theme is relaxed competition and great attention is paid to the social side of the trial. It is ideal for newcomers, as though the competition for victory is fierce those with limited experience can also enjoy the event. Based in Llandudno, the event is now so popular that the entry list has been over-subscribed in recent years.

*Format: regularity and special tests. More details at: [www.tbree-castles.co.uk](http://www.tbree-castles.co.uk)*

## MSA EUROCLASSIC



**SEPTEMBER 2011:** Built on the same concept as the MSA Classic, the MSA Euroclassic runs for a week across some of the most beautiful scenery and roads in Europe, visiting a different part of the continent each year.

There is no element of competition or timing and the event, which has been running for 18 years, is open to any pre-1990 car. The organisers take care of the route, hotels and breakdown support, so this is a perfect introduction to European motoring for the inexperienced participant. The route takes in race circuits, museums and other tourist locations to make it a thoroughly enjoyable motoring adventure.

*Format: tour. More details at: [www.msaclassics.co.uk](http://www.msaclassics.co.uk)*

## HERO SUMMER TRIAL

**JULY 2011:** HERO, the Historic Endurance Rally Organisation, has a deserved reputation for running challenging events and trials like LeJog which are not particularly suited to novices. But the HERO Summer Trial is eminently suitable for beginners looking to get involved in events that use the trusted format of regularity sections on public roads and special tests on private ground.

Based in Worcester, the Summer Trial spends three days exploring the wonderful Welsh borders countryside. Although there is competition it is very suitable for those with little or no experience.

*Format: regularity and special tests. More details at: [www.heroevents.eu](http://www.heroevents.eu)*

FROM  
TOUR  
BRITANNIA  
TO  
TASMANIA

CLASSIC CAR OWNERS LOOKING  
FOR A NEW CHALLENGE IN THE  
NEW YEAR WOULD BE WISE TO  
CONSIDER A SPOT OF RALLYING

WORDS | PAUL LAWRENCE



Whatever age your classic car and whatever your particular ambitions, classic rallying offers the perfect way to enjoy your car, wonderful scenery and great company.

While some events are seriously competitive others offer just a modicum of competition, and many of them can be entered with the minimum of administration or car preparation.

There are many events around the world that allow people to enjoy driving a classic car on great roads, and *Motor Sport* is pleased to bring you this guide to nine rallies in 2011.

Some are simple tours with no competition, while others run to a regularity format which requires competitors to maintain a certain average speed (less than 30mph) over selected parts of the route. Some events include timed special tests on private land over a set route that are designed to keep top speeds relatively low.

If you're thinking about taking a motoring adventure in your cherished classic car, then look no further.

## ITALIA 1000

**SEPTEMBER 2011:** New for 2011 is Italia 1000, a 1000-mile circuit of Italy in the style of the famous Mille Miglia road race. However, this event will run to a regularity format and will be suitable for any classic car, while a 'tourist' category will cater for later cars and those who do not wish to take part in the regularity competition.

With the famous Mille Miglia Retro being open only to cars of the type that competed in the original event, Italia 1000 offers a chance for owners of ordinary and more recent classics to spend three days in Italy tackling classic roads, including the Futa Pass.

*Format: regularity. More details at: [www.rallydriversclub.co.uk](http://www.rallydriversclub.co.uk)*

## TOUR BRITANNIA



**SEPTEMBER 2011:** This event is unique in being the UK's only classic race and rally tour. Alongside the main competition event is a regularity rally which takes in the same route, as well as some dedicated regularity sections on public roads.

The route includes special stages on private asphalt roads and tests at race circuits, so regularity competitors get the chance to drive on several different tracks.

In 2011, the three-day event will be based in Yorkshire and has a very experienced and friendly organising team.

*Format: regularity. More details at: [www.tourbritannia.com](http://www.tourbritannia.com)*

## LORMARINS 1200, SOUTH AFRICA

**OCTOBER 2011:** The Lormarins 1200 will offer classic cars owners the chance to participate in the first classic tour run in South Africa, with organisers promising a meticulously planned and superbly executed week of top-notch experiences.

The event is designed to showcase the rich variety of South Africa's world-renowned wine region, the breathtaking beauty of the Western Cape and the warmth and hospitality of its people. The organisers have an ambition to see the tour become one of the most important events on the calendar. Around 50 cars are expected to take part, with the event restricted to vehicles built between 1940-70.

*Format: tour. For more details e-mail: [david@barzilay.co.uk](mailto:david@barzilay.co.uk)*

## MSA CLASSIC

**OCTOBER 2011:** Perhaps the easiest and cheapest event of all to enter is the one-day MSA Classic for pre-1990 cars, which runs each October in the UK and is entirely non-competitive. This is a gentle run through glorious autumn countryside with a choice of several start venues across the country. Participants then follow a route taking in places of interest on the way to the finish, which in 2010 was at the Rockingham race circuit where entrants could enjoy a parade lap.

The MSA Classic, run by a subsidiary of the sport's UK governing body, has been the biggest moving motoring event in the world in previous years with over 1500 cars taking part.

*Format: tour. More details at: [www.msaclassics.co.uk](http://www.msaclassics.co.uk)*