Corbeau Seats stays with Rally Tendring & Clacton for 2021

In the second piece of positive news this month for Chelmsford Motor Club, Corbeau Seats has today (June 23) re-confirmed its commitment as title sponsor of Rally Tendring & Clacton, which was postponed this year because of the coronavirus pandemic. The provisional date for the third running of England's ground-breaking first closed-road rally is now Saturday and Sunday, April 24 & 25, 2021, by which time it is hoped that the cloud of coronavirus will have lifted.

Corbeau's announcement follows news of the Club's Brands Hatch Stages, scheduled for January 21, being included in the provisional calendar for the *Motorsport News* Circuit Rally Championship in association with MSVR. It comes as Lockdown regulations have recently been eased, allowing a partial restart of motor sport activities nationwide, as permanent circuits open their doors to testing, under stringent Covid-19 restrictions.

Event Director Tony Clements has confirmed that a permit application for the running of the 2021 Corbeau Seats Rally Tendring & Clacton has been made to Motorsport UK: "I am also really pleased that our title sponsor, Corbeau Seats, has been able to make an early commitment to the 2021 rally. This continuity is very reassuring and allows us to proceed with all the planned enhancements from 2020, including the Saturday evening seafront special stages and provisional inclusion in the 2021 British Rally Championship".

Following a change in legislation to allow the running of motor sport events on closed public roads in England, Chelmsford Motor Club staged the first such event in April 2018, with the encouragement and support of Tendring District Council; after Saturday Scrutineering, 15 special stages were run on the Sunday. In 2019, the event evolved to include a Saturday night Ceremonial Start along with 20 per cent more stage mileage, while the 2020 edition was to include live action on Saturday evening with special stages on the Clacton seafront.

Corbeau boss Victor Lee said: "I was very impressed with the prompt way that the Chelmsford Club dealt with its announcement to postpone the event to 2021, even before the Government Lockdown was imposed, to protect the people of the Tendring Peninsula, competitors and organisers from coronavirus. As it worked out, the early decision was the right one and prevented all concerned making any unnecessary commitments, financial or personal.

"While these past three months of Lockdown have been as difficult for Corbeau as for everyone with our employees on furlough and no production possible of our motor sport safety equipment, we are still keen to support Chelmsford Motor Club next year and hope that an early confirmation may inspire confidence among the Club's other sponsors."

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