



Wilton Recycling Donegal International Rally 2024 Press Release Three

The 2024 Wilton Recycling Donegal International Rally was launched, on the evening of Thursday, May 30th. A large crowd gathered in anticipation as the host, Charlie Collins, released details of the rally.

Aidan Harper, the President of Motorsport Ireland, praised the rally's continued success, calling it the jewel of Irish rallying, and paid tribute to the volunteers who contributed to its success.

Rodney Wilton owner of Wilton Recycling, spoke, expressing how the motor club's desire to support his business was unexpected. He was pleased with the sponsorship agreement's success in its first year, as it exceeded his company's expectations and created lasting memories and friendships.

Eamon McGee, the Clerk of the Course, outlined the record number of entries received this year and the difficult decisions made to finalise the entry list. He also provided details about the rally route and some exciting stages.

Inspector Seamus McGonigle recognised the extensive preparation put into the event by Eamon and his team in the weeks and months leading up to the rally. He also appealed to everyone attending the event to drive safely and follow the rules of the road.

Brian Brogan, Chairman of the Club, commended Donegal Motor Club for setting the standard by collaborating with all emergency services leading up to the event. He expressed gratitude to everyone who attended the launch and those who had entered, highlighting the high regard the rally and the club held.

Many competitors expressed their excitement about the event returning to Inishowen. Dave Moynihan highlighted the significance of having three classic stages in Inishowen. Local drivers Aaron McLaughlin and Joe McGonigle talked about the enthusiasm in the area, even from non-rally enthusiasts. Young drivers Kyle McBride and Ryan Mac Hugh, both members of the Motorsport Ireland Academy, are eagerly looking forward to the event, especially as it is close to home. Kevin Gallagher, aiming for a third consecutive win in the 2wd category, welcomed the fresh challenge of the new stages. He acknowledged the numerous challengers and emphasised the need to perform at one's best.



Donegal Rally veterans Cathal Curley and Seamus McGettigan urged support for the event, emphasising its positive impact on Donegal. McGettigan, who co-drove Vincent Bonner to victory in 1983, wished everyone a safe rally. Charlie Collins also acknowledged Seamus as a driving force behind rally reports in Donegal, noting his extensive coverage of the rally during his time with Donegal Community Radio and later Highland Radio.