



For immediate release

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#### MAJOR CHANGES & NEW SPONSOR FOR 2018 DOWN RALLY

Rathfriland Motor Club are delighted to announce that major changes are in store for the 2018 Down Rally, which will take place on the new date of Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2018.

The club have joined forces with close neighbours Ballynahinch & District Motor Club to co-promote and organise the rally which was first held in 2005. The 2018 event will be a closed road rally, run on high quality, famous County Down stages.

In addition, the event organisers are delighted to announce a new main sponsor, Carryduff Forklift. The local company are sponsoring the Down Rally for the first time.

Comments from David Greer of Carryduff Forklift:

*"It's an honour to be the main sponsor for the Down Rally, as it's in my home County, and will consist of some of the most famous stages in Ireland. I'm delighted the two clubs have come together to organise this spectacular event."*

Comments from Andy Gilmore, Chairman of Rathfriland Motor Club:

*"Rathfriland Motor Club are delighted to be announcing the new working partnership with Ballynahinch Motor Club. This arrangement is something our local Regional Motorsport Association the ANICC has been encouraging clubs in Northern Ireland to do. It has strengthened the organising team for the rally, and brought a renewed freshness & enthusiasm to the event. We are also absolutely delighted that Carryduff Forklift have come on board as the main sponsor of the event, we very much look forward to working with them."*

Comments from Brian Crawford, Chairman of Ballynahinch & District Motor Club:

*"Ballynahinch Motor Club are very excited to be entering into a new working relationship with Rathfriland Motor Club. We honestly believe clubs working together is the way forward for rallying in this part of the UK. We are also very happy to welcome on board Carryduff Forklift Ltd as the main sponsor. Carryduff Forklift have been avid supporters of Ballynahinch Motor Club for many years. We are very happy to have them on board and very appreciative of their continued support. We are looking forward to July 2018."*

Further major news regarding the event will be announced in the coming days.

Ends.