

Team RallyMarshal sets sail

The 1400cc Vauxhall Nova of Team RallyMarshal founder member Paul Rees is now on the high seas on its 4500 mile trip to the Caribbean island of Barbados ready for the Barbados Rally Carnival taking place later this month. Following a major engine failure at the D'Isis stages on the 5th April - the rally chosen as the pre-Carnival shakedown event – members of Team RallyMarshal worked flat out to replace the engine and get the car ready for the shipping date of April 25th.

A newer and higher specification engine was sourced for the car following the engine troubles – the first retirement for the team in 2 years of rallying – and following some frantic work at local preparation company FixACar was finally taken to the port late last week. The car is now sailing to Barbados – where it arrives on the 12th May - on the Santa Catharina fully loaded with tyres, spares and the crews other equipment. The Red Kite Education and Dynamic IS backed team travels out to the Carnival on the 27th May for 2 weeks.

The Barbados Rally Carnival is a unique event within the motorsport world with 14 days of rallying activities and the related social atmosphere incorporating a 2 day ralliesprint and a 2 day closed road tarmac rally around the island. The event is a big step for Paul with the new challenges of writing and driving by pacenotes, and night-time rallying on the cards as well as the often slippery and narrow island roads. However with confidence in his local co-driver Sean Lucas, the team are set to do well on the events and to make the most of the experiences.

The Barbados Rally Carnival is well supported by the media with the 2002 event attracting:

- + more than six hours of radio and television exposure in Barbados
- + eight hours of television programming on Sky Sports in the UK
- + an estimated 25,000 spectators over the two days of Rally Barbados
- + regular coverage on 10 web sites in the region and further afield
- + exposure to approaching 1.5 million people in the UK
- + concentrated coverage in the Barbados print media over a three-week period
- + more than 100 companies, two-thirds of them non-motor industry-related, involved in sponsorship, either directly of the event or of one of the cars

The 2003 event is expected to gain even more coverage both on Sky Sports and within magazines such as 'CCC' within the UK and at local levels. Anyone wishing to be involved with the unique PR and marketing opportunity presented by the Barbados Rally Carnival can contact Paul on paul@rallymarshal.co.uk or on 01623 404114 for further information. More information on the Barbados Rally Carnival can be found on www.barbadosrallycarnival.com.

