

# TORR 2022 Tactical Off-Road Racing

# Team Gigglepin 2022













Jim Marsden

**Alex Wilson** 

**Jack Saunders** 

**Tom Saunders** 

Staci Reeson

# TORR 2022 - Presteigne, Wales



Is it Wales or is it Africa?!

#### **Its Race Time!**

Tactical Off-Road Racing is right up our street. Think Racing meets Extreme Off-Road and you have discovered TORR 2022, a new event at a new venue in Wales devised by the legendary Welsh Xtrem crew.

It was time once again to take Bad Penny into battle and we could not wait to get started.

With a field of over 40 of the best teams from across the UK and Ireland this was going to be three hard fought days in searing 30 degree heat with the sun beating down on the normally rain soaked valleys.

## The Team

Alex Wilson was back on co-driving duties with Gigglepin technician Jack and his Dad, Tom Saunders looking after Bad Penny in pits. Staci Reeson takes care of tactics and Jim takes control of the beast they call Bad Penny.

#### **The Format**

We love this new style of racing, you can be tactical and devise your attacks, with each heat you have one hour to complete the three laps and at the end of each lap your clock stops so you can then plan your next assault. It's like chess with V8 race cars.

## Friday Evening and the Prologue

After a random hat draw we leave the line in 16<sup>th</sup> position and soon catch lap traffic and heavy dust as we battle to the finish to find we had only managed sixth position. It's not a great start and we have work to do.



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## Saturday

The sun is shining once again and it's time to get the party started.

**Heat 1:** We start sixth and battle hard finishing first on adjusted time and it's just the start we need.

**Heat 2:** Again we start in sixth and pick up the pace to fight through the pack to be first on adjusted time.

**Heat 3:** And we are flying! Bad Penny is chewing up the miles and we make it a clean sweep of first place runs after some great battles out on track with some tough winching required.



Bad Penny climbing hard.



Waiting to start.



Full send on the gravel tracks.



What goes up must come down.

## Sunday

The sun is still with us and the whole team is smiles as we line up for another day of racing.

**Heat 1:** This time we are leading out and make the most of the clear track to deliver another first place.

**Heat 2:** We are not having it our own way this time and the boys from Blackbird steal the heat win away from us by nine seconds as we get caught in lap traffic. This race is on! And only the final to go.

#### The Final

Now it's really racing, two laps back to back and everyone lined up behind Bad Penny hoping that we make a mistake.



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We thunder off the line, our 6.2litre V8 engine howling as she hammers the Welsh hills, our Fox shocks soaking up the terrain as our Maxxis Trepador tyres find the grip to carry us forward. Alex is working like the pro he is and has us clear of the winch sections before anyone can challenge us, and we stay hammer down into the final lap. Bad Penny is a car like no other and she sprints to the finish to take the win at the very first TORR race against a skilled driver line up.

It's fantastic to be back on the top step and winning again.

A massive thank you to everyone that turned up to support this event. A bigger 'Thank you' to the event staff and marshal's for making it happen. And a huge 'Hell Yeah!' to our sponsors and supporters for always believing in us and giving us the tools we need. Plus our families at home that support us and allow us to race hard.

But most importantly, this one is for a special friend that Jim started off-roading with over 25 years ago. The man who sadly left us recently. Ben Sugden we miss you every day and wish you could have seen us fly, how you would have laughed and smiled. That win was for you.

Now it's time to get our new car Mistress ready for the Ultra4 King of Poland.

We will see you there.



A winning formula.



Great to be back to winning ways.

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