

News release
May 25, 2016
World RX of Great Britain preview

Homes, gardens and Petter's got something up his sleeve

Petter Solberg is going home. Not to his home, to Lydden Hill, the home of rallycross. It's always nice to go home. Especially when last time you left home you were happy. Last year, Petter was very happy. He'd just edged a Swede to take Norway's 15th win at the fast and famous racetrack in the south of England.

Petter said: "Britain has a lot of incredible memories for me. I won my first ever World Rally Championship event there and a year later I won my first FIA world title there, when I won the WRC in 2003.

"For four years, I won Britain's round of the World Rally Championship and last season I won World Rallycross at Lydden.

"Maybe I am a little bit British.

"Actually, I guess I am a little bit British. My co-drivers in the WRC have all been from Britain and a lot of my team is now coming from there as well. This week has the feel of a home event. I like that. I like Lydden.

"Rallycross is big in Norway and this track is well known by Norwegians. The legend Martin Schanche, the man who got me interested in rallycross and part of the reason I am racing in Britain, won at Lydden 10 times.

"*Ten* times... this week I'm going to be pushing hard for two! And, with the speed some of the other guys are showing, winning will be as tough as it ever is at the weekend.

"The speed is going up all the time in World RX, it's so competitive. Last time in Belgium, we lost the lead in the championship for the first time in a very long time – almost two years, actually – and here at PSRX, we didn't like that. We like our championship lead and we want it back!

"After finishing third in Belgium at the last race, we have found some more speed from our car. We had some upgrades to the chassis and the engine planned, but we have brought those forward for this weekend.

"Don't ask me what the improvements are, I won't tell you. But, trust me, there's something up my sleeve. And it's something for you. I have a surprise for my fans!

"It's fantastic to be back in Lydden. Like I said, it's a really nice circuit, one of the quickest ones and you can really lean on the car and do some lovely long slides. It's a great place. Let's hope our plans come together.

"And where are the plans?

"They're up my sleeve, of course!"

And finally, given that we talked about homes at the top of this release, we might as well talk about the garden as well. Kent, the county Lydden Hill is in, is the garden of England, apparently. So, we've got RX's home in England's garden.

Lovely.

What? When?

Qualifying 1/2: Saturday May 14 1200/1430

Qualifying 3/4: Sunday May 15 1100/1130

Semi-finals/Final: Sunday May 15 1500

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