



## **Glory for Fisher in Galway!**

Alastair Fisher and Rory Kennedy started their 2010 rallying season with a superb result on the Galway International Rally, round one of the Irish Tarmac Rally Championship. Using their familiar Mitsubishi Evolution 9, rebuilt by Gerry McGarrity Motorsport over the winter months, they ended the two day International event in a fantastic fourth place overall, first Group N car home, and second in class to the S2000 Fiesta of Craig Breen.

Conditions were tricky on the early February weekend, with temperatures at freezing point, and the roads very greasy and muddy, but Alastair and Rory made short work of the conditions. *“We started steadily on stage 1 which was under dense fog, it was of course the usual Galway conditions with slippery patches littering the road. On stage 2 we really got into a good rhythm and set second fastest time overall. The rest of the day passed without incident and we ended the leg fourth overall and second to Craig in the new class, but first of the Group N cars. It was a positive start for the team and the adjustments we had made to the car over the winter break felt good.”*

Day two, Sunday didn't start so smoothly for Alastair with two spins on the opening Black Road stage near Loughrea, which cost him twenty seconds. On the following stage Alastair moved into third place overall, as Tim McNulty retired with a broken gearbox in his WRC Subaru. Over the remaining four stages of the event Alastair was locked in an epic battle with the much more powerful Ford Focus WRC of Aaron MacHale. *“It was a great race with Aaron, but we lost out on the final stage. We were six seconds in front, but conditions had dried out and the World Rally Car proved too much for us over the final test. Nevertheless we were delighted to record fourth place overall and finish first in Group N out of a strong production car entry.”*

With extra bonus points available for Group N and Super 2000 machines, the Galway result puts Alastair on level points with Aaron MacHale, third in the championship, with round two the legendary Circuit of Ireland on Easter weekend 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> April.

