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by Arthur Debenham

FOR their Centenary Stages Rally, Sheffield & Hallamshire MC changed their venue from Cortesmore to RAF Barkston Heath, near Grantham.

A qualifying round of the Junior 1000 Rally Challenge, Bury teenager Kasia Nicklin was among the 19-strong entry at the wheel of her Nissan Micra, along with co-driver Peter Skillen.

In hot and humid conditions, Nicklin was quickly on the pace, recording the fourth-fastest time on stage one.

The top eight were separated by only a few seconds until the last stage (eight).

During stage seven, the venue was hit by a heavy storm, but Nicklin was in control, recording another fourth fastest time.

Following the final stage, the local girl was full of praise for her co-driver, as they finished sixth in their category.

If the seniors were taken into consideration, many with more powerful cars, Nicklin's little 1000cc machine would have been classified 38th from 97.