

THE ARMSTRONG GALLOWAY HILLS RALLY

October 30th, 2011

Solway Car Club
East Ayrshire Car Club
Machars Car Club

Moving the rally forward five weeks was a popular move with both competitors and marshals but the day before the event high winds and heavy rain did not augur well for the day in the forest. Overnight the weather took a turn for the better and competitors, refreshed from their extra hour in bed due the clocks changing lined up in Castle Douglas for the 8.30a.m. start.

Favourite Jock Armstrong trailed Mark McCulloch by one second after the first stage but responded by being fastest on the next two stages. His rally was to end on the next stage, leaving Mark McCulloch five seconds ahead of Stephen Petch. On the final stage McCulloch took another 26 seconds off Petch to secure victory, but there was a very close finish for third spot, Craig McMiken scraping home two seconds in front of Chris Collie. The top six places were:

1. Mark McCulloch	Craig Wallace	Subaru Impreza	46m 06s
2. Stephen Petch	John Richardson	Hyundai Accent WRC	46m 37s
3. Craig McMiken	Susan Shanks	Mitsubishi Evo 9	47m 25s
4. Chris Collie	Neil Shanks	Subaru impreza	47m 27s
5. Liam Regan	Damien Duffin	Peugeot 206	47m 55s
6. Richard Dickson	Sanny Dobie	Subaru Impreza	48m 28s

Ayrshire drivers:

- 8 Andrew Gallacher
- 9 Allan McDowall
- 14. Robert Adamson
- 16. Blair McCulloch
- 25. Scott McMinn
- 28. Alan Forrest
- 37. David Alexander
- Colin Gemmell
- Ross McFadzean
- Greg Pollock
- George Bryson

Phil Sandham	Subaru Impreza	48m 39s
Gavin Heseltine	Opel Kadett	48m 51s
Dick Wardle	Ford Escort RS1800	51m 06s
Alex McCulloch	Vauxhall Nova	51m 31s
Stephen Marshall	Subaru Impreza	54m 06s
James Chrichton	Subaru Impreza	55m 40s
Jock Frew	Vauxhall Nova	62m 57s
Paula Swinscoe	Subaru Impreza	Retired after an "off" on SS4
Scott Thomson	Subaru Impreza	OTL
Michael Cruikshank	Ford Escort Mk1	Retired SS5
Jacqueline Bryson	Ford Escort Twin Cam.	OTL after an "off" on SS5

Mark McCulloch



David Alexander



Jock Armstrong



George Bryson



PHOTOS BY SAM HENDERSON

WINTER AUTOTEST SERIES PLANNED

The inclement summer which the West of Scotland, and other parts has experience this year has left many fields waterlogged and this has had a disastrous effect on the ambitious programme of grass tests the Club had scheduled at our two fields at Pinwherry and Drumclog.

There was little the Club could do about these cancellations, and it brings back memories of our days in auto-cross when we had to write-off weeks of planning after either the track or the paddock, or even the car park became a mudbath. Fortunately it never happened on a Scottish Championship autocross, but we were lucky.

It is not all doom and gloom on the autotest front, however for a series of autotests on tarmacadam is planned for the coming winter. Two of these will take place on the paddock areas and short sections of the track at Kames and run by EACC as part of the new Winter Autotest Challenge, the other two being run by Scottish Sporting Car Club at Johnstone in Renfrewshire. SSCC have always been strong in autotesting and their events are likely to be well organised

The tests we ran last year were attracting more entries with each event and it is hoped the competitions will be well supported. Hopefully, there should be some worthwhile action at Muirkirk for both drivers and spectators in over the winter.

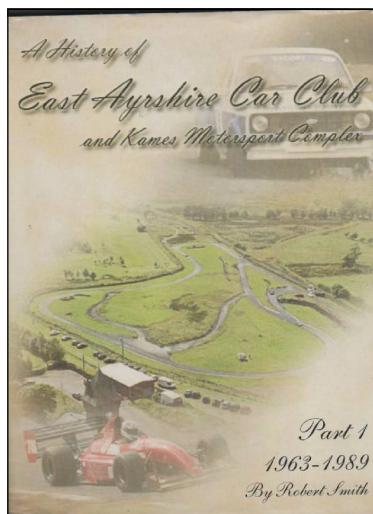
The dates are as follows:

Dec 3 rd 2011	SSCC	Johnstone
Jan 22 nd 2012	EACC	Kames
Feb 12th 2012	EACC	Kames
Mar 10 th 2012	SSCC	Johnstone

More details will shortly appear on the EACC and SSCC websites. Russell Fair can help: Tel 07909 997039

MJ Engineering Ltd are to continue their sponsorship of the Lowland Speed Championship in 2012. The company is owned by our two Aberdeenshire members Les Mutch and Mike Jolly who co-drive that fast, dark green Dax Rush. They haven't been seen much at Kames this year as they have been contesting the Leaders Championship within the Nicolson MacLaren MSA British Hillclimb Championship where most of the rounds are in England. Mike finished eighth in that championship.

KEEP THE REPORTS COMING IN



ANOTHER BUMPER TURNOUT FOR DINNER-DANCE ?

The East Ayrshire Annual Dinner-Dance is again to be held in the Lochside House Hotel near New Cumnock and is scheduled for Saturday 4th February.

As well as the presentation of the trophies for the EACC championships and competitions the winners and class winners of the MJ Engineering Lowland Speed Championship will receive their awards. As most of the Lowland drivers are Kames regulars there will be an abundance of familiar faces. Tickets are a bargain at £25.00.

KINGDOM STAGES NOVEMBER 5

The Club was well represented at Crail but fortunes were mixed. Best news was the class win for Derek Connell/ Robbie Greenwood (44th overall) on their first outing out-with Kames but Kieron O'Kane (24th overall) would be equally satisfied with a second in class in his Ascona. Ross Fernie/ John Young were 38th in their Impreza. George and Jacqueline Bryson, on their new Mk2 Escort lost two minutes following a spin on SS1 but rapidly climbed the results until the gearbox jammed on SS4 bringing a promising push to a disappointing end. This was a local event for Stuart Baillie, now residing in Kirkcaldy as a fuel hose came off on the opening stage leaving him stranded out on the airfield. Peter and John McCallum didn't make the start after their Peugeot 205 developed electrical problems. Cameron Fair also took part, co-driving for Fort William's Steven Brown and they were 29th overall. In a 205 with spongy brakes.

Ian Gemmell and his fellow organisers would like to thank all the marshals who ran the Glengap stage so successfully on the Galloway Hills Rally. In particular thanks are due to those who set up the stage on Saturday when we gather the heavy rain was driven horizontally by the high winds. Many of the marshals slept overnight in the clubhouse of the Gatehouse of Fleet Boy Scout troop. No doubt there will be a few stories being told about that.

In the National Rally of Scotland on October 7-9th, John McClory and David Hood finished second in their Subaru Impreza but would have won outright had they not incurred road penalty points trying to locate the final control. Nigel Feeley and Paula Swinscoe were fourth in another Impreza. This was the National status event which ran alongside the MSA Rally of Scotland, a round of the Inter-continental Rally Challenge.

When the Club board went ahead with an order for 250 copies of the Club History (1963-1989) many considered the move to be on the ambitious side. However, some five months from the launch around 200 books have been sold and the break-even point passed. It looks like being a collector's item.

With less than 25% of the stock remaining, we are anxious that everyone who has an interest in the background of EACC gets their copy before stocks run out. It is likely there will be a big demand to have the book in Christmas stockings and with the membership now in excess of 350, there could be a rush for the remaining books. (*Why not drop a hint to your missus....?*)

There are 228 pages with around 400 photos, printed on art gloss paper, bound on a hard cover with sleeve designed by David Shaw. The cost is £25.00, (plus UK postage and packing £3.00) and the contacts are Ian Gemmell (Tel 01292 591226) or Robert Smith (Tel 01290550897).

Work is under way on the second book and Robert Smith is seeking results, minutes, photos, EACC magazines, etc. If you want included in the next book please contact him A.S.A.P.