

WHEEL



MAGAZINE OF EAST AYRSHIRE CAR CLUB

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2013

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Cover pic: Grainger Robertson setting Best Time of the Day at Kames Autotests on 20th January

LARGE TURNOUT FOR JUBILEE DINNER

Almost 200 members and ex-members attended the Dinner to celebrate the fiftieth birthday of East Ayrshire Car Club on Saturday March 2nd. The function took place in the Dumfries Arms Hotel, Cumnock where the Club was formed in 1963.

The opening minutes could be said to be a Fair do. After Chairman Russell Fair welcomed guests, a lovely birthday cake, baked by Lorna Fair was cut jointly by the oldest member Jock Millar and youngest, Keith Fair. The leisurely meal which followed gave everyone ample time to renew old acquaintances. One table in particular was lively, Arthur Gallacher came up from his work with Malcolm Wilson's Ford rally team and rendezvoused with Willie Poole and Gavin Hutton with whom he moved south to work with Andrew Cowan in the Mitsubishi Ralliart rally outfit. Willie has his own competition preparation company in Rugby and Gavin is in the Stirling area.

Andrew Cowan himself was to complete that particular re-union but took ill the previous day and was admitted to hospital on the Sunday when he underwent an operation.

The main speaker of the evening was John Fife, Scotland's top motorsport writer and founder of the "Jaggy Bunnet" website and he told many a story from the world of rallying, revealing for example where the name of his website came from. Apparently it emerged from a comment by Drew Gallacher during a highly competitive pool contest with Mr. Fife.

During the evening the second book on the history of East Ayrshire Car Club and of Kames Motorsport Complex (1989-2012) was launched and over sixty were sold on the night. Thanks are due to the Dinner Committee made up of past and present members.

Border Ecosse Car Club
CHRISTMAS KNOCKHILL STAGES
DECEMBER 29th

It was a successful festive sortie to Fife for EACC members with Stuart Baillie winning this Grant Construction sponsored rally and Colin Gemmell finishing in fourth place two spots above Billy McLelland. The results for all the EACC finishers was as follows:

1st Stuart Baillie - Alan Cowan (Impreza)
 4th Colin Gemmell - Cammie Fair (Impreza)
 6th Billy McLelland - Helen Brown (Evo3)
 12th George Bryson - Jacqueline Bryson (Escort Mk2)
 13th Graham Bruce - Jane Nicol (Evo4)
 27th Bill Hamilton - Sara Hamilton (Kadett)
 29th Kieran O'Kane - Jock Frew (Ascona)

Highland Car Club
SNOWMAN RALLY
FEBRUARY 16

The 2013 Scottish Rally championship got off to the worst possible start when a lay spectator died when a car left the road on the opening stage. The rally was immediately cancelled.

Border Ecosse Car Club
BORDER COUNTIES RALLY
MARCH 23

Only three EACC cars braved the Arctic weather to participate in the second round of the Scottish Rally Championship. Highest of our drivers was Robert Harkness who with Mike Curry at the maps in the BMW 316i finished 31st. Another Escort driven by Duncan Campbell and Gavin Chisholm was 43rd but Duncan and Janice Ferguson succumbed to electrical failure in their Escort on the way to the opening stage.

Two members acted as co-drivers, Jim Howie helping Andy Horne into a very good 10th in their Dam and Cammie Fair partnering David Goose in 25th spot in an Escort.

A number of Club members were to be seen spectating in less than

ABR TEST DAY

The 2013 Brick & Steel Junior 1000 Ecosse Challenge for 14 to 17 year olds got under way on the 17th of March when the championship organisers hosted a pre-season Junior Track Day at Kames. This involved track time and a classroom session as well as a walk round the track with some experienced competitors. The day was voted a big success.



If you thought it was cold at the test day on March 23rd, spare a thought for Charlie and Nellie Bishop who travelled up from Dalry in their 1924 Vauxhall 30/98 open tourer. Accompanying them were their two black spaniels, one of whom spent the journey admiring the Christmas card scenery. The other remained on the rear seat under the tonneau cover throughout, no doubt muttering

“..fun’s fun but to hell with nonsense...”

EACC JANUARY KAMES AUTOTESTS
January 20th

The entry for the first competitive event of 2013 was rather disappointing but considering the wintry conditions it is surprising anyone turned up at all.

Luckiest of all were the scattering of spectators who could watch some spirited performances from the warmth of their cars, for they were treated to some classy manoeuvres by Grainger Robertson in his standard-looking Citroen.

Our thanks to the marshals.

Grainger Robertson	Class 2	12:34
Ricky Wheeler	Class 4	14:06
Chris Haw	Class 5	14:37
Scott Addison	Class 3	14:39
Craig Corson	Class 5	15:00
Andy Struthers	Class 7	16:00
Chris Doherty	Class 5	16:48
Jock Frew	Class 5	16.52

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Club's Annual General Meeting was held in the Caravan Park Clubhouse in Muirkirk on January 31st.

Around 30 members attended a sometimes lively gathering which heard financial and other reports before appointing the Committee and directors for the coming year.

There are few changes of officebearers but Ian Gemmell has stepped down as Honorary President to concentrate on supervising maintenance work at Kames.

Full details of officebearers can be seen in the Club website.

EACC FEBRUARY AUTOTESTS
KAMES FEBRUARY 10th 2013

There was a much better turnout for the February tests with no less than 24 entries for the seven runs at the lengthy tests centred on the lower paddock but taking in other areas as well. Unfortunately there was no improvement in the weather but at least the white stuff made it look more picturesque.

Topping the results was Willie Keating in a Nova with Archie Simmonds (MG) second overall and the Buggy of Gordon Clendinning third. Grainger Robertson, this time in a Nissan Sunny was fourth.

Class 2:		
Grainger Robertson	Nissan Sunny	07:25
David Alexander	Nova	08:03
Jock Frew	Nova	08:12
Andrew Yates	Peugeot 205	09:02
Willie Fleming	Peugeot 205	Retired
Class 4:		
Willie Keating	Nova	06:52
Andy Nisbet	Corsa	07:38
Ricky Wheeler	Corsa	07:46
Jamie Steele	Micra	07:47
David Wallace	Nova	08:04
Chris O'Donnell	Micra	08:05
Paul Cavanagh	Micra	08:16
Cameron Fair	Super Ka	08:40
Jennifer Wallace	Nova	09:05
Mark Irvine	Puma	09:15
Class 5		
Craig Corson	Astra	07:55
Ross Auld	BMW Compact	08:14
Kris Docherty	Astra	08:28
Class 6		
Archie Simmonds	MG	07:12
Gordon Clendinning	Buggy	07:14
Class 7		
Andy Struthers	Micra	08:25
Dylan O'Donnell	Micra	08:38
Liam Nisbet	Corsa	08:50
Duncan Fleming	Peugeot 205	Retired