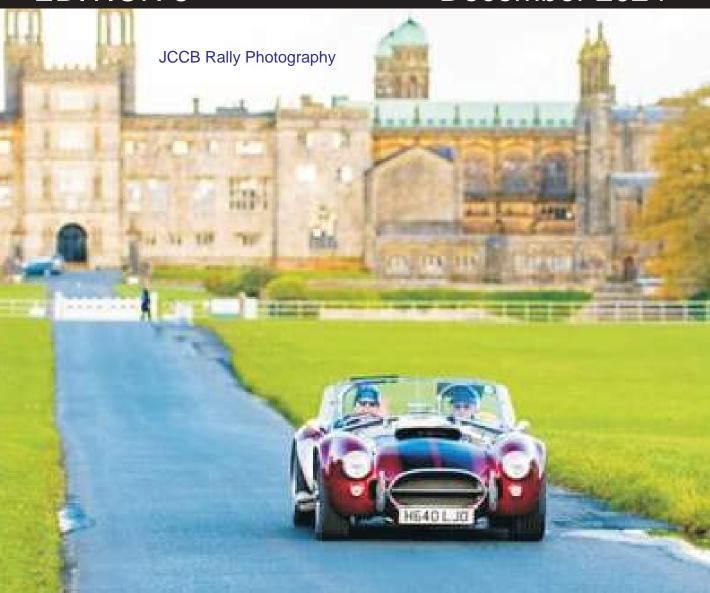


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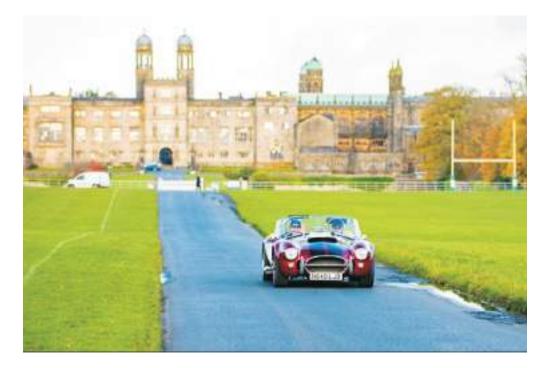
CONTENT



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Cover Photo JCCB Rally Photography

Andrew Sharples and Mike Broad

FAB Award Winner

We trust you enjoyed the previous newsletter. Some items you will see more comprehensively covered on our website <u>www.2300club.org</u> We would also like to encourage you to circulate this amongst your friends and colleagues and should anyone wish to receive the newsletter on a regular basis then please email the Club Secretary <u>stuartpye@googlemail.com</u> to be included on the circulation list.

Best wishes

2300 Club

www.facebook.com/2300club

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www.2300club.org





JCCB Rally Photograhy

The 2300 Club Media Team have had a busy 2024 keeping everyone updated with all the latest news on our John Easson Award winner, Emily Easton-Page, and the Andy Mort Tour.

A striking feature of the round-by-round reports of Emily's progress in both the BTRDA and Scottish Championships has been the high-quality pictures supplied by JCCB Photography.

Come rain, hail or shine, cameramen John Conway and Chris Baines have travelled the length and breadth of the UK to capture all the action and drama.

John and Chris also made their photographic debut on the Andy Mort Tour, shooting all the entrants at various locations and supplying a fantastic set of images from the day.

Their free-to-download gallery can be viewed here:

https://www.flickr.com/photos/201662753@N04/albums/721777203213728 16/

The 2300 Club would like to place on record their sincere appreciation to John and Chris for their contribution this year.



'Bill Sturrock and his Clootie Dumplings'

Neil Johnson

Such was the success of this years' Andy Mort Tour, there was only one real disappointment in the whole day.

Everyone in the 2300 Club was looking forward to meeting up with Mull legend and baker-extraordinaire Bill Sturrock again after he decided to venture across the border and try the AMT for the first time.

However Bill and his driver Ian Rae, were unable to make the start after being forced to pull their entry for personal reasons.

By way of recompense, Bill sent his good friend Cliff Simmons a large parcel with the accompanying letter, which we are sure he won't mind being reproduced.









"My dear friend Cliff,

As you know I said Ian & I would not be able to come down to the Andy Mort Tour due to family situations, which is unfortunate as we were both looking forward to having a fun weekend with 2300 Car Club. So, because the plan was to be with you all at the Andy Mort Tour, I had made the enclosed 4 x Clootie Dumplings to bring down with me to give to those who were worthy of such a gift from a humble Scotsman.

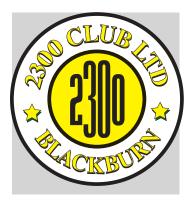
So, in my absence I am bestowing upon you the massive responsibility of having three of the dumplings (keeping one back for yourself of course in lieu of payment for carrying out this mission!) to those whom you feel are worthy of receiving such a phenomenal Scottish delicacy.

I also bestow upon you the power to divide said delicacies if it is deemed necessary so that more of your brethren can enjoy, but I think it is important they understand the historical aspects, love and care that has gone into making the said clootie dumplings by my own fair hand.

On Clootie Dumpling making day (we simply called it Saturday now) the kitchen was a blissful warm fug of steam, redolent with the scent of cinnamon and ginger, like some medieval banquet, the clatter of pots and pans and lots of happy chatter, (well, it was more like shouting as my dad is rather deaf!). Just the antidote for these dark, Scottish October days with the wind whistling up ma kilt and the rain dreeping in through the heather thatched roof (couldnae afford straw!).

The making of the clootie is an art, and for some it is a ceremony which commences with the dumpling being mixed by hand (not a wooden spoon or any other form of mechanical kitchen device, albeit my granny did cook it in a twin tub once when her coal-fired Raeburn stove was knackered, but it didn't have the same appeal having been sloshed about with ma grandad's drawers!) in a huge bowl. No weighing of ingredients either, everything is done by 'guestimate' and experience, some call it an 'art'.

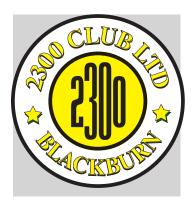








The copper is then fired up (that's heating up a big pot to those unfamiliar with cooking terms!), filled with water from the emersion heater and brought to boiling point (when I was learning to make clootie dumplings from my granny, she always had lots of hot water because my grandfather was a stationmaster and used 'borrow' the coal from the steam engines in the yard). The making of the clootie ceremony continues with the revealing of the dumpling cloth - my granny swore by a square of linen from we'el worn knickers was the best - added extra flavour she said! A string is then filched from the large hairy ball of twine handed down through the generations and one my grandad had guarded jealously, as it is specific to the makin' o a guid clootie. Once cut to a very precise length, we are ready for the off. From my point of view (methinks you would enjoy this bit too much Cliff), the best bit is smacking the dumpling's bottom - for luck of course - just before it is wrapped in its wet, flour sprinkled cloth, tied at the neck with the string and immersed in the copper for three hours or more, depending on the size of the clootie. Once it is cooked, then comes the great reveal, the steaming clootie is taken out of its cloth, rolled onto a large turkey plate and put in front of the coal fire to 'dry out' and form a skin. There's nothing finer on a cold winter's day than sitting by the fire waiting for the first slice to be ready.





When I wis a wee lad an' stayin' wee ma' grandma & pa, we always ate the first slice hot with some fresh cream fae the coo poured over it. Granny wid' also cut me a slice to take home to take school. So, these four clootie's have been made in the same traditional way with the same love 'n care taught to me by my granny, with the exception of not using a square o' linen fae knickersl I hope you can your fellow clootie bestowees enjoy them as much as I enjoy making them for your pleasure and consumption.





As you know, a clootie can keep for some time, and I am about to reveal to you a wee drinkie that we do every New Year that goes very well with a bit o' clootie, it's call the 'Het' Pint. In Scotland, this cocktail recipe is usually served on New Year's morning. 'Het' means 'hot' to those south of the border and this warming cocktail would be carried aboot in copper kettle by first-footers on their New Year rounds. So, I am also bestowing upon you this traditional Scottish recipe.

This cocktail recipe serves 6-8 people.

Ingredients

4 pints of pale ale (I know you enjoy a good ale)1 level teaspoon of freshly grated nutmeg3 eggs

Pinch of sugar 1/2 pint of whisky

Method

- 1. Pour the ale into a copper, large pan to you.
- 2. Add the teaspoon of nutmeg and bring liquid to a gentle simmer.

3. Add sugar to taste.

4. In a large bowl beat 3 eggs.

5. Gradually stir in the hot ale and a word of warning: if the ale is added too quickly the eggs will curdle.

6. Stir in the whisky then pour the liquid back into the pan. Don't stop stirring as you bring the drink back to just below boiling.

7. Serve in warmed mugs or tankards. The drink should froth and become clear and sparkling.

Enjoy!

Your ONLY Scottish friend, Bill."

On behalf of everyone at the 2300 Club, thanks Bill – and we sincerely hope you can make it next year.



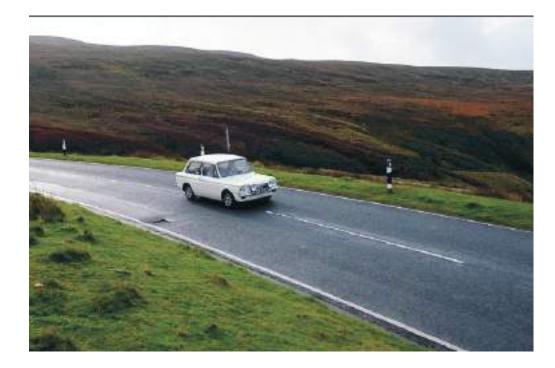








In October we held our annual Touring Assembly, The Andy Mort Tour.



We were lucky enough to be gifted a window in the weather for the Saturday. A day either way could have put a dampener on the proceedings.

It was a glorious day. Not only the weather, but spending time with old friends and making new ones too, which made for a very special day.









Once again, we had a fabulous turn out of cars, all flagged away from the start by the Mayor of the Ribble Valley Councillor Louise Edge. It was nice to see many regular cars in attendance, but new ones too. From low slung V8 muscle to a raised up Peugeot estate, that would have looked more at home in the deserts of Africa than the Andy Mort Tour. But nevertheless, great to see all of these cars enhancing our event.



It was the red Cobra of Andrew Sharples that took home the FAB Award. A much coveted glass trophy, which is awarded for the best presented car. A very worthy winner! He also took home a Feed the Beast car care kit provided by LE Detailing, our FAB Award Sponsor.



An excellent 115 mile route was put on which took our entrants on some great driving roads. Taking in some breath-taking scenery through Lancashire and Yorkshire.

A huge thank you must go to our many Marshals, 21 in total on the day, all providing a friendly face at the check points along the route.









It was all sunshine and roses at the lunch halt at Bridge House Tea Rooms, Wray, Lancaster. There was a nice relaxed atmosphere as everyone ate their sandwiches in the sun, enjoying the cars and the company of their owners.



There were two additional features of our stay at Wray, as every car left over the start ramp every lady got a rose, courtesy of our Bridge House hosts, Jon and Aleisha. We also managed to raise £100 for charity to boot.









The other event at Wray was rather special and very close to the heart of the 2300 Club. The Club's Chief Marshal, Simon Bibby, lost his life tragically early to cancer. His uncle, Geoff Rothwell and his brother Gareth entered last year in Simon's beloved Mini in memory of Simon. They had entered again this year, but as the event approached, Gareth had no option but to withdraw for personal reasons, which left Geoff without a navigator. At the last minute Geoff was able to do the event because of the support of his friend Stephen Hocking. But that is not the end of the story. As they drove over the ramp at the re-start there was an unexpected twist to the story. They were the 750th Classic car to drive over the ramp.





It was all fun and games at the finish. There was a blindfolded reverse challenge, where the drivers were guided by the co-drivers. But to add to the difficulty the co-drivers were giving directions via a radio link to the car.

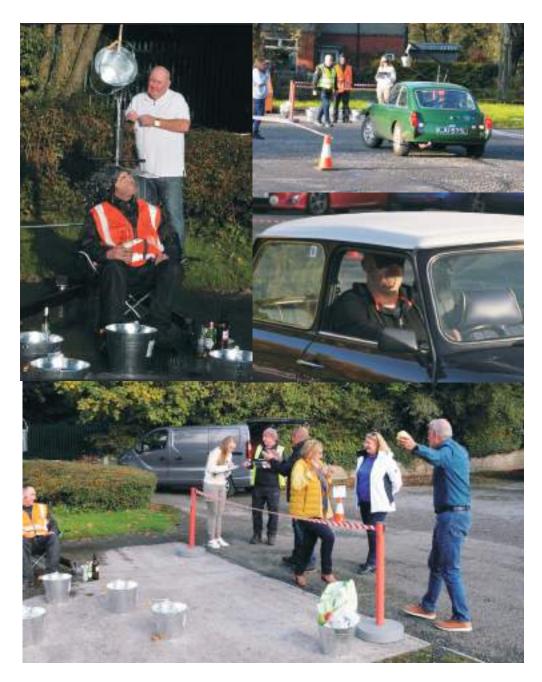






This was followed by a ball throwing challenge. If the combined score between the two pursuits was deemed high enough, it resulted in a chance to drench the drunken marshal. Many did!

A great day was had by all. Even our very damp drunken Marshal!









We hope to see you all next year, but book early.







It was just coming light as the seven 2300 Club Marshals finished drinking their tea, and well buttered Clootie Dumpling. We were all huddled round the back of the van, which was parked down a track in the Elsi Stage of October's Cambrian Rally.

Dave Barritt asked his wife Janet if she knew what number car Stig's mini was.

Tony asked "Who is this Stig Wunderlust you're all going on about?"

I nearly spat my tea out! I thought everyone knew who Stig Blomqvist was.

Dave Barritt replied sharply "Stig Blomqvist is my hero you know! He's a gin & tonic man!"













Tony must be forgiven for his little outburst as I have realised that Tony is a rally man, and having attended more rallies than I can remember with me over the past forty years. But in all of that time I don't think we have encountered Stig Blomqvist.

The Elsi Stage was the first of the day and only run the once. The Stage got underway on time and provided us with some great rally action. First through the stage were the Mini's, which looked to be some very close competition. When the front running Rally 2 cars came through the noise and scattering of stones as they swept the road with peace shattering drama which never fails to disappoint.

There was only one hold up, which wasn't for long due to an overturned Mini we believed.

The Rally was quickly back underway, but by this time there were quite a number of walkers who had come up the track behind our van from Betwsy-y-Coed. All hoping to walk up to the lake via the rally stage. Thankfully all were well behaved and enjoyed watching the rally while they waited for the road to re-open.

With a quick brew and a tidy up of our section of the stage we headed out of the stage in rally direction of course. Little did we know of the carnage ahead.









The road was blocked by a recovery taking place of a Rally 4 Peugeot delicately positioned on the edge of a bank. Then we noticed just ahead of the stricken Peugeot was a Mini at the bottom of the bank stood on its nose and wedged in the trees.



Our quickest way out would be to help with the recovery, which turned out to be very interesting. As it turned out these weren't the only cars stuck in the stage, on our way out there was a BMW which had left the road, backwards, that needed a tow. Also, one of the RAF Land Rover's was on its roof in a bog, a very long way off the road which was going to take a Chinook to recover, but they weren't our problem.







We made it back into Llandudno in good time to see the first cars arriving at the finish ramp. Better still, after winning the event, we got to witness Chris Ingram being crowned British Rally Champion.



There was a fantastic atmosphere. The end of one of the best BRC seasons for ages.

Many of the 2300 Club team were present at the start of the season at the first event, The Legend Fires North West Stages. We all reflected on what a great season it had been.

The Visit Conwy Cambrian Rally had been a great weekend for the 2300 Club, and also a wonderful weekend for the John Easson Award. It was good to see car 0, driven by previous JEA winner Mathew Jackson. Current winner Emily Easton-Page arrived at the finish, partnered with regular driver Liam Clark, with not quite the result they wanted, but had done enough to win Emily's Co-Drivers Championship. Previous winner, Osian Pryce had been fighting for the front all day, and Ioan Lloyd had won The Stellantis Rally Cup. It was truly fantastic to see Chris Ingram in action first hand and very special to see him spray the champagne.



A great highlight of the weekend was to see Stig Blomqvist drive the little mini to a historic class victory.

Possibly the drive of the weekend! Posting times that were not only beating the more powerful Escorts but embarrassing a few R5 cars too.

When Stig came past us, Dave Barritt looked at his wife Janet very proudly after she said " he kept it on cam all the way through there."

Stig 'Wunderlust' Blomqvist might be Dave's hero, but now he's ours too.









At the JEA final on the 10th of December, Rob Cotton was in a state of disbelief when it was announced that he was the 20th winner of the John Easson Award.

Knowing the calibre of his competition for the top spot in the JEA final, Rob Cotton was surprised to hear his name called out.

Our two runners-up, Meghan O'Kane and James Lepley, were both genuinely thrilled for Rob to have won the JEA. Both will receive £750 of funding courtesy of Bury Auto Club for their 2025 rally season.

Disbelief soon turned to being overjoyed when Rob was presented with the JEA Glass Award.











The John Easson Award (Outgoing Winner)

Our outgoing 2023 JEA winner has had a very busy season indeed. Emily Easton-Page and her Co-Driving skills have been in serious demand all season, competing mainly alongside driver Liam Clark in the BTRDA Rally Championship in their first season together. But getting some seat time with other top drivers in other events too.

Emily and Liam have had a very successful season together overall. Finishing every event, they started with very consistent results. Bar one event, The Nicky Grist Stages, where the pair finished last under Super Rally Rules after an accident on stage 2. But a finish is a finish, right?

There have been quite a few podiums in the Championship too. It was Emily's aim at the start of her JEA season "to push for podiums or even wins. Without the backing of the JEA, that wouldn't have been possible this year," said Emily, who ended her BTRDA season in October as the 'BTRDA Junior Co-Driver Champion'.

"The JEA has also created opportunities by raising my profile as a Co-Driver, creating opportunities to sit in with some high-profile drivers such as Kyle White, Hugh Brunton and Scott Beattie", said Emily, who had gained some all-important experience with these drivers. All in different championships, events and surfaces.

Emily has been an excellent JEA winner and a great ambassador. We look forward to watching Emily's rally career progress, and wouldn't be surprised to see the name Emily Easton-Page at the very top of our sport in the near future.

We wish Emily the very best of luck in her continued rallying. Emily is very grateful to the 2300 Club and the John Easson Award for all it has given her this year. And the 2300 Club are very proud of Emily's achievements.



The 2300 Club are looking forward to assisting Rob Cotton in his 2025 season. At this stage, Rob is planning on competing in the BRC National Championship in his Subaru. We aim to give you more info on this in the new year as and when plans are firmed up.







2300 Club YouTube Channel

Some exciting news lately is that 2300 Club now has a YouTube channel.



CLUB CLUB CLUB CLUB

For all you 'Tour of Mull' fans, we have quite an archive of videos that will keep you busy for quite a while during the long cold winter nights.



We have even posted our first video which is the 2024 AMT.

Videos



The Andy Mort Tour 2024 215 views + 1 month ago Tour of Mull 2004



11 views + 1 month ago

Annaly in the state

We hope to bring you new videos featuring our new JEA winner Rob Cotton in the near future.

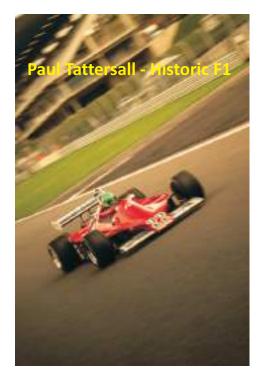
You can find us at https://youtube.com/@2300club

Or search YouTube for 2300 Club.

Don't forget to like and subscribe.







We're not going to tell you what Paul Tattersall said when quizzed about his late-season foray into Europe. There may be young children around!

Again Paul was using his Ensign F1 for the final rounds of the Masters Historic F1 back in September/ October.

Well, we can tell you the first part of what Paul said: "The car was faultless". We're not going to tell you what he said after that about the driver (himself). We will leave that up to your imagination.

That's if you are old enough!

What we do know is that unlike last, year both car and driver came home in one piece, which is very positive. We suspect it was just the results that were the failure.

Paul has promised to tell us all about it in the next edition of Foglamp. He is also going to tell us all about his exciting new project. Paul sent us a teaser of a photo below.

Also, the team at Bolton University has been going through its selection process to create the support team for next season.

So we have plenty to look forward to in the next edition.







National Centre for Motorsport Engineering



