

Classic

UPDATES & MONTE NEWS



WELCOME

These past few weeks have been very busy but now that I am 75 years old, I have decided to only do things that I enjoy and I would heartily recommend that you older folk do the same. So last week, while we were doing the final preparations for the Arrochar Alps, we decided to book a nice hotel in Arrochar and check the roadbook the next day. We also decided that on the way to our hotel we would stop off in Bridge of Allan and have a big plate of fish and chips! In the past we would have tried to do everything in one day but Dundee is quite far from the Start of the event and you really don't want to be tired before you start checking a roadbook. Doing it this way gave us the whole day to enjoy the drive and the scenery and we even had time to stop for lunch in Inverary. We have chosen some roads that we have not used before and they reminded me very much of the 1960's Alpine Rallies that I watch on YouTube. Narrow, single track, challenging mountain roads with magnificent scenery and some very rare wildlife, including a red squirrel and a pine martin. Neither of us had seen a pine martin before so we had to Google it when we came home. There are only 3,700 in Scotland so we were very lucky. You could say that the Arrochar Alps is Scotland's 'Coupe des Alpes' in miniature. We ended the day happy, with a lovely Italian meal in Oban and after a stroll round the town and a look at the fabulous yachts, we headed home to Dundee on roads that were fairly quiet for the time of year. We just got in the house when the heavens opened but all in all it was a great way to do the final preparations for the event and we enjoyed it. We are looking forward to a good entry and hopefully meeting a few new faces and putting some faces to the email addresses on our circulation list. See you in Arrochar. The front cover features the poster of the 2014 Rallye Monte Carlo Historique which celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Paddy Hopkirk's historic victory. 2024 will be the 60th Anniversary so we hope there will be a good entry from Mini owners for the Historique and the Monte 100 Anniversary Event.

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UPDATE

Changing the look of the interior, or more specifically the dashboard, of a Midget is a challenging task but with a little imagination you can update its appearance reasonably successfully. I have introduced the body colour as a background to the dashboard and painted the area round the speedo and rev counter in matte black. This has the effect of giving the appearance of a separate binnacle for the main instruments. This effect is further enhanced by adding a piece of brushed aluminium round the auxiliary instruments and switches. And to give the dashboard a bit of a competition flavour I have added a bright red push button start and ignition switch. To finish off the design I have added a retro styled coupé logo at the left hand side of the dash. The logo itself is from a Triumph Herald coupé. The logo had been lying around in a drawer for ages and I think it has given the dash a nice period look. What do you think?



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MONTE 2024

The Regulations for the 2024 Monte will be out soon for both the Historique and the Anniversary Monte 100 event. If you plan to do either of these events and you do not yet have a car, make sure the car is eligible for the event before you buy one. My advice would be to choose one which is a bit different from the usual 911's, Lancia's and Golfs. You are more likely to get an entry if you choose something like an A35, A40, Westminster, Riley, Morris or Hillman. There are still lots of these cars around and they are usually good value for money. If you choose Glasgow as your Start town and have an eligible car, you are almost certain to get an entry.

In the next newsletter we will look at car and crew preparation. This will be a follow on from Fraser Hendrie's excellent summary of the basics which was featured in June's Monte News.



NEWS FROM OUR FRIENDS IN EUROPE

Many of you will remember Claude Plasseraud who was our 'man from Monaco' for a number of years. He came over for our pre-rallye dinner and to oversee the scrutineering and carry out document checking for the Historique and Classique. Over the years he has become a good friend and keeps in touch regularly. He has a very nice collection of classics including an Alpine A110, an R8 Gordini and a Porsche 911. His latest acquisition is a very nice MGA coupé.



Some of you may also remember Christian Logut and Sergio Grillet who were one of the few non UK crews to take part in the Classique. They are still keen rallyists and take part in events throughout Europe. They recently entered the



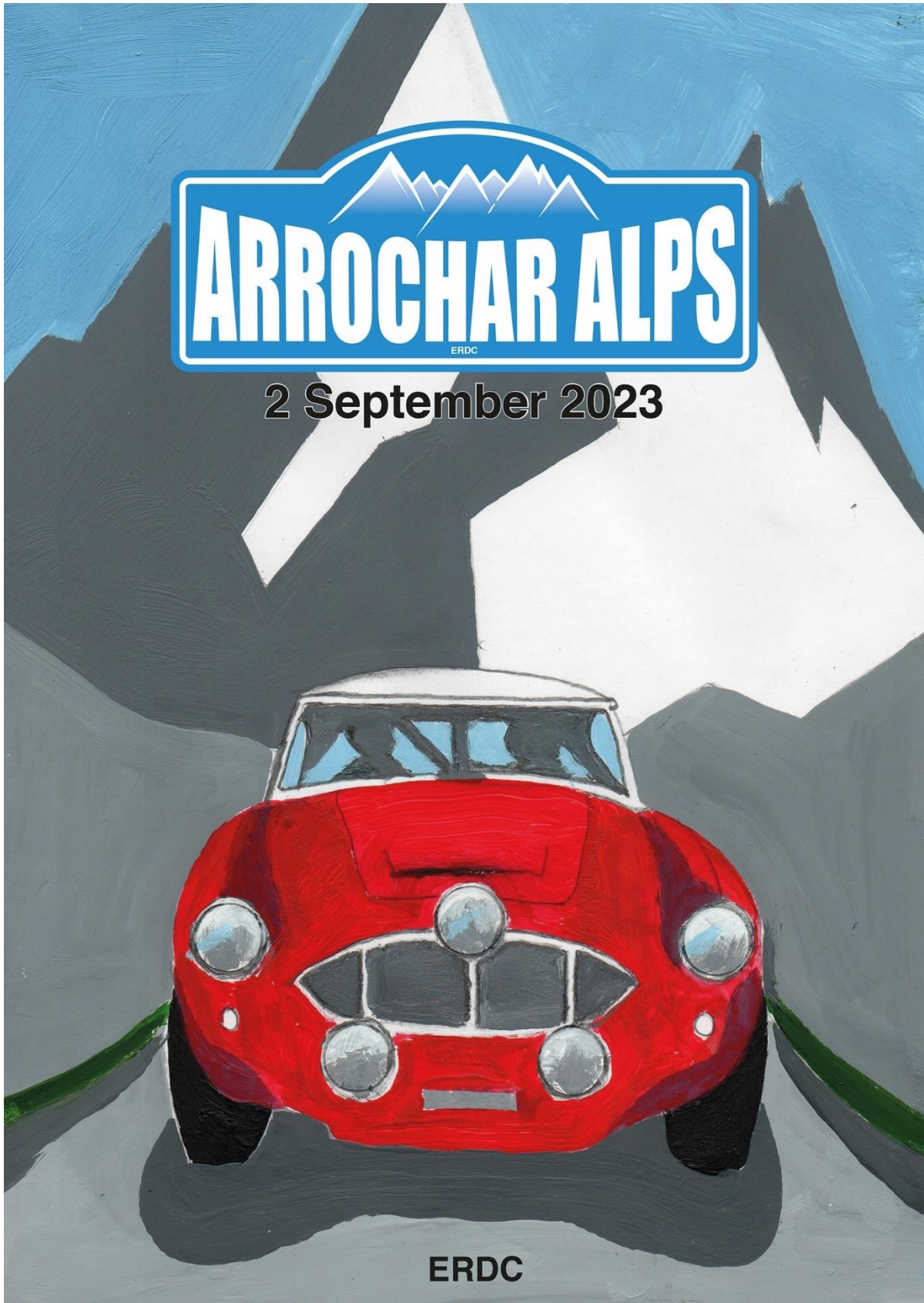
Rallye CHARBONNIÈRES Classic 2023 which had an entry of 90 classic cars. It was a Regularity Rallye and a Tour with a roadbook. It looks really interesting. Maybe it could go in the calendar for 2024! Here are some of the photographs which Christian sent.



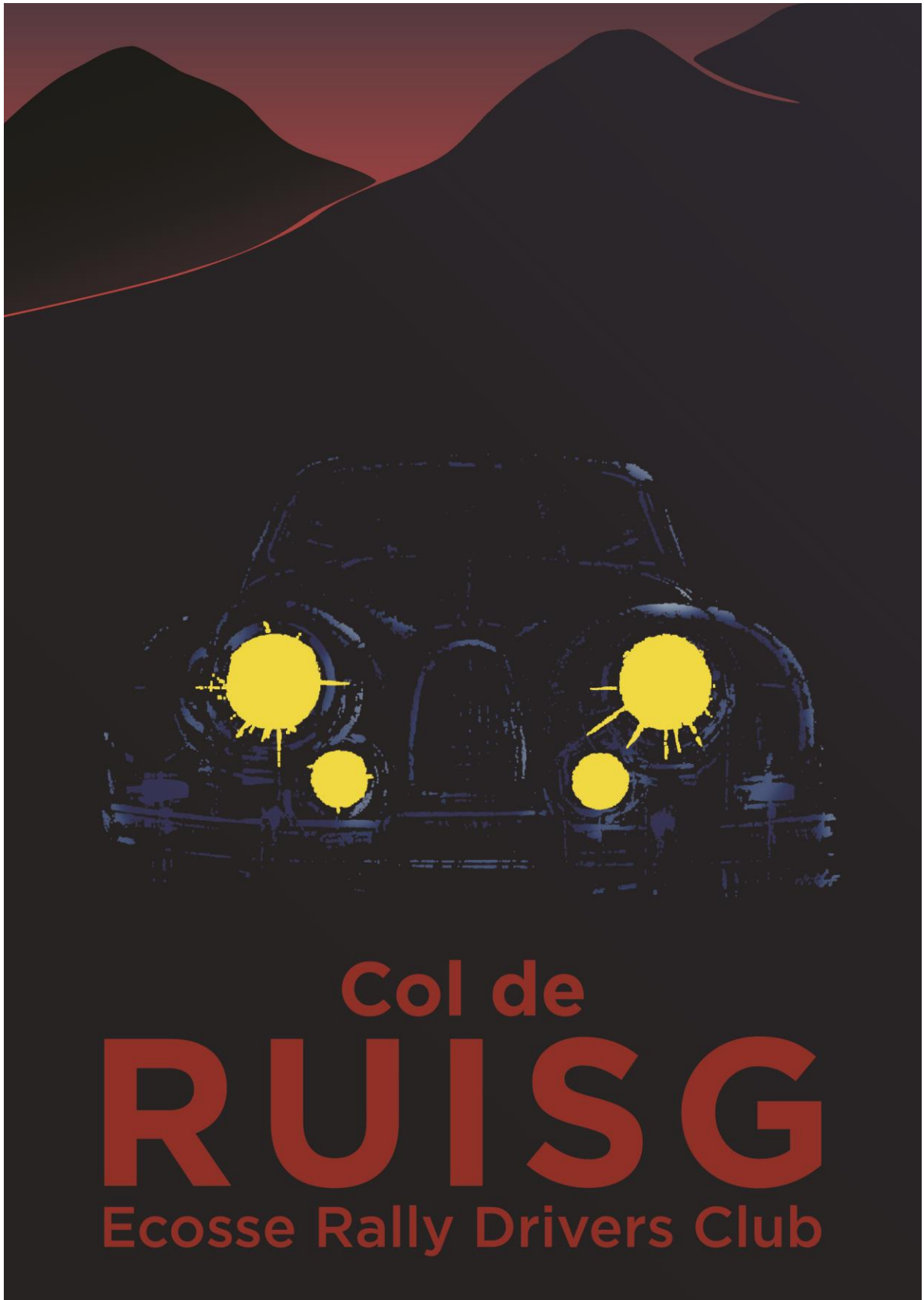


Rallye de Charbonnières Classic





Entry Form and Regulations available on the ERDC tab of the www.monte.scot website or from June Anderson. june.a.anderson@outlook.com



4 November 2023



Northern Night
OWLS
Ecosse Rally Drivers Club

18 November 2023