



Hockridge survives eventful Jim Clark Rally

Pwllheli based Andrew Hockridge suffered at the cruel hand of fate on last weekends Jim Clark International Rally when a low speed bump with a gatepost damaged his steering and, although the Signature Cheese backed Citroen pilot was able to finish the rally, the incident and ensuing time loss cost him any hopes of a podium position.

Andrew and co-driver Rich Mills headed north to the Scottish town of Kelso in confident spirits following a dominant class victory on the recent Manx National Rally and everything was going according to plan after the opening stages on Friday night. The C2R2 Max pairing had survived a big moment in the dark to lie third in class and were confident of maintaining their pace into Saturday.

Despite damp conditions for the opening stage of Day 2 Andrew was happy enough with his times but then less than three miles into the next stage it all went wrong. Andrew misjudged his braking for a chicane and clipped a gate post, damaging the steering. Although the crew limped through the rest of the stage, and the following test, they lost over three minutes before the car could be re fettled in service.

" Friday night was brilliant. We had a really good run in the dark, despite a bit of a moment on the one stage, but once we'd damaged the steering on Saturday it was just a case of cruising around to the finish to pick up points. We had lost too much time to challenge for a podium, which was really annoying as this car is awesome to drive on tarmac. The Jim Clark Rally really does not like me!"

Andrew and Rich will be hoping for better luck when they return to the Isle of Man in July to tackle round four of the 2009 MSA British Rally Championship, the Isle of Man International Rally. The pair currently lie fourth in the C2R2cup standings as the season enters its second half.

A short highlights video is available [here](#)

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