

CLASSIC SCENE



March 2018



We're in the Club

CLUB OFFICIALS

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ARCHIVIST

The club has an extensive archive of information relating to all aspects of classic car ownership. To access this please contact Ranald Smith at Hawthorn Cottage, 2 Burn Road, Inverness IV2 3NG. 01463 236459
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MEMBERSHIP

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CLASSIC SCENE

The next 'Classic Scene'
GOES TO THE PRINTER
on the Thursday of the week preceding the next meeting
Please send articles by e-mail or typed.

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COVER PICTURE

A couple of club members cars at this months Cars and Coffee. It's not all Focus RS's you know.

Welcome to the March Newsletter.

Well that's another AGM done and no big changes on the committee which means I am still your newsletter editor after a year of scribing. I do hope you enjoy them and I do actually quite like producing them, but if there's anything you'd like tweaked, added or changed just let me know. I have had a few comments since I started and I like to think I have made changes to improve from my first efforts. Except for last month. Time pressures and rushing meant it went to press with a few errors, most of which were spotted by Alice and some which I only spotted while writing this.

Something has been bugging me. For months I have been hunting for my Weber 45 DCOE carburettor for the Mini and I have been in every box, nook and cranny of the garage. I was starting to think I was going mad. Meanwhile back in the house I have been searching for months for my Go Pro camera and it is not in any of the usual places I might lose it. Recently I had an epiphany. I last had both in the Mini at Grantown Motor Mania (the carb as a bit of show and tell) and I have never take them out of the car. They are not there now so I can only think they were stolen some time after the show, possibly when I stopped off at the supermarket on the way home if I forgot to lock the passenger door. I'm now grieving after a lost carburettor especially after looking at the cost of second hand replacements. So if you see one like this for sale, except with a steel manifold, can you let me know. It is identifiable by a special dual spring linkage and dodgy welding (mine) around the vacuum take off.



Happy classic motoring especially if you have weber induction noise. I'll be on SU's.

And keep one eye on security and passenger door locks.

Your editor.

Chairs Bitty

Lot of ideas floated about at our AGM last month. The committee will look at these to see how we can fit them into our calendar this year. One event that is back by popular demand is a visit to Moray Motor museum in October. Also on the calendar is a Saturday Ceilidh night in December. Further details on both events will be announced later.



Alice mentioned that she intends to step down as Secretary at next year's AGM. This will open up a vacancy on the committee, so put your name forward.

The Skoda has been misbehaving recently. I mentioned before interesting commuting experiences in the snow. On top of that the steering rack started leaking which we hoped could be salvaged by using seal conditioner. Just before our AGM we decided to get the tracking checked (well, actually I contacted the local tyre factors in December, but their alignment tool had given up the ghost and they were awaiting the install/training for a replacement). The handling felt weird enough that I wanted to make sure that there was nothing awry here.

So, got the tracking checked, yes it was out, and was advised that the tyres were getting a bit low on thread too (uhm, not until next month wages). By the time I got home the steering was getting a little tight and one more day of commuting to work turned that into upper body exercises. Alice kindly checked and filled up the power steering reservoir the next day, which due to the stupidity of modern designs, is located UNDER the battery. Sadly by the end of the week that had apparently all leaked out again. So much for seal re-conditioning stuff, time for a replacement rack then (hello savings).

The Skoda spend the best part of the next week in the local garage whilst a replacement rack was fitted. And new struts (MOT advisory and well, if the front is already that far stripped down for the rack...) and new strut bearings. What next? The garage owner made the observation that one of the front tyres was nearly bald. Once the car was back from the garage, down to the tyre factors for new rubber (yet more savings gone). I've told the car to start behaving as we've run out of money. But the handling is soooooo much better.

This month is a scenic run round country before taking refreshments at Dores Inn. We meet up at Tesco Holms (beside the river) at 19.30pm. See you there.

Trish.



HIGHLAND CLASSIC MOTOR CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1st February 2018 – 7.45pm. Old North Inn, Inchmore

Present.

Alice Brown, Trish Brown, Ian Thomson, Alan Goff, Ranald Coye, Calum Pearson, Callum Beveridge, Mark Wilson, Miles Vincent, Bryan McIlwraith. Frank Ross, Callum MacAdam, Kenny Barclay, John Eastwood, Ian Beaton, Richard Lashley, Chris Silver, John MacKenzie, Ranald Smith

Apologies.

Apologies were received from Graeme Bremner, Derek Darnell, and David Keith

1. Welcome and apologies

Trish Brown welcomes the member to the AGM of the Highland Classic Motor Club.

2. Minutes of 2017 AGM. The minutes were passed as an accurate account of the 2017 AGM. Proposer Alan Goff, seconder Kenny Barclay.

3. Matters Arising. Matters Arising.

Trish Brown apologised on behalf of the Club to John Eastwood and Mark Wilson for mistakes made during the year. The donation to the Highland Hospice has not been done yet. This will be taken forward by the Committee.

4. Chairman's Report.

The Chair reported that a number of proposed visits for last year fell though mainly due to lack of third party response. In addition attendance at some club meets was rather poor. She thanked all those who organised the events in the past year.

5. Committee Reports on 2017

5.1 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported a balance of £1883.06 at year end; Expenditure is down from last year mainly down to the last year's purchase of the badges. The committee had agreed to make a donation of £250 to Children in Need. The Chair review the accounts post meeting and verified them as true and accurate.

AGM Continued

5.2 Membership Secretary Report

Bryan McIllwraith informed the meeting that the club has at the moment 64 paid up members, 13 late payment members and 186 non-current or lapsed members. This is holding fairly steady over the years.

5.3 Events

Miles Vincent informed the meeting that the Club has had a presence at many of the Classic Car Shows across the Highlands, using the Club's events shelter. If any member wishes to use the shelter at events, they should contact Miles. He reminded members to visit the club forum for the up to date information regarding shows and events. There will be an additional event this year with Graeme Bremner holding a BBQ. This will be on a Sunday during July, details to be confirmed. He also informed the meeting that the club has a presence on Facebook, but the website and newsletter are the primary forms of communication for members.

5.4 Website

Callum Beveridge informed the meeting that most of the topics have been covered already. He and Bryan MacIllwraith confirmed that under the Data Protection Act, the Club does not need to be registered, though with proposed legislation changes this will be kept under review.

6. Determination of Annual Subscription.

The meeting unanimously agreed that the subscription should remain at the current level of £15.00.

7. Election of Office Bearers.

The Chair informed the meeting that Alice Brown, Secretary will be standing down from this position at the next AGM, and therefore Members are asked to consider standing as her replacement.

No further changes were proposed to Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Committee and these members were unanimously re-elected.

Membership proposed that Graeme Bremner should be contacted with a view to joining the Committee.

8. Members Feedback and ideas for future visits

The following calendar for 2017/18 has been agreed with members, although visits are subject to confirmation.

Please always check the latest club magazine or club website for the up to date meeting information.

AGM Continued

2018		
<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Who to Organise</i>
1 st March	Pub Run to the Dores Inn (meet at Tesco Holm Mills)	Club Membership
5th April	Inverness Airport Control Tower (TBC)	Tom MacCallum
3 rd May	(TBC)	
7 th June	Driver skills test (TBC)	Miles Vincent
5th July	Pub Run	Club Membership
1 st August	Chippie run to Grantown	Calum Pearson
6th Sept	(TBC)	
4th October	Visit to Moray Motor Museum	Bryan McIllwraith
5 th Nov	Visit to Rimtech	Richard Lashley
1 st Dec	Christmas Party Ceilidh, Old North Inn	Bryan MacIllwaith, Tom MacCallum
6 th Dec	Naval Talk, Fortrose Sailing Club	Calum Pearson
2019		
3rd January	Auction Night, Old North Inn	Trish Brown/Bryan McIllwraith
7th February	AGM, Old North Inn	Trish Brown

Other events not run by the club highlighted were:

Drive it Day, 22nd April. Provisional start point at the V8 Cafe, with the route to be determined. Proposals for routes can be posted on the Club Forum. The members agreed for the club to fund the refreshments. Inverness car show is being held on the 12th May this year and members are advised to register early as last year's show was oversubscribed.

AGM Continued

Other visits being investigated by the Membership include:

Visit to the Coastguard Helicopter Base at Dalcross – Alan Goff

Track Day, Littleferry Kart Track Golspie – Callum MacAdam to gather more information

9. AOCB

John Eastwood told the meeting that the times of the meetings are missing from the website ticker tape. This will be sorted by the Web-master.

Frank Ross asked about club membership cards. This will be taken forward at the forthcoming Committee Meeting.

Miles Vincent reminded the meeting that the Club Badge can be added to clothing at the Sign Centre, Harbour Road, Inverness.

Meeting closed 8:50pm



Seen by Jim Mackay in Inverness in January. I know Stags come down from the hills in winter but is this a bit far?

Monte Carlo or Bust!

Dave Charles



Greetings from your long lost life member in the South (well, Fife, actually). Having spent a couple of years on a nut and bolt restoration of a Hillman Imp, turning it in the process into a full replica of the rally Imps used by the Rootes Competition Dept. in the early to mid-60s for the Monte Carlo Rally amongst others and as driven by the likes of Andrew Cowan, Rosemary Smith, Colin Malkin etc etc, I thought that it was about time I put it to the use it was designed for.

The Historic rally is divided up into Historique, Classique and Heritage. All classes are (supposedly) limited to cars of a type which competed in the Monte in period. Historique is fully competitive, Classique is more of a tour but both go all the way to the South of France. Heritage allows us mere mortals to take part without the cost and anxiety of trying to get to Monte Carlo. One of the official Monte Carlo Rally start locations is Paisley and to celebrate Aberdeen being a start in 1934 the organisers had agreed to a 'concentration run' from Aberdeen to Paisley which by coincidence is only a couple of miles from Linwood where all Hillman Imps were made. Too good to miss!

We were flagged off at 8am from the Ferryhill Hotel in Aberdeen. The competitor's car beside mine in the car park was a rare Swallow Doretti. It is, as they say, a small world and the owner/competitor was Alan Gibb who many of HCMC's long standing members (Ranald, Bryan, Tom, etc) will remember from Inverness back in the early 80s., I think he worked for Tytrack or D&A but not sure. He certainly remembers many of our members very well.



Our route took us along south Deeside and eventually up over Cairn o' Mount where we were expecting some snow however although there was snow around the roads were clear and we had fun tearing round the mountains except a bit scary as every second corner was blinded by very low sun and even with the shades on it was hard to see but as Colin McRae used to say "if in doubt, flat out"..... The guy in front with the 500bhp Audi Quattro running on track day tyres certainly had his hands full! Down to Fettercairn and Edzell and on to some very narrow B roads to Forfar along to Coupar Angus, Perth and off to Doune and some more fun backroads. Some of the potholes and floods almost swallowed the Imp whole. We then turned west through the Campsies towards Fintry, where we ran into heavy snow which after a few miles was starting to lie. We arrived at the Fintry Inn check point where the crew of the TR2 were taking the opportunity to warm up as they had no heater, just rugs! More snow was forecast and sure enough going over the high Crow Road towards Lennoxtown there was lying snow and thick slush. I heard quite a lot of 'Careful Dave!' from the navigator's side of the car but then he was nearer the big drops. At last it feels like the real Monte! The Quattro may have 4 wheel drive but 500bhp and wide semi-slick tyres on snow was apparently very scary indeed and we were better off in the Imp I think.



The next stop was Dalmuir Park near Clydebank where we were greeted by the Provost and Councillors from West Dunbartonshire Council, they have laid on (yet more) soup and sandwiches, coffee and cakes for the crews from Aberdeen who amazingly had all made it so far without a hitch. However, the top brass are really here to see another Imp, that of Scott Fanning and Hugh Liddle who they have sponsored for the Classique run which takes them all the way to Monte Carlo. Their Imp sports the now very popular BMW K series motor bike engine conversion.



And so to Paisley Abbey for a well-earned rest for a couple of hours before we are over the official start ramp in a blaze of lights and fireworks for the last part of our run which took us to Stirling by many devious

potholed backroads where we found the only problem of the day with the Imp which was that I had somehow adjusted the lights so that they only lit up the road about a couple of feet in front of the car causing us to miss a couple of junctions. However a quick adjustment of the Spots had us safe. Then it was the final finish at Stirling where we were all congratulated and given a medal and yet another meal. I dropped my ace navigator Scott Clements off near Edinburgh and eventually got home to Newport on Tay just this side of Midnight, barely able to climb out of the car after about 15 hours at the wheel. Honestly I'm not really as young as I look.

All in all a great day's fun and one I would recommend to all of you. Met some really great guys and the craic was brilliant. We had driven 370 miles which is $\frac{1}{4}$ of the distance to Monte Carlo, on 10 gallons of 4 star. The Imp felt like it could have gone all the way, however, I'm not so sure about the crew!

PS The Imp of Scott Fanning and Hugh Liddell made it to Monte Carlo without a hitch, so well done them.

Cars and Coffee 11th February

Calum Pearson



My start to February's Cars and Coffee started off lack of fuel in the Mini. However as I need to remove the petrol tank in the Beetle and it had fuel in it the answer laid in a bit of syphoning. And so it was that I arrived only 15 minutes late with an aroma of petrol about my left hand.



The first anniversary meeting didn't disappoint with a good crowd in attendance with some new faces and cars too. The Focus RS's were there in strength but the Mini contingency had only one car less, which was impressive with the salty roads out there. There was a bit of shuf-

It was nice to see a young Richard in Jim William's red Mini. It was finally sold to this local lad and we hope to see him and the car at Mini events this year. For me, it was lovely to see a young person enthusiastic about Mini's. It gives hope for the future of our hobby.

It was nice to see a good number of HCMC members there giving us the chance to catch up in an informal situation. Cars and coffee is as much about the chat as it is about the cars.



I was particularly attracted to a Jaguar S-type R with its 5.5 litre supercharged V8 engine and relatively demure looks. Suits me sir.



Every month there is something new and this time it was a lime green Land Rover with a 3.0 V6 Essex engine in it, and a special gearbox that needed a custom front axle to be fabricated to make it all work together, I would have got more details but the owner was busy chatting to a fellow enthusiast. It's as much about the chat... oh you get the idea.

2018 Events.

Update your diaries and Calendars

This is a summary of the years events that we know about taken from the clubs website. Please check the website for up to date details.

22nd Apr 2018	'Drive It Day' 2018	V8 Cafe, Inverness	Local Highland Run to support FBHVC. Gather at the V8 Cafe before the road run leaving at 11am. Destination tbc. Pre-Register on HCMC Home Page.
29th Apr 2018	Moray Miglia	Moray Motor Museum	150 mile drive for enthusiastic sports car drivers. See club forum for details.
5th May 2018	Highland Historic Commercial Vehicle Road Run	Dalmore Distillery, Alness	Details on Facebook or Call 07803907942. Registration Open.
12th May 2018	Inverness Classic Vehicle Show	Inverness	Registration Now Open! Limited Spaces. See Inverness BID website www.invernessbid.co.uk
19th May 2018	Rotary Club of East Sutherland Classic Car Tour	Dornoch-Achiltibuie-The Summer Isles	http://www.rotary-ribi.org Call 07785261110 Limited Spaces.
2nd Jun 2018	Trucknessie	Bogbain Farm, Inverness	10:00 - 17:00 Bogbain Farm, IV2 5BD Inverness www.facebook.com/truckness/
3rd Jun 2018	Fraserburgh Vintage Car Rally	Fraserburgh Leisure Center	www.fvcr.co.uk
9th Jun 2018	Rotary Club of Inverness - Loch Ness Classic Car Tour	Loch Ness	Vintage, Historic & Classic Cars plus Modern Cars of a Sporting Nature. Contact Nicol Manson 07774695640 or nicol.manson@btinternet.com
10th Jun 2018	John O' Groats Rally	John O' Groats, Caithness	All Classes. Contact David Green 01955 611316 or info@green.cameron.co.uk or ellen-simpson@outlook.com
17th Jun 2018	Tain Vintage Vehicle Rally	Tain Links	www.taingala.co.uk Arrive by 10.30am (Entries Deadline 20th May - Late Entry Charge on Day!) HCMC Display - See Forum!

7th Jul 2018	Scottish Transport Extravaganza.	Glamis Castle	Saturday 7th & Sunday 8th July. Entry Forms at www.svvc.co.uk or call 01307 840311
21st Jul 2018	Sutherland County Agricultural Show	The Links, Dornoch	www.sutherlandshow.com All Classics Welcome. Closing Date for Entries 11th July. Limited Spaces - Exhibitors receive 2 Free Admissions to Show and Refreshments Vouchers.
12th Aug 2018	Historic Wheels Rally	Brodie Castle, Forres IV36 0TE	www.moraymotormuseum.org for details and entry form. Note: NO LATE ENTRIES at Brodie Castle. Pre-book or Arrive at Start Point. (2nd Sunday in August)
25th Aug 2018	Fortrose & Rosemarkie Classic Vehicle Rally	Dingwall -> Fortrose	More info from info@fortroserally.co.uk https://www.facebook.com/fortroseclassics
26th Aug 2018	Buckie Classic Car Show	Linzee Gordon Park, Buckie, UK	11am-4pm Classic, Modern Classic, Future Classics. Entry Forms from Pene 01261 843144 or Register Online at www.buckieclassiccarshow.co.uk
2nd Sep 2018	Motor Mania at Grantown on Spey	Grantown on Spey	www.grantown-motormania.co.uk Late Entries on the day will be allocated spaces outside the Square.

Club and local events

If you can't wait for Drive it day come to these events. Soon.

1st Mar 2018	Club Meeting	Dores Inn	Scenic drive to Dores Inn. Meet Tesco Holm carpark at 19:30 for a short drive via Loch Ashie and a switchback road.
11th Mar 2018	Cars And Coffee - Inverness	Cafe V8, Inverness	10am to 12 noon Every 2nd Sunday of the Month. A Social Event for all Car Enthusiasts. Park up, buy yourself a hot drink and snack from the Cafe V8 and the check out what's in the Car Park. Chat to old friends and make new! Find us on FACEBOOK.

Me and My Car

Car: 1960 Land Rover Series 2

Owner: Alice Brown

Type: 2 Door van body

Engine: 2286cc Land Rover Petrol

0-60: Got an hourglass?

Top Speed: Past the main beam warning light! If you can hold on.

How long have you had it? 13 years

What work have you (had)

done? Wow, loads, replacement engine, rear springs, Galvanised bulkhead, wheels powder coated, heater, radiator a couple of batteries. The only it let me down was on holiday when the coil gave out, £15 for a new coil, back on the road

What do you like about it? Iconic vehicle, whenever someone says draw a Land Rover this is the one everyone draws. Yes it is a bit crude, rustic even, but what do you expect from a vehicle that was designed 60 years ago. It's a working vehicle and in this respect great. My Landy celebrated its 59th birthday. I feel that I'm just a custodian and I can quite easily see it going on to celebrate its 100th birthday.

What makes it a classic? Good question, I could argue that It isn't yes it is 58 years old, but I own 2 other cars that are rarer, but that doesn't make them classics, future classics yes. The Land Rover is just that a classic in design, practicality and despite what we all think pretty reliable.

What other cars do you own? Audi AllRoad 2.7T and Smart Roadster Brabus



Alice