

CLASSIC SCENE



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CLASSIC SCENE

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

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COVER PICTURE

Our President returns to her Dutch cycling roots

CHAIR BITTY JUNE 2014

We missed the run to the Benleva last month, but to make up for it we did do the Drive It day on 28 April. There was a decent turnout of cars and people at the V8 café, and in Muir of Ord, had a nice opportunity to admire our cars. We continued on to the Aultguish Inn for a cup of tea and a natter. Whilst there the weather looked so nice out west that most of us decided to keep going to Ullapool. Sunshine, warm, t-shirt weather. Lovely.



Not so nice weather at the Inverness BID Classic Show in early May. But despite the occasional rain there was a good turnout of vehicles and spectators. I was offered an exclusive ride on a classic vehicle (there may be a picture elsewhere in the magazine) and I couldn't resist. Weeeeeh, up and down Church Street. Wearing the hard hat was mandatory. And on the classic theme, Alice mentioned she saw a Ferrari Daytona on the A9 near Kildary the other day. And a Ferrari 430, Morgan 3 wheeler and XP150 Drophead.

I thought I update you on my bike cover, which is working very well, thank you for asking. Acts as a bit of a greenhouse in the sun which warms the handlebars. Though folding it in the breeze is a bit of a challenge, but I am getting the hang of it now. It is certainly helping my bicycle as I don't have to oil the chain quite as often.

It has only been about a month or so and the lawn is already starting to look a lot greener – with grass this time. Cutting the grass is a lot easier too as the mower doesn't get bogged down any more on the moss. There are still some patches that can do with an other going over with the scarifier and we'll tackle that when the weather dries up a little. I also decided to plant up some strawberries into tubs. One of the cheapskate shops in town does a very nice stackable cloverleaf tub. I have bought six of them, which gives me a total of 18 plants. Wait and see how they perform compared to the main plants in the front garden. Whilst digging out the little strawberry plants from the garden, I discovered that the strawberries were trying to invade the driveway. Tough little things aren't they?

This month will be a mystery run around Ross-Shire. We meet up at the Tesco car park in Dingwall at 7.30pm.

Cheers,
Trish

DRIVE IT DAY and FORRES CAR SHOW



THE FIRST



AND THE LAST



The Editors Monthly Rant



Not too much to rant about this month, but I'm sure I will think of something. So just an update on the events that have kicked off this years classic car events. First was the Drive It Day. A very good turnout met at the V8 Café and an hour or two was spent with the usual tyre kicking and seeing what was new and what was still leaking (My rustproofing system, better known as the steering box). Many of us ended up at the Aultguish Inn and spent a time sitting in the sun watching the world go by. Miles spotted a guy walking past pulling a small trailer. Turns out he was an ex Para complete with Red Beret, who was walking from John O' Groats to Lands End **AND RETURN!** for Help a Hero. Miles dragged him back, passed the hat around and raised over £60. Well spotted Miles. While listening to this Para speaking it turned out that like me he was a refugee from Hackney. Or should I say "ackney". I 'm from Hoxton originally or as I'm inclined to explain "There ain't not no aitch in 'oxton". You can't beat a good double negative. As Trish has already said the weather was so good that many of went onto Ullapool and had a very pleasant end to the day. The Forres Car Show was next. The weather was up to its usual standard. P'eed down for most of the day and when it did occasionally stop it was cold. The club has invested in an excellent marquee. It only took a few minutes to set up and was rain and wind proof. Definitely money well spent. The organisation at the event was a bit haphazard (I said I'd find something to rant bout) and parking seemed to end up as a park anywhere policy. Entry and parking spot numbers were different causing many to wander around aimlessly for a while. Once everyone was parked the event had attracted some of the regulars and a few I'd not seen before. The Ford's were well represented and I spotted that there was the first and last of the Capri's. A Ford Consul Classic Capri in a very bright light blue and a Ford Capri 280. The First and the Last. Ford have a small collection that was originally kept in an old warehouse at Dagenham that rarely saw the light of day and visitors only if you knew who to contact and one of the few cars in that collection paid for by Ford was the very last Capri ever made. A zero mileage Capri 280 in dark green. (PTO)

Then next was the East Sutherland Rotary Classic Car Charity Run from Dornoch out to Lochinver and return. Run by the Rotary club it was their first attempt at this and they attracted cars from far and wide and of varying interpretations of "classic". Some new cars, Ferrari, Porsche, Audi R8 through to a monster of a 1917 La France. Wassat? I hear you ask. See the picture and you will agree that it really is a monster. Made in America by the La France company that is more noted for making Fire Engines. It has a 14 litre six cylinder engine from a fire engine. Chain Drive, rear brakes only and that engine sounded like a cross between a big truck and a Spitfire. I followed it for several miles and in the usual rain it was keeping up a steady 50 to 55 and only had a problem when a van overtook it and then slowed down! Rear brakes only. Wet rear brakes. The driver afterwards said that engine braking was all that slowed it down. Overall it was a good event driving on some of the Highlands best roads and it help raise money for the RNLI. Just a suggestion, how about a club entry next year.



1917 La France
14 litre six cylinder engine, chain drive, brakes on rear wheels only.

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Morris Minor in Light Blue

Complete overhaul or replacement of all parts

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£6000

9 x Metal 5-Gallon Agricultural Oil Cans. They are structurally in good condition with varying states of paintwork. They are Shell and AgriCastrol, some are round and others are rectangular.

If you know of anyone who might be interested in purchasing them, please contact me or pass on my contact details.
Gordon J Stewart

I have been sent the following request by a Rally Entrant

Hi Gordon

Can you help me.

I am in need of some sections from an MGB body shell, do you know of anyone who has a scrap MGB shell. I am willing to travel and remove the bits myself and pay for them.

Allan

If any of you has an MGB Shell or sections of one, can you please contact me and I will pass on your details.

Gordon J Stewart

Secretary

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