

CLASSIC SCENE

JUNE 2016



CLUB OFFICIALS

Chairman: Trish Brown
Tel: 01862 832337
chairman@highlandclassic.org.uk
Secretary: Alice Brown
Tel: 01862 832337
secretary@highlandclassic.org.uk
Treasurer: Ian Thompson
Tel: 01463 790969
treasurer@highlandclassic.org.uk

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
ranaldsmith@btinternet.com

MEMBERSHIP

Bryan McIlwraith
Renewals should be sent to Bryan at 72 Lochalsh Road, Inverness IV3 6HW
Tel: 01463 222839 (Work)
01463 232144 (Home)
bm@invernessosteopaths.co.uk
Please let Bryan know if you have an email address.

HCMC HOMEPAGE

www.highlandclassic.org.uk &
Webmaster@highlandclassic.org.uk

EDITOR

Alan Goff
48 The Cairns, Muir of Ord, IV6 7AT.
Tel: 01463 871114
Email: editor@highlandclassic.org.uk

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.

COPYRIGHT

Neither the Editor nor the Officers of the Highland Classic Motor Club are necessarily in agreement with opinions expressed in this magazine. Such opinions are entirely the views of the author and imply no recommendation by the Highland Classic Motor Club.

All rights reserved. Apart from any fair dealings as permitted under the terms of the Copyright Design and Patents Act 1988, no part of this magazine may be reproduced in any form whatsoever without the written permission of the Highland Classic Motor Club.

COVER PICTURE

"Happy Days"

Mels Drive In Diner

CHAIR BITTY JUNE 2016

Tough climb going up that staircase. Round and round and round and round and I am getting dizzy. No wonder the Lighthouse Board doesn't want folks with a health condition going up those steps. But when you get to the top – what an amazing view from the outside gallery. One last ladder to go, mind you don't get clobbered by the lighting array, and you are in the glass dome. 4 banks of lights and only 3 out of the 7 lights in each bank was switched on. Douglas, the lighthouse keeper claimed that each bulb was only thirty watts, but with the focus - what a heat they put out! We eventually had to leave because it was too hot.

We took the Landrover along to the Inverness Classic Car Show this month. And by some co-incidence a second Landrover, kitted out as a fire engine, parked up behind us. Even more of a co-incidence was that the man is from Cannich and had heard about the less than Highland welcome on Drive it Day.

There was a good selection of older and more modern vehicles, with a fair sprinkling of club members and their vehicles. It has been quite some time since I last saw Charlie and his Ferrari, which not surprisingly got a lot of attention from the younger generation. Strolling round all of the exhibits it is amazing how quickly the time passes. It felt like we hardly had time for some lunch before the parade. We did miss one exhibit, which we later spotted on Facebook. A cool looking teddy bear with his own car.

Our Smart was yet again back in the garage, but this time for its annual service and to look at a rattle from the front suspension which has been getting more evident in the past couple of months. This turned out to be worn drop links on the anti-rollbar, duly replaced. Something we did remembered this year was the MOT on the Merc, unlike last year when we had a little last minute panic (omg - the MOT is due today!),

This months meet will be at Brockies where we give our fellow members an opportunity to drive your classic a few yards round the block. Or if your classic is too precious, chauffeur them around a bit. I won't be there this month as I am otherwise engaged on family business.

Have a good time and remember to write a little article for next months magazine.

Trish.

HIGHLAND CLASSIC MOTOR CLUB

TARBAT NESS VISIT

5th MAY 2016

A dozen or more members of the Highland Classic Motor Club were entertained at Tarbat Ness lighthouse, accompanied by a wide assortment of interesting vehicles, by keeper Douglas Gilchrist on the evening of 5th May. Marques represented included Jaguar V12, Mazda MX5, Burton Special, Citroen 2CV, Alfa Romeo, Lancia Fulvia, Bond Equipe, Smart Roadster, Triumphs of varying models, the only Gulf Racing Escort van known to be in captivity, and half a dozen reconstituted Ford Anglias.

Douglas welcomed the guests on an evening perfect for open-air classic motoring. All were conducted up the strikingly-marked red-banded tower and all enjoyed the panoramic vistas from the gallery with extensive views over the Dornoch and Cromarty Firths, the Black Isle, east Sutherland, Easter Ross and the ancient counties of Nairn, Moray and Aberdeen. A stunning location on a stunning day and all present appreciated the great good fortune of the occasion.

Douglas gave a knowledgeable introduction and answered many technical questions about the Tarbat Ness light in particular and the functions of the Northern Lighthouse Board in general. It was an unusually interesting event and everyone appreciated this rare opportunity to visit a site not normally open to the public, to ascend the third-tallest operational lighthouse in Scotland (200+steps, 134 feet) and to experience the giddy effect on one's equilibrium thereby induced. People pay good money for that in the soft south. The tenacity of the keepers of past centuries and their repeated climbing of the internal helical stairway to replenish oil for the lamp and to rewind the rotation mechanism is testament indeed to their dedication. Light keeping certainly had its ups and downs.

The promised cetacean wildlife did not, sadly, appear, though some Club members were doubtless excited at the prospect of proximity to the reputed site of ancient witchcraft ceremonies practiced before the establishment of the light in 1830.

At the conclusion of this most enjoyable visit Douglas was presented with a libation of malted Scottish water in appreciation of his efforts in making the visit such a success. Thanks are also due to Lorna Hunter, Publicity Officer, NLB, for her assistance and advice in facilitating the event.

DMH
May 2016



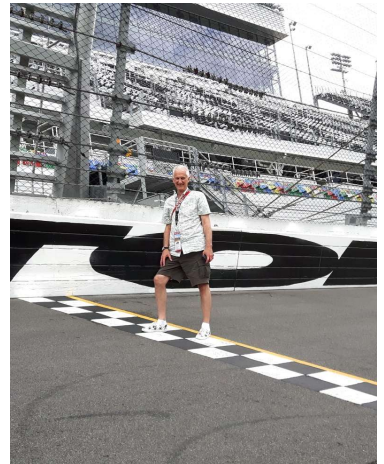
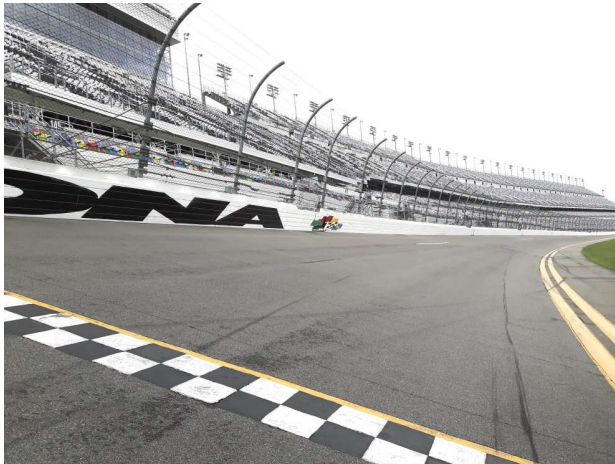
Note the toes hanging over the edge. Who was this brave soul? Will he or she own up to such a fashionable pair of shoes?

THE EDITORS MONTHLY RANT

Nothing much to moan about this month in fact the complete opposite. Jane and I went off to Orlando, Florida, to renew our acquaintance with the Universal Studios take on America and to get some of that rare commodity in the Scottish Highlands, sunshine. But I'm not going to bore you with Harry Potter (But do go and see it at Universal if you can. The attention to detail is incredible). When we booked the holiday a rental car was included in the package, but being a bit uninterested in yet another tin box from Korea I thought some American muscle was in order. Scrolling through the list of rentals was not very interesting until I got to the Ford Mustangs. That's it I thought, that's more like it. And everyone will be amazed at my choice. I'll be the envy of everyone. Err, well not really. The bloomin' place was wall to wall with Mustangs. Stopped at a set of traffic lights one time and there was four of us, all in convertible Mustangs trying hard not to look at each other.



A visit that was much more to my taste was to the Daytona Speedway. Short tours are nearly always available every day but they also do a VIP tour on a couple of days a week. I was able to book it from home and it was worth every penny of the \$52 each. 3 hours with a personal guide, who turned out to be a Good 'Ole Boy from the south who had raced and built dragsters and stock cars and knew the track well. The single grand stand is only about a year old and seats 110,000! Everyone has a complete view of the pits and all of the track and with a track length of 2.5 miles the grandstand is a bit big. Like 15 stories high! And the banking is deceptive. Only 13 degrees on the straights. See my pic on the start finish line. And 33 degrees on the bends, they don't let visitors walk on this banking because too many people were falling off!



CLASSIC CAR EVENTS 2016

Date

Venue

- 5th Jun 2016** Rotary Club of Elgin Motorfun & Picnic, Cooper Park, Elgin. 12 Noon to 5pm.
www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs
- 5th Jun 2016** Fraserburgh Vintage Car Rally, Fraserburgh Leisure Centre. www.fvcr.co.uk
- 19th Jun 2016** Tain Vintage Vehicle Rally, Tain Links.
www.taingala.co.uk. Arrive by 10.30am (Entries Deadline 21st May - Late Entry Charge on Day!)
HCMC Display - See Forum!
- 2nd Jul 2016** Gairloch Gathering Classic Vehicle Display, Big Sand Campsite, Gairloch. Meet 11am Gairloch Pier.
- 16/17th Jul 2016** Trucknessie, Bught Park, Inverness. Part of the Inverness Highland Games and Gala Weekend.
- 14th Aug 2016** 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.
- 27th Aug 2016** NEW FOR 2016* Highlands & Islands Transport Show, Scatraig Farm, A9 Daviot by Inverness.
Exhibits include trucks, cranes and recovery vehicles of every derivative, light commercial, classic and vintage cars & motorbikes, classic tractors and machinery, rally cars and much more. www.hitshow.co.uk
- 4th Sep 2016** Motor Mania at Grantown on Spey, Grantown on Spey

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.