

# CLASSIC SCENE



June 2017



## Inside this issue!

**Arnold Clark's car collection, Scenic drives,  
Inverness BID Classic Vehicle Show  
Theme Days, Cars and Coffee and  
more Cars.**

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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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## 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

HCMC cars outside the castle at the 2017 Inverness BID Car Show.

## Welcome to the June (already?) Newsletter

There have been a good number of events since the last Newsletter. Forres Theme Day, the Club visit to Arnold Clarks Collection with a drive out to the Covenanters Inn at Auldearn, Cars and Coffee, all topped off by the Inverness BID Car Show. The Editor has missed most of these due to an over-running boat restoration project, but does have a boat/car cross-over story to relate. The spare boat trailer wheel had a tyre that had come off it's rim, and putting it back on was proving a bit difficult. After a bit of YouTubing (It will be in the Oxford English Dictionary soon) I sprayed the inside of the tyre with a good dose of 'Easy Start' and lit it with a blowtorch I had standing by. After a couple of flame dousing sessions and a complaint from an alarmed Mrs Editor, boom! It went on. Perfectly safe. (Don't try this at home– HCMC legal team.)

### Austin Somerset For Sale.

My neighbour at the farm has decided to sell his Austin Somerset. I think it will be mechanically sound, bodily presentable and will come with a fresh Mot. The Austin 12 in the photo belongs to another farmer and is not for sale. Contact Jim MacKay on 07968144905 for further info.



## Chairs Bitty

The cars on display at Arnold Clark are, for a change, not your run of the mill classics. Some are in a sorry looking state, especially the Renault. But the Renault had as an unusual feature, an updraught carburettor. Well worth a quick visit if you are in the area.



Somehow on the run up to Auldearn the group managed to split into two. One group going down the A96 before turning up through Balloch onto the road to Cawdor. The other group, us included, going via Raigmore, Inshes and the Battlefield. Alice and I left last from the forecourt; got stopped at the all roundabouts and traffic lights and consequently had a bit of catching up to do, which we did just at the Culloden Viaduct. Not much later we noticed an Aston behind us. The first one of the group that went via the A96. So when we arrived at Auldearn we were pretty much in the middle of the group.

The Council has been out in recent months doing some work on various roads. For instance on the roads leading off Glenurquhart to the High School, they have added a number of sleeping policemen. A bit tricky to negotiate in the Smart with its non existent ground clearance, but you can just rush over these with our other cars. They have also sorted out the drain cover on Longman Road near the grain maltings. It means you no longer need to do a weave across the carriageway to avoid it – left at the lights at Henderson road and then right at the maltings. The Council has also finally resurfaced the junction at Tomich/Invergordon/A9. The carriageway going into Invergordon was in an appalling state for the first 10 yards where the surface was totally chewed up by trucks. It worked wonders as a traffic calming measure – I would not go any faster than walking pace. In the end it took the Council 3 days, using 4 way traffic lights (bleh) causing some lengthy delays. But now at least I no longer need to worry about cars shaking to bits.

As it turned out, the brake switch was not the culprit for the Merc's problems. No. It turned out to be electrical, with lots of corroded wiring at the gear selector housing. Some trimming of the wiring restored the car back to driving condition. And just in case a new brake switch was fitted anyway.

Whilst the Merc was in the garage we took the opportunity to do the MOT as well. This identified corrosion around the spring hangers and some more welding was required to sort this out. (More you say??? Yes the floor nearly fell out of the left wheel arch). There is still some residual electrical glitches going on, with just every now and then the cruise disengaging on its own accord.

This month we are making a longer road trip to Ullapool. We meet up at the square in Strathpeffer at 19.30pm. I am looking forward to a nice sunny evening, cruising with the roof down of-course.

See you there.

*Trish.*

## **Contributions**

We're always looking for your items for the Newsletter, short or long funny or factual, please send them to [editor@highlandclassic.org.uk](mailto:editor@highlandclassic.org.uk)

Thanks to those that have sent pieces in. If it's not in this month, it will be soon. Keep up the good work!

### **Club Meeting Updates**

Fortrose and Rosemarkie Classic Vehicle Rally. Saturday 26th August, meet at Dingwall Auction Mart about 10am then drive to the venue in Fortrose for around mid-day. The details are on the HCMC website.

There are still 5 places left on the November BBC Visit. If you'd like to go get it touch with the Editor by e-mail or ask Calum Pearson in person.

The next club meeting is on Thursday 1st Jun 2017.

Fish & Chip run to Ullapool

Meet in the square at Strathpeffer for 7:30

# Visit to Arnold Clarks Collection 4th May 2017

We met at the slightly earlier time of 7pm at Arnold Clarks Van Hire on Harbour road, to browse a large part of the Arnold Clark collection which is kept there. The cars were generally older, unrestored and more unusual models.

Rolls Royce Park Ward Single Tourer 20hp (1928)

Austin Heavy 12 (1929)

Daimler '15' 2.0 Saloon (1935)

Renault Saloon (1932)

Jaguar MK V 3.5 Convertible (1950)

Triumph Mayflower (1953)

Mercedes Benz 280 SE (1969)



You can go and see the cars any time the branch is open and we were encouraged to have a good look and sit inside them.





After we had had our fill, we headed off for a scenic drive to the Covenanters Inn at Auldearn. The route was via Culloden Battlefield and the Clava Cairns. Definitely not straight down the A96.



## **Inverness BID Classic Vehicle Show** by Callum Beveridge

Saturday 13th May saw Inverness town centre grind to a halt to host the ninth Inverness Classic Vehicle Show. Despite being woken up at 07:00 by heavy rain, the forecast showers mainly stayed away and a mostly dry day was had by all.

By 08:30, the US 5th Army had arrived and were mustered below the castle on Castle Street. At 09:00, the busses started rolling up, followed by the trucks and the tractors, and by 10:00, cars were starting to arrive, with the last being admitted at 11:20. At the Castle, we had a few no-shows, which meant that we had more space than we had anticipated and we needn't have packed the busses so tightly together.



The town was busy - it took considerable effort just to walk through the crowds, but I did manage to get down Church St, Inglis St, High St and, new to this year, Lombard St, and look at the cars assembled there.



There was a great variety, from the 1904 Oldsmobile and Ronnie's Messerschmitt Kabinenroller, to more modern exotica such as Ferraris and a McLaren parked on Falcon Square.



The job of interviewing the drivers and announcing the vehicles during the parade, was outsourced to our own Miles this year. Despite not managing to mention 'Rubber Bumpers' once, he reportedly acquitted himself well.

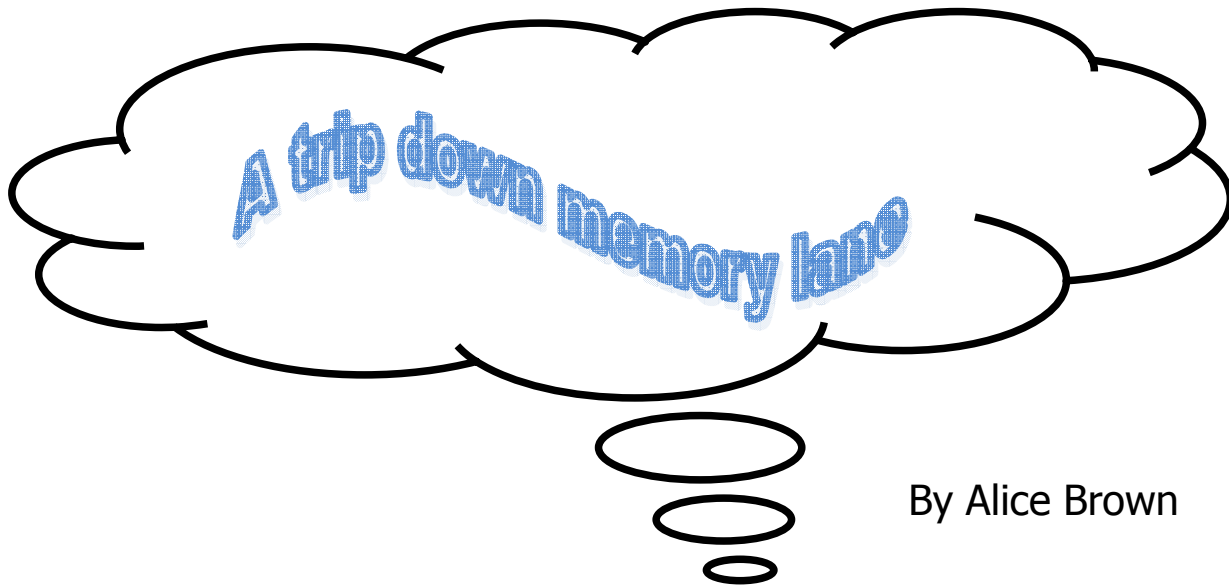


All too soon, the drivers had to return to their vehicles and assemble on Milburn Rd for the parade down the High St which started at 3pm. This year, we managed to get all the cars through the street and away with 15 minutes - which was a first! Although the event appears to be very short, it has to fit in with the High St being closed to traffic between 10am and 4pm, after which time, businesses receive their daily deliveries.

The preparations for this event start in January, and gradually ramp up with final arrangements being made the night before removing bollards etc. and again in the early hours of Saturday morning with streets being coned off and banners erected. This year, a number of club members got involved on the day, starting at 8am for a breakfast briefing and without Jeff, Graeme and Miles, the day wouldn't have gone quite as smoothly as it did

**If you're interested in getting involved in this event in the future, get in touch with me and I'll pass your details on to the BID team.**





Robin was very reliant, and had decided to go for a trip to Europa, with his girlfriend Elise. Unfortunately the car wasn't quite so happy about this and cried there's a hill man, but Robin knew she was just being a minx.

They drove across the Humber bridge looking at the snipe feeding in the estuary, then down the A40 and across the channel. They were heading for Cortina to meet up with a couple they had met at a classic car show in Yorkshire.

They made good time and booked into their hotel late at night with the sky looking very celeste-ial. Suddenly there was a scream from the bathroom. Elise had seen a spyder, in the bath. Robin, so valiant, removed it. Elise could now make herself look regal before they went down to the restaurant to have dinner with Victor and Isabella. The meal turned out rather bora-ing.

A right royale time was had over the few days in Cortina, before Robin and Elise moved on to Granada, via Capri.

When they arrived in Granada, a big surprise awaited them as the Fiesta was on. They joined in the fun shouting Viva and dodging all the charger(s) and urracó's (that is Spanish for Bull). All too soon it was time to head back to home, but they couldn't resist a detour via Cordoba.

Elise asked Robin when the ferry was and he replied " about 2.06"

Leaving the ferry back in Britain they meandered their way home by visiting Devon, Somerset, Hereford, and Hampshire.

An epic trip

# Wales Drive it Day.

By Jim MacKay

I ended up in Wales during Drive it Day and spotted an MGTA, 2xMGYA's and a VW Beetle on the open road. Having stopped for lunch these two immaculate cars drew up, a Riley RMC and an MGB. Looks like MG's are popular in Wales and perhaps even in Bath where the specialist garage was photographed.



Cheers,

Jim MacKay.



## At the Covenanters Inn, Auldearn after the Scenic Drive.



Somebody has a new car and there's nothing RUF about it. Is that a V8 badge on the grille sir?



Meanwhile back in Inverness someone took a shine to the Mercedes Benz 280 SE At Arnold Clarks. The car was last seen heading along the Moray Coast near Hopeman. The passenger appeared nervous. Come to the next club meeting on the first of June to find out how this ended. **Strathpeffer** for 7:30. Run to Ullapool for fish suppers. Drive it like you stole it.



## Me and My Car



**Car:** Porsche 944 1989

**Owner:** Graeme Bremner

**Type:** Four seater saloon

**Engine:** 2.7 litre four cylinder 163 bhp

**0-60:** 8.2

**Top Speed** Not sure. 130 plus

**How long have you had it?** Since April 2016

**What work have you (had) done.** Removed the stripe and realigned the back bumper.

**What do you like about it?** The look, the stance, the fat er... rear end.

**What makes it a classic?** Probably more of a modern classic.

**What other cars do you own?** I'd like a Mini or a Mk11 escort.

**Erratum.** Due to an error by the editorial staff, Callum Beveridge's Burton appeared in two consecutive issues of Me and My Car. The culprit has been tied to the HCMC printing press and soundly spanked with a sheaf of back issues. We are assured this sort of thing won't happen again.

# CARS AND COFFEE - INVERNESS!!

40+ Cars turned out this morning for a truly excellent CARS AND COFFEE - INVERNESS!!

Thank you to everyone for coming down and filling the Cafe V8 car park with some exquisite vehicles.

From a stunning 1965 E-Type to an awesome "Sharkwerks" tuned Porsche GT3 RS, along with many classic Fords, performance cars of all types, VWs and Kit Cars, everyone of them brightening an already sunny day!

Can't wait to see what turns up next Month.



Cars and Coffee is held CAFE V8, Henderson Rd, Inverness IV1 1SN on the second Sunday of every month from 10:00 am until the last person goes home.

# CLUB EVENTS

|                     |                                                       |                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 27th<br>May<br>2017 | Rotary Club of East<br>Sutherland Classic<br>Car Tour | Dornoch                         | <a href="http://www.rotary-ribi.org/upimages/clubfiles/1668/Rot-ry_Car_Tour_2016_flyer.pdf">http://www.rotary-ribi.org/<br/>upimages/clubfiles/1668/<br/>Rot-<br/>ry_Car_Tour_2016_flyer.pdf</a>                                                                                                                         |
| 28th<br>May<br>2017 | Highland Folk Muse-<br>um Vintage Day                 | Newtonmore                      | Limited Spaces.<br>Classic Cars, Bikes, Agricultural<br>Vehicles etc. at the Highland<br>Folk Museum, Kingussie Rd,<br>Newtonmore on Sunday.<br><a href="https://www.highlifehighland.com/highlandfolkmuseum/vintage-day-2017/">https://<br/>www.highlifehighland.com/<br/>highlandfolkmuseum/vintage-<br/>day-2017/</a> |
| 1st Jun<br>2017     | Fish & Chip run to<br>Ullapool                        | Strathpeffer                    | Meet in the square at Strath-<br>peffer for 7:30. Run to<br>Ullapool for fish suppers.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 3rd Jun<br>2017     | Trucknessie                                           | Bogbain<br>Farm, Inver-<br>ness | 10:30 -18:00 Bogbain Farm,<br>IV2 5BD Inverness<br><a href="http://www.facebook.com/truckness/">www.facebook.com/truckness/</a>                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| June<br>11th.       | CARS AND COFFEE -                                     | Inverness                       | CAFE V8, Henderson Rd, In-<br>verness IV1 1SN                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |