

CLASSIC SCENE



July 2011

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The club has an extensive archive of information relating to all aspects of classic car ownership including technical advice etc. To access this, please contact the archivist, Ranald Smith, at Hawthorn Cottage, 2 Burn Road, Inverness IV2 3NG
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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

Forres Theme Day '500'

The Chairman's Bit

The weather was kind for last month's run to Fort Augustus which was very lucky considering what June has been throwing at us since. A good turnout started at Bought Park or joined at Drum for the run down the side of Loch Ness. Some were able to go faster than others, I noticed a certain Aston Martin and TVR Chimaera disappearing into the distance in front of me. The only person who didn't enjoy the drive much was Ray Quibble who can probably see the Lovett from his house. He still drove though!



I also drove up to Tain for the 4th Vintage, Historic and Classic Car Rally run by their Gala Association. Tain took over when the Alness show stopped and now seems firmly established in the calendar. Of our members present there was a mixture of those who had entered as individuals and ones that had entered on our club stand which Callum had kindly organised. Hero of the day was Willie Murray who had brought his Morris

Minor Traveler with 'half a' Morris Minor Traveler trailer (try saying that after a few Red Kites!) which held a 40 foot Gazebo and several tables and chairs. Putting up said gazebo was, as is usual with these things, a bit of a nightmare but boy was it worth the effort when the heavens opened a few hours later. I think all the motor bike entrants who were parked behind us appreciated it as well! I also thought Tom MacCallum was doing sterling work in the ring describing and interviewing entrants from under a large umbrella.

See you all at this months meet.

Michael

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This Months Meeting

Thursday 7th July. Drive Each Others Cars Night at Brokies Lodge, Kiltarlilly from 7:30 onwards.

HIGHLAND CLASSIC MOTOR CLUB

Monthly meetings (1st Thursday of every month)

2011

February 3rd	AGM and Quiz Night—North Kessock Hotel
March 3rd	Visit to Charles Perrins' Garage and latest Project
April 7th	Visit to Control Tower at Dalcross Airport
May 5th	Black Isle Brewery Visit
June 2nd	Road run to Fort Augustus
July 7th	Drive Each others Cars Night—Brockies Lodge, Kiltarlity
August 4th	Scenic drive to Whitebridge via Foyers
September 1st	Struie Run to Edderton Arms
October 6th	tba
November 3rd	tba
December 1st	Christmas Club Night

2012

January 5th	Annual Auction—North Kessock Hotel
February 2nd	AGM—North Kessock Hotel

(Further details to be published in 'Classic Scene' prior to the individual meetings)



The club hands over a cheque for £500 to Munloch Animal Aid

Editorial

Hello,

A quick note this month now that we're into the summer 'Show Season'.

Firstly, a big thanks to Willie for the use of his Gazebo at Tain. Whilst we didn't exactly shine during the erection, the gazebo grew increasingly popular with our neighbours as the day progressed.

The 'Beast of Balnafaich' joined us for last month's meeting on a scenic trip to Fort Augustus. A cracking drive with good weather.

This month's meeting is a visit to Brookies Lodge for a 'Drive Each Others Cars' evening. Last year, we had everything for an E-type to an Austin 7. Come along and enjoy the fun.



Forthcoming shows include Glamis next week, Dingwall, Grantown and the ever popular Fortrose Rally—dates elsewhere in this newsletter.

I'll be motoring in France next month, so all articles should be submitted by 20th July for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Callum

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The 'Gazebo Club' membership at its peak

A SUPER SPRING SAUNTER 2011

Kindly words of advice during one of the refreshment stops were “don't let the engine oil get too settled – keep the zump oil going round!”

I certainly heeded these words of wisdom during the homeward run from Bellabeg to Tomintoul. As Deeks headed for the Lecht I felt exhilarated at the thought of repeating the tough performance undertaken during last year's Saunter however, I was completely unprepared for the South-North Lecht experience.

Deeks managed the first steep assault in bottom gear for about half a mile slowly grinding her way to the first layby of any size. Lots of Ralliers were there admiring the view and the antics of a remote controlled model glider.

I lifted the bonnet to hear rumbling and a mixture of steam and hot water jerking out of the overflow. There was nothing to do but sit it out while Eleanor was kind enough to distract us by sharing her box of chocolates.

After an amazingly short time Deeks was ready to go. We climbed in low gear until just after The Allargue Arms at Corgarff. This is when she refused to proceed – the gradient was such that the engine was starved of fuel and the handbrake couldn't hold her. We slid gently down the road and Deeks was abandoned with bonnet up in the middle of the Arms carpark as I sought refreshment for my Navigator who was in a state of disbelief and myself. We emerged to

find a crowd of gorgeous young men clusted around the car exclaiming “Oh look! That's a dynamo!” “You can't possibly continue the assault” – they spoke as one. “Come with us!” one said and I was sorely tempted! “We've tea waiting for us at Tomintoul for 5 pm and I have to be there” They shrugged and left.

Levels checked, the engine started straight away and in bottom gear we proceeded to the next summit,

It was a cold, windy and desolate place with a shocking view of the road ahead. Cars and vans were like dots in the distance, disappearing from the undulating road which led in the distance to the Lecht Ski Lifts.

I headed the car into wind, as advised by Mike Reid who had been usefully tailing us throughout.

Deeks, like all of us, soon cooled down and, levels checked once more – the road was clear and I made a run at the first incline. Deeks performed well and, putting her into 3rd and then second for the steep incline, I kept her in 2nd and then, in an attempt not to lose momentum struck her into bottom gear. My Navigator squirmed, I prayed forgiveness,

Deeks lost many digits from her gearbox – however – we kept going at an amazing pace. Just as well she hasn't a Rev. counter – but we did it!

We had drinks all round at Tomintoul and, having quaffed a very naughty dram, I agreed to write this piece!

Liz Bligh



Local Events Diary

Here are some details of 2011 local motoring events that may be of interest to our members

July

2nd/3rd STAR Rally, Inverness
9th/10th 37th Scottish Transport Extravaganza at Glamis Castle
31st Knockhill Classic SpeedFair

August

14th Historic Wheelsl Rally, Brodie Castle.
27th Fortrose Vintage Vehicle Rally

September

3rd Dingwall Street Fair. Contact Donald Mackenzie 01349 861009
4th Motor Mania—Grantown on Spey
17th/18th Selkirk Rally

If you notice any errors or omissions, please let the editor know.



Out & About



Alex's answer to Road Rage—seen at Tain



Glenelg Rusty Rover Graveyard

If you're interested in further details of these vehicles, contact the editor for more info