

CLASSIC SCENE



August 2018



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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 tribute to the last Cars and Coffee at the Café V8 Inverness. They resisted our attempts to turn them into the Highland 'Ace Café' and so the event is moving to Roller Bowl.

Welcome to the August Newsletter

It's been a bit quieter on the local show front this month but we have managed a short show summary in this edition. The 'Gairloch Gathering' was on but I haven't heard from anyone who went. The 'Scottish Transport Extravaganza' at Glamis Castle is slightly off our patch but was attended by some members. The Sutherland County Show had a few club members in attendance, and there was a small event in Orkney too.

This month in the editor's garage it's been MOT's and MOT prep. The Mini was a bit rusty underneath after the salty winter so it has been rotary wire brushed, rust converted, primed, and rather embarrassingly, Hammerited. I had to drop the front subframe to remove the steering rack for an inner track rod end. This is a pig of a job, but the steering rack was repaired with new gaiters and missing lubrication applied. After putting the Mini back together again I took it out for a test run and it misfired a few times. It seemed to be a fuelling issue so I checked it over and thought I found a bit of a leak at the tank pipe. After I tighten it up I went out for a test run but a couple of miles from home it spluttered and stopped. A local man stopped to help and we found a split petrol pipe at the fuel pump behind the engine, probably caused by age and the subframe lowering. He gave me a short tow to a nearby lorry garage where his pal worked and he sourced a bit of useable petrol pipe which fixed it. A few days later the Mini passed his MOT!

Subsequently the Beetle went in for her MOT, even though exempt. I go to Roy McQueen at Longman MOT. We are not only on first name terms but he knows which of my cars is coming in next! I was chatting about the MOT exemption and he finds most classic owners are still going for an MOT motivated by a history of passes to keep up the value of their cars. The Beetle passed with an advisory on the nsr brake which has a slight bind. A sticky wheel cylinder I think. I don't have a brake tester at home; another reason to keep getting tested. The Golf is going fine and isn't too rusty. If only everything in life was as reliable as a Volkswagen.

Happy classic motoring

Your Editor

Chairs Bitty

When we gathered at Fairways last month, the assumption was that about 6 cars would fit on the driveway. 10 turned up, 8 managed to cram on the drive. Some of us took a little detour after mishearing the directions and loosing touch with the cars in front owing to a very slow



learner driver. On the plus side, we did discover that the Dores Inn was mobbed and unlikely to accommodate us after the visit.

We spend the best part of 2 hrs prodding and poking around the Varley Woods, hearing about what is involved in its ownership and generally looking around Ranald's garage. First garage I've come across that is carpeted. At the end of the night Ranald extended an offer to all HCMC club members. Ranald is no longer able to drive his Varley and he is keen to make sure that the vehicle not only remains in an on the road condition, but is regularly 'exercised' by a small group of drivers. If you are interested in driving this one of a kind vehicle, then please get in touch with me. Just remember the pedals are in a non standard formation.

After a spectacularly warm and sunny June and start to July, the weather has turned back to standard Highland weather – wet. It saves me having to water the plants in containers or the strawberries every night. At least we didn't make the mistake this year of going on holiday just as these strawberries were fruiting, which we did last year. That year even though we told our neighbours to pick them, when we got back the plants were full of mouldy fruit. This year the strawberries are fruiting so much I have ended up freezing most of it. Ditto for the black currants, but the birds yet again ate all the red currents.

All that good weather is also very good for cruising in the Smart - with the roof down of-course.

One of my colleagues complimented me on my cool 50's look with my scarf and sunglasses on when I borrowed the car for my commute for a few days as the Skoda went for another garage visit and new rear tyres. What is it with cars these days that you can't buy small spare parts anymore? A broken ABS ring turned out to be part of the wheel bearing assembly. And there was nothing wrong with the wheel bearing. Our friendly local garage always seem to spot something else when they look at the cars ('Oh, new front discs won't go wrong either'), but I admit the disks were getting on a bit.

We missed the BBQ at Graeme's. He mentioned a paddling pool and waterslide out in his garden - did any of our fellow members.....? It was the weather for it.

This month we are on a scenic chippie run to Grantown. Details of where we meet up are elsewhere in the magazine. See you there.

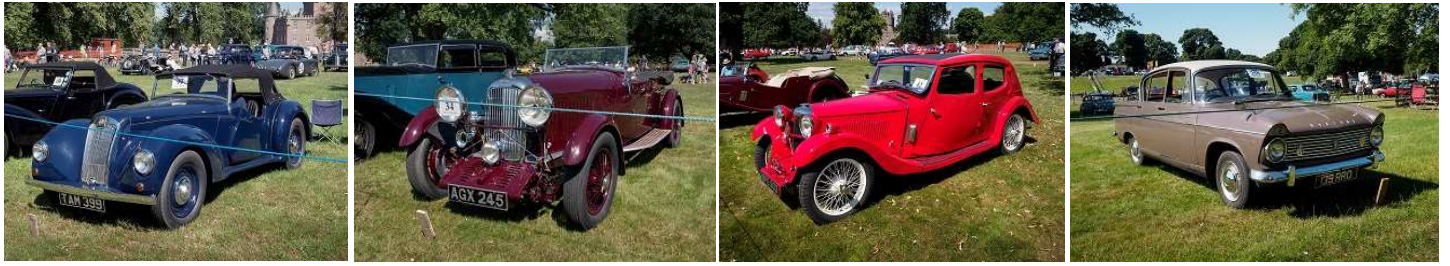
Trish.

Spotted around Inverness



Thanks to Jim Mackay and a Triumph Estate I saw on my way to an MOT.

Glamis Motoring Extravaganza 7th July 2018



It was huge, it was hot and it was a long drive away but this is the biggest show in the north and it has autojumbles.

Orkney Vintage Club Deerness Vintage Day



Shamelessly stolen from an HCMC Facebook post. Not to be confused with the Orkney Classic Motor Show on Sunday 12th August but it looks like a nice wee gathering.

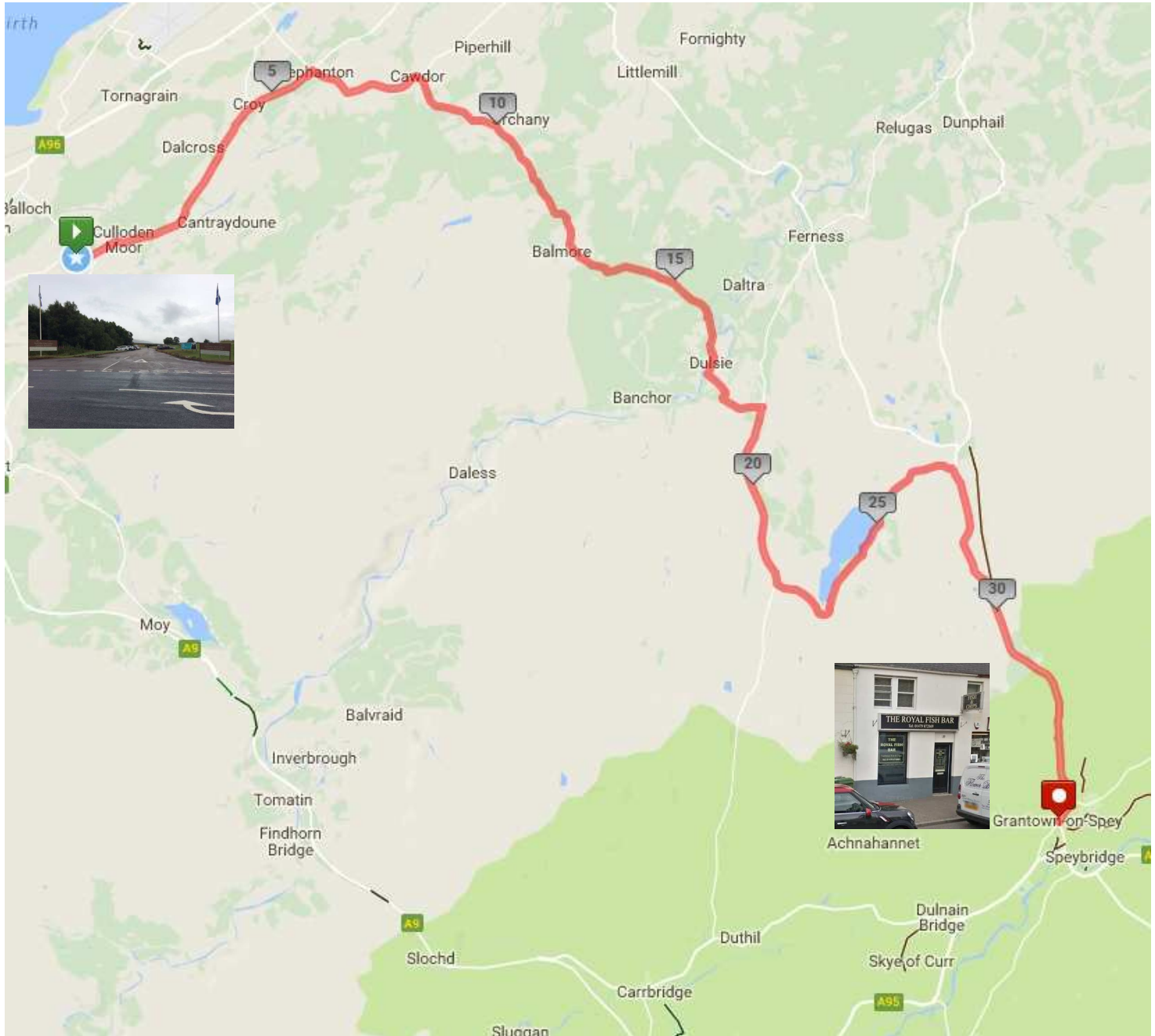
Sutherland County Show Dornoch, 21st July 2018



It has been reported that there were a few club members at this show. The tractors are included as we are a motor club, not just a car club, and it is a nice picture. Just don't let them in front on drive it day.

August Club Night Granttown for Chips

Meet at Culloden Battlefield Car park for a prompt departure at 19:30. The chip shop closes at 9pm! The chippy owners have asked if we can pre-order as much as possible before we leave so speak to me (Calum - Green Mini) and I'll phone it in. Here's a map of the 35 mile drive.



Full directions are on the club Forum. The chip shop is on the right side of Granttown High Street, just past the square.

The return journey is west to Carrbridge, then join the A9 home.

Hope to see you there.

HCMC Barbeque



The inaugural HCMC barbeque kindly organised by Graeme Bremner was enjoyed by all. We met at Tore garage and had a wee drive along the coast to Rosmarkie, then up the hill and left to Killen, where our host met us. We parked up in the ample parking space and could have fitted twice as many cars in.

Numbers were slightly down as it was an occasionally drizzly day but not enough to dampen our spirits or charcoal. The HCMC shelter was put to good use.

It was nice to relax with good food, and there was a free flowing exchange of stories and general chit chat of a motoring nature including a shared love of Ball-inluig Motor Grill as sausages sizzled on our grill.

It was so good we want to do it again next year, possibly at the same venue or maybe down at a beach somewhere. It was a pleasant and relaxing afternoon, and something a little bit different for a club activity.

Here's to the next one.

Calum.



Cars and Coffee

Yet again, we were stunned by the variety and quality of the machines brought along to this event. Another excellent morning at Cafe V8, for what turns out to be the last use of this venue.

Highlights included some Americana, a noisy beach buggy and a race-look MG Midget, as well as our regulars and some exotic modern fayre.

When will we stop seeing new cars appearing? Every month there is something new.



Cars and Coffee—Inverness is moving. As from Sunday 12th August the new venue is at the Roller Bowl car park, Culduthel Road, on the South side of Inverness.

Google Maps Link

<https://goo.gl/maps/ppVZAYeBTVH2>

Directions

Head west round Southern Distributer Road, Take First right after Asda. Culduthel Road. Roller Bowl is on your right.



Trip to Torbreck! – July Club Night

Graeme Bremner

Our 'Thursday Night' meet was a trip to see Ranald Coyne and his lovely 1920 Varley Woods. We congregated at Fairways and, after a quick guide on directions set off for Torbreck. After avoiding a campervan almost tipping over on the single track roads, and some wrong turns we all made it there. As we squeezed into the car park, Ranald already had the car purring away ready.

Seeing a car of this age is always a real treat and with Ranald being such an enthusiastic owner it was great to hear the history of the car from him. Ranald was accompanied by his son-in-law who helps him with the car and was also more than happy to go over the finer details of the Varley Woods.

Ranald bought the car at auction and has now rebuilt it to its current glory and is looking to get it to some shows this year.

A great night was had by all with everyone getting a seat in the Varley Woods and eager to hear all about its history. We intended a pub run after but as we stayed so long that it didn't happen. Apparently it was very busy anyway.

Overall it was a lovely way to spend an evening and all of us would say we look forward to seeing the car around the shows in the future. Ranald did ask that he would be keen to hear from any club members who would like to assist with driving the car. He and his son-in-law would love to teach a couple of enthusiastic people. Any volunteers or interested parties are encouraged to get in touch with committee members who can put you in touch.

Top Picture by John MacKenzie



Me and My Car

Car: Toyota Sprinter Trueno (AE86)
Owner: Callum Macadam
Type: Lightweight Coupe
Engine: 1.6L 4A-GE inline 4
Top Speed: About 110mph, limited by a low diff.
0-60: 5.5seconds (measured) helped by low diff and light weight.
Weight: 818Kg (A Lotus Elise weighs 866 to 931 kg)
Nürburgring Lap time: 9m 40sec



How long have you had it?: Since November 2015, when I imported it from Tokyo.

Vehicle History: It was a race and rally car in Japan and I bought it through an auction house. I took it to the Tain Car Show in 2016 and the gearbox blew up, which leads onto the next question.

What work have you done to it?: Removing the gearbox turned into a full nut and bolt restoration in a tiny garage. This includes painting. All documented on the club forum.

What do you like about it?: This is my dream car. I saw one in the Snowman Rally 20 years ago, and thought, 'I want that.' It's got a back to basics driving style with no driver aides.

What makes it a classic?: It has a race and rally pedigree. It was the first mass produced 16V engine. It has a 50:50 weight distribution, and is rare now as many original example were turned into drift cars. Toyota are trying to recreate it in the GT86.

What other cars do you own?: Toyota BB (Big Box). My partner has an MX-5. I have a long history with Toyotas and have owned 19 in the last 5 years.

The Me and My Car folder is empty again. Contact editor@highlandclassic.org.uk I can write it up. I just need a picture and some information similar to the above. Thank you.

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Venue	Details
1st Aug 2018	Fish & Chip Run to Grantown on Spey	Grantown on Spey	Scenic Drive from Inverness to Grantown on Spey for Fish & Chips. Meet for 19.30 departure at Culloden Battlefield Car Park (Next to B9006)
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)
12th Aug 2018	Cars And Coffee - Inverness	Roller Bowl, Culduthel Rd. Inverness	A quiet Social Event for all Car Enthusiasts. Park up, buy a drink and snack from Roller Bowl and the check out what's in the Car Park
19th Aug 2018	Dunrobin Castle Vintage Car Run & Rally	Helmsdale to Dunrobin Castle	Police Dependents Trust Rally. NEW ENTRY FORM CONTACT DETAILS TO FOLLOW - DO NOT USE LAST YEAR'S CONTACT DETAILS! Starts Helmsdale 10am. Brora 11am. Embo 12noon. Dornoch 1pm. Dunrobin Castle 2pm. Prizes 4.45pm. Entry charge includes Lunch - Price TBC.
24th Aug 2018	DubNess - The Gathering of the Vans	Bogbain Farm	24-26th August at Bogbain Farm. Camping for your van or visit for a day. Details on DubNess - The Gathering of the Vans Facebook page.
25th Aug 2018	Fortrose & Rosemarkie Classic Vehicle Rally	Dingwall -> Fortrose	More info from info@fortroserally.co.uk or Facebook page: 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 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. Registration Now Open!

Note. Always check <http://www.highlandclassic.org.uk/> for latest details of events.