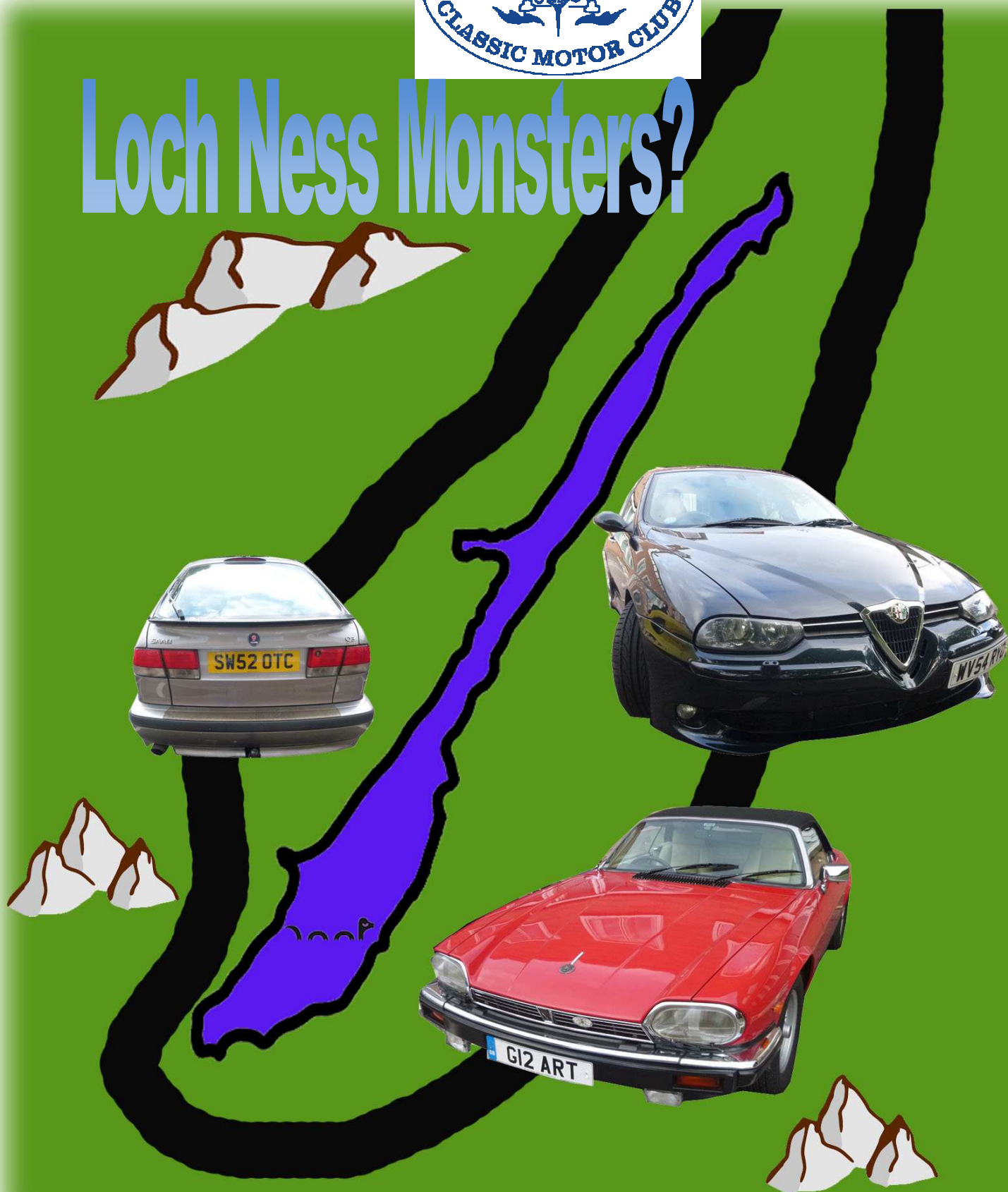


CLASSIC SCENE



September 2017

Loch Ness Monsters?



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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

The monsters of Loch Ness as seen on the August club run. Strictly on dry land though, unlike some other cars featured in this edition.

Welcome to the September Newsletter

Your dedicated editor has missed all the car shows this month as Mrs Editor and some friends have had significant birthdays this month. However other club members have been forthcoming with reviews of the Brodie and Dun-robin shows and other content. I am very grateful for this as it wouldn't be much of a newsletter without them.

Speaking of being dedicated, during a stay in plush accommodation for Mrs Editors said birthday I was caught writing some of this newsletter while I thought she was snoozing. To be fair I just clicked on 'save' and didn't utter the usual "I'll be with you in a minute." I think I got away with it.

In other news, if anyone wants to meet up before travelling to Grantown Motor Mania on Sep 3rd, we're planning to gather at Simpsons Garden Centre, Inverness for a **9am** departure. Route to be decided on the day - A9 or Lochindorb... See the Website or Forum for more information.

The Inverness Mini Owners Group have a provisional date for this years Harvester Run around Loch Ness. Meet on Sep 17 at 10:30 AM , The Inverness Sports Centre. Check their Facebook page or I can pass on details.

And finally, the things you see in Tesco's. I've seen camper vans towing a small run about car before but this really caught my eye.



Happy classic motoring,

The Editor

Chairs Bitty

It was a nice evening when we all gathered on Glenurquhart Road, with the usual rummage around cars. Then Miles turned up with his new acquisition which made us all wonder what had got into him. A VW Transporter. But with some very nifty conversions aimed at making life on the road a lot easier for Carlene, although the lift did not leave a lot of ground clearance. We thought our Smart was bad, but this conversion went a little bit further. Smith Road is definitely out of the question.



A leisurely drive to Drumnadrochit followed, to pick up more members from the TI carpark. A further pause in Fort Augustus followed to gather up the pack, before we made our way back down the loch side to Inverness. A lot of work has been done on the road out of Fort Augustus, with new layby's created and a lot of the trees chopped down. The views over the village and down the loch are truly amazing. We definitely need to go back there to take some pictures.

Alice had a scary experience in the Smart. Something that sounded (and felt) like something nasty happening with the brakes. Sudden lots of screeching and crunching. As she was at the time not that far from home she turned round. At which point the nasty noises calmed down, but not wanting to take a risk.... We had already planned to replace the front disks and pads anyway before the winter and the scheduled replacement was simply pulled forward a little. We suspect that perhaps a stone got stuck somewhere.

As you will know, the Council has changes its policy on collecting garden waste. It is hampering my gardening a little bit, as I now need to store the waste until we have time to go to the Amenities site. At this time of year when there is a lot of cutting back to do, the bin is not really big enough.

I have replaced the raised bed that was slowly falling to bits. My work donated some pallets (saves them from having to dispose of them) and the planks have gone into making up the new sides. Cheap material and no doubt the bed will not last that many years, but for free materials... I am not complaining. And because the original raised bed was round, the replacement is octagonal. Hurray for the Land Rover for carting the waste to the dump.

This month we are going down to Aviemore for our last run of the year. We will meet up at Simpson's Garden Centre at **19.00**. Note the slightly earlier time to give us maximum daylight for travel.

See you there.

Trish.

What is this Mystery Car?

As seen at this years Brodie Car Show. Not an easy one to guess. Answer at the back of this Newsletter. Picture and answer provided by Alan Goff.



Loch Ness Club Run

by Calum Pearson



We met outside the Highland Council HQ on Glenurquart Rd. Miles arrived in a modern camper that was much admired, though passenger Callum looked ashamed it wasn't a proper classic.



After an extended period of chat we drove down the A82 to Drumnadrochit and Fort Augustus where we had stops for more chat and car fettling.

We got over-taken by a quickly driven green Mini (a BMW one, not mine) and there were mutterings about it's dangerous manoeuvres.





Here's a look under the bonnet of Zac's Bond Equipe. It's a classic Triumph 2 litre straight 6 engine. Very nice.

Driving away from this stop, I stalled my Mini and it wasn't keen on starting again. It also seems to be losing coolant out of the top radiator hose, so I have ordered another. Hopefully that'll fix it.

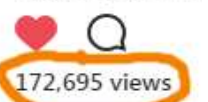


After Fort Augustus, we drove up the east side of Loch Ness through Whitebridge and Foyers towards Dores. The roads here are bordered by some impressive scenery; a nice backdrop for our convoy of classics (and a modern camper) snaking their way through the bends. There is something joyous about the sight of these old cars making good progress on the kind of roads they were designed for.

We finished at Dores Inn. After refreshments the Jag needed a jump start and Graeme offered his battery. Miles filmed as the Saab bonnet failed to open. At the time of writing this has had 172,695 views on Instagram.



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Members does it
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Amphicars

by Alan Goff

These Amphicars were all at Disney Springs in Orlando, Florida. Disney Springs is part of the huge Disney complex in Orlando and is basically an up-market shopping mall. All very expensive. Its alongside the lake that you have to cross to enter Disney World and they have this collection of Amphicars that you can go for a drive? (Or a sail?) in. I had a quick word with the manager and it's the largest collection of restored Amphicars in the world. All eight of them! But he admitted that very rarely are all eight on the road (or lake?) at any one time as they need a lot of care. The biggest problem inevitably, is rust. But they have one car which they are going to completely powder coat to see if that will help. Door seals are not a problem as they have found a supplier who has a big supply of seals which will fit.

Cheers,

Alan.



The **Amphicar Model 770** is an amphibious automobile, launched at the 1961 New York Auto Show, manufactured in West Germany and marketed in the United States from 1961-1967, with production having ended in 1965.

Designed by Hanns Trippel, the amphibious vehicle was manufactured by the Quandt Group at Lübeck and at Berlin-Borsigwalde, with a total of 3,878 manufactured.

A descendant of the Volkswagen Schwimmwagen, the Amphicar offered only modest performance compared to most contemporary boats or cars, featured navigation lights and flag as mandated by Coast Guard — and after operation in water, required greasing at 13 points, one of which required removal of the rear seat.



Your editor spent last winter fixing up an old boat to sail, and was thinking one of these would be a nice crossover project, particularly on the Kessock Ferry route but I don't think it would survive a Force 6 wind in the Moray Firth. What quirky cars grab your attention? Letters to editor@highlandclassic.org.uk

Dunrobin Castle

Police Dependents Trust Rally



This year's 'Police Dependents Trust Rally' at Dunrobin Castle on Sunday 20th August was a great success, filling the Castle Esplanade with over 150 classic vehicles, later swelling by another 50 when the "CannonBawz Run" arrived from their loop of the North Coast 500 at about 4pm.

A number of Highland Classic Motor Club members were in attendance as usual, including a bunch of us who had met up at Foulis Ferry to convoy up and meet the morning Road Run at Dornoch. The Rally Run had started up in Helmsdale and then paused in Brora and Embo, gathering size along the way. It's arrival in Dornoch caused gridlock as there were so many Classics in the town. Most of the problems, however, were caused by drivers of modern cars with no road sense, Graeme Bremner and Alan Goff had a hell of a time persuading one driver to ease his car through a gap to get traffic moving and even then he kept wildly steering left and right.





The Police were out in force. Many of them volunteer to assist the road run, so the drive to Dunrobin Castle went very smoothly with its Police Escort holding back all the other A9 traffic. It must have looked quiet spectacular to onlookers and it was a joy to be surrounded by so many gleaming Classics.



Once at Dunrobin the convoy filled every inch in front of the Castle and put on a great Show in the sunshine for the many Locals and Tourists alike; including one couple up on holiday from London in their 1960 Austin Motorhome who had only popped in after spotting signs on the A9. Their old-timer was one of the Stars of the Show.



I missed the Prize-giving but this being Dunrobin I'm sure I can guess the 'Usual Suspects' who won trophies. However, there was HCMC success in the raffle with a number of members winning items. Well done!

So another great day out was had at Dunrobin, looking forward to next year already.

Miles.

Close to £3000 was raised for the Police Dependants Trust.



Also exhibited at Dunrobin was this interesting old thing.

A Morris 8 with its long term owner. This was his army transport in the 1940s!

John MacKenzie

Cars and Coffee

Well done everyone for another great turnout at CARS AND COFFEE - INVERNESS!
35 to 40 amazing vehicles filled the Cafe V8 car park for a couple of hours this morning, including Classics, Hot Rods, Minis, VWs, Performance and Super Cars!
Thanks to you all, whether it took you 5 minutes or well over an hour to get there. It's much appreciated



Mystery Picture by Alan Goff

Can you work out what this is? Answer at the back in the Newsletter.



Fortrose and Rosemarkie Classic Vehicle Rally 2017

We're out of print space and time but hopefully we'll have a full length feature on this great show next month.

Art for Auto-lovers

HELEN DENERLEY exhibition

<https://www.kilmorackgallery.co.uk>

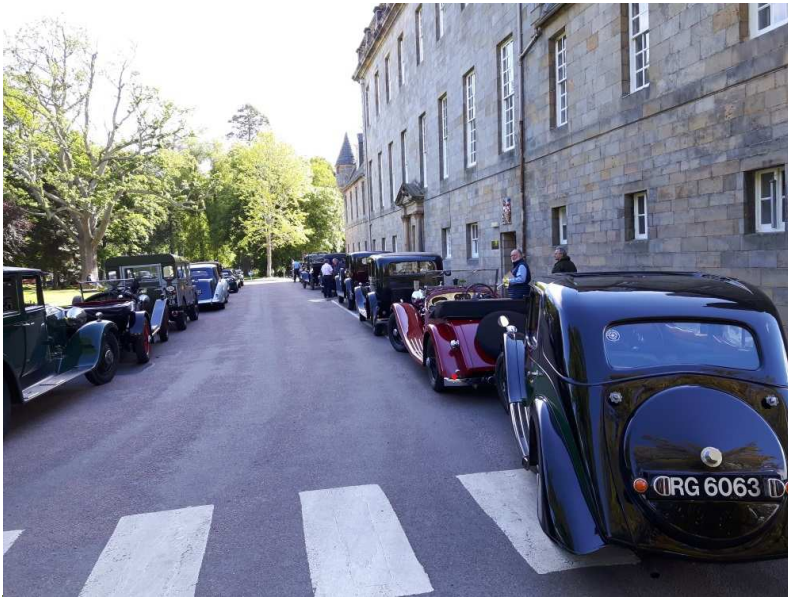
Kilmorack Gallery, by Beauly, IV4 7AL

11 August - 9 September 2017



Brodie Vintage Car Rally 13th August

Alan Goff



The Brodie Castle Show started from Gordonstoun School. The parking was a bit tight but everyone got in with no mishaps.

Some went on the organised run but HCMC headed for Brodie Fayre for an early lunch.



All the usual suspects were there but a few previously unknown and unseen cars were exhibited. A very nice early Ford Mustang convertible and this months mystery car. And for my benefit a Lancia Fulvia 1600HF Fanalone in RHD! Only about 300 made in RHD.

Alan



Me and My Car



Car: 1977 Reliant Scimitar GTE 6A

Owner: Miles Vincent

Type: Sports Coupe

Engine: Ford 2.9 V6 (See below)

0-60: in ¼ tank of fuel

Top Speed: About 120mph

Colour: Hearing Aid Beige

How long have you had it? I was given it by a client near Kinlochbervie who had lost their storage. I got it about 2008.

What work have you had done on it? It should have a 3.0 V6 Essex engine and auto box but it came with a 2.9EFI engine and manual Type 9 gearbox. The engine was returned to standard Granada spec with carburettors and stainless steel fixings replaced with standard Ford parts. It has been re-carpetted and resprayed and the Wolfrace wheels have been refurbished.

What do you like about it? It stands out as a '70's car. It turns heads, and I love the Wolfrace slot mag alloy wheels. It's a great drive on the open road and it's not a Capri.

What makes it a classic? It's a very representative 1970's car in Beige and Brown, and was a desirable sports coupe of the time. An undeniable classic.

What other cars do you own? A 1991 Mini Neon, a 2000 Escort Van 1.8 Diesel in Gulf Racing colours, the rear half of a Scimitar with a towing hitch we call a 'Scimitow', some Raleigh Choppers, 1979 Passat Estate, a 1974 Fiat 126, a Rover 100...



LOCAL EVENTS

3rd Sep 2017	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. Meet at Simpsons Garden Centre, Inverness for a 9am departure.
7th Sep 2017	Club Night Run to Aviemore	Simpsons Garden Centre, 7pm	Scenic Drive to Aviemore
13th Sept 2017	Cars And Coffee - Inverness	Cafe V8, Inverness	10am to 12 noon Every 2nd Sunday of the Month.
24th Sep 2017	Laigh O' Moray Vintage Assoc. Charity Vintage Rally	Inchkeil Steading, Roseisle.	10am til 4pm Off the B9013 Elgin/Burghead road, 4 miles West of Elgin. ENTRY FORM will be in EVENTS DIARY (above) nearer the time

Quiz answers — Alan Goff.

Mystery car. It's an Italian made Iso Grifo. 5.4 litre Chevy small block engine.

Mystery picture. Its the courtesy light on the latest Ford Mustang, every time you unlock the car or open the door it illuminates the ground by the door. I spent a few minutes on hands and knees trying to find the light in the bottom of the doors or on the sills and it was only when I opened the doors in the dark and the Mustang logo moved with door that I found the light is in fact under the bottom of the rear view mirrors.