

CLASSIC SCENE



September 2018



Grantown for Chips?
Fiat a good idea.

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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

Ian's Fiat X1/9 outside the Grantown Chip Shop. I was going for a Doric pun on 'fit a good idea' in case you don't get my humour. Many don't! Maybe it's just not funny.

Welcome to the September Newsletter

We had a nice run to Grantown for chips, in the pouring rain. I was pleased that the Mini made it without incident as they are not known for reliability in the wet and I felt quite pleased when I put it away in the garage back home.

However the next morning there was a terrible smell of petrol and I discovered that half a tank of fuel had drained out over night. Last month it was a fuel pipe at the front of the car that had split. This time it was one at the rear. I must confess to getting a bit of a fright as that's a lot of fuel sloshing around in a wooden garage. It also explains the fuel economy on the Grantown run.

In Beetle news it turns out that a faulty brake cylinder wasn't the cause of sticking brakes, but a collapsed flexible hose that seemed to be acting like a one way valve. On the drive to the Fortrose & Rosemarkie Classic Vehicle Rally she rolled along very nicely which was just as well as I was at the back of a swift convoy and even managed to hit 60 mph at times.

I hope you enjoy this Newsletter. Your Editor.

Garage Equipment Up for Grabs. 'I have been away from the Classic Car scene for a while now however my son was "doing-up" his old Mazda until a few months ago. His move abroad has prompted a garage clear-out with the result I have some bits and bobs that are now up for grabs to whoever wants to collect them. I am happy to donate a Clarke engine stand, a pair of car ramps, a torque spanner and a few others bits to the HCMC if the Club, or anyone in the Club, should they want them. Full details on the stand are still posted on Gumtree here <https://www.gumtree.com/p/clamps-vices/clarke-engine-stand-porsche-adaptor-plate/1310239737> - ignore the price I am donating it to the HCMC.'

'Anyone interested can either email me at ganda.anderson@googlemail.com or text me on 07742 729975. '

Grant Anderson



Chairs Bitty

Sadly I missed out on the Chippy run last month. I managed to stub my toes rather badly making me limp along for a few days. This then morphed into a sore back badly enough that sitting, lying or walking got very painful. It has taken a few weeks of exercises to get back on top of this again. Still not 100%, but well enough to be "back in business".



The weather is continuing to be nice to us and on one of my therapeutic walks I spotted that the hedgerow brambles are starting to ripen. I have since been taking a small container with me to collect a handful of the berries at a time for my yoghurt, or together with some strawberries and blackcurrants from the freezer a free fruit salad. Yummy. Plenty more brambles to come for some jam making later on.

Continuing on the fruit and veg theme, a friend of ours gave us a few courgette plants earlier this year. They are now fruiting too, but too much to eat at once, so in the freezer they go. With all the strawberries, currants and rhubarb I am starting to run out of freezer space. I planted other veggies in the garden in the spring, but they are not looking as successful as the courgettes. The broad beans have so far given us 1 pod, 2 other ones are "cooking". The french beans are looking rather pathetic. And it will be winter before the carrots are ready. I pulled one out the other day, it is only the orange colour on the root that is giving away what it is.

On the car front, for a change, not much to say. Audi got new tyres as they were getting close to the wear bar. Alice made a point of looking for tyres with a reasonable fuel & noise rating – at an affordable price. The car is certainly a lot quieter on the road. We'll see whether we'll get any better mpg out of them.

This month will be our last road trip for the year. Details of where we meet up are elsewhere in the magazine. See you there.

Trish.

Grantown For Chips

by Calum Pearson

Monthly Meeting. Thursday 1st Aug 2018.



Inverness to Grantown for chips. 'That's a long way for chips.' I hear you say, but when the chips are down (in Grantown) the HCMC get going. We met at the Culloden Battlefield outer car park, but it was quite full being used by others as a meeting point plus it was still tourist season. It was a bit chaotic. After taking pre-orders for chips, and with rain threatening, about 11 cars set off towards Cawdor, taking the backroads to Dulsie Bridge and popping out at the B9007 Dava Road. We took a left to pass Lochindorb and picked up the Nairn Road to Grantown. By this time it was pouring with rain and it became a bit of



a reliability trial. We arrived in almost perfect time for our orders and then scattered to find sheltered spots to scoff our suppers. Would you buy a used car from this lot? Well I would. They have some lovely cars and keep them in fine fettle. Unfortunately they're not for sale.

Dunrobin Classic Rally 2018

by Graeme Bremner

I joined the rally at Dornoch but first we had to collect a friend's Ford Granada from Tain. It was a very nice morning for a run through and after a cuppa and getting the Ford clean it was a convoy of two that headed to Dornoch.



Before long the steady stream of cars arrived from Embo and began filling the square with some of the confused tourists joining in unwittingly! We were not parked up for too long before it was evident that there was just too much chaos being caused and we were sent on our way to the beautiful back-drop of Dunrobin Castle.



Arriving at the castle we were greeted by a large group eagerly awaiting the cars and it was great to hear all the kids shouting and 'wowing' at the cars as they drove past.



As usual entertainment was in great supply at the event with highland dancing, along with 'other' dancing and the pipe band creating a wonderful atmosphere in the lovely surroundings. Overall another great show but unfortunately the club couldn't replicate the success of last year in the raffle with all of us leaving empty handed but it didn't dampen our day and certainly didn't affect the spirited drive home.



Cars and Coffee Premieres at Rollerbowl

Sunday 12th August



This was the inaugural 'Cars and Coffee Inverness' at the new Rollerbowl venue, 167 Culduthel Road, Inverness. There was a significant turn out of around 100 cars through the morning and the feedback on the new venue was very positive. Everyone seemed to know about the location change, such is the power of social media (Facebook.) The Cars and Coffee promotional video was heavily shared amongst young and old and the one man redirection party at the old V8 Café venue had no-one to redirect. Their car park was quite empty.

Shahid Yusaf and his staff welcomed us and kept everyone fed and watered, even sending out for more bacon when we ate every slice they had! The tarmac was nice and flat and there was plenty of space too. We could fit even more cars in if need be.

So why not pop along with you classic next month for a bit of coffee and car chat? See you there.



A Weekend at Silverstone Classic

Richard Lashley

Well they said there might be 10,000 classics at Silverstone and they weren't far wrong – the entire Silverstone complex filled with exotic (and not so exotic) classic cars everywhere. AC, Alfa's, Alldard, Alvis, Armstrong, Aston's, Austin, Austin Healy, Auto Union – and that is just the "A's". I visited over the weekend of the 21st and 22nd July with a pal I had not seen for over 30 years – we watched a touring car race of Lotus Cortina's being chased by Mini's and the odd Alfa then another race of later cars, Jaguar XJC in front of BMW's, Capri's, Rover SD1's, Sierra's, Golf GTi's and other 30 year old cars.



Then there was a drive past of cars from the Jaguar Owners Club and the Aston Martin Owners Club followed by races of Formula 1 cars through the ages. Mike Brewer was there spouting forth his usual rubbish on a selection of classics (one being an Opel Manta – interesting for a fellow Opel owner). We then took a 15 minute classic bus ride (yes it really is that big) to the auction house, just as an £860,000 1958 Mercedes Benz sports car went under the hammer (an open top version of a gullwing). The cars for auction were as varied as those on display and all immaculate - Escort Mexico to Porches to exotica such as a Citroen SM and a MGA. Then back to the pits to watch the preparation of the racers, into the grandstands (with huge TV screens for viewing the action) and into the shopping village. An absolutely excellent weekend and I'm sure we did not see everything in the two days we were there.

NOTE – the photo especially for Miles – the other Gulf Ford!



Fortrose & Rosemarkie Classic Vehicle Rally Calum Pearson

We all have our favourites and I really like this Car Show. It's a nice size with a community feel and the quality of the cars is excellent.

As usual we all met up at the Dingwall Auction Mart for a pre-show gathering, chats and coffees. Some late entries were able to sign up too.

I had my Labrador, Marag with me and I left him in the back of the Beetle for 5 minutes while I went for a refreshment break (pee). When I got back he was in the front and the bag containing dog treats for the entire day was empty. Typical lab.

Around mid-day Miles (Scimitar), Callum (Burton) and myself (in my newly free-rolling Beetle) set off on the prescribed run around the Black Isle via Newhall point at Balblair, the over the hill to Rosemarkie and then to the Show ground by Fortrose High School. We were a bit late and the drive was spirited though legal. It was a bit too much for a poor 1300 Beetle at the back as we lacked acceleration, speed and cornering power, but hang on we did even managing 60 mph at some points.

When we arrived we were ushered to our HCMC spot beside our event shelter and had our little patch cordoned off with tape, like exclusive VIP's. With the banner and flag flying we gave the club a good presence.





Parked in front of us was my 'car of the day', a beautiful blue Citroen DS Pallas Injection Electronique, believed to be owned by the McWhirters of Moray Motor Museum, but we could be wrong! Perhaps we'll find out during our October visit?

The pipe band had to cancel at the eleventh hour but a young lad stood in playing solo pipes in the middle of the field, a real young talent.



There was a great selection of cars on display and these pictures are just a sample.



There was a lot to see so thank goodness for the soup and cake break and the event shelter for giving us a restful oasis. A few non-car friends I know went along to the event and gave in glowing praise. Here's to next year.



Alice and Trish have been on Holiday to Skye



Some photos from our visit to Skye. The yellow car is an Ariel Nomad, the silver Merc is a German reg 1966 W110 230, The blue wreck is a Mk2 Cavalier hatchback and the green one is a VW Polo.



Historic Wheels Rally, Brodie Castle 12th Aug 2018

Hughie Urquart



A healthy 337 entries made Brodie this year and it was dry until 3.45pm.



There was a good selection of vintage cars. This is where Brodie carries the advantage over other shows by having a strong vintage to classic balance.



The turnout seemed as strong as usual but for the first time in many years hot food catering and the strawberry tent were conspicuously absent. It would seem the National Trust now want attendees to use their own cafe around the back of the castle, but they couldn't cope with the volume. I've had MoTs that have taken less time than it did to buy a burger and a coffee.



That's my Bahama Gold Range Rover and Graeme Jamieson's Rover SD1. We're both HCMC members. The photos have a shameless bias towards my own taste! [That's allowed—Ed!]



More Brodie Vintage Car Rally

Pictures by John MacKenzie



Some more classics from Brodie. Clockwise from left. Chris, Willie, Austin and Ranald.



Us and Our Car

Car: 1987 Citroen 2CV6 Bamboo

Owner: Registered to John Holland
Lewiston

Type: 4 door saloon with roll back
roof



Engine: 602cc air cooled twin cylinder

0 – 60: Gently! It is 31 years old!

Top Speed: Goes off the clock at over 70 mph

How long have you had it: Since March 2004

What work have you had done: John, Hilary and our daughter Alison purchased it between us in 2004 from "Deux Chevaux". It was registered to Alison but when she moved to Berlin in 2011 we took it over and registered it to John.

Main items of work include, body off chassis, new bulkhead, new wings and new boot floor. Electronic ignition fitted. Alan Makin at Deux Chevaux in Denton, Manchester looked after it until we moved to the Highlands and now our friend Bert Wigman takes care of it.

What do you like about it: In the 1970's we had a Citroen Dyanne and then a green 2CV, both of which we loved to drive. It is so much fun to drive and we like the quirky design and of course the wonderful colour!

What makes it a classic: Prototypes were built in 1938. After World War 2 production started in 1948 and continued until 1990.

What other cars do you own: This is our only car because we only need one. We do about 3000 miles a year, mostly in the summer months. Our car was one of 9 classic cars to do the first North Coast 500 trip in May 2015.

LOCAL EVENTS

1st Sep 2018	Dingwall Feil Maree - Classic Car Display	Dingwall - Cromartie Car Park	Contact Charlie Mackay on email at char-lie.mackay@btintern et.com There is no fee for attending.
2nd Sep 2018	Motor Mania at Grantown on Spey	Grantown on Spey	www.grantown-motormaniaman.co.uk Late Entries on the day will be allocated spaces outside the Square.
6th Sep 2018	Club Night. Pub Run to Covenanters Inn at Auldearn	Tesco Inches 7:30pm	Meet 19.30 At Inches Tesco Car Park
9th Sep 2018	Cars And Coffee - Inverness	Rollerbowl, Culdu-thel Rd. Inverness	10am to 12 noon Every 2nd Sunday of the Month.
23rd Sep 2018	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 nearer the time.
4th Oct 2018	Visit to Moray Motor Museum	Moray Motor Museum, Elgin	Free Bus leaving from Inverness (Time & Venue TBC.) to Moray Motor Museum in Elgin - There will be a £10 per head Entry Fee payable on arrival. Special HCMC Access All Areas Visit - Not to be missed!