

CLASSIC SCENE



40th Anniversary

September 2019



Club Officials

Chair: **Trish Brown**

Tel: 01862 832337

chairman@highlandclassic.org.uk

Secretary: **Bryan McIlwraith**

Tel: 01463 222839

secretary@highlandclassic.org.uk

Treasurer: **Ian Thompson**

Tel: 01463 790969

treasurer@highlandclassic.org.uk

Membership

Bryan McIlwraith

Renewals should be sent to Bryan at 72

Lochalsh Road, Inverness IV3 6HW

Tel: 01463 222839 (Work)

01463 232144 (Home)

bm@invernessosteopaths.co.uk

Webmaster

www.highlandclassic.org.uk

Webmaster@highlandclassic.org.uk

Editor

Calum Pearson

Bowersburn, Croftnacreich,
North Kessock. IV1 3ZE

Email: editor@highlandclassic.org.uk

Classic Scene is published on the Thursday preceding the monthly meeting. Please send articles by post or email to addresses above.

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 4NG. 01463 236459

ranaldsmith@btinternet.com

Copyright

Neither the Editor nor the Officers of the Highland Classic Motor Club are necessarily in agreement with opinions expressed in this magazine. Such opinions are entirely the views of the author and imply no recommendation by the Highland Classic Motor Club.

All rights reserved. Apart from any fair dealings as permitted under the terms of the Copyright Design and Patents Act 1988, no part of this magazine may be reproduced in any form whatsoever without the written permission of the Highland Classic Motor Club.

Cover Picture

Cars and Castles

Brodie Castle for the Historic Wheels Club Rally and Dunrobin Castle for the Dunrobin Castle Vintage Car Rally and Vintage Vehicle Run.

Welcome to the September Newsletter

The headline news from the editors chair (which exists) is the near completion of the Ruby Anniversary newsletter. This has been to the printers for a proof copy and I have to say it the print quality is excellent. I still have some small errors to correct and then I'll go back with money for a print run of 100 copies. We are using a Merkinch based charity print shop called, 'For the Right Reasons' who "Support people in the Inverness area who have had the courage to free themselves from drug and alcohol abuse. We provide work in our Print Shop, Charity Shop and Recycling Centre as a means to helping people build self-esteem, learn new skills and strengthen the will to stay clean by participating in an environment of purposeful work, friendship and encouragement." I did my bit for building self esteem by grinning like an idiot when I saw the quality of their work.

The October club night should be a good one, and not to be missed. It's the Ruby Anniversary social evening. Members past and present are invited to enjoy an evening of nostalgia and memorabilia (which is right up our collective streets). This is also launch night for the printed anniversary newsletter, so come and get your copy. There is one copy each free of charge, and former members will get one too. Speaking of memorabilia, committee members have some ideas, but we would like all members to search their archives or photograph collections for anything they have to reflect the clubs activities over the last 40 years. The idea is to have talking points as a catalyst for chat, banter and friendly abuse. PLEASE PASS ON MEMORABILIA TO A COMMITTEE MEMBER so we can mount it on boards in advance.

In other news, your editor's garage saw some more attention to his Ford Sierra XR4x4. The front bumper hangers are notorious rust spots and sure enough the bumper was sagging. The mounts are bolted in to captive nuts in the plastic moulding which seize (I've been here many times!) After some more welding the mounts were fixed, and the captive nuts replaced with stainless steel items secured into the moulding with JB-Weld metalised epoxy glue. This all worked well, except that the bumper now hangs a bit too low! That's something for another day.

I hope to see some of you on Thursday the 5th September for our run to Nairn for ice cream.

Your Editor

Chairs Bitty



As predicted the gates at Simpsons were closed at 7pm sharp, which led to a rather hurried 'escape' of our vehicles. After a leisurely drive down to In-shriach we all just managed to squeeze in to the old farm's court yard. There were a few interesting trucks and other vehicles lying around and plenty of old stuff (or rubbish depending on your views) in the various outbuildings. The owner took us through the process of distilling gin right to bottling and shipping, including his account of how he has built up the business from very modest beginnings. Determined to stay a One Man Band, he is resisting the temptation of advertising and relies mainly on word of mouth for his sales. And by all accounts, the beverage is "very smooth".

With the lovely warm weather that we've had at the end of July/early August, I have been driving through town with the windows down – very necessary when the car has been standing in the sun all day. Until one day, making my way across the Kessock Bridge, something went PLINK and the window slowly sank down into the door. I had a rather chilly drive home. Euro Car Parts had a replacement in stock, Reids supplied the rivets and a few days later the window was working again. Gaffer tape did wonders meantime. Just in time for its visit to our local garage to investigate the wheezing. This was tracked down to a split host at the turbo. The delay in getting the car back was entirely due to waiting for the replacement part to arrive – nearly 3 weeks later. We took it out for a spin this weekend up to Portmahomack where we took a very nice beach walk, paddling in the surf. All looking good again.

A few weekends ago we stepped outside to go shopping to find a young wood pigeon on the doorstep. I don't think it was keeping very well as it only hobbled a few paces down the garden path before plonking down again. Mind you it did look very fat. Over the next 3 days the youngster could be seen at various points in the garden getting fed by one of the parents. At one stage it was thinking of coming in through the garden door which was standing open with the good weather – we shoo-ed it along a bit. And then the youngster disappeared. No doubt some predator will have made an easy meal of it.

This month we drive down to Nairn Harbour for an ice cream or chips. We are gathering at the Culloden Battlefield car park for 19.30pm.

See you there,

Trish.

Historic Wheels Club Rally

Sunday 11th August

I couldn't make this show. I'm told the weather could have been better but the grass and trees look lush as a result of the recent rainfall. One Stuart Fenty of Fraserburgh was kind enough to let me use his pictures for our newsletter. He has a good eye for light and I like the vignette effect on some of them.





Our own Kenny Barclay also took some pictures and was kind enough to send them in.



Some were of the opinion that the event wasn't as well organised as usual but that it was still good and worth a visit.



c/o y Lounge Bar.

Pentland Hotel,

Thurso.

Weel Folkies, Y advert in y Groatie didnae hev y right response. Hit seems y tractor owners up here are no quite ready for y ways o' y southern civilisation. Dinae get me wrong, tractor pullin es very popular as maist o' y fermers pull their tractors till get them started. Batteries are very expensive as y transport costs are prohibitive.

So here wis Young MacKay wi hes pullin tractor wi nothing till pull but y odd tractor needin started. Drummin up some enthusiasm wis goin till be difficult seein as he wis kind o' pioneerin y sport north o' y Ord. Wattie, at Cooster Mains hes an old International B450 which hes been lyin in a shed an Watties been meanin till do something wi hit for more years than I can remember. And so hit was one evening after a particularly successful day at y Caithness Livestock Centre an some o y profits hed been spent in y Pentland Lounge Bar, that Wattie agreed to get hes B450 oot an pull y erse out o' y Young MacKay's Major. Brave words that Wattie might regret come the cold light of day and the hang-over of all hang-overs.

Between y sheep bein clipped and y coos calved and y hervest there's a lull on y farm, a sort o' window o' opportunity for Wattie till dig oot y International which hedn't seen y light o' day since Methuselah wis a boy. There's always a reason for anything to be shoved into a corner and it soon became apparent that there wis no battery. Wattie knew a man who wis well rehearsed in y art o' pullin tractors an so it wis that Young MacKay won y first round by default so till speak.

The B450 ran sweet es a nut an Wattie became all sentimental es he re-lived all y happy youthful hours spent on y seat in all weathers. Enough o' y reminisin, there wis a job till be done an hit wis time till take Young MacKay down a peg or two. The old anchor chain from the first St Ola, alledgedly, wis hooked up till both drawbars, a line wis drawn in y shite an a Tesco bag wis given to John Angus, the farm hand from somewhere West, to flag the start o' y pull. Instructions were sketchy an John Angus wis holdin y bag high, waiting for some-one to give y signal. Meanwhile, both tractors wis reved up, holdin y strain on y chain an unknown to everywan y diesel tap on y B450 wis leakin right over y clutch pedal. Now, we all know that y diesel es slippery stuff an hit wisna long afore Wattie's wellie slipped of y clutch an y International surged forward joltin Young MacKay off hes seat an y clutch pedal. This wis too much for y old Trader clutch which disintegrated, shatterin y clutch housing. Y Tesco trolley cage held but a shrapnel found hits way oot an holed y Tesco bag held high by John Angus. Round 2 to Wattie. Fortunately, y Tesco bag wis wan for life so hit would be replaced free of charge. There's a silver cloud in every linin. Best Regards, *Wundy Miller*.

Fortrose Rally

The Fortrose and Rosemarkie Classic Vehicle Rally is on Saturday the 31st August which means you may have already been by the time you read this and if you have, please send in your thoughts and pictures for next months review.

This is one of my favourite rally's and I have seen the sign for it for many years before finally moving back north, as my brother was then living in Fortrose. I was talking to John Mackenzie about it and he said he was going to repaint it. I had reservations but boy, doesn't it look good?

The rally got featured in the Daily Record's 'Road Record' supplement on Friday the 16th of August and I have included an excerpt below under the fair dealing review clause of copyright laws. It's certainly nice to see one our local shows featured in the national press. I hope to see some of you there.



Rally gathering promises to be classic day out

CLASSIC and vintage car enthusiasts are gearing up for one of the highlights of the year in the north of Scotland.

The Fortrose and Rosemarkie Classic Vehicle Rally will be taking place on Saturday, August 31, and promises to be a great day out for participants and spectators.

The event is expected to attract more than 120 vehicles, which will set off from Dingwall's Auction Mart at 11am for a scenic drive to Fortrose along country roads on the Black Isle.

They will then gather at Fortrose Academy Playing Fields no later than 1pm, where they will be on show until 4pm – with free entry for visitors.

The line-up of eye-catching machines for the rally includes motorcycles and commercial vehicles, too.

There will also be a variety of stalls, attractions and entertainment, while refreshments will be available in the nearby theatre building, making it a great family day out.

First held in August 2003, the rally has grown in popularity thanks to its friendly nature and enthusiasts travel from far and wide to take part.

Among the highlights this year will be a very rare 1925 Galloway 12/30 that, with 12hp on tap, has a top speed of 51mph.

Galloway Motors, based in Dumfries and Kirkcudbright, built 1500 to 1800 cars between 1921 and 1928 – but just 16 are thought to be in existence globally, of which only four are in Europe.

This particular model was originally shipped to Australia and turned in time into a pick-up truck. On its return to the UK, it was converted into a two-seater sports car inspired by the Alvis 12/50 boat tail.

Eventually, this very historic car was repatriated to Scotland in 2009 and has lived in Moray since then.

Others expected to be taking part in the Fortrose spectacle are a 1936 Austin 10 Cabriolet that still sees regular use on the roads around Inverness and Nairn, a 1954 Jaguar XK120, a 1967 MG BGT, a 1971 Jensen Interceptor Mk2 and a 1972 Land Rover Series 3 Fire Engine.

Out and About

On a recent trip to Morrisons in Inverness I saw this lovely BMW 2002 Touring, which is a rare spot anywhere. I gave the owner my usual gestures of approval but he didn't take me on. Maybe I looked too enthusiastic!



Jim Mackay has also been out and about and spotted this Beetle in Dornoch, the Spitfire at Tore, the Jaguar in Dunfermline, the Saab and VW Caddy at Muirtown locks.



Dunrobin Rally

The running of the Dunrobin rally appears to have been taken over by the Golspie Community Group 'Go Golspie!' though I have no information on how it was run before. This one is still on my to do list. From the pictures, this year looked like a successful but wet event. Here are some photographs to give you a taster of the day.



This 1922 3 litre Bentley is owned by Ian Murray who recently bought it from a family who had owned it for 86 years. I saw this driving car to Brodie and it looked magnificent.



This HRG two seater Sports is quite an eye catcher. I hadn't heard of these before. HRG was a British car manufacturer based in Tolworth, Surrey. Founded in 1936 by Major Edward Halford, Guy Robins and Henry Ronald Godfrey, its name was created from the first letter of their surnames. Cars were produced under the HRG name from 1935 to 1956.

Amongst the many fine classic vehicle of all sorts were a 1952 Riley RME, a 1961 AC Ace, a Cortina Mk 3, an Austin A40 Somerset, a Porsche 356SC and a coupe Imp, possibly a Chamois, Stiletto or even maybe a Californian.



Thinking of Writing a Book?

The Michael Sedgwick Memorial Trust offers advice and assistance.

You may have dug deep into the history of a marque or a particular vehicle and would like to publish the results of your research. Or you have identified a subject on which scant information is available and are keen to find out more and produce a book about it. But you are not sure how to proceed. The Michael Sedgwick Memorial Trust is here to help.

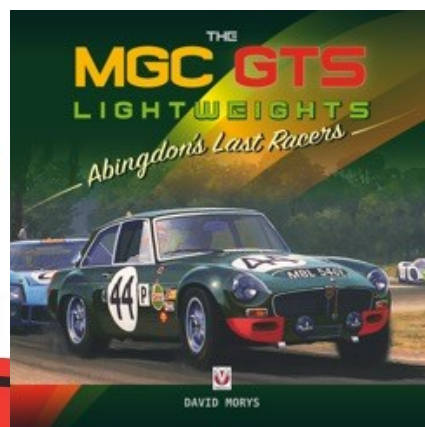
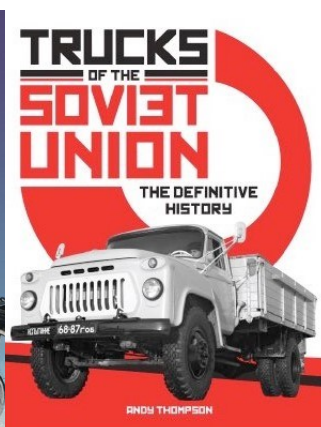
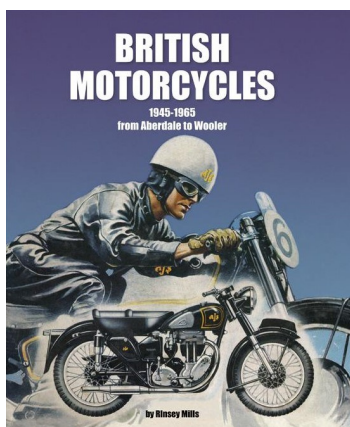
Established in 1983 in memory of Michael Sedgwick, motoring writer, historian and curator of the National Motor Museum, the Trust is a not-for-profit organisation that exists to encourage new and original research into any aspect of motoring history and make it available to the public.

The Trust can provide advice and assistance to facilitate publication - either through established publishers or self publishing. Projects approved by the Trustees - all professionals in this field - can also receive financial assistance, where this is necessary to make the book commercially viable. Over the last 34 years the Michael Sedgwick Memorial Trust has aided the publication of more than 140 books on motorcars, commercial vehicle, motorsport, motorcycles and pioneers in the automotive world. Recent publications that have received the Trust's support include: *Reid Railton - Man of Speed* by Karl Ludvigsen, *De Dion Bouton Tricycles* by Michael Edwards, *Trucks of the Soviet Union* by Andy Thompson and *Wolseley - a Very British Car* by Anders Ditlev Clausager.

For more information visit www.michaelsedgwicktrust.co.uk or contact:

Peter W. Card, Chairman

Michael Sedgwick Memorial Trust, Budds Farm, High Street, Barrington, Somerset TA19 0JB



Cars and Coffee

Sunday the 11th of August

Can you believe this was the first wet Cars and Coffee since it began? OK numbers were down as it was drizzly but there was still a respectable turn out and it was enjoyed by those that went. Here are some pictures from the day.



HCMC club member Graeme Bremner wasn't going to miss this one as that was his Porsche 944 back from having sill repairs (a stock problem on these) and then after an issue with the wiper blades an MOT was issued. Nothing beats getting your classic back on the road.

Cars and Coffee continued



'Air-cooled Corner' had a trio of Wolfsburg's finest VW's. It is worth mentioning that Dubness - The Gathering of the Vans was on the 23-25th of August down at Dores. I would have loved to go to this but I was already doubled booked and it was Mrs Editor's birthday on the Saturday. By all accounts it was a great success.



Talking of popular single make classics, the next Cars and Coffee - Inverness on Sunday the 8th of September is a Mini take over, for Mini's old and new and the Inverness Mini Owners Group (I.M.O.G.) will lead a lap of Loch Ness afterwards. I can't make this because I'm on holiday and my Mini is without MOT due to neglect since the Sierra arrived. Plus I STILL haven't painted the roof. If you haven't got a Mini don't worry, other cars are still very welcome.

Drive safe. Calum.

Ruby Anniversary Social Night

3rd Oct 2019 Old North Inn at 19:30

An evening to celebrate 40 years of HCMC with memorabilia, Ruby Newsletter launch and hopefully some past members.

Please search your HCMC drawers, folders or cupboards for any interesting old club memorabilia. Badges, photographs, tickets, posters, you know the kind of thing. If you can, get your items to a committee member so we can assemble them on display boards and such like.



**Alness Business Association
Highland Classic Motor Club**

With the Support of
National Breakdown Recovery Club

Present

4th Vintage, Historic & Classic Car Rally



Sunday 24th May 1992, 1.30pm
Academy Field, Alness
Admission: Adults £1.50
Children (under 15) & OAP 50p
Car Parking £1.00



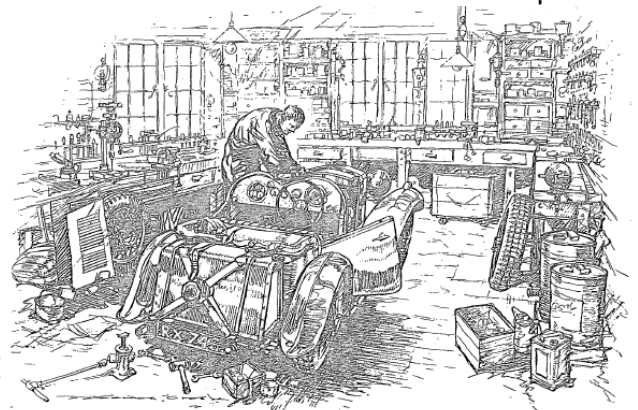
Timetable

10.00 - 11.00	Entrants assemble at Alness Academy
11.30 - 11.45	Depart Country Run
12.30 - 12.45	Return to Alness Academy Playing Fields
1.30 - Onwards	Display by Members of Highland Model Aero Club
2.00 - Onwards	Music by Tin Pan Alley
2.30 - Onwards	Aerobatic Flying Display
3.00	Highland Model Aero Club
4.00	Prizegiving

Amusements - Childrens Fun Fair
Selection of Craft & Collectables Stalls



Alness Business Association acknowledge financial help from the Alness Branches of the Royal Bank of Scotland and the Bank of Scotland



LOCAL EVENTS

31st Aug 2019	Fortrose & Rosemarkie Classic Vehicle Rally	Dingwall -> Fortrose	More info from info@fortroserally.co.uk or https://www.facebook.com/fortroseclassics
1st Sep 2019	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.
5th Sep 2019	Chips and Ice Cream run	Nairn Harbour	Meet at Culloden Battlefield for a 7:30 departure.
7th Sep 2019	Dingwall Feil Maree - Classic Car Display	Dingwall - Cromartie Car Park	contact Charlie Mackay on email at charlie.mackay@btinternet.com There is no fee for attending and inclusion in the competitions is not compulsory.
8th Sep 2019	Cars And Coffee - Inverness Mini Takeover!	Rollerbowl, Culduthel Rd. Inverness	To celebrate 60 Years of the iconic Mini, we want to see as many Classic Minis and MINIS as possible. Following the Event, the Inverness Mini Owners Group will lead a scenic lap of Loch Ness.
21st Sep 2019	Wheels of Nairn	Nairn	10:30 Nairn Links
22nd Sep 2019	Laigh 'O Moray show	Inchkeil Steading , Roseisle	20th Annual Charity Vintage Rally – Sunday 22nd September 2019 To be held between 10am and 4pm at Inchkeil Steading, Roseisle, by Elgin. IV30 8XN
28th Sep 2019	Agricultural Working Vintage Rally & Display	Daviot Estate, Daviot, Inverness	www.daviotvintage.co.uk 10am - 4pm. £10 per Adult. .