

CLASSIC SCENE



October 2018



Travesty or upgrade?

You decide.

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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 3NG. 01463 236459
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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

A 1970 Morris Minor at Cars and Coffee. It has a 2.0 litre Ford Duratec engine and running gear fitted, and has split opinion. What do you think?

Welcome to the October Newsletter.

It's been a quiet month on the car front for me. I've mainly been sanding and varnishing a 1970's wooden boat. The Beetle has been out and going well without the rear brake binding. The Mini hasn't moved for a couple of weeks. I need to repaint the roof as a bit of paint has reacted with the primer, which seems to affect my driving enjoyment and there isn't room in the garage due to the above boat.

You may or may not know that the Beetle is totally standard apart from the gap where the radio is supposed to go. This was a conscious decision on my part, and she has received occasional praise for it originality, (though it's a Citroen colour!) I think it gives a pleasant nostalgic drive with all the right noises and sensations.

However the Mini is very modified albeit with a compatible series A+ engine. This is an exciting drive but very different to what was intended by the manufacturer. It is nostalgic to me as it reminds me of being 18-25 years old. *(Editor disappears in a dream, and slowly returns to the next paragraph.)*

So I really like the Hot Rod Morris Minor on the cover, and I love the wolf in sheep's clothing aspect, but I also love the original Morris Minor, so I have a foot in both camps. I think there are enough Moggies to go round so in the end this one gets my thumbs up and a big grin. It's a quality job too.

As you see at the end of this newsletter I have run out of Me and My cars so if you've not been featured and you would like to please let me know. I can do all the hard work. Or I can feature the rest of my cars, and then the boats. The idea of the feature is for members to become familiar with other members via their cars.

Happy classic motoring

Your editor.



Chairs Bitty

We had a nice run up to Auldearn last month in the fading light of the day. Miles compared the size of his Mini with the supermarket's trolley store; we went looping round a few roundabouts (it was very funny, but you had to be there to appreciate it). And others took advantage of leading cars clearing the road to have a few speedy sections. All in all a very pleasant evening.



I mentioned last month about the fruit and veg. This time our neighbour has got in on the act. He's got a plum tree and casually asked if we liked some (well, yes). He turned up with 6kg of plums (or about 13lbs if you prefer imperial). The obvious answer is plum jam, but I don't have sufficient jars. And there ain't any space in the freezer. 1.5kg is now jam, another kilo was passed on to the in-laws, a couple every day for lunch (keeps you regular!).

Alice accidentally started filling up my car with petrol, so the minimum 2 litres delivery ended up in the tank. I think it has done the car the world of good. It is no longer randomly cutting out on light throttle and the mpg has gone up. It has made me more aware of how easy it is to confuse the pumps when all our cars use different fuels.

I got a stone on the windscreen going into work the other day. Didn't think much of it, it was on the edge of the glass and not really visible from inside the car. Got plenty of little chips here and there that another little one out of the way did not merit much attention. Got back to the car at the end of the day and found a crack a good 15cm long. It has been steadily creeping along everyday since then, a millimetre here and a millimetre there and it is starting to sneak into my field of vision. Next week looks reasonably dry, so I will see about getting a replacement fitted.

I am giving you a little advanced notice of the additional evening's entertainment that the club is organising for you in December. It is a social evening so take along your partner. There will be music, nibbles and other entertainment and further details will follow in the next magazine.

This month's meet is the Moray Motor Museum. Always a very popular event, even for paying £10 at the door as you do get to see cars under restoration that the ordinary public does not, usually the much more interesting part of the visit.

If you want to travel by minibus, please put down your name (details further in the magazine). It is first come first serve and with this popular event I suspect that some of us will end up car sharing. We are meeting at the earlier time of 6.30pm at Tesco's in the retail park, so we can get to the museum for 7.30pm.

See you there.

Trish.

4th Oct 2018

Club Visit to the Moray Motor Museum



We are (well Bryan is) booking a 16 seater bus that will collect us from Tesco's at the A96 retail park at 18:30. I'm sure we'll find each other, we always do. Anyone wanting a space on the bus should email me, Callum Beveridge cal-lum@bevs.org to secure a seat.

Entry to the museum will be £10 per head - including a cup of tea and access backstage.

People are welcome to make their own way there if the bus is full or for any other reason - I'll keep an eye on numbers and let people know if they have a place.

Callum

The club arranged to travel together to this event - meeting at the Culloden Battlefield car park for an 8:30am departure.

Chris Lycett (White Triumph Stag), David Hitchmough (Yellow Westfield) and myself and Shona (Burton) set off at the appointed hour for a sporty drive through Cawdor and over Dava Moor to arrive at the event by 09:30.

As usual, the place was mobbed before the official opening time and there were no spaces in the main square after 10am.

Registration, this year, only offered us one cup of tea and a buttery per vehicle (a sure sign of Austerity pre-Brexit) before we settled down in our camping chairs for the day.

Bumped into Dot on the main street - who always manages to squeeze his Moggy in there somehow - whilst 'touring' the displays. The bottom of the high St appeared to have been taken over by more modern vehicles demonstrating their sounds systems and 'Banging Tunes'. Not quite sure where they fit into a show like Grantown, but I suppose it has to appeal to the all-comers and I appreciated to dedication these owners have to keeping their vehicles in the condition they were in - what with using polish and toothbrushes etc...



Back in the real world, there were some lovely cars on show as well as the regular AA Patrol motorcycle and sidecar - this years 'emblem' of the show, although we were most bemused by this.



All too soon, we had to return to our vehicles, crawl along the main street as part of the parade and exit back home - via Dava and Dulcie Bridge this time. I must admit, that I enjoyed the trip there and back more than the show itself! Highlights had to be the Mini Neon - very tidy , the Trabant and Caravan and the Auto Union, but the star of the show for me was the early Porche 911 - not something I would normally like, but it was stunning.



Alness Supercars

Alice Brown.

Here are some pictures taken at the Alness Heritage Centre fund-raising evening on Saturday 15th September. The cars are Maserati Bora, Bentley Continental GT, Ferrari 458 Italia, Ferrari 360 Modena, and Ferrari 455 (I think.)



Winter Scale Model Show Food & Craft Fair

Black Isle Showground, Muir of Ord

Saturday 27th October

10am – 4pm

Scale Model Displays

Remote Control Cars & Vintage Vehicles

Local Food & Crafts Stalls

AMAZING AUCTION & RAFFLE PRIZES

In aid of Marie Curie who provide care
and support through terminal illness



Donations welcome at the door
For info email: wintermodels15@hotmail.com
www.facebook.com/wintermodels

Restoring a Bus

Kenny Barclay of this parish has recently had a bus restoration book published. The normal retail price is £14.99, however for club members he can drop the price to £10.00 for club members. The book can also be signed if required.

RESTORING A BUS by KENNY BARCLAY

In the late 1980s, when he first took an interest in the buses he was travelling on, Kenny Barclay wouldn't have imagined in his wildest dreams that he would ever own one. Now he has four. Purchasing a Leyland Leopard from 1980 in May 2007, three more buses of varying shapes and sizes followed

over the next two years and has lovingly restored each of them.

Here, Barclay gives fascinating insight into this restoration process. A history of each bus, including technical specifications, is included, alongside a selection of images of each vehicle in its heyday. This is followed by a fully illustrated account of each of the restoration projects, as well as photographs of the buses once restored to their former glory.

Packed with fascinating photography, Restoring a Classic Bus is perfect both for those looking to enter the preservation scene as well as those who simply admire vintage vehicles.



<https://www.amberley-books.com/restoring-a-bus.htm>

BIBLIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Publication: July 2018

Price: £14.99

ISBN: 978-1-4456-7372-1

Size: 234 x 165mm

Binding: Paperback

Extent: 96 pages

Illustrations: 140 illustrations

You can find Kenny in the membership search section of the club website.

Rent a Classic



A warm welcome was received by our agent Graeme Bremner's on his visit to North Coast Classics. This venture only started this summer and they have a Dolomite Spring waiting to be added to the fleet. This could be a way of trying out a car you've always fancied without the bother of finding one buying it, repairing it having a drive and selling it again, so in those terms could be excellent value.

<http://www.north-coast-classics.co.uk>
07889 671812

graham@north-coast-classics.co.uk

In the interest of balance, other rental options are available...

Highland Caterham Hire
01343 842657 07831 847212
info@highlandcaterhamhire.co.uk



HIGHLAND MX5 HIRE
<https://highlandmx5hire.com/>
and on Facebook
Classic Mazda MX5 hire in the Highlands M: 07950029435



Cars and Coffee @ Rollerbowl

Sunday 9th September

Well the rain stayed away and it was another fantastic turnout for CARS AND COFFEE - INVERNESS with 100+ of the usual eclectic mix of old and new. Great to still be meeting new faces and their motors.



Here's a montage to err, give you the picture.





And this is just a selection. Come and find out for yourself. Next month.



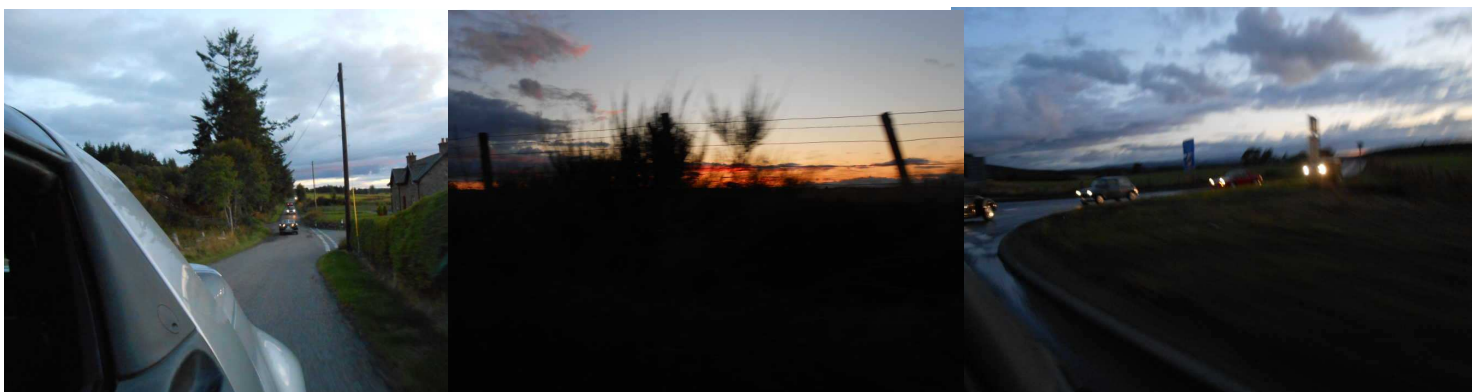
Five cars gathered at the Tesco Inshes carpark. When we arrived we first thought there wasn't anyone there yet, until we spotted them parked in the far corner. Miles noticed that the trolley shelter was empty and wanted to see if this would fit his Mini. As you can see, it did!

The run took us up out of Inverness via Milton Of Leys to the A9. I did get lost a bit, not knowing Inverness that well especially with all the new housing. And we had a bit of fun going all the way round both roundabouts at the A9. I blame, it on Trish doing the navigating.

We sped down the A9 to turn off onto the road to Moy and then along the ridge behind Culloden over to Cawdor. The weather was kind and we were treated to a wonderful sunset behind us, well some of us saw it. I was too busy watching the road to take too much notice, but I did manage to spot the cruise ship leaving the Cromarty Firth.

There are some interesting corners on this road and the local drivers were also a bit interesting, good brakes were essential! There were times that I thought we lost Ranald/Bryan in the Alpha, until I realised Ranald was deliberately hanging back so he could give the car a bit of a vroom. We all made it safely to The Covenanters Inn, in Auldearn, with Ranald/Bryan getting a little delayed at some roadworks with 4 way traffic lights.

Once in the pub and with quite a flourish, Bryan produced a brochure showing re-manufactured ECU, instrument binnacles, throttle bodies, etc. All at very reasonable prices as well. Over drinks discussions ranged very far and wide: about members we haven't seen for a long while, Billy Connelly sketches, NC500, new tyres to mention but a few. It was well dark before we said our goodbyes and made our way home.



Me and My Car

Car: 1969 VW Beetle 1300 (aka Type 1)

Owner: Calum Pearson aka Editor. Strictly she (Poppy) is my wife's car but I did the (not quite finished) restoration. Also, I have no more member contributions in the vault so you're getting one of mine.



Type: People's car.

Engine: 1285 cc air cooled flat four. 40 bhp, in the back.

Performance: 0-60 about 22 seconds and a top speed of about 78mph on the flat. She'll cruise at 70 quite happily. The engine is deliberately restricted to prevent over revving as this causes the fan to slip and overheating to occur.

How long have you had it: Since 2003. It was parked near our local supermarket in Glasgow and both my wife and I independently spotted and adored her. Then one day I saw a for sale notice...

What work have you had done: I knew the car was in poor shape when we bought her. It had been previously welded with a large number of patches which stupidly bonded the removable shell to the floor pan and it had rusted through again. Nightmare! I had four years to fix her up for Lynn's 40th birthday. It wasn't enough. The colour was nearly impossible to find but I eventually found the garage who did the original paint work and they did it again. It's Citroen Jade Vert by the way. 7 years later the car was driveable.

What do you like about it: The shape, the colour and the noise. It's a strangely satisfying drive, though not sporty in the least. A cruiser.

What makes it a classic: She's old iconic and popular so an obvious classic, but often regarded as an outsider in the world of Austin, Jaguar, Rover or Triumph type classics. Perhaps it's the lack of performance heritage?

What other cars do you own: 1983 Mini of no particular model, another Mini awaiting restoration, a 1990 Peugeot 205 GTi 1.6, a donor 205 Gti 1.9, a Focus Mk1, a Golf Mk4, 3 sailing dinghies, and 5 bicycles in case the cars don't work.

LOCAL EVENTS

4th Oct 2018	Visit to Moray Motor Museum	Moray Motor Museum, Elgin	Free Bus leaving from Tescos at A96 Retail Park at 18:30 travelling to Moray Motor Museum in Elgin. 16 seats. email cal-lum@bevs.org to book a seat- There will be a £10 per head Entry Fee payable on arrival. Special HCMC Access All Areas Visit! Not to be missed!
14th Oct 2018	Cars And Coffee - Inverness	Rollerbowl, Culdu-thel Rd. Inverness	10am to 12 noon. Park up, buy yourself a hot drink and snack from Rollerbowl and the check out what's in the Car Park.
Sat 27th Oct 2018	Winter Scale Model Food and Craft Fair for Marie Curie	Black Isle Show Ground. Muir of Ord	10am to 4pm. You can just turn up in your classic and be made welcome.
5th Nov 2018	Visit to Rimtech Automotive Repair Centre	Rimtech, Unit 5, 27 Harbour Road, Inverness IV1 1SY	Visit to Rimtech for an Alloy Wheel Refurbishment demonstration. Meet 19.30.
SATURDAY 1st Dec 2018	HCMC Christmas Party Ceilidh	Old North Inn, Inchmore	Food, Music, Entertainment, Secret Santa and Car Pooling.