



## JANUARY 2018 Newsletter



Top view of **MICHAEL CRUICKSHANK'S** Toyota Surf at Nuide, 2017. *Photo: Linton*

## Editor's Corner

Sorry, no newsletter in December. Computer fail (again) at a bad time.

I'd like to make a heartfelt THANK YOU to the club members who contributed written work for the newsletter during 2017, including, but not only, **those who took the time to tell us about their vehicles:**

**John MacLennan   Eric Lawson   Michael Cruickshank   Neil Brissenden  
Fraser Hughes   Niall Campbell   Peter Lawton   Neil Taylor**

**Great job by everybody, but if I were to hand out a prize for the best contribution** (which I won't, 'cos there isn't one!), then, on the basis of his ability to not only rip out and replace engines, transmissions, axles willy-nilly and almost (it seems) in his sleep or between meal courses, coupled with his ability to write well about it, then the prize would go to **ERIC LAWSON**. Nice job - special thanks.

Please send your contributions for the newsletter to:

[highland4wheeldriveclub@gmail.com](mailto:highland4wheeldriveclub@gmail.com)

I use a PC, so please try to send MS Word stuff if possible.

If not, photos of hand-written stuff may be sent. *Cheers, Linton*



**NEIL BRISSENDEN's Nissan on the Alladale Estate Run – Photo: NEIL**

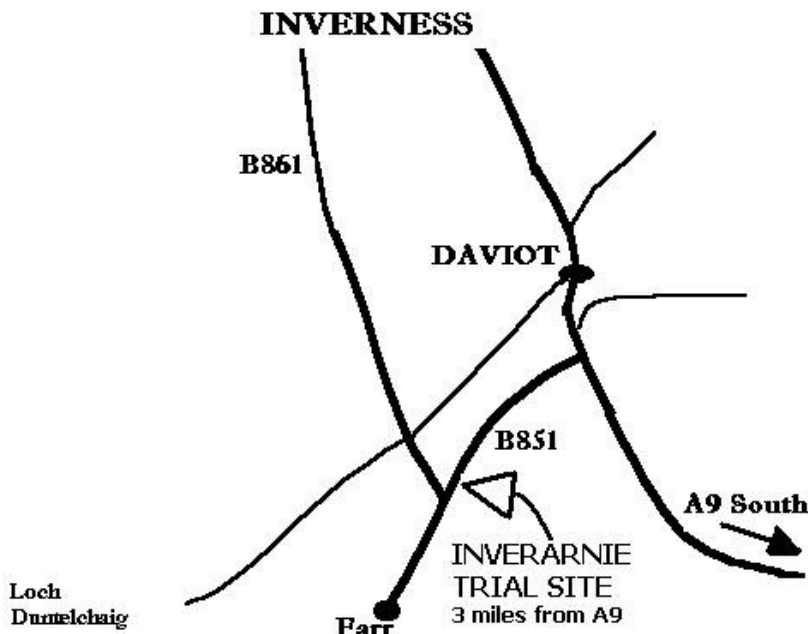
## ***Next EVENT -1*** **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Club AGM is Friday the 19th of January. 7.30pm  
Fairways, Inverness.

Agenda will be provided at the event. Stovies too!

## **Next EVENT -2**

### **INVERARNIE 4x4 TRIAL – Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January**



#### **Directions:**

Leave Inverness on A9 heading south.  
 After approx 5 miles turn right onto B851 signposted Fort Augustus.  
 The trial site is on the left after approx 3 miles, just after a couple of sharp bends and just before Inverarnie village. Grid ref NH695353.  
 If you get to Farr, you've gone too far.

### **PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF EVENTS - 2018 (DRAFT)**

<i>Month</i>	<i>Trial Site</i>	<i>COC 1</i>	<i>COC 2</i>	<i>3<sup>rd</sup> person</i>
Jan (28 <sup>th</sup> )	Inverarnie		Lewie Cameron	
Feb SAT (24th)	Tomatin			
Mar (25 <sup>th</sup> )	Kinreave	Peter McInnes		
Apr (29 <sup>th</sup> )	Galcantry			
May (28th)	Nuide			
30 June – 2 July	(Gairloch)	Fraser		
July (29th)	Whitebridge			
Aug (26th )	Laggan (SANTA?)			
Sept (30th )	Dores			
**Oct (21 <sup>st</sup> )(SAT)	Tordarroch			
Nov (25th)	Kinreave	Peter McInnes		

**NB: names and Venues to be confirmed**

### **PROGRAMME OF ROAD RUNS/other events 2018 (DRAFT)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Who</b>
<b>(TBC)</b>	<b>Alladale run</b>	<b>Stuart Meikle</b>
<b>(TBC)</b>	<b>Corriariack run</b>	<b>Fraser</b>
<b>(TBC)</b>	<b>Peter McInnes run.</b>	

**GALCANTRAY TRIAL SCORES**  
**November 2017**  
**ALL Classes**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Total Posn</b>
John MacLennan: Haflinger	SWB	3	1	0	2	0	0	5	0	<b>11</b> <b>1st</b>
Neil Taylor Blue 90	SWB	3	5	1	9	0	2	2	5	<b>27</b> <b>2nd</b>
Adam Paterson Jimny	SWB	4	2	0	9	1	3	3	8	<b>30</b> <b>3rd</b>
Liam Maclean Jimny	SWB	3	7	0	5	4	1	5	12	<b>37</b> <b>4th</b>
Jim Nicol Range Rover "Growler"	LWB	4	3	1	10	0	2	2	4	<b>26</b> <b>1st</b>
Michael Cruickshank Toyota Surf	LWB	5	6	0	8	2	5	4	27	<b>57</b> <b>2nd</b>
J Trigg Disco	LWB	12	30	1	30	2	6	8	10	<b>99</b> <b>3rd</b>

**Many thanks to Davy Miller, Clerk of the Course**

**Many thanks to land owner  
 DAVID WALKER, for kind permission to hold the event.**

**PLEA to Clerks of the Course - please write competitors'  
 LAST NAMES  
 and  
 VEHICLE TYPE / COLOUR  
 on score sheet, and send a photo of the sheet to me, to enable me to include  
 scores in the newsletter. Thank you.**

## **2017 BOXING DAY RUN – KILDERMORIE ESTATE**

10 am on Boxing Day saw 12 Club Vehicles meet up at Skiach Service Station.

Heading north from Skiach we soon turned off on to the Boath Road, up past the Car Park for the walk/cycle to Cnoc Fyrish and the Monument. On through Wester Lealty, with a trace of snow on the road to Boath where we turned onto a Private Road with its NO UNAUTHORISED VEHICLES sign.

Soon we were, for a short distance, driving alongside the Alness River which runs out of Loch Morie before progressing along the southern edge of the loch with its many gates. The views along the loch were very impressive with its choppy waves enhanced by the surrounding hills with, in the far distance even higher hills with a light snow capping.

With strict instructions to keep to the tracks we stopped at the agreed T junction at the head of the loch. Due to many guests in the Lodge and the expensive Holiday Lets filled to capacity, we were not allowed to go further! – Fair Enough!

Unable to have a group gathering area in which to consume our Christmas leftovers, we had no alternative but to remain in line – not very sociable. However, even with a very cold wind blowing, a few hardy souls did leave their vehicles to take the odd photograph!

Picnic over and with arrangement made for the last (different) vehicle in line to again close the gates, we retraced our route down the loch through the Boath area to Skiach

A very interesting run of 30-32 miles (approximate estimation as I omitted to set trip!) had come to an end.

Thank you all who attended, particularly those who closed the gates.

Thanks also to Charlie Munro who liased with the new Head Keeper Tony at Kildermorie and to Tony for showing us the new route the previous Thursday. Charlie was unable to take his American Ex Army Rio due to the narrow Lochside track and he travelled with me.

A total of £200 was raised which will be donated Marie Curie.

All the best for 2018 – Stuart Mackay



More photos of **NEIL BRISSENDEN's** Nissan Pathfinder on the Alladale Estate run.  
**Photos: NEIL**

Some club members getting “stuck in” over the last year.



DANIEL WATSON's Nissan stuck at the Whitebridge Challenge, 2017.  
*Er, where's the rear wheel, Dan?* **Photo: LINTON**



FRANK and KALLI SPENCER abandoning ship at the Nuide Trial, 2017. **Photo: LINTON**



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