



Guess where...
Photo: DON WALKER



JULY 2018 Newsletter



**Smoke over
Gairloch**

**Photo:
PETER MACINNES**

THE COMMITTEE

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Carol Turnbull	Policy and Procedures	turnbullsworld@btinternet.com
Linton Chilcott	Newsletter Editor	01667 404606 00356 9936 9690 highland4wheeldriveclub@gmail.com

**The following are also Committee Members without portfolio:
Andrew Maclean, Frank Spencer, Alan Howatson,
Lewie Cameron, Peter MacInnes.**

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: Monday the 13th of August

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS - 2018

Month	Trial Site	COC 1	COC 2
July (29th)	Whitebridge	Rory MacLennan	Lewie Cameron
Aug (26th)	Laggan	Neil Taylor	
Sept (30th)	Dores		
**Oct (21 st)(SAT)	Tordarroch		
Nov (25th)	Kinreve	Peter MacInnes	

SCORES FROM NUIDE - NON-STANDARD STANDARDS

Clerk of the Course: J. MacL.

Name	Vehicle	Class	Sec1	Sec2	Sec3	Sec4	Sec5	Sec6	Sec7	Sec8	Total	Class Pos.
Liam Macdon	Jimmy		2	2	0	1	7	0	0	10	22	
Eric Lawson			2	0	0	5	0	2	2	0	11	
Zobbie Glen			3	0	2	2	2	0	0	4	13	
John MacLennan	1/2 Linger.		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	
Rob Hellelt	LW Brixo		2	0	0	3	3	0	4	0	17	
Angus Benton	G-wagon		2	0	2	6	2	2	RET	—		
Ewen Milne	Jimmy		0	0	1	2	2	0	RET	—		
John MacLennan	90'		3	0	2	4	7	0	4	0	17	

CORRIEYAIRACK PASS RUN (Report and photos by *LINTON*)



I steer clear of new-fangled technology when possible (you can see that in my choice of beaten up 90s Shoguns!), so, while others may use GPS to derive information about our recent expedition to the top of the Corrieyairack Pass, I'll revert to the time-honoured paper map (remember those?) for the following:

- Highest point on the route: 2,700' above sea level.
- Elevation at the pass: 2,526'
- Elevation of Corrieyairack Hill (the highest nearby hill, just to the north of the pass): 2,922' (not quite a Munro, then, but a Corbett).
- Total height gained from Fort Augustus: 2,378'.

A convoy of 22 varied vehicles set off from Fort Augustus, with a short stop at the gate while awaiting the estate keeper to arrive to unlock it. At this point we all turned and reversed along the single track road, in order to permit the keeper to follow us to the- gate - a somewhat complicated and potentially messy operation, managed adroitly by Fraser, thank goodness. Fraser then set off in the lead, with Carol and Neil Turnbull bringing up the rear in their ex-forces Land Rover 110 station wagon.



Most unusual vehicle had to be Daniel Watson's AMC Eagle - Jeep-based, with 4.2 litre petrol straight six and part-time 4x4.

The first part of the route is particularly scenic, with a fine view of Cullachy "House" ("castle" to me, and, to you too, perhaps...) just

before the climb proper begins. The first, fairly steep, zig-zags provided an opportunity to photograph our vehicles somewhat spread out across the pleasantly wooded countryside before heading up into more mountainous terrain beyond, with views of the lovely Glen Tarff down to the left, north of the track.

One of various small burns to be crossed, the Black Burn, revealed the Blackburn bothy, just to the right of the track. This small bothy is maintained by the Mountain Bothy Association, and is shown on their website as being single-roomed with an open fire. You'd need to carry your own fuel in, though, as there isn't any nearby - we were now above the treeline...

I had jumped into the second spot in the trail, behind Fraser, in order to obtain photos of the group from the front to accompany this report - I hope nobody minded too much! An unexpected benefit of this position, though, was the opportunity to spot the two snipe (I think) flushed from the trackside by Fraser in front. The second one settled only about 10 yards away, in amongst the rocks and heather, and if I'd not had another 20 vehicles behind me, I would like to have "stalked" it for photographs...

Further on, we stopped for another extended chat and the opportunity to explore the Allt Lagan a' Bhairne, the burn twisting under a relatively modern steel lattice girder bridge.

Nearby, just to the south east, were the ramparts of one of the original General Wade road bridges, but with the main span now missing.

And after one of the steepest zig-zags on the route shortly



thereafter, we crossed the Allt Coire Uchdachan on a modern bridge bracketed by a couple of silver birch trees, with another original, and this time still surviving - though barricaded - Wade bridge alongside.

Now began the long pull up the side slope of Meallan Odhar, the hill leading to the highest point of the track just before the actual pass, with it's weather station positioned on a pretty unsightly concrete structure. At this point, Fraser took this rare opportunity to turn, and then reversed up a nearby track, followed likewise by the rest of us, enabling us to retrace our route after our lunch break, more or less in reverse order.

We passed two small groups of walkers (5 people in total), and were passed by another hillwalker at the top. I chatted to all of them, going up and down and, while apparently a little surprised at our presence, they didn't seem to mind meeting a group of responsibly and slowly driven 4x4s. I was surprised, though, that they

reported seeing almost no birdlife, apart from lapwings at their start point in Melgarve, on the east side of the crossing.

The line of the new Beauly - Denny power line is, I think, changed a little from the original I recall from almost 20 years ago, when I was last up here. Lewie Cameron, who works in the power generation industry, explained that it was a requirement that the scars on the land under the power line, caused by the large machines used, had to be eradicated by re-scaping the land, and, in time, it's apparent that the land will revert to its previous contours, more or less.

After lunch and more discussion of things 4x4, international travel, dogs and many other subjects, it was time to point our vehicles in the direction of the far off conical hill of Ben Tee on the other side of the Great Glen and retrace our steps. Individual vehicles were free to set off for the return when ready, breaking the convoy up into smaller groups, with Fraser and Lewie bringing up the rear and ensuring all vehicles returned safely.

Many thanks to Fraser for putting in the time and effort to organise and supervise the expedition to this beautiful and wonderful place, which, it seemed obvious, was enjoyed by everybody very much indeed. Prize for furthest travelled seems to be well earned by Brian, from Cardiff.

Thank you to land-owners of Cullachy Estate and Keeper Scott Bremner for unlocking the gate to enable our access to this beautiful and truly remote part of Scotland. What a wonderful day out in the wilds we enjoyed!



The club will be making a payment of £220 to a charity to be chosen by Scott the keeper. We'll let you know which charity he chooses, in the next newsletter.

Please send your contributions for the newsletter to:
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*

4X4 TRIAL Supplementary Regulations

1. The H4WDC will promote a cross country Vehicle Trial on **Sunday 29 July**. The event will be held entirely on private land at **Whitebridge**
2. The meeting will be governed by the General Regulations of the RACMSA LTD (incorporating the provisions of the International Sporting Codes of the FISA), these regulations and any written instructions the Club may issue for the event.
3. MSA permit has been applied for. PERMIT No: TBC.
4. The event is open to all fully paid up members of the H4WDC.
5. Competitors must produce a valid club membership card and sign on. Club membership number must be displayed on participating vehicles.
6. The program of the meeting will be as follows:
 - (a) Scrutineering starts at 09:15 hrs
 - (b) Competitors not signed on by 09:45 hrs may be excluded from this event.
 - (c) First vehicle starts at 10:00 hrs
7. Vehicles will fall into classes as per club rules i.e. 80", 86", 90" and LWB. Vehicles may enter into one class only. The starting order on sections will be as per Club Rules. Competitors on the day of competition may be split up into 2 groups.
8. All vehicles must comply with MSA Technical Regulations.
Passengers may only be carried in accordance with Rule H. 11.3.2.
9. The entry fee is £15 per competitor. All entries must be made on the official entry form and accompanied by the appropriate fee. All officials must also sign-on on the official signing on sheet.
10. The secretary for this meeting is: **Elaine Smith**.
11. The maximum entry for this meeting, inc reserves is 40 and the minimum is ten. Should the minimum figure not be reached, the organisers have the right to cancel the meeting.
12. Other officials are:
Clerk of the course:
Scrutineers and Club Marshals: Non-competing / attending Committee Members
13. Results will be available after the competitor completes each section by simply asking the scoring marshal. Results of the event will be published in our monthly newsletter.
14. Any protests must be lodged in accordance with 0.5.1.

PHOTOS FROM GAIRLOCH, by *PETER MACINNES*

Playing at the back of the hill



The convoy leaving the campsite

Taylor showing off, just before it went bang!



Stunning views from the top of Meal Mhor



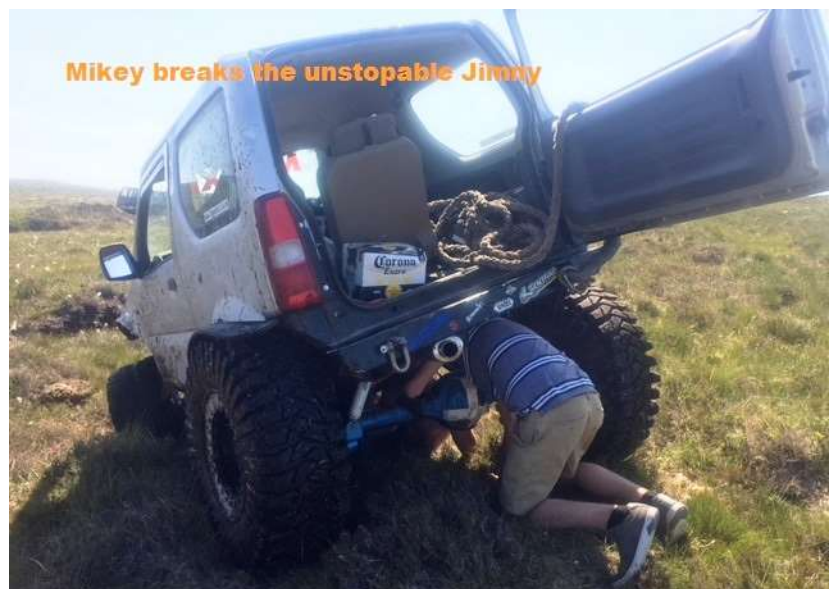
Rory's idler pulley decided enough was enough!



Fraser doing his bit for the environment



Mikey breaks the unstoppable Jimmy



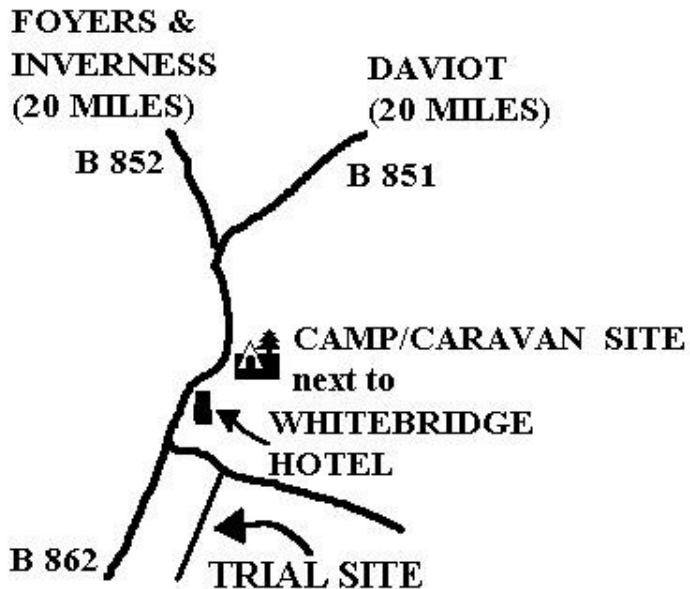
Next EVENT - 1

WHITEBRIDGE EVENT – SUNDAY 29TH JULY

Rory MacLennan has this to say about the event:

It's a **CHALLENGE/PUNCH HUNT** event.

Plenty of free driving, and is ideal for first timers and novice drivers.



How to get there:

Take the B862 southwest from Inverness, after approx. 24 miles you'll reach Whitebridge.

Pass the Whitebridge Hotel (postcode IV2 6UN) and take the next road on the left, signposted 'Killin'.

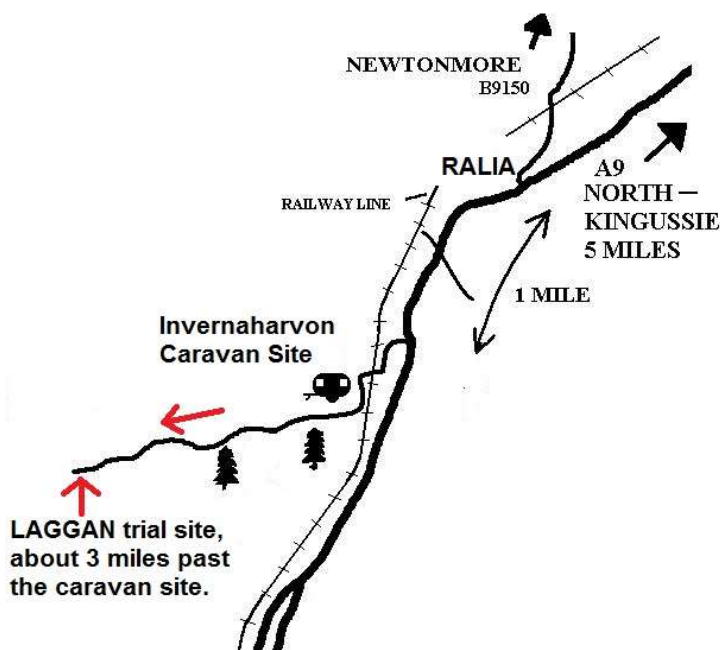
Take the next road on the right and the trial site is in the field on the left.

Next EVENT - 2

LAGGAN TRIAL – SUNDAY 26TH AUGUST

Neil Taylor is running this one and he says:

Expect the usual and the unusual for this event !!!!



How to get there:

Follow the A9 south past Aviemore and Kingussie, pass the Nuide trial site, pass the snowgates and Ralia.

Take the next small road on the right signposted for Glen Truim and a caravan park, carry on up this wee road for approx. 3 miles and the trial site is on the right.

Grid ref NN660 935, postcode PH20 1BT will get you close.



3 photos of the
Nuide trial, from
JOHN MACLENNAN



FOR SALE

Range Rover P38 Diesel, 1998, S Reg, Gold.

Number plate is OIL 2702

My neighbour passed away - his wife doesn't drive and needs to sell. Situated in Piperhill, nr Nairn. Owned by them for 15+ years.

Coil spring conversion.

Not used off road. MOT expires end May. **Good condition.**

She would like to sell it with the **registration inclusive = £1,600**

Or, sell separately:

Vehicle: £600

Registration: £1,000.

Please contact Linton on

lin@vistajet.com or

Phone Sue: 01667 404384



Don Walker: I am selling my Defender 90 and if anyone is interested please give me a shout on 07802 818746. Please note reception not always great and text somewhat more reliable; brief details below.

Defender 90 2006 Station Wagon 6 seater, TD5 engine.

Silver Limited Edition, LR Special Vehicles (with Plates)

180k with full extensive

service history

Handbooks 2 keys

Sales Brochure

ABS

TC

AC

1/2 Leather

Heated front seats

Rear wheel carrier

Electric windows

drgwalker@btinternet.com

£12,500



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



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