



NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2019 Newsletter



The H4WDC entries in this year's MUDMASTERS. Report, by Niall, inside.
People in pic: Niall's wife Fiona and sons James and Angus, Alan Howatson (who was a marshaller, after his "A vehicle" malfunctioned), Niall, Fraser Hughes, Peter MacInnes.

Photo: **NIALL CAMPBELL**

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS and a PROSPEROUS 2020 to all CLUB MEMBERS,
our friendly LAND OWNERS and other ASSOCIATES of H4WDC.**

LETTER FROM THE COMMITTEE: Dear Member,

Your club is in dire straights!

Due to work and family commitments, we've had 2 committee members resign and a further 2 stepping down from their positions at the AGM, with other committee members not being able to contribute as much as they would like.

That, along with the implementation of Motorsport UK's new requirement of an RS Clubman Licence for ALL competitors and officials for the 2020 season, has forced the current committee to the following decision for 2020;

- We will aim to run only 4 challenge events during the year, with no trials.
- We hope to organize some club runs, but these would still require an RS Clubman licence.

As a result of this we need your help by attending the AGM for further input and discussion. **Any members willing to help with events are asked to join the committee.**

We look forward seeing you all at the AGM to save our club!

AGM at the Chieftain Hotel, 2 Millburn Road, Inverness, IV2 3PU. 7.30pm Fri 10th January 2020. Stovies tbc and Trophies.

To apply for your RS Clubman license (free of charge, no medical or photo required) see the Motorsport UK website; www.motorsportuk.org, go into competition licences and follow the link. **All participants must produce a licence to take part in any club events.**

Hope to see you all at the AGM,
(signed) The committee.

THE COMMITTEE

NAME	POSITION	CONTACT DETAILS
Stuart MacKay	President	01463 790215
Neil Turnbull	Chairman	07771 905514 neilandcarol42@gmail.com
Fraser Hughes	Vice Chairman Facebook Operative	07921 084313 Fraser.f.hughes@gmail.com
Chris Smith	Treasurer	01381 600541
Elaine Smith	Secretary	07917 878838
Alan Howatson	Membership Secretary	07786 336572 maverick_32@hotmail.com
Peter MacInnes	Equipment Officer	07736546303 fixitpete@hotmail.com
Carol Turnbull	Policy and Procedures	neilandcarol42@gmail.com
Linton Chilcott	Newsletter Editor	01667 404606 00356 9936 9690 highland4wheeldriveclub@gmail.com

Committee Members without portfolio: Andrew Maclean, Frank Spencer (01479 831609, 07518 749587), Lewie Cameron (07746 522855).

NOTE: POSITIONS SHOW IN RED ARE THOSE WHOSE INCUMBENT WILL LEAVE POST AT THE AGM. We need volunteers to take on those posts.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS 2020

ALL EVENTS CURRENTLY PLANNED ARE CHALLENGE EVENTS – NOT TRIALS

Month	Trial Site	COC 1	COC 2
Sunday 29 th March	Kinreve		
Sunday 31 st May	Whitebridge		
Sunday 30 th August	Laggan		
Sunday 25 th October CLOCKS CHANGE	Tordarroch		

NB: names and Venues to be confirmed

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- AGM (with warm food for 30 tbc), 7.30pm fri 10th Jan, Chieftain Hotel.
- We are struggling to find sufficient club members who are willing to run trials or events - that is, as Clerk of the Course. Please remember that the CoC CAN drive the course, so you don't need to miss out. Just note that their driving points will NOT count towards the championship, but they DO get full points for being an official, whether or not they drive.

- The following Committee Members are stepping down from their roles on the committee:
 - Elaine stepping down from the position of secretary.
 - Chairman Neil and Vice chairman Fraser are both stepping down from posts too.
 - Andrew is leaving committee, and Carol also considering leaving committee.
 - I had been intending to resign from the role of newsletter editor, but I've decided to stay on for now, given the number who are leaving their roles. If you'd like to take it on, though - you're welcome!

Huge thanks to all for their hard work over the years. Andrew reckons he's been on the committee for 20 years or so, and Carol about 10. Not sure about the others.

- **The club URGENTLY needs to replace these posts, particularly that of Secretary. If you are prepared to take on one (or more!) of the roles, please contact the current postholder.**

- All participants need to get an RS Clubman licence. Easily available via Motorsport uk website, takes minutes to apply, no charge, no photo or medical required. Card must be produced at all events or they will not be allowed to participate.
- Many thanks to Roy Panton and Niall Campbell for their contributions to this newsletter, and for their efforts as CoC or while representing the club.
- Membership renewal: Forms will be sent out next month, and will also be available at the AGM.

Andrew Maclean and Elaine Smith, who are both stepping down from the committee after many, many years of service to the club.

Stills from film taken at Belivat trial, February 2016, by Linton.



(Yes, they were both acting in their official duties at the event - of course!)

(And, sorry, can't find any pictures of the other resigning committee members just now, but Fraser can be seen on the front cover...)

Next EVENT

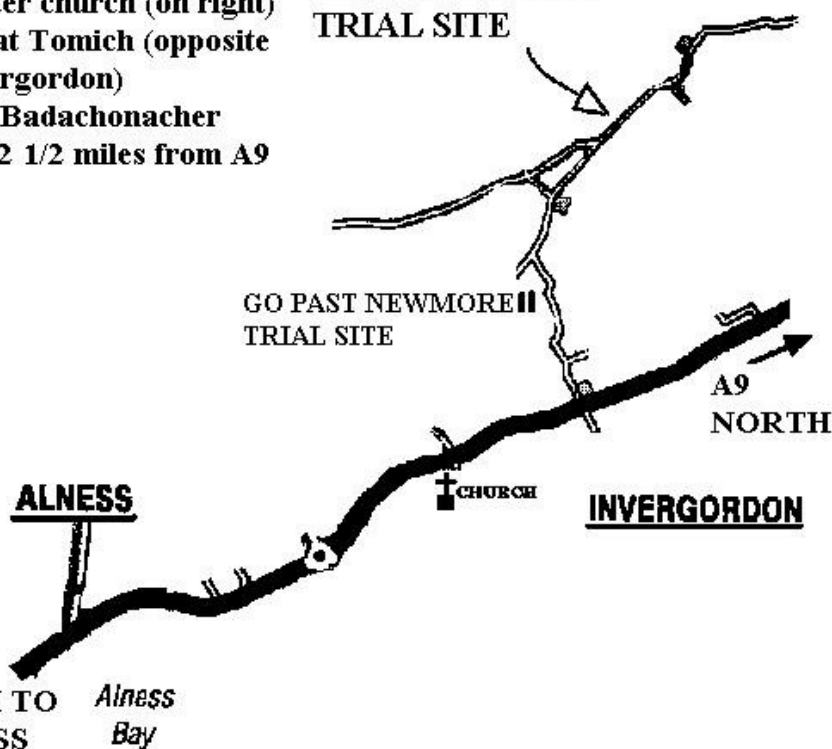
CHALLENGE EVENT - KINREVE

Sunday 29th March

Head north from Alness
One mile after church (on right)
turn LEFT at Tomich (opposite
road to Invergordon)
Go through Badachonacher
Trial site is 2 1/2 miles from A9

KINREVE FARM
TRIAL SITE

GO PAST NEWMORE II
TRIAL SITE



NOTE:
YOU MUST BRING
YOUR
MOTORSPORTS
LICENCE WITH YOU
ON THE DAY IN
ORDER TO
COMPETE

NO have LICENCE -
NO can COMPETE...

TORDARROCH TRIAL REPORT AND SCORES

Tordarroch Trial 26th October 2019

SWB	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	TOTAL	
Keith Robertson:	16	12	15	12	12	10	8	8	10	103	
D J Gilpen:	4	15	4	8	3	6	2	12	6	60	3 rd
Callum Daugherty:	6	9	4	6	4	6	4	2	4	45	1st
Daniel Harvey:	10	16	7	19	20	17	5	8	21	123	
Philip Brown:	16	15	7	14	8	9	5	5	/ /		
D J Daugherty:	2	18	0	12	21	12	3	6	6	80	4th
Colin Morrison:	13	18	14	19	12	12	21	4	15	128	
Sandy MacLeod:	6	8	3	8	21	4	0	5	4	59	2nd
Gavin Gilchrist:	7	17	7	7	21	16	3	15	10	103	
LWB											
James Fraser:	9	18	10	8	10	6	12	5	10	88	5th

Another cold but dry start at Tordarroch and without the lads from Skye, Gairloch and 2 new members we would have been down to four! Where is everybody?

With section one being quite tight there was several comments about the gate sizes which was a hopefully addressed as we progressed. I have to admit there was not many at the 3 meter mark, with the nimbleness and turning circle of the Suzuki's leading the way and Colin with his new wider axles sometimes touching both sides of a gate. Section 2 again favoured the Suzuki's unless you were D J Daugherty who found a rock to get stuck on. 3 was probably too easy as lowest scores of the day here. 4 proved tricky with cross axleing happening from start to finish. 5 was difficult after the first couple of vehicles cut the surface leaving a greasy surface on the hill with Daniel having to check his underwear after this one. 6 again lacking traction after first couple through although Daniel wisely used his discretion to save the big

Isuzus bodywork (vehicle surprised a few with its ability on All Terrains). 7 was down in to the dip then through ditch with only one of two zero scores of the day coming from new member & first time competitor Sandy MacLeod who did well coming second overall on his first trial. 8 proved tricky for a couple of the Suzuki's getting hung up on the big rock and Daniel & Donald feeling sudden deceleration on said rock, the gate also proved tricky towards the end. 9 was designed by the Sgitheanach's (so don't blame me) with a very intimidating start gate which would of had me thinking if I had to drive back to Skye in the same vehicle.

I know there's normally only 8, but this was a bonus section as we got through the day early with people helping with downed canes, knowing running order and getting to start promptly helping this.

Thanks to the Forbes family for allowing us use of the land, John MacLennan for helping set up and all who helped out on the day.

Roy Panton

Mud Master 2019

Mudmaster – an annual 4x4 event organised by the Scottish Landrover Owners Club and the Army Reserve comprising various off and on road challenges over a weekend in late Oct on sites in the central belt. The Army uses it as a training exercise and 4x4 clubs from all over the UK and Ireland also enter.

Mud Master 2019 in Numbers

200 ish: The number of competitive miles travelled over the 2 days

59: The number of teams entering this year – including 12 army big truck teams

12.5: The number of competition hours on day one! From 8.30am drivers briefing, to 9pm final time control after navigating our way through a massive wood in the pitch dark – its a long day.

14: The number of off road sites visited

10: The number of RTV trials completed

4: The number of orienteering trails completed

3: The number of H4WDC entries this year

2: The number of autotests completed

1: The number of Jeep transfer case skid plates completely trashed

0.5: The kg of mud scraped off the inside front wheels of the Jimny on the way home, which completely cured a serious case of death wobble.

So who entered from H4WDC?

Fraser Hughes and Peter MacInnes entered in A vehicle. I entered with my son Angus in our Jeep Grand Cherokee WJ and my wife Fiona and other son James piloted our wee Jimny.

Did we do well?

Err, not really and certainly not as well as last year. We knew we were running late on Saturday due to delays and queues on the trial sites and other routes, but we all decided to attempt to complete all the tests and challenges set out, rather than cut and run to the end. All H4DWC teams were running close to each other on the road, so we all took large lateness penalties, which pushed us all down onto the lower half of the table.

In the interclub competition, the best of H4WDC were (naturally) Angus and I in the Jeep in 22nd place. However **Fraser and Peter came away with the Spirit of the Event Award** for driving A vehicle and also being all round good guys. I certainly have to agree, as they stopped on a timed woodland stage and towed me out of a deep ditch which will have lost them points. H4WDC also stood out as being the club with the only non green oval entries.

So Mudmaster 2019, a very well organised event with huge variety of off and on road driving challenges that's great fun and well worth the trip south. Anyone up for the challenge next year?

Niall Campbell





Niall's sons and their vehicles at Mudmasters. Photos: **NIALL**



HOW ARE YOU FEELING TODAY

WORRIED? ANXIOUS? STRESSED? DEPRESSED?



MIKEYSLINE



For Non-Judgemental,
Confidential Peer-Support

w/days 6pm to 10pm - w/ends 7pm to 7am

Text only **07779 303 303**



Another picture of Andrew Maclean (and friend), once again looking very purposeful, and this time at the Tordarroch trial in October, 2011.



Belivat trial, 2012, showcasing the Haflingers belonging to John MacIennan and Frank Spencer. Photos: **LINTON**