Scottish Vintage Austin Enthusiasts Club



"Austin Weekend 2014"

STRATHPEFFER 15/16/17/18th AUGUST 2014

Paddy and Trisha McDermott – 1933 Austin Ten Four

Roy Harrison and Mrs Harrison - Nissan

Ian and Sandra Deas – 1937 Austin Norfolk

Arthur Scott and Lesley Schultz and Ian Hendrick and Pete Mitchell - Rover 75

Alex and Wilma Fender - Austin A40 Devon

Colin Sheppard - Mercedes

Arran McCall and Kerry McCall - Austin A35

Friday 15th August was a lovely, bright, sunny day with few clouds in sight. At the meeting point at Dobbies garden centre in Perth, 7 cars congregated including 2 modern. 15 happy drivers set off on a Perthshire scenic route heading north towards Strathpeffer. After a few hours driving, we stopped for a delicious lunch at the Cairngorn Hotel. After the cars rested and 15 tummies were filled and watered, we adventured further north, all appreciating breathtaking scenery. All happy cars and drivers arrived at our hotel safe and well, late afternoon. The 3 course dinner was lovely with a great choice of menu. This was followed by an entertainer singer/musician who was well received by all.

Saturday 16th began bright and cloudy and after breakfast we set off on a scenic hilly tour. We headed towards Drumnnadrochit and arrived at Loch Ness and then onto Inverness for free time. After doing the shops and a lovely lunch we made our way back to Strathpeffer. On the return the Austin A30 aka Lucy broke down due to a broken fan belt, all thanks to the AA and she was soon on the road again. Another enjoyable dinner was appreciated by all. Outside, a Scottish marching band was playing and highland dancers were performing on the main street. Some went out to see them and this was the highlight of our evening.

Sunday 17th .What a turn in the weather! The cars enjoyed a refreshing cool down as we set off optimistically on a 2 hour drive to Dornoch Castle. On arrival we noticed that there was also a vintage car show at the castle .It was an added bonus to look and appreciate their cars. Unfortunately the weather put a damper on the birds of prey demonstration but we did see the majestic birds in flight. After an interesting exploration of the castle, we headed back. After dinner the evening entertainment was a man singing and playing the piano.

Monday 18th. Hurray! A bright Sunny day-the sun has returned! After a fully satisfying breakfast, all 7 cars and drivers were ready for the return journey home. After 56 miles of an amazing scenery drive, we arrived for lunch at The Garth Hotel in Grantown-on-Spey. After the cars all rested we continued through Tomintoul to Glenshee. On route, the Rover unfortunately overheated and needed an extra drink. When Ian had calmed his rover down, we then continued onto Glenshee Ski Centre where we too enjoyed light refreshments. We travelled onto the A93 towards Perth and turned off towards Couper Angus. It was now only a short drive to our final destination in Burrelton for a farewell dinner. Before the farewell meal, trophies were awarded to deserving drivers. The first recipient was Arran McCall who was awarded the breakdown trophy and also the best Austin. Second up was Ian Hendrick who received the best non Austin for his Rover. Also, a very well deserved thank you was given to Alex Fender for his tremendous planning and organising of the trip. We all appreciated the final meal together and congratulated Alex on yet another successful and enjoyable trip away.

 ROLL ON NEXT YEAR ....