

Title: Scotland, here we come!

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After some trepidation, we decided to go to the Scottish International at Crieff in June 2023. The trepidation was more to do with the atrocious weather we had been having in the South East over the winter, which meant our TD21 had hardly been out of the garage. After giving her a thorough service in preparation, Barbara and I felt a little more confident in tackling the trip.



As the trip was going to be over 500 miles (one way!), we decided to break it up with a two-night stop on the way there and on the way back. I like to take Barbara to places she hasn't been to in the UK and she also likes to be by the sea, so we plumped for Morecambe Bay. More of that in a moment.....!

One advantage of the TD21 is it has loads of room, unlike our Healey 100/6, so we can get plenty in it. Wednesday arrived, prior to the IAW weekend and with a laden car we set off around 6am and hit the motorway. The idea was to do a steady 60mph up the M23, M25, M40, M42, M6 Toll, M6 and come off at Junction 34 for Morecambe, with plenty of stops on route. With only a couple of minor hold ups we made excellent time, arriving at our chosen hotel around 2pm.



Meeting Eric Morecambe in Morecambe!

Our Hotel, which had secure parking, turned out to be at the West End of the Morecambe Bay promenade. After unpacking and a cup of tea we took a stroll to see what the delights of Morecambe had to offer. Unfortunately, not a lot really, and the sea goes a long, long way out.....!

Friday dawned and we set off around 9am on the slightly shorter part of the journey to Crieff via the M6, M74, M73, M9, A9 and onto the A822 for Crieff and our destination, the Crieff Hydro Hotel. A very pleasant drive, traffic was fairly light and the scenery through the Lake

District and Scottish Borders was stunning. Helped by the clear blue sky and the shining sun.

Arriving at the hotel, there was already a lovely selection of Alvises and on entering the Hotel we were warmly greeted by the Scottish IAW organisers (you all know who you are). Barbara checked into our room and I unloaded the car, before parking it in the Alvis AOC Reserved car park.



After Barbara had unpacked, we went and took in the delightful Crieff Hydro Hotel and all it had to offer as well as catching up with other AOC Members we hadn't seen for a while and checking out the weekend's activities.

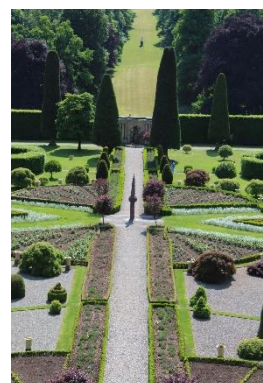
After a hearty breakfast on Saturday morning, we embarked on a little sightseeing of the area. As we had driven over 500 miles, we decided not to do the Longstone Tour this time, but instead have a little drive around the area, which Barbara had never visited before. We set off for Loch Earn. A really beautiful spot, where we bumped into a couple of other Alvis owners, Hugh and Candy Stirling.



Speed 20 at Loch Earn



Loch Earn



Dunmore Castle
Gardens and the
Sun Dial

After a coffee break, taking in the lovely vistas we drove over to Dunmore Castle to see the stunning gardens and the famous sun dial.

Saturday night and dinner brought out a lovely array of Kilts, Tartan and the usual 'What is worn under a Kilt?' and the usual retort: 'Nothing it's all in perfect working order' (but you need to say it with a Scottish accent!!).



Kilts Galore!!!



Joan and Frank Kay looking resplendent

A lovely three course meal was followed by Ceilidh dancing and the band trying to explain to us Sassenachs how to do it. A lot of fun was had by all.



Sunday started with the Scottish Drizzle, but with the promise of a brighter warm day to follow. Firstly we had to park our cars on one of the fields near the hotel, especially designated for the day and in age order. Once all the cars had been parked up, what a gorgeous sight it made. Even the weather, as promised, cleared, the sun came out and a beautiful day ensued.



The Morrison's Academy Pipe Band played, we strolled around and admired the array of pre world war II cars and post war cars. The driving tests and concourse adjudication took place during the morning and early afternoon in preparation for the raffle and prize giving.



Malcolm K and yet another trophy!

There was a wonderful array of raffle prizes followed by the prize giving for the various classes of driving tests and concourse entries. Sufficed to say, our esteemed Malcolm Kindell seemed to sweep the board for a number of classes. I just hope his boot was big enough to accommodate all the trophies he deservedly won!

Thus, we were coming to the end of a glorious IAW 2023 in Scotland. On Monday morning we would be leaving to drive back to Sussex, via another stop at Morecambe Bay and the looming trepidation of organising the 2024 IAW in the South East of England!

See you all in May 2024.....!