

THE COLONIAL



Official Journal of the
Canberra Antique & Classic Motor Club Incorporated

Annual Subscription
Colonial \$25

1951 Lagonda Sedan
Alec & Anne McKernan

Vol. 46
June 2013



EDITOR'S PAGE

Thank you to those who provided items for this month's Colonial. Coming up: "20 greatest car movies and their stars", Hand Signals, History of the Car Radio, Bullnose Morris story from John Tilbrook who is returning to Canberra. My apologies to anyone whose story I have not published yet. I am trying to get the stories of all cars judged at Wheels so that when awards are given out at Presentation Night you will have an idea of the vehicle which has been given the prize. A few to go so I am coming to get you!!

Week Day Social Lunches

Friday 7 June 12 noon and every first Friday: Sandwich lunch at the Southern Cross Club, Woden.



Friday 21 June lunch car run to the Vikings Club, Ricardo Street, Wanniasa near Erindale shops at about 11.30 am to beat the crowds. On arrival please sign the sheet at the front desk. All CACMC members welcome. Enquiries to Alec McKernan on 6286 1046.

Get Well

Advise the Secretary if you know of anyone who could use a cheer-up card, especially if they are in hospital. Hope Garry Scorgie is progressing well since his hip replacement.

The 1929 Dodge belonging to Jim Raleigh and the 1929 Plymouth of Peter Reece have both been sold, sadly due to ill health. We wish both these gentlemen all the best for the future. The 1929 Plymouth is staying in Canberra with Geoff Davidson to complete the restoration.

Trophy winners 2012

Sorry folks, your time is nearly up. Can you please return perpetual trophies (not the small plaques) at either the June or July meeting. If that is not possible, please contact Jan or David Wyatt on 6286 1782 to arrange their return.

This month the magazine seems to be full of coming events, certainly come the Spring.

Time to start thinking about whether you can serve your car club by taking on a committee position. You will see in the minutes that Phil is giving up doing the sealing, labelling and posting of the Colonial. A good once a month job for someone especially if you can rope in a few friends.
See you Tuesday, Cheers ... Helen

CANBERRA ANTIQUE AND CLASSIC MOTOR CLUB DRAFT MINUTES GENERAL MEETING 14 MAY 2013

Attendance

Members 54
Visitors 3
Apologies 12

Welcome

The President, David Wyatt, welcomed members and visitors to the May meeting.

Guest speaker

Vice President Graham Waite introduced club member Graham Gittins as guest speaker. Graham spoke about the very successful Morris 100 rally held in Canberra and gave a potted history of the life of William Morris (later Lord Nuffield).

Confirmation of the Minutes

The Minutes of the April General Meeting were confirmed without amendment, except for a comment by Michael Toole who advised that the April Minutes reported that he attended a Hot Rod Show in Queensland and said there was no evidence of hooliganism at the event. His wife said that was incorrect as he had attended the event. Moved David Wyatt, Seconded Waine Summerfield. **Carried**

Correspondence Daniel Wyatt

Usual mail from banks, advice of forthcoming events and membership applications.

Acceptance moved by Phil Donoghoe, Seconded David Wyatt. **Carried**

President Report David Wyatt

Attended the Collector Pumpkin Festival with about 10 000 other people. Club had 12 cars in attendance - great day.

Noted that Bill Bruce - brother of the late Jim Bruce, passed away.

Manuka Festival arrangements coming along. Franklin Street will be closed for a street parade on Saturday 12 October. Cars needed.

Queanbeyan 175 anniversary street parade 28 September - needs 10-15 cars.

Four new members were welcomed to the club.

Vice President Graham Waite

Guest speaker at June meeting will be club member Terry Byrne.

Badge draw #6 Bob Garrett

Last run draw #24 Keith Carswell

Treasurer Report Roger Phillips

Current Bank Balance \$5732:60

Moved acceptance Roger Phillips, Seconded Dave Rogers. **Carried**

Editor Helen Phillips

Away. No report

Events Director Jan Wyatt

Visit to Alan Martin's Yass property was very enjoyable. Thanked Harry Crawford for videoing cars as they arrived at the property. The video is now on the club website.

19 May National Motoring Heritage Day run. Meet 10.30am Bunnings car park Tuggeranong. Route instructions will be distributed at the start. BBQ trailer will be in attendance.

16 June Visit to Peter Toet's home at Evatt to inspect some of his collection of motor cars and motor bikes. Peter is providing a sausage sizzle so numbers required to Jan. Request members park on one side of the street only. Address is 32 Jacob Street Evatt. Meet Belconnen Soccer Club William Smith Drive 10.30am.

July Bay to Bermagui club event.

21 July Club run to Bungendore meet 10.30am at Spotlight car park Queanbeyan. Lunch at George Hotel Bungendore.

17 August Club presentation dinner at Burns Club Kambah. Tickets available at June and July meetings. Jan thanked Michael Toole for agreeing to print the tickets again.

18 August Presidents Run.

Raffle #67 Green Vin Liston

Supper coordinator Clive Glover

All is well.

Registrar Bob Alexander

20 cars inspected for the month.

Bob advised of a call received from the Council of ACT Motor Clubs about a vehicle which had been seen at a shopping centre at 9.00am and 5.00pm in the evening. Name of the owner, vehicle type registration number were all provided and on the surface it would appear that the owner was in breach of the CRS guidelines, however, on further investigation it was discovered that it was wrong car, wrong colour and two doors instead of four doors as reported. Bob stressed the importance of sticking to the CRS guidelines on vehicle use.

Alec McKernan mentioned that he had inspected a 1971 Pontiac Grand Prix 130 miles per hour vehicle, belonging to an older member of the club. The car is for sale see Alec for details.

Librarian Joe Micallef

Away. No report.

Membership Secretary Joe Vavra

Good to see new cars and members joining the club including a VW Karman Ghia.

He had a problem with preparing the 2013 Register of Members as his computer crashed and unless he can recover the data he will have to input from the beginning.

Shop Manager Norm Brennan

Has a new supply of long and short sleeve Chambray shirts. Badges and banners for sale.

Information officer Mark Butterfield

All Good.

Council of ACT Motor Clubs delegate Graham Bigg

Council's AGM in September looking for a new President, Vice-President and Events Director.

Trying to arrange a meeting with the RTA.

Dave Rogers commented that the Tech Standards Inspector at Dickson Motor Registry called Ned has been denying CRS registration of cars because they are 'not bog standard'. Ned is not following the policy set down in 1983 about allowable modifications. Council is writing to RTA reminding them of the modifications policy—anyone who is refused CRS registration should contact Dave Rogers.

Publishing Committee Phil Donoghoe

Had posted 197 copies of *The Colonial* and 91 had received email copies.

As he was on his own for the May edition it took more than five hours to bone, address and post. Phil advised that he will not be standing for the position at the AGM. Anyone who is interested in taking on the role should contact Phil for details of what it entails.

Michael Toole advised that modern printing equipment can print fold and staple documents and the club should consider looking into alternatives to cut down on the time taken to publish copies of the magazine. The committee will look into the printing of the *Colonial*.

Phil mentioned that on 14 and 15 June the Fire Brigade will be holding a street procession of new and historic fire appliances along Captain Cook Crescent Manuka to the Historic Fire Museum premises, from 5.30pm on Friday evening. Entry to the Museum's open day on Saturday 15 June will be by a gold coin donation. The museum is hopeful that the Melbourne Fire Museum will be bringing a steam driven fire appliance to the display.

General Business

Alec McKernan mentioned that Stuart Saunder's Binalong Motor Museum will hold its annual open day on 20 October and all are welcome.

Alan Martin thanked the club for the sympathy card he received following the death of his mother. He thought this was a nice touch and a good gesture on behalf of the club.

Alan thanked Harry Crawford for videoing the visit to his property and preparing it for uploading on the club's website.

He also reinforced Jan Wyatt's request to only park on one side of Jacob Street during the visit to the Toets.

Graham Gittins advised that the P76 car clubs around Australia will be mustering in Canberra for a 40th Anniversary rally on 29-30 June.

John Senior whilst in Bathurst paid a visit to a speedway Museum and at \$10 per person it was good value.

He also drove to the Braidwood Heritage Festival – disappointed with the event.

Graham Boyce had a problem with RTA who advised him his Buick Marquette was unregistered and he had a hard time convincing them that the vehicle was registered and not a Mercedes Benz but a Buick. Finally RTA defected the vehicle for three days and then registered it under its correct model name.

Phil Donoghoe reported that he had a similar problem with his Durant. RTA insisted that it was a Rugby Durant and not a straight Durant. Phil took all the documentation on the model and finally convinced the RTA.

Meeting closed at 9.25pm

Graham Gittins
Minute secretary.

There were two events in May which qualified as Club events. The National Motoring Heritage Day run and Collector Pumpkin Festival.

NATIONAL MOTORING HERITAGE DAY

32 cars from our club, the Morris Owners Group, Fiat club and a couple of individuals met in the Bunnings carpark on Sunday 19th May for the start of the run for National Motoring Heritage Day. After being handed out instructions for the route, we departed for a drive around some of Lake Tuggeranong, through Woden Town Centre, Deakin and then onto the Scrivener Dam carpark where we stopped to re-group.

We then proceeded on to the National Arboretum where people could choose to 'do their own thing'. Several people went to look at the Village Centre and all the displays there, have a coffee or just wander around and enjoy the atmosphere and view. Most people drove around the open roads and had a look at the wonderful view from Dairy Farmers Hill. It was certainly a very enjoyable feature of the run for those who had not been there before.

After leaving the Arboretum we drove through the Belconnen Mall shopping precinct and our stopping point for lunch and the end of the run was at Diddams Close on the shores of Lake Ginninderra. Thanks to Vin Liston who had the Bar-b-Que trailer set up there with the billy boiling for a welcome cuppa for those who did not have something at the Arboretum. Unfortunately a very chilly wind sent us home perhaps earlier than we had intended.

Thanks very much to Chris Berry and Vin Liston for organising and mapping the run, and to Irene Berry for typing up the instructions.
Well done to all.

Jan.

Some of the cars at start at Bunnings.





Above two:
Cars at Scrivener
Dam.

Last of the
autumn leaves
and weak
sunshine at Lake
Ginninderra were
nice but not the
sneaky cold
breeze.



COLLECTOR PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

The tenth annual Pumpkin Festival was held at Collector on 5th May and was attended by 12 cars from our club. There was an increased number of stalls selling goods, food and drinks and many activities this year so plenty to look at and purchase. The event attracted a crowd of about 10,000 people.

Thanks to the Goulburn car club who took on the task of arranging parking in an orderly fashion this year, cars on display from the various surrounding clubs were well displayed for the public to inspect.

Once again this popular event was well worth attending.

Thanks to Jan for these reports and David for photos.



CARS I HAVE OWNED

Well, I can't beat Dave Bennett's total, but nevertheless, a few interesting ones I've owned over the years!

Purchased	Make, model, year of manufacture	Area of use
1949	Ford-T centre door model sedan 1949	Canada
1951	Ford-A tudor sedan 1930	"
1953	Ford-Mercury 5 passenger coupe 1948	"
1955	Ford convertible 1952	Venezuela
1956	Chev 2 door sedan 1940	US/Canada
1957	Plymouth sedan 1952	Canada
1958	Hillman convertible 1952	"
1959	Pontiac sedan 1952	"
1960	Ford-Mercury 2 door hardtop 1952	USA
1961	Morris 8 Sedan 1948	Australia
1963	Plymouth sedan 1952	Canada
1963	Hillman sedan 1963	Australia
1968	Cadillac 4 door hardtop 1961	US/Canada/Australia
1969	Chev tourer 1929	Australia
1969	Ford-A road ster 1930	"
1970	Ford Falcon station Wagon 1961	"
1972	" " " " 1966	"
1975	Chrysler Imperial Sedan 1932	"
1976	Ford Falcon station wagon 1970	"
1999	Toyota Hilux Ute 1997	"
2011	Plymouth 5 passenger Coupe 1948	US/Australia

That's all I can recall, except for a 1947 Lincoln Continental, and a 1949 Pontiac convertible, both sadly outbid on at auction in Denver Colorado way back in 1953.

Cheers...Brian McKay

Hope Brian is enjoying his time in Canada to see a new grandchild and visit a sick relation.

REGO STICKERS

There was an email from NSW Transport Roads & Maritime Services "From 1 January 2013 REGO STICKERS are a thing of the past for all light vehicles". You can check the registration of any vehicle by completing a free registration check at rms.nsw.gov.au

WELCOME BACK to Charlie Adams taken here while overseas admiring a classy vehicle. He'll have to explain what it is and where it is when he returns.



BAY TO BOORIGAL Albury-Wodonga 12-13 October 2013

Helen, can you put in Colonial: 2013 Boorigal Rally Sat. 12th & Sunday 13th. October, Hosted by the Antique Car Club of Albury Wodonga. Phil Donoghoe will be contact for our club, He will organise entry forms this month. Please advise him on 6258 4608 or email donoghoe 38@bigpond.com.au if attending and if any members would like another tour to Albury during the week before the rally.

WEBSITE

Check out the videos taken at Alan Martin's entry during the April run, thanks to Harry Crawford.

John Jeffrey has advised that due to working full-time and running a vineyard, he is running short of time to update the website.

We would love to hear from a member who can take on this task. Talk to John about what is involved and let President David have your offer of help.

PARTICIPATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT AWARDS 2013

Members, your assistance is required in recommending nominees for the awards below. Please give your suggestions, with a reason for the recommendation, to Jan or David, Graham or Helen. The Management Committee will be discussing the awards at our June and July meetings.

12.2.2 Bill Southwell Encouragement Trophy

To be awarded to a young, inexperienced or keen member who has achieved a high standard of restoration so far and deserves recognition for his or her efforts. It should take into account setbacks in restoration, and difficult conditions with which to work, such as moving house, additions to the family, and work or family responsibilities.

12.2.4 Henry Le Grande Club Participation Award

To go to a member who helps other members, gives assistance with meetings and outings. Someone who freely gives advice, service or time, lends tools and equipment to other members of the Club. Someone who welcomes new members and introduces them around. One who furthers the work of the entire vehicle movement.

12.2.5 Bill Phillips Roaming Ambassador Award

Presented to a Club member who promotes goodwill within the antique vehicle movement in the Canberra region, who spreads goodwill when touring or goes out of his/her way to welcome members of visiting vehicle clubs.

12.2.6 Hard Luck Trophy

Awarded to someone who has just had plain bad luck resulting in setback of restoration or use of an old car. To include bad luck on a personal side such as a house burgled, motor accident, health problems or even divorce.

12.2.7 Fossicker's Award

A person always attending swap meetings, trading parts, etc. Perhaps the lengths that a person goes to in order to obtain parts or a complete car. One who passes on information to other members.

We look forward to your help.

The Veteran & Vintage Car Club – ACT is turning 50

Canberra's first car club turns 50 later this year. To celebrate this important milestone we are arranging a “birthday” weekend on Saturday & Sunday the 26th & 27th October 2013.

The weekend will include a Club vehicle display and chat/coffee on Saturday afternoon, dinner at the Canberra Hellenic Club on Saturday evening and a Club run on Sunday (10am to 3pm) including a stop for lunch. The Club is also preparing a book detailing information about the Clubs' Foundation Members, early history, photos and how it all came about.

We are searching for, and hoping to contact, as many of the Clubs' former members as possible. If you have belonged to our Club in the past and would be interested in attending all or part of the weekend would you please contact:

Nick Nowak
Email: nowakn@netspeed.com.au
Phone: 02-6282 4090

Details of costs for the dinner and book have yet to be finalised and will be sent to those people who contact us shortly. We are also considering having a 50th year Club badge made.

NATIONAL TRUST CENTENARY OF CANBERRA RALLY

*Mark Carmody Rally ambassador
on his Postie bike on the lawns of
Old Parliament House for the
launch of the Rally.*

See also pages 26 and 27.



ANNUAL PRESENTATION DINNER 2013

Saturday 17th August 2013 6.30 for 7pm

**Canberra Highland Society Burns Club
8 Kett Street KAMBAH ACT**

**\$25 per person for members
non-members welcome \$30 per person**

Please support your club by joining us at the Annual Presentation of Trophies Dinner this year. The club is subsidising the dinner. There will be a lucky door prize and other prizes on the night.

The menu will be a Carvery Buffet dinner containing the following choices of dishes:

Bread display

3 salads

2 carvery meats

1 hot dish with rice

Choice of 4 desserts

Tea and coffee will be provided.

Please, anyone with special dietary requirements, notify Chris or Jan when purchasing your tickets or by phone on numbers below.

Soft Drink/Orange juice (alternate tables) and water will be provided on the tables. All other drinks will be at your own expense.

Tickets available at the June and July meetings only (as final numbers are required by the club before the August meeting) or from Chris Berry, 62547145, or Jan Wyatt, 62861782 until Wednesday 7 August.

**Proposed visit to Peter and Ann Toet's collection
of Packards and vintage motor bikes
at 32 Jacobs Street, Evatt
on Sunday 16 June 2012 commencing at 11am**

Peter and Ann have kindly invited CACMC members to inspect their interesting collection of Packards and vintage motor bikes at the above time and date. Peter has been planning to show portion of his collection of Packards and motor bikes for some time and this social event will be a great opportunity to view this collection.

Members will recall Peter presented a wonderful collection of his vintage motor bikes recently and this attracted large numbers at the CMAG. As well as the Packards and motor bikes on show will be a variety of interesting items collected over a period of time. Ann has an interest in craft works and some of these works will be on display at this event.

On site parking is restricted as this is a standard residential street with no public parking areas close by. Therefore car parking is only available in the street and it is suggested that attendees park only on **one side** of the street without blocking private driveways. There is however parking in the street behind Peter and Ann's house.

Peter and Ann have offered to provide a Marquee, and BBQ lunch. Accordingly at the June club meeting, a show of hands of attendees will be requested and other members not at this meeting are asked to **please** contact Alan Martin 62586841 or Jan Wyatt, 62861782 if you wish to attend in order to assist Peter and Ann with catering for the visit.

See Events Calendar for meeting place so we all arrive together.

Peter and Ann at the launch of
the Centenary of Canberra Rally.
Canberra Times 7 May 2013



CA&CMC EVENTS CALENDAR 2013

DATE	CONTACT	DETAILS
Jun 16	Alan Martin 6258 6841 Jan Wyatt 6286 1782	A visit to view Peter and Ann Toet's collection of Packards and vintage motorcycles. Meet in the Belconnen Soccer Club car park, Cnr William Slim & Owen Dixon Drives at 10.30 am and we will go to Peter and Ann's place as a group. Numbers are required for catering purposes. Names to Alan Martin or Jan Wyatt. See further details on page 19.
Jul 12-14	Roger Pearson 4471 2778 0428 267 846	Bay to Bermagui Jan has entry forms. Romar49@bigpond.net.au www.cvmce.org.au Benefit: Southcare
Jul 21	Jan Wyatt 6286 1782 Chris Berry 6254 7145	As the Bay to Bermagui is being counted as a club event, our normal monthly run will be on 21 July so all members have the chance to participate in one or both runs. A trip to Bungendore with lunch at the Lake George Hotel Bistro at 12 noon. Either meet in the Spotlight carpark Queanbeyan at 10 am to leave at 10.30 am to have time to wander round the village or make your own way to Bungendore to meet at lunch time.
Aug 17	Jan Wyatt 6286 1782 Chris Berry 6254 7145	Annual Presentation Dinner to be held at the Burns Club again this year, format similar to last year. Get your tickets at the June or July meetings only (as final monies have to be paid before the August general meeting) or by phoning Chris Berry or Jan Wyatt by 7 August. \$25 members, non-members most welcome at \$30 each. More details on page 18.
Aug 18	David Wyatt	President's Run
Sep 13		To be advised.

EXTRA RUNS AND SWAP MEETS 2013

Jun 7-10	Ray Tarlinton 6922 4572	Wagga Wagga Veteran & Vintage Motor Club June rally. Jan has entry forms www.wvmcinc.wordpress.com
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EXTRA RUNS AND SWAP MEETS—2013

DATE	CONTACT	DETAILS
Jun 16	4392 2270	Swap meet, Showground Rd, Gosford
Jul 7		Blacktown Swap Meet
Jul 21	Steve Medlen 0458 454 477	Wagga Wagga Swap Meet, 900+ sites, auto jumble, bric-a-brac, antiques. 7 am start.
Jul 21	Colin Murphy 02 4729 0482	Liverpool Super Swap Meet, Fairfield City Showground, Smithfield Rd, Prairiewood.
Jul 21-27	Peter 03 5032 0035	Swan Hill Vintage & Classic Vehicle Club Heart of the Murray 40th year Ruby Rally
Aug 11	Phone 0800 535 635	Classic Driver Indian-Pacific Perth to Sydney Rally 2013 19 July to 13 August. Arriving Canberra 11 Aug and departing 12 August.
Sep 1		Cootamundra Father's Day Swap Meet
Sep 14-21		National Veteran Tour, Shepparton Vic. Email: dwright@bigpond.com
Sep 28		Queanbeyan 175th birthday cars will be required. 10 am set up 11-11-30 parade. Static display till 5.00 pm. Various entertainment and food stalls. Fireworks at sunset.
Sep 29	Shirley Tonkin 08 8258 6547	Bay to Birdwood Classic 2013 for non-modified vehicles manufactured between 1 January 1956 and 31 December 1977. See also page 25.
Oct 6	John Mason 03 5795 3662	Euroa Show and Shine, Clifton Street, Euroa. Classic, vintage, veteran and muscle cars and bikes. 8 am - 3.30 pm.
Oct 12	David Wyatt 6286 1782	Manuka Celebrates. Manuka Business Assn has invited us to participate in their Centenary of Canberra event by displaying some of our vehicles in Franklin Street. Space allocated is limited, expressions of interest and more details will be called for at our next few monthly meetings or can be obtained by contacting David. It is hoped to get a selection of vehicles from different periods.

MY EARLY MOTORING DAYS

What was my first car I was asked recently ?

Whilst at Uni doing Mechanical Engineering I had a sad old Mercedes 170 Diesel, which worked for a while before the effects of a cracked cylinder head made it unreliable, so I traded it in on a 1960 VW, which was a good car if not fast. This ended its days when an old guy ran into it and wrote it off.

What were the cars you have had over the years since?

A mate had a 1948 Skoda convertible but traded it in on a Triumph TR2. The car dealer said "I will give you 20 quid for it but take it away don't leave it here as it is a pile of crap!"

My mate asked if I wanted it but I declined. The rag roof was knackered and the suicide doors flew open in corners, due to the wooden frame (that sounds familiar in regards to 2.6 litre Lagondas). Then I got married and after several years we bought a 1926 Bean Tourer for 120quid, in going order but very sad and smokey. I joined the Vintage Drivers Club but could not afford to spend much on restoration. My work sent us to Canberra as the Patent Office needed experienced guys there and I had worked in industry for seven years. In Canberra I went to night school doing panel beating, welding and spray painting, before commencing restoration seriously.

After completion of the Bean it went to such places as Adelaide twice, Sydney, and many other places. I sold it recently after 47 years to a mate so we see it often. I sold it because of arthritis in the wrists as the steering was heavy, and my metal knee joint did not like pushing on the brake pedal.



I completed building another Bean 14, this one being a copy of Francis Birtles Bean 14 Sports, which Birtles drove from London to Melbourne in 1928. A vintage car enthusiast wanted to buy my second Bean to copy the trip Birtles did from London to Melbourne, funds are short and the trip is on the "backburner" for the



time. I explained that this second Bean was made from all the parts I had gathered over many years. He was happy with this.

Over several years I restored some 1970 to 1973 model Toyota Celicas as there was a great market for these, particularly when fully restored.

I then inherited a 1962 Volvo 122S from the estate of an aunt and uncle. This car needed repainting, a new clutch etc , and it is a lovely car to drive. We liked it so much we sold our MGB GT which I bought "for a song" as it required a full restoration which I did over a couple of years, and I bought a Volvo 1800 S the type "The Saint " owned for his TV series. Apart from some painting it did not require much work.



Four years ago a mate told me of a 2.6 litre Lagonda sedan laying in a shed in "a million pieces !!" Being in pieces the widow of the guy who died working on the car tried to sell it but alas nobody wanted it so again that mystical music was played and I picked it up for Another Song!



The Lagonda is a 1951 model sedan which is now finished after over 1500 hours of work. It is now on Club limited use registration. When I was told about it I had no idea what such a car looked like until I went through some old car books. There were 510 of sedans and drop head coupes made so they are fairly rare. Mine is body number 203.

I inspected pistons, valves, clutch, cams etc and then fitted a new head gasket. The engine has wet sleeves which should protrude 2 to 4 "thou " above the block. Mine were correct so I was happy. I then inspected and painted all the pieces and commenced assembly. I had the door linings, carpets etc all redone, plus a new rear window made to replace the broken one.



I painted the car in Jaguar Racing Green. I converted the electrics to a single 12 volt battery instead of two 6 volt units in series. Each 6 volt battery now costs as much as a single 12 volt unit, so why waste money?

Being aware of what can happen with “suicide” doors I bought a pair of MG TC door security latches to prevent accidental or deliberate opening of a door whilst motoring along.

In assembling door locks I was missing the one key operated handle, there being four non lockable handles. A kind member in the Lagonda Australia Group sent me a lockable handle, which “made my day” as my Lagonda ignition key fitted it perfectly. On visiting another member in Sydney recently I found that my key also fitted his door lock. So we are now of the opinion that perhaps all 2.6 litre Lagondas share the same key codes. When I encounter more 2.6 cars I will try my ignition key further. We all agreed that as 2.6 owners are a fine bunch of honest blokes who would not steal someone else’s 2.6 Lagonda.



I was also asked recently what was my most embarrassing moment in motoring.

At work one day I headed out to the commercial area of Fyshwick to make a lunch time purchase of car paint and when travelling along amongst many cars I heard a loud “flap flap flap” which I took to indicate a tread lifting off a tyre on my elderly Holden wagon, so I pulled over when I could to inspect the problem. I was about to get out of the car when I realised I could still hear a flap flap flap. Then I realised the noise was a bloody helicopter flying across the traffic. Feeling a like a total “burke” I then had the task of rejoining the line of cars.

Happy Motoring from Alec McKernan LAG Secretary.

BAY TO BIRDWOOD CLASSIC 2013

In a trial designed to alleviate traffic congestion for entrants, the organisers of the Bay to Birdwood have changed the tradition and will take this year's motoring event up the Freeway.

Now in its 33rd year of operation, the Bay to Birdwood is the largest continually staged motoring event of its kind held anywhere in the world. Scheduled for Sunday 29 September, this year is a 'Classic' year and is for non-modified vehicles manufactured between 1 January 1956 and 31 December 1977. Registrations are now open.

This year's Bay to Birdwood will travel to Birdwood via the South Eastern Freeway. With the start remaining unchanged at Adelaide Shores, Barratt Reserve West Beach, the large cavalcade will make its journey up Glen Osmond Road, Mt Barker Road and the South Eastern Freeway where it will travel to Birdwood via the historic Hill's townships of Verdun, Balhannah, Oakbank, Woodside, Charleston and Mt Torrens.

The location and finish event is also unchanged with celebrations remaining at the National Motor Museum, Birdwood.

www.baytobirdwood.com.au



PERPETUAL TROPHIES

Would last year's winners please return trophies by the July meeting at the latest. If you can't get to the June or July meeting, contact Jan or David Wyatt to arrange their return.

These have to be engraved for this year's winners.

NATIONAL TRUST CENTENARY OF CANBERRA RALLY 19-20 October 2013

Rally entry forms now available

Entry forms to participate in the once in a 100 years National Trust Centenary of Canberra Rally are now available and entry will remain open until 31 August 2013.

The rally vehicles will start at Jervis Bay on the morning of Saturday 19 October 2013 and travel via Nowra, Nerriga, Tarago, Bungendore and Queanbeyan in to Canberra. For those unable to start from Jervis Bay, options are available for starting at Tarago, Bungendore or Queanbeyan.

On Sunday 20 October the vehicles will muster at Exhibition Park in Canberra for a cruise down Northbourne Ave to the lawns of Old Parliament House for a static display of cars, commercials and motor cycles from the motoring pioneering days to the latest electric vehicles.

Entry is open to any vehicle whose owner is a member of a car club or the National Trust and the vehicle must be road registered.

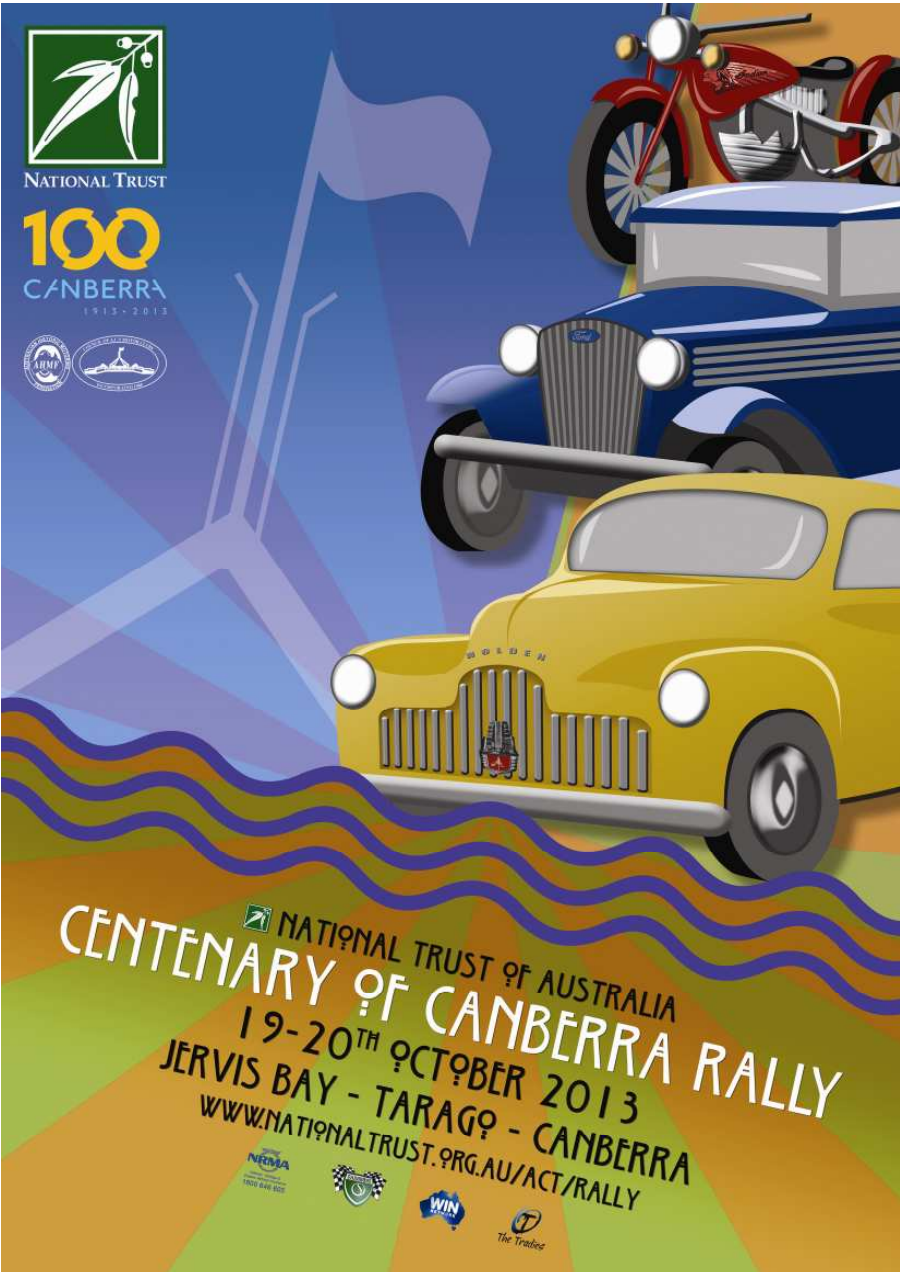
‘For people who wish to be involved but do not qualify, they will be most welcome to become a volunteer on either or both days of the event’, rally organising chairman, Mr Scot McAlister said.




‘This is a departure from the normal activities of the National Trust (ACT) but the Trust is as interested in Australia’s moving heritage as much as historic buildings.’






The *National Trust Centenary of Canberra Rally* is one of 51 community-based projects funded through the Community Centenary Initiatives Fund. The fund has allocated over \$1m to community projects after receiving a wide range of ideas from the community and assessment by an independent panel. The community projects span the arts, sport, craft, culture, youth, disability and community sectors.

Entry forms and further details can be obtained from the National Trust (ACT) office or website at: www.nationaltrust.org.au/act/rally

Further information contact Graham Gittins 0419 249 109
Email: gittins@iinet.net.au




 NATIONAL TRUST
100
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 NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA
CENTENARY OF CANBERRA RALLY
 19-20TH OCTOBER 2013
 JERVIS BAY - TARAGO - CANBERRA
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The Dalai Lama's Austin 7 and how he fixed it.

In 1995 the remains of Tibet's first 3 cars were still in Lhasa at the remains of the stables at the Dalai Lama's summer palace. They were purchased by the 13th incarnation of His Holiness after he exiled briefly in India in the early 1900s.

On his return he introduced a postage system, a passport system and brought into Tibet a couple of Austin 7s and then a 1931 Dodge. Most accounts say they had to be dismantled and hauled in on yak and mule and were assembled by a mechanic engaged from India. They were not used much except for the short run between the Potala and the summer palace only a few kilometres away before he passed on in 1933.

When the Dalai Lama returned and took up his 14th body he loved tinkering as a lad and he got one of the Austins going using bits from the other. This was close to the time of the Chinese invasion in 1950. The Dalai Lama tells of his repairs in his book 'Freedom in Exile' and I quote:

"As with the movie projectors, it took some time before I could trace anyone who knew anything about cars. But I was determined that they should be put back into service. Eventually a driver was found who came originally from Kalimpong, just south of the border with India. Between us we worked on the cars and finally, by plundering one of the Austins for parts, we got the other one going. Both the Dodge and the jeep were in better condition and they ran after only minor tinkering."

Of course, once we had the cars working, I was not allowed to go anywhere near them. But this became too much for me and one day, when I knew that my driver was away, I decided to take one of them out for a drive. Both the Dodge and the jeep required keys to start and these were in the possession of my driver. However, the Baby Austin had magneto ignition and could be started by turning a crank handle.

Very gingerly, I reversed it out of its shed and proceeded to make a turn around the garden. Unfortunately, the Norbulingka park is full of trees and it was not very long before I collided with one of them. To my horror I saw that the glass of one of the headlamps was smashed. Unless I could repair it before the following day, my joyride would be discovered by my driver and I would be in trouble.

I managed to get the car back without further damage and at once began trying to repair the broken glass. To my further dismay I found that it

was not ordinary glass, but tinted. So although I managed to find a piece that I was able to fashion well enough to fit, I was then faced with the problem of getting it to match the original. This I eventually succeeded in doing by smearing it with sugar syrup. In the end I was well pleased with my handiwork. But even so, I felt extremely guilty when I next saw my driver. I felt sure that he must know, or at least that he would find out, what had happened. But he never said a word.

These cars carried plates TIBET No2 and TIBET No1 and there is a photo on the Flickr website of No2 with the Dalai Lama together with an undated newspaper report of the time announcing that an Austin Seven, painted a vivid red and yellow had left Darjeeling for Tibet. This report says that “where it was impossible for the car to proceed under its own power that gangs of 30 colliers had been engaged to carry it in relays”.

The car in the photo is probably No1 and was snapped by Mike Stevenson of Canberra in 1995 after he managed to get into Tibet for 6 weeks. The other one was further in under the vegetation. He kept poking around in all the rubble left from the pulling down of religious icons etc and came upon the Dodge and it is seen here with a stable keeper from those bygone days. It is unlikely that much of this remains as Mike said that even during his stay reminders of the past days were being swept away.

I was lucky enough to have Mike approach me once when I had my red and yellow roadster out (all the best A7s are red and yellow). He is a committed a Tibet-o-phile and pedals an Austin Healy Sprite and has just joined our club.

Harry Crawford



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LOCAL ADVERTISEMENTS ARE RUN FOR THREE MONTHS UNLESS YOU NOTIFY THE EDITOR TO CEASE BECAUSE OF SALE, ETC. PLEASE ASK IF YOU WANT TO CONTINUE LONGER.

EXTRA RUNS AND SWAP MEETS 2013-14

DATE	CONTACT	DETAILS
Oct 19	Bruce Perry 0408 652 107	SPIN Cars/Dance/Music 255 Canberra Avenue, Fyshwick marques@aqctmotorclubs.org.au
Oct 19-20	Bill Lewis 0414 923 753	SPIN rally to Canberra run by National Trust and Council of ACT Motor Clubs www.nationaltrust.org.au/act/Rally See page 29.
Oct 20		Open Day at Binalong Motor Museum.
Oct 20		Twin City Albury Wodonga Swap Meet, Jindera
Oct 26	Jan Wyatt 6286 1782	Cars wanted! Canberra Uniting Church, Melba wants cars for their Fete. Contact Jan if you can help so we can reply to the request.
Oct 27		Crookwell Swap Meet
Nov 2	Glenda 62271111	Classic Yass—display in Banjo Paterson Park
Nov 2	Kel Goodman 02 6452 2172	Cooma Motorfest at the Cooma Showgrounds with proceeds going to Snowy Hydro Southcare. Entertainment and display of old and new competition vehicles plus a display of construction machinery from the historic Snowy Mountains Scheme. Entry form and all information www.coomacarclub.com.au
Nov 2	Peter Harper 02 6977 1088	Expressions of interest are sought from clubs interested in being involved in Warbirds Downunder 2013. Event will be similar to the Museum Showcase Days and will include club vehicle displays. Jan Wyatt has the letter and an expression of interest form.
Nov 10	Michael Russell 0407 231 244	Chrysler Restorers Club of Australia 40th anniversary, Cabra-Vale Diggers Club, 1 Bartley Street, Canley Vale NSW Members past and present welcome.
Nov 30	Jan Wyatt 6286 1782	Cars wanted! St Edmund's College, Griffith has asked for cars for their Fete. Contact Jan if you can help so we can reply to the request.
Mar 16 14		Annual Wheels display day

DATE	CONTACT	DETAILS
Sep 20-22	Ian Morley 03 5775 2917	Vet, Vin & Classic Vehicle Club, Wangaratta "Stand and Deliver" Spring Rally based in Benalla. Email: ian.morley4@gmail.com
Late Oct	Mark Will 6207 2426	PROPOSED Classics at the Cotter. Expressions of interest sought. Looking to feature the best of the best, vehicles that are extremely rare, very special, high valued, heritage value. Watch for more on this. Email: Mark.Will@act.gov.au
Nov 16-17	Kevin Fahey 0466 240 085	Canberra Ute Car Truck Muster 2 day show & shine at Hall Polocrosse Ground, Victoria St, Hall. Entry of \$20 per vehicle also includes entry to the Canberra Country Blues & Roots Festival. www.canberramuster.com
Nov 23 Nov 24 Nov 23-24	0400 394 645 0400 394 645 0427 267 927	All Ford & GM Day car show & shine at Hall Polocrosse Ground, Victoria St, Hall. American Car Nationals Queanbeyan Swap Meet All of above at Queanbeyan Showground www.qbnswnet.net www.americancarnationals.com.au
Nov 23	Michael Lindfield 6286 4747	Tuggeranong Community Festival Classic and Vintage Car Display. Celebrating their 25th Silver anniversary. www.tuggeranongfestival.org.au

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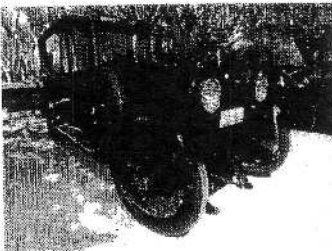


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