

# THE COLONIAL



Official Journal of the  
Canberra Antique & Classic Motor Club Incorporated

Annual Subscription  
Colonial \$25

1958 FC Holden Sedan  
Jack and Carol Press

Vol. 47  
March 2015



## EDITOR'S PAGE

Thank you to those who provided items for this month's Colonial. I need a car story for next month please.

Would a member who went to Summernats have some pictures to share. What about those who sent to the re-opening of the Kurrajong Hotel. Did anyone take photos of the cars there. We would love to see some.

### Week Day Social Lunches

Friday 6 February 12 noon and every first Friday: Sandwich lunch at the Southern Cross Club, Woden. All CACMC members welcome.



### Friday 20 March car run

To the Cotter for picnic lunch at noon. At the lawn area between the bridge and the dam near the toilets (not too close!). If it is a wet day we could go to Casuarina Sands where there is an undercover area. All CACMC members welcome. BYO everything to eat, drink. Any enquiries to Alec McKernan on 6286 1046.

### Get Well

Please advise the Secretary Grahame if you know of anyone who could use a cheer-up card, especially if they are in hospital. Also let us know about any special anniversaries or the death of a member.

Best wishes to Anne and Alec's son Malcolm who was having his cranium repaired on 19 February. Best wishes to Jan Wyatt too for her recovery and getting home from hospital.

### Sympathy

Our sympathy to the family of Peter Gifford who passed away on 17 February. Thanks to John Senior for letting me know.

### Reminders

Our major display day of Wheels is before the March meeting so there is some information in this issue. We are in the same spot as last year and our entry point is off Kings Avenue. Those who would like their vehicle judged for an award, please complete the form on the inside of the front wrapper and get it to one of the Vehicle Inspectors.

You must get an NCA sticker for your car at the entry point.

See you Tuesday, Cheers, Helen

## DRAFT MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING 10 FEBRUARY 2015

### Attendance

Members

Apologies

Visitors: one - Craig Murphy, Rover P3, Alphas.

### Welcome;

In the absence of President David Wyatt, Vice President, Graham Waite, welcomed members to the February 2015 general meeting. Graham advised that Jan Wyatt was in hospital.

### Guest speaker:

Graham introduced club member Brian O'Donnell who gave an entertaining presentation on the history of telephones and brought a small selection of the 500+ telephones he has collected.

### President's report

Graham advised that those two new memberships were approved.

Chennupati and Vidya Jagadish, buying a vehicle

David and Sharlene Hay, 1976 Ford Falcon XB Sedan

### Vice President's Report

Graham advised that the guest speaker for the March meeting was still to be confirmed. He wished to record the club's thanks to Membership Secretary Joe Vavra for producing the Register of Members which are now available from the Shop Manager for \$2 per copy

### Lucky badge draw

#20 Vin Liston

Last Run #8 Wayne and Betty Summerfield

### Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the January 2015 Minutes were confirmed without amendment Moved Helen Phillips, Seconded: Clive Castles. Carried

### Correspondence - Grahame Crocket

IN

#### *Car magazines*

Triumph, Central Coast, Illawarra, Cowra, Cootamundra, Casino Lismore and Kyogle, Shoalhaven, Southern Tablelands, Orange, Bathurst, Parkes, Chrysler Restorer, South Coast

#### *Invitation*

Young Heritage Motor Club to: 'get your tops off' Sunday 29 March 2015  
Southern Tablelands Vintage and Veteran Machinery Club to: Annual Rally, Taralga Showground 21 November 2015.

#### *Letters*

ACT Road Transport Authority - Trailer registration renewal (handed to

Treasurer)

Commonwealth Bank – Merchant Statement (handed to Treasurer)

*Emails*

Ian Ruecroft, advising he is unable to assist with supper for the March Meeting. Another volunteer is requested. Clive Glover is advised and arrangements now in place.

Roger Amos seeking assistance for volunteer marshals for Wheels.

*Flyers*

Ray White, RB Sellers, Australia Post

**OUT**

Get well card to Heather Gittins

Get well card to Eileen Liston

Moved: Waine Summerfield , Seconded: Phil Donohue Carried.

**Treasurer's Report** - Gerry Walker

Current account balance \$10 523:57. Printed report on front table.

Gerry advised that he still had quite a number of name badges ready for collection.

He advised that he will be away from 7 May to 5 June and again from 20 July to 7 August 2015 and is seeking help with membership renewals during these periods. Moved: Gerry Walker Seconded: Chris Berry Carried

**Editor** - Helen Phillips

Helen advised she is having computer problems which should be fixed this week and still required car stories.

**Event Director** - Jan Wyatt

In the absence of Jan, Event committee members Chris Berry and Brett Goyne advised members of upcoming events.

February 22 Wakefield Park historic racing two groups one group departing 7.30am from Eagle Hawk and the second group from the Spotlight car park Queanbeyan, at 9.30am

Entry fee is \$20 but club has some free tickets available which will be distributed at the separate departure points.

March 8 Shannon's Wheels Kings Park

April Spring Range Park to view private museum

May 17 National Motoring Heritage Day

**Raffle**

Red # 92 Peter Withers

Seniors Day 2015 is on Tuesday 17 March Thoughbred park 9.30 to 3pm

See Graham Waite for details.

**Supper Coordinator** - Clive Glover

A few vacant spaces for providing the suppers. You are recompensed. Need volunteers for May meeting.

**Registrar - Bob Alexander**

Received a number of telephone calls from prospective members - one has a Datsun 240 Z and 1976 Toyota Crown

Gentleman moving from South Africa to Canberra interested in joining the club and setting up a vehicle restoration and sales business in the ACT

Total 32 cars inspected for the month

Bob advised that an interesting vehicle he inspected was a 1928 Chevrolet new to the club

He advised that he will require the inspectors to be ready for the judging of vehicles at Wheels in March.

He appealed to inspectors to make sure that any new vehicles coming into the club are advised to the Membership Secretary Joe Vavra as soon as possible so that the Registrar of Members can be up to date.

**Librarian Joe Micaliff**

Thanked Waine Summerfield for organising the transfer of VHF video to DVD of the Clubs 1987 Rock Rally, Victorian Rally and National Film and Sound Archive opening.

Joe advised that the library shelving space is getting short and he intends to cull double-up books and magazines which will be offered for sale to members in the coming months.

Roger Phillips advised that the Curtin bookshop is happy to purchase motoring books

**Membership Secretary - Joe Vavra - No report****Information officer - Graham Bigg**

For sales on board

More about Tow chains and shackles

Report in the November-December edition of *Restored Cars* magazine contains details on the subject. Main thing to remember when purchasing chains and shackles is to look for the Australian Standard mark. Also check the Commonwealth Department of Transport website for information on building a small trailer for further details.

**Council delegate - Roger Amos**

There is a new computer package 'Our car club' which may be of assistance in managing the club's affairs. He has given the contact details to Graham Waite.

Council president Mark Saunders, has started discussions with Commissioner on the introduction of a SIVS scheme in the ACT. Dave Rogers interjected to advise the current CRS will not be affected if the SIVS does get up.

Roger advised that 76 vehicles attended the launch of the Friends of Motoring on the lawns of Parliament House and 170 vehicles attended Summernats.

Wheels: the National Capital Authority has introduced a new regulation which requires vehicles attending Wheels in Kings park, to have a

numbered sticker affixed to the vehicle to enable parking inspectors to identify display vehicles. Since the official opening of the Children's play ground in the park, people have been parking all over the place some blocking cycle paths. It is intended that vehicles without a number will be booked

NB parking stickers will be issued to our vehicles as they enter the park from Kings Avenue Bridge.

It is hoped to have a couple of historic buses running a shuttle service between Russell Car Park and the display area \$2 donation.

Council is considering not renewing its affiliation with the Australian Historic Motoring Federation at a saving of \$300 per year and joining the Australian Confederation of Motor Clubs, affiliation is free.

Council is thinking about making a submission to the Senate enquiry into the automotive Industry.

**Publishing Committee** - Dave Byers, no problems

**Webmaster** - Phillip Smith - all under control

**Shop manager** - Norm Brennan absent, no report

### **General Business**

Alec McKernan attended a meeting with John Beagle and Roger Amos with the Director of the National Museum of Australia to discuss a concept to help the Museum restore/conservé some of their vehicle collection, by using car club funds and expertise. John Beagle provided additional information on the concept and said it was early days yet.

Michael Toole advised he had returned the trophy he shared with David Byers and some of the badges were loose and required tightening up.

Phil Donoghoe asked about arrangements for display vehicles at the Royal Canberra Agricultural Show at the end of February. Helen Phillips advised that President David had been unable to come to agreement with the show people, so he had cancelled our participation.

Helen Phillips advised that David had arranged for six 1920s vehicles to be available for the reopening of the Kurrajong Hotel this week.

John Senior advised that Frank Gifford was not travelling well.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

Graham Gittins  
Minute secretary



## AUSTRALIA DAY CARNIVALE IN SYDNEY

A group of diehard car enthusiasts made the now annual bus trip to the Australia Day Carnivale car show in Sydney. The rain did not stop drizzling all day and at times it increased in intensity. The show is not as big as it used to be as when NMRA used to sponsor it, but never the less it didn't stop the diehards from walking up and down Macquarie Street stopping and commenting on the cars on show.

Club members that made this year's pilgrimage were:

Charlie Adams  
Graham Bigg  
Clive Castles  
Phil Donoghoe  
Claude Favretto  
Alan Martin  
Joe Micallef

Unfortunately this year for the first time in many years Vin Liston and Graham Gittins couldn't make the trip due to sickness of their respective spouses. We hope that all will be well for next year bus trip.

*Thanks to Joe Micallef.*



The group of CACMC members drying off before heading back to Canberra.

Claude, Phil, Clive, Joe, Charlie, Alan, Graham

## Where the \*\* 'Il are We? By John Howard

We're at Glenmorgan. OK, but where's Glenmorgan? Well, Glenmorgan is about 40 minutes drive, on the Surat Developmental Road, east of Surat, which is on the Carnarvon Highway in SE Queensland. Glenmorgan, population 89, has a store, Community [shared] Church, store, hotel/motel and is where the railway line to the west ended. Its station is a museum, but I don't know when it is open.

If you drive there any week day, you will come across Montys Garage Vintage Car Museum open for all to visit. There it is on the side of the road with a yard of old cars in various stages of decay, while inside the service bay and workshop there are a number of vehicles in different stages of restoration. The brochure says that that they run guided tours and it is, "a working museum...see mechanical repairs and restoration in progress." but I could not find out when the work took place and in fact could not see anyone in sight not even in the street!

The rest of the story can be told by my photos. Enjoy!

Montys Garage: on a Sunday.



On a week day

[Note *Redex Trial* vehicle]







Honesty system works!



John and his wife Patricia are volunteers for VISE (Volunteers for Isolated Students' Education) and were in Queensland doing their volunteering stint when they came across this unusual place.



The Colonial

March 2015

## **Crims, Construction, Christmas and Curtains**

The Morris Owner Group weekend away to Cooma and Adaminaby can be summed up as a weekend of crims, construction, Christmas and a Curtain.

Five couples: David and Jan Wyatt, Vin and Eileen Liston, Denis and Val Harding, Keith and Lilly Carswell and Graham and Heather Gittins travelled to the Cooma Correctional Centre Museum part of the Cooma Prison complex.

We were welcomed by two inmates and a guard and entered the purpose built building constructed by the prison inmates around 20 years ago. The first stage of the tour represents a convict ship holding British convicts on their way to Botany Bay then through various rooms to inspect convict and guard uniforms. One of the most interesting displays was the contraband exhibition, where a small selection of knives, tattooing needles, and other implements including a handmade cross bow, have been discovered during cell searches and other hidden places around various New South Wales Prisons.

A model of Bathurst prison is a prize exhibit as is the reconstruction of a typical prison cell.

Our guides showed us their breakfast meal packs, and told how they spend their money on weekly buy-ups from the prison store.

We were then directed to the craft shop where inmates make good quality carry bags, wood turned toys and paintings which are offered for sale. Several members of our group were seen with the carry bags. We were able to chat with three other inmates about the craft they produced.

We then travelled to Adaminaby for our overnight accommodation at the Snowy Mountains Motel and dinner at the Adaminaby Bowling Club.

Next morning it was off, in the rain, to the Adaminaby Snowy Collection Museum, which seems to grow ever bigger with more exhibits being placed on display each time we visit.

On this visit we were provided with a guided tour and morning tea. While there, Tracey the museum's volunteer guide, arranged for us to see the Adaminaby curtain in the community hall. It was manufactured using the resources over four years, of 80 residents,

including school children. The curtain depicts the history of Adaminaby from before white man settled the area to the present day and is real work of art.

A dispute over the ownership of the curtain took four years to settle, leaving the Snowy River Shire Council with a legal bill of \$200 000. Four of the ladies who were involved in the project claimed ownership of the curtain but as it needed cleaning and repairing asked the Snowy River Council to meet the cost of the work. The Council refused on the grounds that it could not maintain something that it did not own.

The curtain has since been cleaned and restoration work was carried out by students at the University of Canberra.

On the way back to Canberra we enjoyed lunch at the Bredbo Inn Hotel and some of the group took the opportunity to visit the Bredbo Christmas Barn to stock up on Christmas decorations.

All agreed it was top weekend.

*Thanks to Graham Gittins*



Lilly, Eileen, Vin, Graham, Denis, Val, David, Jan, Heather, Keith.

## Club Run to Wakefield Park, Historic Racing 22 February 2015

Sixteen club members and guests went to Wakefield Park near Goulburn to enjoy the Summer Race Meeting of the Historic Sports and Racing Car Association of NSW (HSRCA) on Sunday 22 February.

Wakefield Park is an excellent track with places to sit or stand which give a commanding view of a safe, forgiving track which has excellent facilities to support racing. Not too many trees or shade - but then its all about speed and nothing to hit if a driver spears off the track. As a result the racing is spirited and very enjoyable.

We were lucky as it was also Round One of the Historic Touring Cars, Groups C & A. Group C 1973-84 and Group A 1985-92, and the popular Group N, production touring cars built before 1972-73.

Now to see two Ford XY GT's really battling over several races and flying into the corners was quite exciting. Also, the really close spirited racing between some mid-fielders, three Ford Escorts; a 1976 RS2000, a 1980 Mk11 and a 1978 Escort, all 1993 cc was just amazing. And I am not really a Ford fan!! Unfortunately the E38 Charger ran mid field - where was Cameron Tilley in his blue Valiant Pacer 245 rocket ship [that alone is worth a trip to YouTube, and while you are there see his VC 225 turbo in low 11-sec passes]. A really fast white HD Holden running a 179 engine looked surprisingly good [you couldn't say that about a HD 20 years ago] and was performing well until it got out of shape and hit the side of a nice Volvo 142S. It must hurt the owners and this is real racing.

The open sports racing cars were really good and the Formula Ford (what again!) and the Formula Vee racing was fun to watch.

One of the great things about the HSRCA is that you can go down into the pits and have a really good look at these beautiful cars and see the engineering effort and smarts involved. Two Holden Geminis were just beautifully turned out. The Regularity runs drew large fields of very varied cars; a 1963 Lotus Elan, a Morgan Plus 8, four great XU-1 Toranas. "For a 'Regularity' each competitor nominates their target lap time. Then, during the actual events his/her times for each lap are recorded [transponders] and compared against the chosen time. For each 1/10 of a second slower the contestant loses one point: for each 1/10 of a second faster, he/she loses two points. The message? - if you must err, 'tis better to go slower rather than faster. Of course, the lower the score the better [from the event program]".

The result is a time-trial type of safe and quick racing.

The car park was studded with gems: Minis, an Aston Martin Vantage, a really clean HK 327 Monaro in blue, etc.

The coffee was OK, and the food good, \$7 for a burger with the lot is not bad.

Thanks to everyone who came and made it a good day, thanks to Chris Berry. A big thank you to Noel Bryen, Competition Secretary, of the HSRCA for providing 30 free tickets, and the event was cheaper then we had been advised, at \$10.

The HSRCA are a well organised and effective club, proving that with this three-day event and back-to-back races, all run as per the schedule and involving so many committed motor enthusiasts. We should think about doing it again.

N.B. all car details are from the event program.

Brett



## SHANNONS WHEELS DISPLAY DAY 8 MARCH 2015

**A Car Show for all Marques & Models – Vintage, Veteran, Classic & Modern**

Promoted by: **Council of ACT Motoring Clubs**

Sponsored by: **Shannons Insurance**

Entry Fee: gold coin donation to charity

Exhibitors: please assemble vehicles before 9:30 am

Organised by: Mercedes Benz, MG and Rolls Royce & Bentley clubs  
of ACT

Contact: Richard Jackson, phone: (02) 6282 5287 or 0429 1407 46

email: [info@actmotorclubs.org.au](mailto:info@actmotorclubs.org.au)

Web: <http://ACTMotorClubs.org.au>

**Entry and Parking: (see map next page)**

Participating cars and bikes must only **enter and exit via the Gate indicated** as follows:     *[The arrows are for CACMC reference]*

**Gate 1** (off Kings Avenue):

All motorbikes, **Antique and Classic**, French, Japanese, Mercedes, MX5, Queanbeyan Veteran and Vintage, STHARC

**Gate 2** (off Parkes Way):

All British cars (including Rolls Royce and Bentley), BMW, Audi, VW, Porsche, Sports/Racing Clubs including those with trailers), ad hoc visiting car clubs, and emergency service vehicles

**Gate 3** (off Constitution Avenue):

American, ACT Street Machines, all Fords, all GMH, all Italian vehicles.

Individual car clubs and separate marques will be allocated to sign-posted areas. Marshals will direct cars to their allocated areas, so please observe their direction.





## CA&CMC EVENTS CALENDAR—2015

DATE	CONTACT	DETAILS
8 March	Richard Jackson 6254 2546  0429140746	<p>Shannons Wheels 2015 display day at Kings Park.</p> <p>Arrive from 8 am and before 9.30 am. Our entrance is off Kings Avenue left into Wendouree Drive. Our parking area is on the map on page 19. See arrow. The same area as last year but may be tighter as this year there are four clubs in the area. BBQ trailer will be there for tea/coffee for members. Food vans will be on site.</p> <p>No public parking. A vintage bus will run from Russell car park to Kings Park. Entry by gold coin donation for charities Marymead and TADACT.</p> <p>GET AN NCA STICKER ON YOUR CAR ON ENTRY or you will be booked for parking illegally.</p> <p>Those who would like their vehicle judged for an award, please let Bob Alexander know. Form inside front cover. Wheels flyer on back cover</p> <p>MX5 is the feature car. Wheels 2015 badges available at \$10 each. See Roger Amos.</p>
19 April		<p>Club run to Southwell-Stevens Museum at "Glen Lynne", 243 Spring Range Road, Hall.</p> <p>Meet at Hall lay-by at 10.30 am for a 10.45 am start to arrive at 11 am. Items to inspect for the men and ladies such as: old farming implements, old furniture, patty cake tins, old tools, vases, milk jugs, butterfly hair clips and lot and lots of other items.</p> <p>BBQ trailer will be in attendance for morning tea and lunch. Please BYO everything. There is undercover seating and tables available on site.</p>
17 May		National Motoring Heritage Day. Details to be advised.

### **MISSING**

**WOULD THE BORROWER PLEASE LET THE TREASURER, GERRY WALKER KNOW ASAP  
OF THE LOCATION OF THE CLUBS GANTRY AND CHAIN**

## EXTRA RUNS AND SWAP MEETS—2015

DATE	CONTACT	DETAILS
7 March		Crookwell Potato Festival
Tuesday 17 March	Graham Waite 6288 4675 0412 627 437	Seniors Week Expo 2015 - car display at will be at the Expo at Thoroughbred Park. <a href="http://www.cotaact.org.au">www.cotaact.org.au</a> 9.30 am—3.00 pm
13 to 18 March  19-22 March	Warwick: 02 9841 8378 0414 490 722	Tour from Chryslers on the Murray to The Entrance.  6th National R & S Series Chrysler Valiants to be held at The Entrance on the Central Coast of NSW <a href="http://www.1962valiantrally.com">www.1962valiantrally.com</a>
28 March	Bill or Laraine 6949 1786	Batlow Show
29 March	Peter Atkinson	Auto Italia lawns of old Parliament House <a href="http://www.autoitaliacanberra.com">www.autoitaliacanberra.com</a>
29 March	John 0412 270 083	Cherry Capital & South West Region Get Your Tops Off Heritage “Car, Motor Bike & Caravan Muster” in the grounds of the PCYC Lachlan Street, Young.
April 3-6		Council of Heritage Motor Clubs of Northern NSW Easter Rally in Armidale. “A Step back in Time”.
5 April		Junee Swap Meet
Saturday 18 April		Third Annual Wheels of Wamboin at the Community Hall, Bingley Way, Wamboin in conjunction with the Home Produce Markets 9 am to 1 pm. Gold coin entry.
18-19 April	Robert Wolf 0402 202187	Cooma Monaro Historic Automobile Club Vintage & Classic Pre-1960 Rally <a href="http://www.coomacarclub.com.au">www.coomacarclub.com.au</a>
17-20 April	Brad Pillans 0427 662112	Peugeot Pageant Yass 2015. Note change of date. Helen has one entry form

## 1958 FC HOLDEN - Jack and Carol Press

I obtained my first FC back in the early 90's. It was two tone blue in excellent condition motor wise, but needed a re-paint. This was done by the son of a good friend John Grant. The work carried out by Solomon was first rate and I drove the car with pride until it was damaged in the fire 2003. There was fire damage to the bonnet and boot, the wiring and dash. I garaged the car with the unfulfilled intention of restoring it.

Towards the end of 2013 I noticed a show room conditioned FE at the service station in Phillip. I asked the two Gentlemen with the car would they be interested in my FC. They were, and I began the search for a replacement.

Early 2014 a mate who had moved from Canberra to Geelong rang to let me know that he had come across a red and white FC in top condition, would I be interested? The car was owned by a chap who was working in the mines in Nth Qld. He had assumed ownership of the car in 2009 and over time had the mechanics of the car repaired and the vehicle registered. The speedo reading at the time was 69,848 miles.

A price was agreed to, and after a few minor repairs the mate, John Hall ( who worked for many years with Auto Pro here in Canberra ) drove the car up from Geelong last July. Mileage on the vehicle now 70819.

At present I take the FC for a run of about 10 miles once a week, as well as attending club runs and gatherings. I have seat belts ready to install, but am of two minds. My wife Carol won't ride in the car without the belts. The question is. Should I put them in?

Jack Press



Morris Owners Group Canberra Region

## **THREE MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE**

The challenge is an annual event in memory of the late Jim Bruce the owner of a Morris (Bullnose) Cowley who said it was a challenge for the two wheel brake Bullnose to climb and descend Canberra's mountains.

**All Welcome**

**SUNDAY 22nd of March 2015**

**Assemble from 9.00 am at "Poppy's Cafe"**  
(War Memorial. Park in underground car park)  
**For Morning Tea (own cost)**

**Leave for Mt Ainslie—Black Mountain -**  
**Red Hill 10.00 am**

Late BBQ lunch supplied (a \$5.00pp cost will apply) and  
Perpetual trophy award at La Trobe Park Deakin

Entry fee \$15 per vehicle,  
**Includes medallion for attempting the challenge.**

Contacts.

Denis Harding (02) 62814497 or  
Malcolm Noad [mnoad@tycoint.com](mailto:mnoad@tycoint.com) 0408441587

Entrants to this event take part solely and absolutely at their own discretion and risk and expressly acknowledge and agree that no member of the Morris Owners group Canberra Region whether jointly or severally be in any way liable for an happening or incident by omission or commission before during or after the event.

## GNOO BLAS 2015 - TONY STONE

Chris and I took the opportunity to have a long weekend away in Orange and to attend the 2015 Gnoo Blas Car show, dinner and Sunday Drive. This event can't be a secret to Canberra and yet very few cars from Canberra were to be seen. 3 in total.

To set the scene, here is a potted history of the circuit. Gnoo Blas is from the Aboriginal term for nearby Mt. Canobolas.

The old Gnoo Blas motor racing circuit is an important part of motor sport history. It was built by Orange City and Canobolas Shire councils as a community project in 1953.

This description of the track is from the programme dated 16 June 1958.

*"The Gnoo Blas circuit is 3.75 miles long and is roughly triangular in shape. The main straight (Total straight) is 1.5 miles long, and the faster cars here today could reach speeds in excess of 160 m.p.h. along it. This is faster than the Australian land speed record set at Coonabarabran in 1957. Windsock corner, at the end of Total straight, is 110 degrees, 20 degrees greater than a right angle, and will test the brakes and road holding of all the competing cars..... Jack Brabham's lap record averaging 102.4 m.p.h. (1958) established Gnoo-Blas as the fastest road racing circuit in Australia."*

Another later description states; *"Only by seeing it can you appreciate the challenge of riding this monster, unfenced & girt by trees, over crests & broken edges & a bridge barely six metres wide. Only by driving down the 2.4km Hospital Straight can you appreciate the courage of defying the looming Wind Sock Corner to nail a Flying Eighth-Mile at 162mph (261km/h). Reg Hunt did that in 1956 in a Maserati".*

Gnoo Blas chalked up a number of motor sport credits. It had the first 100mph (160kmh) lap average, the fastest flying quarter mile of more than 160mph, ran the first international race meeting in Australia and was the venue for the inaugural Australian Touring Car Championship in 1960, now the V8 series.

Most of Australia's best drivers of the era raced at Gnoo Blas at one time or another and they include Jack Brabham, who held the lap record until the final meeting, Stan Jones (Maybach), Reg Hunt (250F Maserati), Prince Bira of Siam (Maserati), Peter Whitehead and Tony



Gaze (Ferraris), and many more. The touring car brigade included some of our finest with the likes of Ian and Leo Geoghegan, Kevin Bartlett, Brian Foley, John French, Doug Stewart, Ron Hodgson, Bob Holden and others.

And it wasn't only cars. Back in 1953 a bike meeting, which attracted 271 entries, was also the road racing debut for 18-year-old Eric Hinton, riding a 350cc Norton. He chalked up his first win while his famous father Harry (Norton) and Jack Ehret (Vincent HRD) dominated the placings and turned in 92mph laps. Lloyd Hirst on a Vincent HRD was timed at 130mph on the long straight.

The track lasted only eight years, from 1953 to 1961. Tough opposition came from Bathurst, and the Department of Health officials made complaints that the noise from the cars would upset the 1,400 patients in the psychiatric hospital in the middle of the track, although the opposite was true and those unable to watch became unruly.

### **The Gnoo Blas car show**

The current Gnoo Blas Classic Car Club's show is staged to keep alive the history of the old road racing track while publicising Orange's food and wine industry. The club donates to charities and one of its projects is sending high school students to Eastern Creek to do the defensive driving course run by the Australian Racing Drivers Club.

Between our last visit in 2008 and now in 2015, the style of entrants vary, as does the entertainment and numbers. The line up this year was excellent and no matter what your interest, there was something for everybody.

Much could be said about the variety of cars, the Volvo sponsorship and display this year in support of Robbie Francevic, but in the end the participants themselves probably eclipsed everything as the day was picture perfect and even free sun crème didn't provide enough protection to dull the glow of burning skin.

### **The Gnoo Blas Club Dinner**

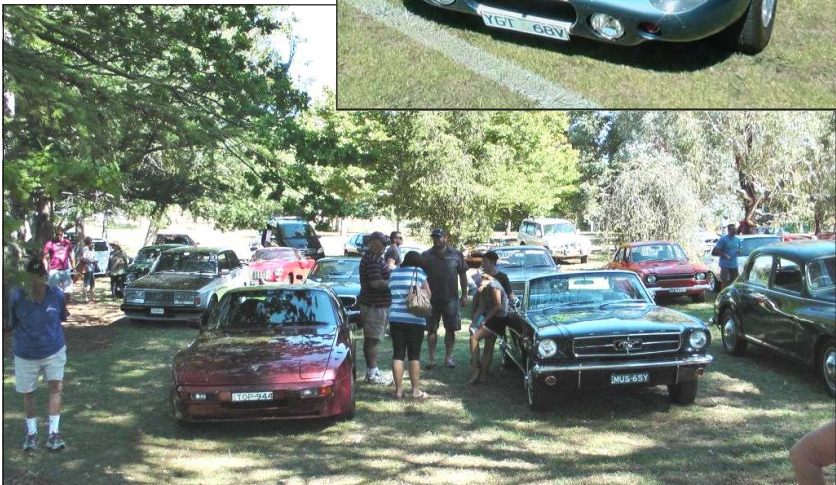
The Saturday evening was held in the Orange Services Club function room and was to all impressions a full house, MC'd by none other than Will Hagon, there were two main speakers, **Robbie Francevic** of Group A Volvo fame and **Scott McGregor** the Actor, presenter and Railways tragic. Both speakers gave it their all and were very entertaining and informative. A great night was had by all and we all made it back to our Apartment with the embossed Gnoo Blas champagne flutes intact. It could be said that was one of the weekends premier achievements.

### The Sunday Drive

Sunday was dedicated to a classic tour on the roads around Orange, stopping at Lake Canoblas for morning tea before a picnic lunch at the Orange Botanical Gardens. There was a very strong turnout for the run. We got back to the Apartment in time to catch the last hours of the Bathurst race, put a few words on paper and prepare for a day of local sight seeing on Monday.

Financial crisis at Gnoolas

Canberra made at Gnoolas



## ROCK RALLY 2017

2017 is the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the original club Rock Rally and it seems appropriate to mark this anniversary with another rally to Uluru (Ayers) Rock.

The management committee have approved the rally as an official club event and six couples have already indicated an interest in the proposed Rock Rally in 2017.

No decisions have been made with regard to the best time of year, routes, accommodation, these and the hundred and one other issues will be discussed early in 2015, when a committee will be formed to work through them. But don't let that stop you from making your suggestions on any of the matters which may be of interest to you.

All suggestions will be discussed and majority vote will prevail.

One suggestion to help with meeting the cost of the rally will be each proposed participant couple deposit a sum of money (actual amount to be determined) in their name into the club's account every club meeting which over a period of approximately two and half years, should go a long way to meeting your travel, entertainment, accommodation, fuel, food and beverage outlays. The scheme would be voluntary.

If members are interested in putting in an expression of interest please email to Graham Gittins @ [gittins@iinet.net.au](mailto:gittins@iinet.net.au)

**your name, contact details, telephone and email address.**

## SHANNONS AUCTIONS

Melbourne:

4 May 2015     321 Warrigal Road, Cheltenham.

Sydney:

18 May 2015     65 Reserve Road, St Leonards

[www.shannons.com.au](http://www.shannons.com.au)

## PARLIAMENTARY FRIENDS OF MOTORING LAUNCH 2 December 2014

Report was in February Colonial.

Senator Kate Lundy, Fiona Scott MP and Rick Muir MP arrive in the back of Sunbeam to launch the Parliamentary Friends of Motoring on the lawns of Parliament House.



Sgt Dominic Goodyear, Fiona Scott MP and Superintendent Rob Ryan

Dave Rogers received a rare look into a NSW Police State highway patrol vehicle—with Sgt Dominic Goodyear.





## FOR SALE – OTHER CLUBS PLEASE COPY

*(N.B. To enable vehicle for sale notices to be copied by clubs in other states, rego or chassis numbers may need to be included.)*

**1973 MGB GT Eclipse**  
Blue. Air conditioned,  
reconditioned engine, new  
clutch, new carpets, excellent  
overall condition. Workshop  
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badges restored and complete,  
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and oil seals, four spare doors  
with all original internal fittings, plus much more.  
Bargain Price - \$5,000.00



Contact Roger Amos 6254 2546 Email: [amos@grapevine.com.au](mailto:amos@grapevine.com.au)

**1949 Triumph Roadster 2000**  
(2ltr). It is in immaculate  
condition throughout &  
currently on club rego. I have  
decided to sell as I am not  
using it much due to my age. I  
am asking \$53,000 or nearest  
offer. For enquiries please  
phone Ian on 6342 1699.



## FOR SALE – OTHER CLUBS PLEASE COPY

*(N.B. To enable vehicle for sale notices to be copied by clubs in other states, rego or chassis numbers may need to be included.)*

**1956 AR 110 International utility,** 4 speed manual, dual fuel, Inter motor, country cream, timber tray, straight body. A highly reluctant sale but I am ready to see her go to a good home. I know, it's a car for Peter's sake! Fergie needs work but definitely not a ground-up job. What I know needs work: rear window needs re-sealing, passenger side of bench seat needs stuffing and upholstery. Steering gear had seized when left at mechanics which is why it was there. All was operating well until this happened except for electrical issues due to amateur wiring to starter and lights. Still worked but had annoying issues. Rust has worsened but I can't see structural. Mainly at usual corner spots on panels. Some surface rust spots too. Given she's been sitting for a few years obvious servicing would be needed too. Fergie is at a mechanics near Sutton, NSW so please let me know if you would like to view and I'll let the mechanic know. Contact Dane on 0422 082 580. Email: [mojos@grapevine.com.au](mailto:mojos@grapevine.com.au)



### **1949 HUMBER SUPER SNIPE MK 2,**

Chassis No 8810065 rolling. Was driveable before being stripped for sandblasting. No rust.

Trailer load of parts and panels. Unable to continue restoration due to failing eyesight.

BEST OFFER:

Terry Byrne 02 6290 0360 [terryb@homemail.com.au](mailto:terryb@homemail.com.au)

**1929 De Soto Tourer,** complete car. 6 cylinder, 4 wheel hydraulic brakes, new brake linings, wheel cyl and master cyl sleeved, original paint and trim, straight and rust free. Headlights, cowl lights rechromed, spare engine, diffs. Very rare in this condition. Amazing body. \$12,000 ono. Phone Michael 0402 211 733

**Alternator**—reconditioned with belt-fan cogged Bosch, and alternator belt. To suit Holden Camira or similar models. Price negotiable. Please contact 0419 461 712



## FOR SALE – OTHER CLUBS PLEASE COPY

*(N.B. To enable vehicle for sale notices to be copied by clubs in other states, rego or chassis numbers may need to be included.)*

**1977 MGB Roadster**, V8, midnight blue, on ACT club rego. Rover 3.5 litre, 5 speed gearbox, soft top/tonneau cover. Manual. American converted by MG Garage, Melbourne.  
Please contact Helen Brown 02 6258 0783

**1940 Chevrolet** 6 cylinder Truck, dual wheel differential, 21 inch wheels by six. Contact Kane Fattorini on 0418 283 656

### TYRES

1 new 4.50 x 19 Dunlop (Made in England) \$80

1 new 5.00 x 23 Excelsior \$120.

Please contact Murray McDonough on 0412 774 351.

### WANTED

Bumper bar jack as used for early Falcons and Fairlanes.

Terry Byrne Phone 6290 0360 terryb@homemail.com.au

### WANTED

Water pump to suit 4 cylinder flat head motor of a 1948 Commer Q15 super poise. Please contact Geoff Barbour Mobile 0400 220 011 or email: geoffry.barbour@defence.gov.au

### GARAGE SPACE AVAILABLE

Brian Wells has to let a lock-up garage which would fit a medium size vehicle. Rent negotiable. Is in Ross Smith Cres, Scullin. Please phone 6156 2316.

1929 Chev Tourer of Brian McKay - SOLD.



1978 Corvette - SOLD

**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 2015

DATE	CONTACT	DETAILS
April 26	9631 6896	All GM Day, Mulgoa Rd, Penrith
1-3 May	Rally Director Keith Packham 02 6366 8015 0417 001 148	Orange District Antique Motor Club bi-annual Autumn Tour for pre 1931 vehicles. Entries close 17 April
3 May	Ros Bickford 0407 920 585	Harden Gold Trail and Colonial Festival at Harden-Murrumburrah Showground 10 am—4.00 pm cars in place by 9.30
22-24 May		Bathurst Gold Country Rally
30-31 May	Matt 042827287 Ian 6882 8327	Claiming the date: Dubbo Antique Automobile Club 50th anniversary celebration
6-7 June	Marty 0458 329 961	Wombat Swap Meet and vehicle display on Saturday at the sportsground.
July 2015		The Bay to Bermagui will not be held due to financial reasons.
19 July		Wagga Wagga Swap Meet
8-9 August		Newcastle Swap Meet at Cessnock
16 August		Council of Motor Clubs present the Shannons Sydney Classic, gates open to public 10 am, general admission \$20
6 September		Cootamundra Father's Day Swap Meet.
2-5 Oct	0427 953 399	Model T Rally at Condoblin. Calling all Model T Ford owners especially 1915 models.
1-6 Nov 2015	Roger Gottlob 6241 3169 (AH) 0418 962 312	2015 Shannons National All Veteran Tour. Headquarters Goulburn Workers Arena. Entries are going well and a number of overseas entrants will be part of the tour without their vehicles and are looking to "hitch a ride". canberrarally2015@gmail.com

### **Guidelines for the use of ACT Concessionally Registered Vehicles**

These are available on our club website for members to check if they are unsure of the rules.

Please, if your car is registered through our Club, advise the Registrar if you are going to use your vehicle for an event not advertised in the Colonial. OR

Think ahead and get your event listed in the Colonial. Attendance at charity events is not exempt from the rules.

Carry your Colonial with you or at least the relevant pages.

#### **Mystery solved** *(thanks to GG)*

The vehicle used in the Dr Blake Murder Mysteries has puzzled many viewers and with the return of the popular ABC TV series this month the discussion is certain to continue.

The vehicle is a 1930s Standard, built in Coventry, England. According to the ABC web site the vehicle has been modified by replacing the original engine with a Holden 202 engine and gear box which broke in a take.

"On our first day of filming we were stuck in second gear and then the gear stick came off in my hand as I tried to change gears," said Craig McLachlan star of the show.

Darryl Porter who sources and manages the vintage cars for the series likes to get a spread of older and newer cars to reflect the era.

**Disclaimer:** Opinions expressed in this Journal are not necessarily those of the Club or the Committee. Information supplied to the Editor for inclusion is published in good faith, therefore responsibility for its accuracy cannot be accepted. Materials are invited for inclusion in the Journal and should be forwarded to the Editor bearing the name and address of the writer. Materials submitted may be edited to improve clarity or for space purposes. Owners of items listed for sale are responsible for compliance with the laws of the ACT. CACMC accepts no liability for their condition or content.

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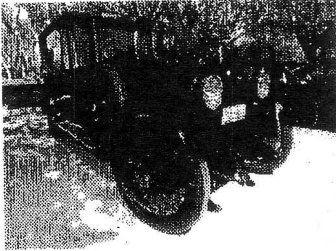
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These two new advertisements are for member Gerry Carson's son-in-law.



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# WHEELS

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