

# THE COLONIAL



Official Journal of the  
Canberra Antique & Classic Motor Club Incorporated

Annual Subscription  
Colonial \$25

1959 Ford Fairlane Skyliner  
Brian O'Donnell

Vol. 48  
March 2016



04/06/2015

## EDITOR'S PAGE

THANK YOU to those who provided articles and photos for this month's Colonial. I still have the following: Cars I have Owned and Loved by Harry Crawford. Geoff Pritchard has written about the Porsche Pre A Coupe. Graham Gittins has done a list of tools that MG Magnette owners should carry when travelling distances. All I need now are a couple of car restoration stories or stories about cars bought restored. Thank you.

### Week Day Social Lunches

Friday 4 March 12 noon and every first Friday: Sandwich lunch at the Southern Cross Club, Woden. All CACMC members welcome.



Friday 18 March Retreads car run lunch is to Brian o'Donnell's place at 3 Enderby Street, Mawson at 12 noon. Please bring your own eats, drinks and a small chair. Brian has the best collection of old phones I have ever seen in Australia or overseas. He is going to give a guided tour with a talk on the history of the most interesting phones. All club members welcome. Any enquiries to Alec McKernan on 6286 1046.

### Please Get Well

Please advise Grahame Crocket 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 Olly Walker who had a stroke early February and is not too good. Hope you get movement back on your left side, Olly.

Best wishes also to Neredah Crane who had thyroid surgery. She is home and doing well.

Also hope Lee Gaynor's carpal tunnel surgery went well.

### Plate left behind

Did you bring something for supper at the February meeting. Thank you very much and would you like your white plate returned. I have it and will bring in March if you are going to be there.

### Wheels 2016

What a saga there has been trying to set a date or firstly getting a suitable venue for Wheels. Back to our old stamping ground on lawns of OPH. So put the date of 15 May in your diaries as this is a must attend for members.

### Cruising

Graham Gittins recommends them and I certainly can too. So here's hoping Jan and David enjoy their cruise later this month. You deserve it.

See you Tuesday, Cheers, Helen

## DRAFT MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING HELD 9 FEBRUARY 2016

### Attendance

Members: 64

Visitors: 2 - Craig Robertson and Stanley van Wijk

Apologies: 3

### Welcome:

President John Senior welcomed members and visitors to the February 2016 meeting and invited Vice President Graham Waite to introduce the guest speaker.

### Guest Speaker:

Graham introduced club member Joe Micallef who made a presentation on the making of a crankshaft for a 1926 Salmson motor vehicle owned by fellow club member Wayne Smith.

### Confirmation of Minutes:

The Minutes of the January 2016 Minutes were confirmed, with one clarification. It was reported in the Minutes that vehicles were requested to attend the property of the late John Gale at Huntley. Grahame Crocket advised that the owner of Huntley John Gale was still alive and in a nursing home. Moved Joe Micallef Seconded Helen Phillips **Carried**

### Correspondence: Graham Crocket

#### IN

Car magazines (passed to Editor) - 12 and one email

#### Letters

Morris Owners Club: request to use the club's trailer for the Three Mountains Challenge on 6 March 2016 (passed to Events Coordinator)

ACT Access Canberra: Trailer registration renewal reminder (passed to Treasurer)

Commonwealth Bank: Merchant Statement (passed to Treasurer)

#### Pamphlets

National Motor Racing Museum: *Matters of the Mount* (passed to Editor)

#### Brochures

All Australian Journeys 2016-17 Tours

Experts in Everywhere touring

Invitations

National Trust of Australia (ACT) for 10 to 15 cars to attend open house day at 'Huntly' 790 Uriarra Road (Uriarra Crossing) on Saturday 6 February 2016. 10am to 3pm.

Robertson Heritage Railway Station Classic Car Day Sunday 10 April gold coin entry fee 9am -3pm. (passed to Events Coordinator)

Emails

*Reflections* (see above)

Robertson Heritage Railway Station display (see above)

Emails from G Gittins, K Carswell, R Gallagher, D Wyatt, and A McKernan expressing interest in the Beechworth tour.

Email from A McKernan requesting consideration of inclusion of Historic Winton in the Beechworth tour.

OUT

Sympathy card to Graham Boyce.

Emails to the Editor concerning Beechworth Tour and National Trust open day at 'Huntly'.

Email to A McKernan explaining that extension of the Beechworth tour to include the Historic Winton races may be too expensive

Moved Grahame Crocket Seconded Graham Bigg **Carried**

**President Report: John Senior**

Nothing to report

**Vice President: Graham Waite**

March guest speaker will be Chris Major for One M Engineering

Assistant Secretary Tony Stone will give a talk on car hoists later in the year.

**Lucky badge** draw Ticket #29 David Wyatt

**Last Run** #47 Dick Stubbs

**Treasurer's Report: Bob Judd**

Thanked Graham Bigg for looking after the Treasurer's job while Bob was overseas.

Current Balance \$10 646:67

Moved Bob Judd Seconded: Roger Amos. **Carried**

**Editor: Helen Phillips**

All for sales removed from last Colonial. Please ask if you want to run your ad again. Need restoration stories or stories of newly acquired cars with photo for front cover. Have plenty of other material.

**Events Director: Jan Wyatt**

Chicken and Bubbly event very successful

Ten vehicles attended the National Trust day at Huntly

February 14 run to Captains Flat hotel – typical pub food. Meet Spotlight car park 10.00am

March 15 Botanic Gardens morning tea Meet 9am for 9.15 departure at Governor- Generals Look out.

March 6 Morris Owners Group Three Mountains Challenge

April 3 National Trust Forestry House Yarralumla

April 16 Wheels at Wamboin

May 15 Shannons Wheels lawns Old Parliament House

June open to suggestions for a lunch somewhere

July Weekend away possibly to Temora details at March meeting

**Raffle** ticket # Green 100 – Roger Phillips

**Super coordinator: Clive Glover**

All Ok

**Registrar: Bob Alexander**

Twenty two cars checked for the month. Alec McKernan 13

**Librarian: Joe Micallef**

Books donated by Roger Phillips.

**Membership Secretary: Joe Vavra**

No report

**Shop Manager: Norm Brennen**

Usual regalia and register of members for sale

**Information Officer: David Wyatt**

For sales on board. Magazines on back tables.

**Council Delegate: Roger Amos**

No report Council meeting suspended

Has a number of magazines for members free

**Publishing Committee: Dave Byers**

Because of the Australia postage rate increase from 1 January 2016 our costs for the Colonial postage have risen by \$15.

**General Business****Graham Crocket**

Has 12 entrants for trip to Beechworth

Roger Amos advised that Wheels will be held on Sunday 15 May at Old Parliament House lawns. BMW Club is organising.

**Joe Micallef**

Advised that a club member Chennupati Jagadish received an award (AC) in the Australia Day list. *(Was in February Colonial Ed)*

**Graham Waite**

Senior's Expo 17 March at Thoroughbred Park. Parking in same place as last year.

**Michael Toole**

Advised that vehicles on CRS and insured by NRMA will need to advise NRMA if the vehicle is being used for more than 10 days at any one time. NSW 60 day trial means that if you have three cars registered on CRS in NSW you can use the cars for a total of 180 days. Worry is if the ACT Government follow NSW, they will discover how much revenue they will forego and probably put up the cost of registering CRS vehicles.

**Alan Martin**

Registered his Chevrolet under the 60 day scheme total cost \$51

He and Charlie Adams paid a visit to Gunning to view about 100 Mercedes Benz vehicles

**Jack Press**

Spotted about 10 Rover motor cars at Westbourne Woods

**Alan Boate**

Advised that he had purchased a Land Rover made in 1990 at Brookvale, near Manly

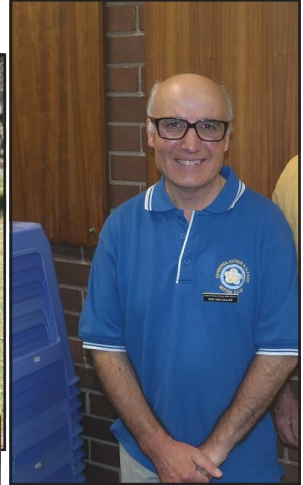
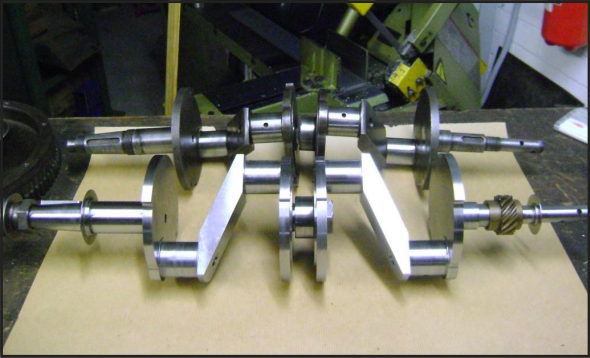


## Graham Gittins

Advised the background to the change in the location and date of Wheels. He advised that nine members travelled in a mini bus to Parramatta Park to view the CARnival vehicles on display on Australia Day. Was cheaper than going with Murrays and mini bus already booked for next year.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm

Graham Gittins, Minute secretary



Joe Micallef and the crankshaft he manufactured for the 1926 Salmson.

L: The old and the new.

When asked what he would say if he was asked to make another one, Joe was emphatic NO.

Barbara Phillips and the Terribly British Day trophy she won for her 1963 Anglia.



## CLUB RUN TO CAPTAINS FLAT, SUNDAY 14 FEB 2016

Approximately 50 Club members and guests travelled in convoy to Captains Flat after first meeting up at the Spotlight carpark in Queanbeyan. The object was a pleasant mid-distance run to an historic area and lunch at the old hotel.

The morning was sunny, and the usual technical interest was in evidence as several bonnets were opened in the carpark to enable expert comment on their contents. One newly-acquired vehicle, Alan and Gail Boate's nice Army Landrover Defender, was given the thumbs-up by those knowledgeable on the marque.

The road to Captains Flat varies in quality, and the bumps and dips were felt keenly in the '29 Hudson as it traversed them at a conservative 45 MPH. Other sections are of better standard. The scenery is pleasant and some vistas, especially past the Hoskinstown turnoff, are beautiful.

On arrival about 35 minutes later, members parked along the main street near the hotel, and after inspecting several notable buildings, convened for lunch. Some even had a pre-lunch coffee at the Outsider Coffee Lounge or admired the artworks in the associated Gallery.

The Captains Flat Hotel was built in the 1930's, replacing an older structure. Originally, the town had five hotels, supporting a large mining population. It is a large rambling building with rooms for accommodation, and a saloon boasting a bar which was reputed originally to be the longest in the Southern Hemisphere. Our Club members faced a choice of areas to lunch in and eventually gathered in the main dining room, side dining room or the beer garden. Or the bar, naturally.

The large gathering probably created some catering difficulties, but from reports the wait was worth it and the price was certainly right. A box of chocolates was won by the McKernan family in an attendance raffle conducted by Events Director Jan Wyatt.

By the way, the mysterious ability of a schooner of beer to stay suspended on the vertical tiles in the right-angled corner of the bar wall was demonstrated to me by a patron. All he did was push it firmly upwards. I photographed this phenomenon, which always stumps the unbelieving visitor! The locals guard the secret, which was passed down by ancestors and has entered the realm of folklore. Apparently it stems from the inability of miners in a very crowded bar room to find a place to keep their beer safe while they visited the dunny. Long ago a drinker accidentally discovered this unusual feature, and, as they say, the rest is history.

A person with an enquiring mind may wonder whether earlier reports of



this inexplicable event may have prompted efforts to confirm Einstein's gravity waves theory!

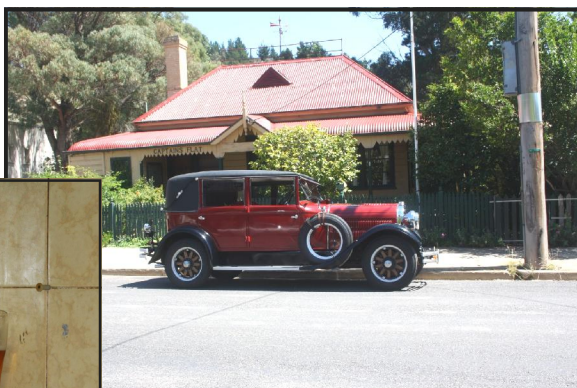
After lunch, people moved off in stages, several of us having a coffee and look-see at the artwork and the fascinating garden which features nooks and crannies filled with welded metal sculptures and other oddities in the Outsider Gallery.

The Hudson and John Nielsen's Falcon were the last to depart. A side wind had sprung up which made steering even more interesting, but the eighty-seven year old made it back without missing a beat. No bits and pieces or forlornly-opened bonnets were seen on the return trip, so the outing probably was trouble-free for other participants as well. This seems to be confirmed as no "failures to proceed" have been reported to date.

Bob Garrett.

*Thanks to Bob for organising a very successful outing. Jan.*

*Bob Garrett's Hudson*



*Beer glass holder*



*At lunch Clive and Merilyn, Keith and Heather. Presumably Graham and Lilly were ordering.*





*Jack Press' FC Holden and Graham Bigg's TR2.*

*See Part 3 of the TR2 story on next page.*

*1959 Cadillac of Roger and Barbara Phillips, 1969 Valiant of Brett Coyne and John de la Torre's Mercedes.*



*Alan Boate's recently acquired Landrover Defender.*

## MY TR2 PART 3

*The quest for mechanical excellence*

**Part 1** of this story was first seen in **THE COLONIAL** in Jan 1999 and reprinted in the Nov 2015 edition.

**Part 2** was seen in the **COLONIAL** in May 2011 detailing more issues revealed and overcome during a major refurbishment which resulted in the “re branding” of the car as **BARNSEY** (Had a hard life and a few big hits but looking good and sounding great)

**Since Part 2** was written the car has covered some 4000 miles quite reliably.

Vehicle manufacturers of this era typically recommended a inspection, grease & oil change each 1000 miles, a minor service and “tune up” each 5 or 6000 miles and a major service at 10 or 12000 miles. Regular inspection and minor maintenance is still required on our old cars despite the vast improvements in lubricants and bearing materials. Even cars kept under a cover and in the garage will deteriorate unless properly prepared, maintained and occasionally driven.

So 2 or 3 times a year I lift the car up on to safety stands to check the underside for leaks, loose bolts and other signs of wear, grease all points, check brake adjustment and tyre condition etc. As my car is British there have been numerous oil leaks appear which have been systematically cured with regular applications of time, gaskets, gasket cement, silicone and locktite on the retaining bolts. Other items found include coolant leaks, leaking water pump seal, leaking in line brake light switch and front hub grease seals.

During the engine rebuild mentioned in Part 2 the carburettors, distributor and starter motor were overhauled, the radiator re cored and the complete exhaust system and ignition coil were replaced to minimise the chance of later problems.

Until the 2015 Awards night the only *failure to proceed* was caused by the failure of the new ignition coil. Fortunately it was only a short walk to MOTOR SPARES in Mitchell to obtain a replacement then *proceed*. Naturally on the first club outing after receiving the Award **BARNSEY** suffered a blockage in the fuel line from the tank to the pump. *How embarrassing.*

Although I have acquired sufficient skills to enable me to carry out almost all of this work myself, I have obviously made the odd mistake and taken the wrong road occasionally, I have enjoyed owning this car, despite the challenges convincing it to live up to its name. Winning Awards was never my aim but it is much appreciated.

Now you have a mud map, who will be next?      Graham Bigg



## WHEELS 2016 NEW DATE AND LOCATION

The Council of ACT Motor Clubs together with the BMW Car Club Canberra has announced that the Shannons Wheels 2016 vehicle display will be held on the lawns of Old Parliament House on **Sunday 15 May 2016**.

Council Events Director, Graeme Rossiter, said the change of date from March and the new location were made following discussions with the National Capital Authority (NCA).

"The new location around in front of Old Parliament House is a great location for a vehicle display and can accommodate easily up to 800 vehicles," Mr Rossiter said.

"The change of date has been necessary because other events being held in venues controlled by the NCA," he added.

The annual Wheels display is the Council of ACT Motor Club's major charity fundraiser and the 2016 charity is the Technical Aid for the Disabled (TADACT) who repair, adapt and design equipment for people with disabilities, using a volunteer work force.

The BMW Car Club which celebrates its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2016 will organise this year's Wheels event on behalf of the Council of ACT Motor Clubs.

Wheels 2016 is expected to attract vehicles from all of the 75 clubs affiliated to the Council as well as vehicles from interstate.

For further information contact Council Publicity Officer

Graham Gittins 0419 249 109 email: [gittins @iinet.net.au](mailto:gittins@iinet.net.au)

## **NATIONAL TRUST OPEN DAY - YARRALUMLA FORESTRY HERITAGE PRECINCT      *Sunday 3 April 10am-3pm***

Did you know Canberra was once home to the Australian Forestry School which trained many professional foresters?

The former Australian Forestry School played a significant role in the development of forestry in Australia and is significant for its architectural design, its contribution to the townscape and its place in the early social history of Canberra.

The Forestry Precinct comprises about 11 hectares of land that includes the former Australian Forestry School, Forestry House (residential accommodation), an oval, plant nursery and arboretum. Buildings in the precinct are now tenanted by CSIRO and other tenants. The Forestry School building is a fine example of the Inter-War Stripped Classical style of architecture and has a magnificent central domed hall. The timbers used in the building are examples from every Australian state and an effort has been made in the design to use otherwise common timbers in a decorative way.

Nearby in Banks St, Westridge House (also known as the Tudor House) was built in 1927 as the residence of the Principal of the Australian Forestry School. The house is a unique blend of Tudor Revival style and radical functionalism. It is now a private residence.

The ACT branch of the Australian Institute of Foresters, including a number of former students of the Forestry School in Yarralumla, will be on hand to guide you around the area, some of the buildings and tell you about the history of the Forestry School. There will also be a range of other activities for all ages, displays from local community organisations and activities for the kids. Some classic cars, and even some trucks, will be there. During the day we will have singers and dancers and refreshments such as devonshire teas, icecreams and a sausage sizzle.

***Location: Banks St, Yarralumla***

***Gold coin donation, bookings not required***



Australian Government  
Department of the Environment



Hi Helen  
An alternate run for the Club. Last year it was a good event.  
Cheers  
Ray Gallagher

**From:** Peter Evans [mailto:civildesign@bigpond.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 4, 2016 10:29 PM  
**To:** civildesign@bigpond.com.au  
**Subject:** Wheels of Wamboin 2016

## **Wheels of Wamboin 2016**

Just a note to inform you that the 2016 Wheels of Wamboin will be held on Saturday April 16th - from 9.00am to 1.00pm. The event will be held at the Wamboin Hall, Bingley Way Wamboin (off Norton Road via Sutton Road).

Last year we had about 85 cars and hope to build on these numbers to break 100. The beauty of the Wheels of Wamboin is the huge variety from all marques in a truly country atmosphere. All sorts of automotive machines including old, new and interesting cars, motor bikes, trucks and even tractors are welcome.

It would be great for you or your club to join us for a true automotive day out in the country. It's not far and a great little drive to stretch some legs and a good chance to talk all things automotive.

A bonus on the day is the opportunity to pick up some healthy bargains at the monthly home produce markets. There will also be freshly brewed coffee and the local Wamboin RFS will also be running a BBQ. If you are interested in displaying your automotive masterpiece please email [peter.evans@wamboincommunity.asn.au](mailto:peter.evans@wamboincommunity.asn.au) to confirm your attendance.

Display entry is a gold coin donation and swap tables (provided) are \$5 (remember to bring your cash as there is no EFTPOS). There is only one trophy for the day "People's Choice".

Please spread the word and start the polishing.

Regards  
Peter Evans  
T: 0427 699 118  
E: [civildesign@bigpond.com](mailto:civildesign@bigpond.com)



## BEECHWORTH TOUR

### 16 to 21 May 2016

A week long run to Beechworth and surrounds in NE Victoria has been arranged in May to catch the autumn colours.

The stop on the first night is at Tumbarumba, on 16 May thence via Corryong to Beechworth for four nights. Ten ground floor rooms have been reserved at the **Club Motel** Winton Street opposite the bowling club. Meals at the bowling club can be charged to the room. Double room cost \$110.00.

In Beechworth ten ground floor rooms have been reserved staying at the **George Kerford Hotel** at Mayday Hills at a cost of \$110.00 per night per room including a continental breakfast. Those wishing to take part must book directly with the hotel by 24 March 2016. Please speak to Laura or Julie when booking.

Mayday Hills is the site of the former Beechworth Lunatic Asylum (1867) originally set in 106 hectares of farmland. It is now owned by La Trobe Beechworth Pty Ltd and managed by La Trobe University.

Tours to include Yackandandah, Mt Beauty, Myrtleford, Bright, Milawa, Wangaratta and other sites will be arranged. There is much to see in Beechworth and the surrounding area and participants can choose to visit whatever interests them.

Return to Canberra on 21 May via Chiltern, Wodonga, Albury and Gundagai. Depending on the extent of each individual's tour interests approximately 1200 to 1400kms might be travelled.

The tour itinerary with possible stops for morning teas and lunches will be provided together with tourist information for those interested. Five couples have already expressed interest.

Contacts: Grahame Crocket: [grahame.crocket@outlook.com](mailto:grahame.crocket@outlook.com)  
Sue Davis: [suedee1@bigpond.com](mailto:suedee1@bigpond.com)

## CA&CMC EVENTS CALENDAR—2016

DATE	CONTACT	DETAILS
13 Mar	Jan Wyatt 6286 1782  0400 603686	We will visit the National Botanic Gardens for morning tea/brunch. Although it is the Canberra Day weekend there might still be a few members in town. Then you can go on to do other things or stroll through the gardens. Meet at the Governor-General's lookout, Lady Denman Drive at 9 am to leave at 9.15 am. A table will be booked at the café for 9.30 am. Bring some change for parking at the gardens, \$3 for an hour, proceeds go to the gardens.
3 Apr	Jan Wyatt 6286 1782  0400 603686	<p>We have been asked by the Heritage Council to participate in the National Trust open day display at the Yarralumla Forestry School. Please note this is not our usual date for a monthly event, but we had to fit in with what the Heritage Council had organized. We will make this our monthly run. A flyer can be viewed on page 17.</p> <p>Those attending are asked to assemble at 9.15 am in the parking area next to the YMCA Sailing Club, Alexandrina Drive (where we have our Christmas BBQ), so that we go as a group.</p>
15 May		<p>This date (National Motoring Heritage Day) has just been confirmed as the new date for Wheels 2016 to be held on lawns of Old Parliament House. BMW Car Club will organize on behalf of the Council of ACT Motor Clubs. See page 16. As we receive more information we will advertise it.</p> <p><b>Please note:</b> We will <b>NOT</b> take the BBQ trailer this year as we encourage members to support the charity operators selling food/coffee.</p>
19 Jun	Jan Wyatt 6286 1782  0400 603686	Meet at Eaglehawk Resort, Federal Highway at 9 am to leave at 9.30 am and drive to Gundaroo for morning tea and/or a stroll along the main street. At 11 am we will proceed to Gunning for lunch at one of the eating places, either the pub or one of the cafes of your choice.

## EXTRA RUNS AND SWAP MEETS—2016

DATE	CONTACT	DETAILS
5 Mar	Bev Hatch 4832 0999	Crookwell Potato Festival Email: woodbarn@iinet.net.au
6 Mar		Morris Owners Group Three Mountain Challenge
6 March	0467 286 464	Wellington Vintage Fair and Swap Meet at the showground
Thursday 17 Mar	Graham Waite 6288 4675	Seniors Expo at Thoroughbred Park same spot as last year just outside the pavilion
18-20 Mar	Brett Goyne 0423 089 429	24th Annual Chryslers on the Murray 45th anniversary of the Valiant Charger. An excellent car show and the largest Chrysler Show outside the USA. Wodonga
19 Mar	Felicity Poyser 0431 394 290	Sutton Country Fair & Car Carnival to raise funds for the local school. There is a registration form at <a href="http://suttonps.com.au">suttonps.com.au</a> or ask Events Director Jan Wyatt for a copy.
19 Mar	Maureen Howe 6205 9365	Connect and Participate Expo at Kingston Markets 11 am to 4 pm <a href="http://www.connectandparticipateexpo.com.au">www.connectandparticipateexpo.com.au</a>
20 March	Kevin Sharp 02 6386 5136	Harden Historic Truck & Tractor Club 3rd Annual Truck and Tractor Show at Harden Murrumburrah Showgrounds, Woolrych St.
20 March		Royalla Country Fair, 10 am—3 pm Royalla Common, 317 Royalla Drive. Register for Show'n'Shine at Royalla Country Fair 25 per vehicle.
Mar 25-28		Bush Council Easter Rally hosted by Temora Antique Motor Club, Nixon Park, Gallipoli St, Temora
3 April		Goulburn Swap Meet
3 April	Geoff Hall 6278 5182	Auto Italia on lawns of Old Parliament House. Alfesta 2016 will be held over Easter and hosted by AROCA SA at The Barn, Mt Gambier

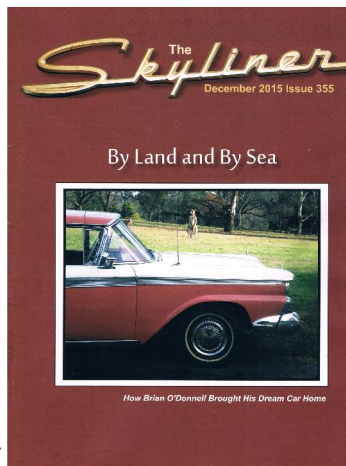
## THE STORY OF MY CAR

### 1959 Ford Fairlane Skyliner

#### Brian O'Donnell

When I joined the International Ford Retractable Club, located in the U.S., I was asked by the President if I would write an article about my car and include some photos for the club's "Skyliner" magazine. To give my article an Australian flavour I took photographs at Weston Park with kangaroos in the background.

My article was published in the December issue of the magazine with a photo of my car on the cover with a large kangaroo in the background. The following is the article that was published in the magazine, I used "trunk" instead of boot and miles instead of kilometers to avoid confusing the American readers.



In the early 1980's I restored a 1960 Australian built Ford Fairlane 500, right hand drive of course. Fairlane's were built in Australia in 1959, 60 and 61, they were produced in 4 door Custom 300 and Fairlane 500 sedans as well as a 4 door Ranch Wagon. The 59 models were identical to the models produced in the US while the 60 and 61 models used the Canadian Meteor grille with square rather than star inserts.

I took my Fairlane to an All Ford Day in Sydney in about 1983 and was awe struck to see an immaculate red and white 59 Skyliner on display, roof half erected and surrounded by an admiring crowd. I did not know such cars existed and thought how wonderful it would be to own one but as they were valued at 5 to 10 times the cost of my sedan thought they would always be beyond my reach.

Twenty five years on and retired, I still dreamed of owning a retractable and had it as number one on my bucket list. Eventually I decided to be brave and start the search for a 59 Skyliner. There are very few Retractable's in Australia and rarely come up for sale, when I started my search the only one for sale needed fairly major restoration, I was after a car that had been restored and did not need major work. After searching the internet for some time I came across a car that could possibly suit my needs, it was on Ebay, I placed a bid which did not meet the reserve but eventually bought it for the "Buy it now" price. The seller was a car dealer in Boise Idaho.

According to the dealer the car came from Oregon where the previous owner had owned it for 40 years and had completed a “body off” restoration and that the engine had been rebuilt by a retired Ford mechanic. The colour was Geranium and White and was a Fairlane rather than a Galaxie. I arranged an independent inspection of the vehicle asking the inspector to pay particular attention to the bodywork and quality of restoration as well as the operation of the roof. The report was reasonably positive and included many photos and a video of the roof operation. The report indicated a minor oil leak from the rear main bearing and “looseness” in the steering. I discussed these issues with the seller who denied there was an oil leak at the rear main bearing and that he had been driving the car to work each day and the steering was perfect. As I was more concerned with issues with the bodywork and operation of the roof rather than mechanical problems I decided to go ahead with the purchase.

The process of importing a car into Australia can be a little daunting, an Australian government permit must be obtained before the car can be shipped but the permit cannot be applied for until the car has been purchased and receipts submitted with the application. In my case the import approval took a frustratingly long 5 weeks. I arranged with a shipper to send the car via container from their base in Orange California to Australia. The dealer in Boise arranged to have the car shipped to Orange, a journey of 5 days door to door. After 7 days the car had not arrived with the shipper and I was a little worried that my car could be driving around in Mexico, to my relief it eventually arrived.

After 3 weeks “on the water” my car arrived with my shipper, he had a small problem with the customs/quarantine people who could not work out how to open the trunk, eventually the problem was solved and the vehicle cleared. I was very happy when I first saw the car, gleaming paintwork and chrome with original interior in good condition. The shipper told me he had noticed oil dripping from the rear main bearing, the power steering not working and the steering very sloppy. Very easy to tell people what they want to hear when they are on the other side of the world. The drive of over 400 kilometres (240 miles) to my home in Canberra was rather stressful with free-play in the steering and the steering wheel being on the wrong side of the car for Australia, otherwise the car seemed to be in good mechanical condition.

The car had 1500 miles on the speedometer, I was told that was the distance it had travelled since the restoration. My car is a 332 with 4 barrel carby and 3 speed auto, does not have air conditioning or power windows. I believe it had been restored some time ago as the brake wheel cylinders were leaking even though they appeared to have been replaced and the brake linings were as new. The leak from the main bearing is only minor and not a problem.

The steering was my biggest problem, the fluid from the power steering had leaked out through the control valve and caused serious damage to the pump. The pump was repaired but several attempts by “experts” to fix the control valve failed. After a long search I eventually sourced a new one from the US. The body and frame are in good condition but it has never had a body off restoration.

Overall I am quite happy with the car, it is fully road registered and I use it regularly and have travelled over 7,000 trouble free miles in the 18 months it has been on the road. As these vehicles are rare in Australia it creates a lot of interest at car shows. I have also fitted a Continental kit and wheel covers. I am now quite comfortable driving with the steering wheel on the “wrong side”. The Skyliner is quite a contrast to my other classic car a 1962 Morris Minor pickup.



The Skyliner generated a lot of interest at Marques in the Park with the top down.





## SUMMERNATS 2016

They are brightly coloured, they are loud, they attract attention, they are typical of the vehicles entered in Rev Head Alley aka Summernats.

*Thanks to Graham Gittins for the pictorial story.*



But then on Sunday our type of vehicles are invited to put on a display.

*Phil Cancillier's 1939 Buick Business Coupe*



*Who owns this Dodge 6 on full rego?*

## CHERRY PICKING and OTHER STUFF

This adventure started with Grahame wanting to pick cherries. He thought he might make jam and perhaps a cherry pie.

Discovering that the Young Heritage Motor Club was joining in the 2015 Young Cherry Festival on 4, 5 and 6 December with an event staged by AutoPro and the Young Shire Council allowed the use of one of his concessional registered cars to attend, so off we went on the Friday morning about 10am. The drive from Canberra through Boorowa was pleasant enough apart from encountering five caravans running a little slower than the Ferrari.

Arriving in about two hours at the cherry orchard after some uncertainty and a wrong turn or two in Young, we were instructed how and where to pick cherries (including eating as many as you like). One must not damage the mother stalk, so picking cherries became a careful business except that the cherries did not co-operate. Being so ripe they tended to fall off into one's hand with just a touch. The owner insisted we should pick them with their own small stalks attached. This was because they looked really pretty and could be hung behind one's ear. Nevertheless within a very few minutes I had a half bucket full and Grahame was not far behind. The tree still looked as though there had been no one near it, so full of fruit was it. I remarked to his lordship that I thought we had enough - 'Yes' he said and continued picking like a man on a mission. Five minutes later and lots more cherries - 'Grahame we have enough' - he reluctantly came away from the tree, but still eating some. We picked five and a half kilos at a cost of \$40.

Because picking cherries had taken so little time in the afternoon Grahame decided to do some sketching. The subject he selected more because he could sit under the shade of a tree rather than the aspect, was the Soldiers' Memorial Clock Tower. Interestingly it told four different versions of the time but struck each hour with precision and accuracy.

The main car event was to be held on the Saturday so we had booked into the Young Federation Motor Inn which is owned by the Young Services Club across the road. Consequently guests automatically become members of the club with use of the facilities. The weather was very hot and the Motor Inn had a pool and 'blast it' we didn't bring our swimmers and there were too many people around to go skinny dipping. So we took ourselves off for lunch and supper at the club, consoled by some bubbles and a red wine.

The following morning it was again hot and we had to be at Autoco by 8.30am for the static display. Guess what we had for breakfast - yes cherries!!

There was a variety of cars mostly street machines (Summernats at Young) and at registration one could opt to be judged in up to three of about 10 categories. The Ferrari was entered in best sports car, best original condition and longest travelled more in hope than expectation. Well at 2pm the winners were announced and the Ferrari won P J Fast Foods best sports car.

Grahame was taken by some of the cars entered particularly the Hupmobile, an Auburn, a Mercedes SL, a Triumph TR7 and a Mustang fastback. Then cars were asked to proceed to a marshalling point for the street parade to commence at 4pm.

Well, on reaching the marshalling point we found that unlike some in Gilbert and Sullivan's *Mikado*, we were not on any list, even one prepared by the Lord High Executioner. We therefore could not take part in the parade. This suited the Ferrari because travelling at 5kph on a hot day for about three quarters of an hour would have severely tested its capabilities. It may even have decided not to proceed. So at about 3pm we departed Young aiming to go retrace our route, expecting to arrive in Canberra at about 5pm.

Although a sign to Boorowa was seen in the main street, Grahame in his infinite wisdom decided to take the scenic route via Cowra. Much to his surprise this involved a far longer journey, adding over an hour to the return run and raised the likelihood of a petrol crisis. Luckily this did not occur although the gauge was very low when Deakin hove into sight.

The abiding lessons are that Grahame's sense of direction should not be trusted, the Ferrari would appear to have a range of about 360kms and that picking cherries and attending the AutoPro car display in December is terrific fun. We will return.

Susan Davis



## CHRISTMAS CRUISE - Graham Gittins

One of the highlights for us on a 2015 Christmas cruise to New Zealand was the visit to Napier. The town was levelled by an earthquake in 1931, but shortly after rebuilt in the Art Deco style. The town obtains a good deal of its income off cruise ships which call in to see the buildings. The local car club provides tours in their cars of the era and many of the residents dress in clothes of the times.

The 12 day cruise was a delightful way of spending Christmas, no bed making, no cooking, everything was done for you. The cruise becomes an eat-athon with full cooked breakfast, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner all there for the taking and the service is impeccable.

Each evening there was a live performance ranging from dancing, singing, comedians (some better than others). For the fit and sports minded, there was the pool, rock wall, and flowave. Extremely popular were the ice shows where ten professional ice skaters danced and twirled around a quite small ice rink. Children are taken off parents hands during the daytime and have their own program of entertainment and activities.

We were on the Royal Caribbean *Voyager of the Seas*, built in 1999 and was the biggest ship of its time at that time around 132 000 tons – it is a big ship, bigger than any of the United States Navy aircraft carriers. Tony and Sue Roberts were also on board and Tony calculated that we had walked to the various venues for meals and entertainment about 5-6 kilometres. (*Was that each day??*)

Shore excursions, apart from the Napier tour, were all excellent with the main attractions of each town/city visited given with expert commentary. We took excursions at Picton, Wellington, Napier and Auckland. We decided to not to do the Tauranga tour instead going ashore and doing our own thing. This proved rather expensive for me, as I purchased two motoring books for total cost \$NZ105 – still it was Christmas!

Biggest shock of all was the price of 91 octane petrol which varied between \$NZ1.78 (\$AU1.68) and \$NZ1.85 (\$AU1.75) a litre.

If you have not tried cruising at Christmas or other times of the year, Heather and I can recommend it, relaxing, interesting, comfortable and not all expensive all things considered.

## CARnivale Australia Day Parramatta Park 2016

Nine club members made the trip to Parramatta to attend the CARnivale vehicle display on Australia day. The event moved from Macquarie Street in the city to Parramatta Park where up to 600 cars, and commercial vehicles were displayed.

The intrepid nine hired a Toyota Coaster Mini bus to travel in for the day departing Dickson College car park at 7.00am and arriving back in Canberra around 6.30pm. They stopped at Sutton Forest service facility on both the way up and the return journeys. The trip went without incident. Alec McKernan and Graham Gittins took the wheel alternatively.

As the bus was over height, it would not fit in the secure (closed) car parks in Parramatta but being a public holiday the bus was parked on the street without the worry of being booked.

The event attracted a huge crowd of people with entrants from Sydney car clubs, north and south coast car clubs and the Penrith Museum of Fire attended with a variety of appliances. Vehicles ranged from a 1902 replica Rambler to Morris Minors, Studebakers and a very rare Bayliss Thomas. The vehicles were mostly well prepared and fine examples of their marque. It was commented that there were no Lagondas, MG Magnettes or Austin A30s on display.

All agreed it was worth the effort of an early morning start to attend and indicated they would be interested in make the trip in 2017 and on this basis the mini bus has been booked for next year's event.

Those who attended were: Alec McKernan, Bob Garrett, Charlie Adams, Dave Byers, Graham Gittins, Joe Micallef, John de la Torre and Norm Brennan.

*Thanks to Graham Gittins*

*Joe and Charlie on the wander*

*There were a lot more good pictures of vehicles that I may use another issue.*



## 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.)*

Metal Cutting Lathe. Fisher brand Chinese made.

1.5 HP Single phase. Lathe weighs 480 KG. Drop centre piece for large diameter turning such as flywheels, max distance between centres is 900 MM, max swing over bed is 305 MM.

Comes with 3 and 4 jaw chucks which have quick release cam locks which makes removal easy. Also face plates, magnetic dial gauge, and various other tools. Lathe sits on tool box base. Lathe is like new having been used for about 200 hours in all. Age and ill health forces the sale.

\$2,000 or near offer.

Contact Alec McKernan phone 6286 1046

Epcotrolley jack circa late 1950s estimate capacity 1 ton, orange colour, original condition. Contact Bryan Harris-Mayes 02 6294 4552

[harrismayes@bigpond.com](mailto:harrismayes@bigpond.com)

This is Jack's son Tim, I just wanted to let the club know that Dad's 525e BMW is for sale for the best offer. The car is out of rego, but runs well, has a good automatic gearbox and drips no oil. A few cosmetic details require attention, all panels straight with no dents or dings.

You can email me or phone 62862412 or 0432 312163.

Email: [htouston@gmail.com](mailto:htouston@gmail.com)

Thank you very much. if you need any more info please don't hesitate to contact me. Sincerely, Tim Houston

**1970 Mercedes-Benz 280S Saloon**, automatic, was on ACT club rego until a month ago, needs cylinder head gasket replaced. A sound club car for a mechanically minded member. Please contact Juan de la Torre on 0427 480 671. Asking \$1,000 ono.



### **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)



## 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.)*

### Ford Model “A” parts for sale

1930	Steering Wheel	\$ 80.00
28/30	Open Car Rear Window Frames	\$ 50.00 to \$ 100.00
28/30	Shock Arms – Painted ready to install	\$ 100.00
28/29	Radiator Splash Panel	\$ 45.00
28/30	Seat Risers	\$ 20.00
28/29	Set of Front & Rear Bumpers Re-Chromed	\$ 450.00
28/29	Dash Rails – Open & Closed	\$ 110.00
28/29	Rear Bumpers	\$ 30.00 Pair
28/29	Battery Boxes	\$10.00 each
28/30	Tail Light Brackets excellent	\$ 20.00 each
28	Chassis Centre Cross Member	\$ 50.00
28/30	Front & Rear Mudguard Brackets	\$ 20.00 - \$80.00 pair
28/29	Front Door Sills – Excellent	\$ 150.00 pair
28/29	Rear Door Sills – Very Good	\$ 125.00 pair
28/29	Timber Sub Frame – Tourer	FTGH
30	Spare Tyre Bracket – Side Mount	\$ 30.00
28/29	Headlight Bar – Excellent	\$ 125.00
28/30	Window Regulators – New Repo	\$ 75.00
28/29	Tudor Sedan Seat Timber & Steel Frame	\$ 50.00
28/30	Light Switch Body's with Contacts	\$ 10.00 each

Various Mechanical Parts – Water Pumps, Gearboxes, Generators, Stub Axles, 28 Steering Boxes, Flywheel Housings, Exhaust Manifolds, Steering Arms & Starters.

Free to good home 1928-29 complete rear differential assembly, front axles, wishbones, engine block, flywheel and bell housing.

Contact for the above, Dave Slater 0412-59-3535 prefer after 7:00 PM. Some parts located in Wodonga and some in Melbourne. Call for a description and condition.

Our Registrar Bob Alexander had a call from a man looking for a 1920's project. Budget \$5,000. Anything out there?  
Contact Bob on phone 6235 5845 or mobile 0417 880 064  
Email: rjacgs@hotmail.com

**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 2016-17

DATE	CONTACT	DETAILS
10 April	Bob 0417 043 940	Robertson Heritage Railway Station Classic Car Day 9 am to 3.30 pm, gold coin car entry.
17 April	Jim 02 6944 1495	South West Clubs Get-together at Gundagai Showgrounds. BBQ lunch \$10 RSVP by 3 April
6-8 May	0428 846 316 Virginia Mather	Dubbo Antique Motor Club Autumn Tour 2016 for pre-1931 vehicles
28-29 May		40th Historic Winton conducted by the Austin 7 Club with assistance from Historic Motorcycle Assn Vic. See inside front cover.
10-13 June	0407 145 525	Wagga Wagga Veteran & Vintage Motor Club 2016 June Rally <a href="http://www.wvvmcinc.wordpress.com">www.wvvmcinc.wordpress.com</a>
Sep 2016	Ivan Slavich 0414 514 555	Motoring event organised on behalf of Camp Quality—Classic Car & Bike Cruise 4 Camp Quality to be held on a Sunday in September 2016, with 18 September firming as a possible date. More information to come.
18-22 May <b>2017</b>		Council of Heritage Motor Clubs NSW annual rally—Albury/Wodonga

## ROCK RALLY Mark 2 2017

Twenty-one expressions of interest have been received for the Club's Rock Rally Tour 2017. A meeting was held on Monday 27 July to get things under way. Contact is Graham Gittins on 0419 249 109 or email: [gittins@iinet.net.au](mailto:gittins@iinet.net.au)

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

**The By-Laws 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 and you must get it listed in the Colonial. Remember this also applies if you are going to an event with a one make club you belong to, but your car is registered through CACMC.**

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

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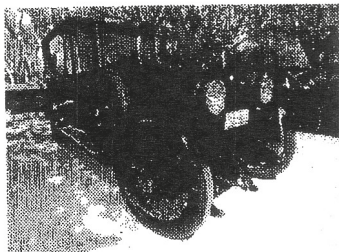
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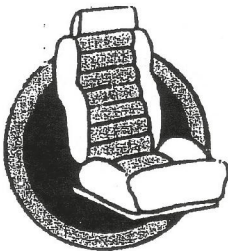
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These two new advertisements are for member Gerry Carson's son-in-law.



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