

# THE COLONIAL



Official Journal of the  
Canberra Antique & Classic Motor Club Incorporated

Annual Subscription  
Colonial \$25

1932 Chevrolet BA Roadster  
Dave & Julie Semmens

Vol. 49  
Dec 2016-Jan2017

Looks good with the hood down



## EDITOR'S PAGE

I JUST NEED a couple of car restoration stories OR stories about cars bought restored and a picture for the cover. Especially from those of you who won awards in August 2016. Thank you to those who provided articles for this month, especially all the run reports. And thank you for reducing size of photos—saves me a lot of time.

I'm surprised I haven't had anything about the Queanbeyan Swap Meet and the American Car Nationals. And what about the Yass Classic???

In the February Colonial, Peter Hoskin will tell you about the British Classic car he has acquired since selling the AC.

### Week Day Social Lunches

Friday 2 December 12 noon

Friday 6 January 2017

Friday 3 February and every first Friday:

Sandwich lunch at the Southern Cross Club, Woden.

Friday 16 December—NO Retreads run, go on the Club run on Saturday 17th to Mount Stromlo for morning tea/brunch.

Friday 20 January Meet at 11am at the Rotunda at the Cotter, this is early to avoid possible demand on the site. It is a shady spot for cars too. Bring a picnic lunch. All club members welcome.

Any enquiries to Alec McKernan on 6286 1046.



### Please Get Well

Please advise Gerry Walker 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.

### Congratulations

Have heard that Alec and Anne will be celebrating 50 years of marriage.

### Not the Norm

There are a few things, like meetings and events out of the norm for the months of December and January, so make sure you note the details on your calendar. There will be no January Colonial.

Sorry I didn't make the event on Sunday 27 November. This was my weekend for doing the next Colonial. Will see you at the BBQ on 13/12.

### Time to start nagging

Coming up in March is a MUST ATTEND event—our Wheels display day. My nag is "Get a sign for your vehicle". For a gold coin, Roger Amos will make you a simple A4 one and laminate it. Club name, make of vehicle, your name. See Roger's name on page 3. Cheers, Helen

## MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING 8 NOVEMBER 2016

### Attendance

Members: 45

Apologies: 7

Visitors: 1

### Welcome

President John Senior welcomed members and visitors to the November meeting and proceeded to present Chris Berry with his Life membership badge.

### Guest Speaker

Vice President Graham Waite introduced John Jervis who gave a fascinating presentation on the convict Towrang Stockade north of Goulburn.

### Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the October General Meeting were confirmed without amendment. Moved: Alec McKernan Seconded: Ken Walker Carried

### Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

### Correspondence - Gerry Walker

IN

9 Newsletters

CBA Merchant Statement

CBA Monthly fee

Shannons Auction notice

For Sale

PLI certificate of currency

OUT

Sympathy card to Noads

Letter re January hall hire to Canberra Deakin Sports Club

Acceptance moved Gerry Walker Seconded Roger Amos. Carried

### Reports

#### President - John Senior

Three new members were welcomed to the Club. Steve Rowe; Craig & Angela Murphy

John attended the Canberra Swap meet on Sunday 6 November.

Also attended Judith Bruce's Funeral.

#### Vice President - Graham Waite

Lucky Badge Draw - Ticket 28 Roger Amos

Last Run Ticket number 12 John Senior

No guest speaker December - BBQ by the Lake

**Treasurer - Bob Judd**

Thanked Graham Bigg for looking after the books while he was absent.  
Still has new members' badges waiting collection.

Current balance \$6265:86

Question from Roger Amos who wanted to know what the donation for badges was for. Advised it was the result of sale of the late Alan Sugden badge collection.

Acceptance moved: Bob Judd, Seconded: Wayne Summerfield. Carried

**Editor - Helen Phillips**

No report

**Events Director - Jan Wyatt**

November 27 10.30am Meet at Hall Recreational Ground for run to Canberra Southern Cross Yacht Club for fish and chips.

Tuesday December 13 Christmas BBQ at the YMCA Yacht Club car park from 5.00pm. Names required for catering purposes.

December 17 to Mount Stromlo café for morning tea. Note this is a Saturday event not a Sunday event. Jan will have a surprise for those attending. Meet Cooleman Court car park – Woolworths side 9.00am for 9.15am departure.

Sunday January 15 Chicken and Bubbly Black Mountain Peninsula from 5.00pm. BBQ trailer will be in attendance for tea and coffee only.

February. To the Loaded Dog Hotel Tarago for lunch and then to Lake Bathurst café for afternoon tea. (*see Events, no afternoon tea now*)

**Raffle** Ticket 005 Green Jim Woods.

**Supper Coordinator (Acting) - Bob Garrett**

List being circulated.

**Registrar - Bob Alexander**

Twenty vehicles inspected including thirteen by Alec McKernan.

Trailer has been out twice in last month.

**Librarian - Joe Micallef**

Stall at Canberra Swap raised \$200 from sale of books and other misc. items. Has magazines free for members

**Membership Secretary - Joe Vavra**

No report

**Shop Manager - Norm Brennan**

Usual items for sale

**Information Officer - David Wyatt**

For sales on board.

Canberra Swap meet numbers down.

### **Council delegate – Roger Amos**

Went on a bush walk to Split Rock set off at 8am and walked to lunch time 12 noon. Split Rock is a big rock with a 30 metre chasm—it would be a major attraction anywhere else in the world.

- Proposed 60 day modified vehicle trial sign-off \$100 fee per year. To qualify members must be a member of Confederation of Australian Motor Clubs.

- Camp quality event raised \$33 000.

- Gentleman's Big ride raised \$11 000.

- Council has 75 clubs on its books – still some to pay affiliation fee.

- Members are asked to remind shop front staff when renewing CRS to check the signatures on the white form.

- When renewing CRS by post only cheques will be accepted.

- Rover auction 19/20 November the late Dr Flynn's collection of 132 Rovers and American cars including nine Buicks and 50 four digit ACT number plates at 105 High Street Queanbeyan. [www.slattery.com](http://www.slattery.com) for details.

Michael Toole advised the Canowindra auction exceeded expectations.

- Pie Cart being repaired mechanically and still looking for a secure storage home

- Council Review only four people nominated for a seat on the review panel – more needed.

- Terribly British Day will attract a \$5 donation on entry with money going to Tuggeranong Men's' Shed.

- Only one nomination has been received for the Wheels charity beneficiary in 2017. Other nominationa being sought.

Warned that parking is very tight at the Canberra Yacht Club on Sunday afternoon.

### **Publishing Committee**

All Good

### **General Business**

#### **Jack Press**

Standard motor vehicle for sale \$5500.

#### **Alan Martin**

Members received a warm welcome from Kingsley and Cynthia Southwell at their Brooklands Property recently. Members viewed Kingsley vehicle collection and shearing shed. A blue tractor was driven from Sydney to Hall by Kingsley taking him 15 hours 20 years ago. Another shed had a collection of antique farm machinery, and Cynthia showed off her doll collection.

**John Senior**

Reminded members no meeting at Bridge Club in December or January (meeting to be held at Canberra Deakin Football Club).

**Alec McKernan**

Annual Legacy ladies run and morning tea Tuesday 15 November.

**Graham Gittins**

- Rock Rally Tour meeting Wednesday 16 November Raiders Club Weston 6.30 pm dinner 7.30pm meeting.
- Australia Day 12 seater mini bus to Parramatta to visit CARNivale one seat available.
- Terribly British Day Sunday 4 December Treasury car park.
- Surf to Summit Cooma 12-13 November.
- Heather and I are proud grandparents Logan born 30 October 2016.

Meeting closed 9.15pm.

Graham Gittins, Minute Secretary

Chris Berry received his Life Membership badge from President John Senior at the November meeting.



John Jervis with John Senior. John Jervis gave a fascinating presentation on the convict Towrang Stockade north of Goulburn.





## MARK YOUR CALENDAR/DIARY

**No meeting at the Bridge Club in December.**

**BBQ by the lake.** Let Events Committee know if you are coming.

**No meeting at the Bridge Club I January—meet next door at the Deakin Football Club.** We have given up our booking at the Bridge Club so they can accommodate a Youth Bridge Tournament. No supper provided—buy a coffee/drink from the bar. No January Colonial. December and January will be combined.

## ROCK RALLY 2017

The Rock Rally will be run in May 2017

Graham Gittins 0419 249 109 gittins@iinet.net.au

## Can you help someone to celebrate their 90th birthday?

Graham Gittins had a request from Malcolm Campbell who wishes to give his father a ride for his 90th birthday in a circa 1948 Flathead V8 Ford Mainline Ute in February 2017. If you can help please contact Malcolm on 0402 460 025

## RTA warning regarding vehicles for hire

It has been brought to the attention of the Road and Traffic Authority (RTA) in the ACT that car club members are advertising their vehicles for paid hire for school formals and weddings. Most advertising is through social media.

Unless the vehicle is accredited to be used as a hire vehicle and the driver holds a W classification on their driver's licence it is illegal and an offence under section 75 of the Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Act 1999 for a person to operate a hire car service for reward.

The RTA have advised that inspectors will be actively attending end of year formals to check unlicensed vehicles participating in end of year school formals. Additionally the Authority will be contacting people who place advertisements for non-accredited services.

It is not illegal to use a CRS registered vehicle for a formal occasion providing **no fees are charged**.

## CANBERRA SWAP MEET

On Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> November the club hired 2 sites at the Canberra swap meet at EPIC. On the stalls the club sold \$200 worth of surplus car books, magazines from the club library and car parts donated by Gerry Walker. The club had invited the members to make use of the space and put their own surplus of car parts and other items on the stall. There were about 5 people that took the opportunity and sold some of their stuff at the swap meet.

A number of members of the CACMC club came fossicking for that hard to find car or motorbike part and others came for just a social visit to meet friends and like-minded people. In all the Canberra swap meet in my opinion seems to be getting smaller every year. This year there was quite a number of empty stalls in the Fitzroy Pavilion and the number of visitors seemed smaller than previous years. I hope that next year it will get back to normal.

Thanks to Joe Micallef. And thanks to all members who helped.  
Sorry Joe the pictures were not good.





## Holden Monaro GTS becomes first Australian car to win a concours d'elegance - Melbourne October 2016

An Australian made, owned and restored Holden Monaro GTS made history today by winning the Australian International Concours d'Elegance at the 2016 Motorclassica in Melbourne. It is the first time that an Australian-made car has won a globally-recognised Concours d'Elegance event, and the first locally manufactured winner in the seven year history of the Motorclassica event.

Owned by Victorian Terry Smart, the fabulous 1969 Holden Monaro GTS won Motorclassica's 'Best of Show' accolade to win the premier Australian International Concours d'Elegance title, along with the 'Restoration of the Year' trophy for its restorers, Recreation Automotive.

Smart's recently-restored Monaro GTS scored a perfect 100 points from the hugely-experienced Concours d'Elegance judging panel, which described the restoration as "perfect" and "faultless". The white Monaro GTS beat a field of 85 cars and motorcycles to take the title of 'Best in Show'.

"For a Holden of any type to win an International Concours event is certainly unexpected but this particular example is a world-class restoration," Motorclassica Event Director Paul Mathers said.

"Without question Motorclassica is the southern hemisphere's most hotly-contested Concours d'Elegance attracting the highest quality cars and motorcycles from around Australia and often the world.

"In terms of quality, Terry's Monaro GTS, valued in the vicinity of \$300,000, is literally faultless and as such a deserving winner.

"It's also an exciting decision indicating that locally-designed cars can be competitive at the same level as the world's great marques."



## SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 12-13 NOVEMBER - SURF TO SUMMIT CAR RALLY

The bi-annual Cooma Car Club Surf to Summit Rally held over the weekend of 12-13 November is open to Classic Cars (at least 30 years old), Classic Car replicas and Vintage Cars (1919 – 1930). The rally drew drivers and cars from all over the State including 23 AC Cobras and Cobra Replicas, and a wide range of other cars including Dane Mackie's 1928 Ford Model A Tourer, a 1953 Bristol 403 driven by Bob and Jenny Dunk, and a much more modern 1986 Ford Sierra RS Cosworth entered by Mick Hayden.

At 8.30am on Saturday the one hundred and one (101) cars entered left the Car Club Clubhouse for the start of the Rally. The weather was perfect and the cars headed to Bombala via the wonderful scenic Snowy River Way, one of the region's great driving roads. The morning tea stop was in the Village of Cathcart where the 101 cars made a great sight. The cars then headed down through Myrtle Mountain to Pambula Surf Club for lunch and a beautiful 26 degrees which put a smile on many faces. The cars then headed back to Cooma in huge winds with threatening clouds. On Saturday night, there were 200 people at the Cooma Car Club Clubhouse for the rally dinner.

On Sunday, the cars again left the Clubhouse at 8.30 under cooler conditions, with a scenic drive out via Rocky Plains Road, then Eucumbene Road to the Kalkite turnoff, and back to Berridale for morning tea. The windy conditions at Berridale and the weather forecast should have been a warning as to what was coming as the cars then headed to Dalgety on to Jindabyne and with lunch to be at Charlottes Pass. What the drivers experienced was a huge adventure in blizzard conditions and some mechanical failures. Nevertheless, the non- local entrants had a ball in these conditions and this rally will be talked about for years to come. Overall, a great and adventurous weekend.

The Gittins decided not to proceed from Berridale to Charlotte Pass, but rather to return to Canberra. Judging by the image taken at Charlotte Pass this was a wise decision.

Canberra Antique and Classic Motor Club members who were spotted over the weekend included:

Chris and Irene Berry  
Tony and Sue Roberts  
Jan and David Wyatt

Thanks to Graham Gittins

Cars lined up at  
Clubhouse for start of  
Surf to Summit



Wyatt Fairlance at  
morning tea stop at  
Berridale before  
ascending to  
Charlotte Pass

Cars in snow  
at Charlotte  
Pass



## Southern Tablelands Vintage Farm Machinery Club Rally Taralga

Saturday 19 November fine and sunny a good day for a drive in the country in a classic car. Our destination Taralga and visit to the Southern Tablelands Vintage Farm Machinery Club Rally. A stop at Tarago to pick up friends and fill the car with petrol before a leisurely drive to Taralga. Before we reached Taralga I noticed a car in the rearview mirror which I could see was on historic plates but I was unable to recognise the make and when it went past I was still unable to discern the manufacturer. It soon disappeared into the distance and I assumed it was also going to the rally.

Never having been to Taralga before I was pleasantly surprised at the age of the village and the lovely old buildings still in use. We found our way to the Showgrounds and were directed to where other cars were on display. As we drove onto the football field and I cast my eye around for a parking place I saw the red car which had overtaken us parked on the other side of the field. The colour of the car should have given me a hint as to its make but not being the sharpest tool on the bench it wasn't until I stood in front of the car that I realised I had been overtaken by a Maseratti. Around thirty cars were on display a couple of Holdens and Falcons, the usual Mustangs, a Trans Am, MG Y tourer, Wolsely 6/80, 1924 Hillman, 404 Peugeot station wagon, 1948 Ford Deluxe were among the cars.

First order of the day was a coffee before a look over the goods on display at the stalls nothing of which took our fancy although I was interested in a book on the History of Sydney Ferries however it was a bit expensive. While the ladies returned to relax by the car my friend and I turned our attention to the vast range of tractors which ringed the Showgrounds arena. Predominant among these were small Massey Ferguson units in varying conditions from ratty straight off the farm to pristine finely restored examples better than showroom condition. Two tractors caught my eye: one with a V8 diesel with splashes of chrome, dual chrome exhaust stacks and the largest tyres I have ever seen on a tractor. The other I guess belonged to a farmer's wife and was painted a nice shade of pink.

In the centre of the arena were three fenced areas full of stationary engines, many different models, most of them chugging away so we were assailed by many different sounds all reminiscent of days long ago on the farm. The sights, smells and sounds brought back memories of visits to an uncle's dairy farm. We returned to the ladies with steak sandwiches and cold drinks to assuage the pangs of hunger, have a chat to people looking at the cars before packing up and heading for home.

The drive home was just as enjoyable as the drive out with the

thought that a return visit next year is definitely on the cards for a better look at the old village of Taralga and perhaps learn a bit more of its history.

Pam & John Senior

*Thanks John—perhaps you could suggest this in answer to “Tell us where to go?” as a club run.*

## Rover Heaven

A Rover car auction held in Queanbeyan was one of the largest of its kind to be held in the region.

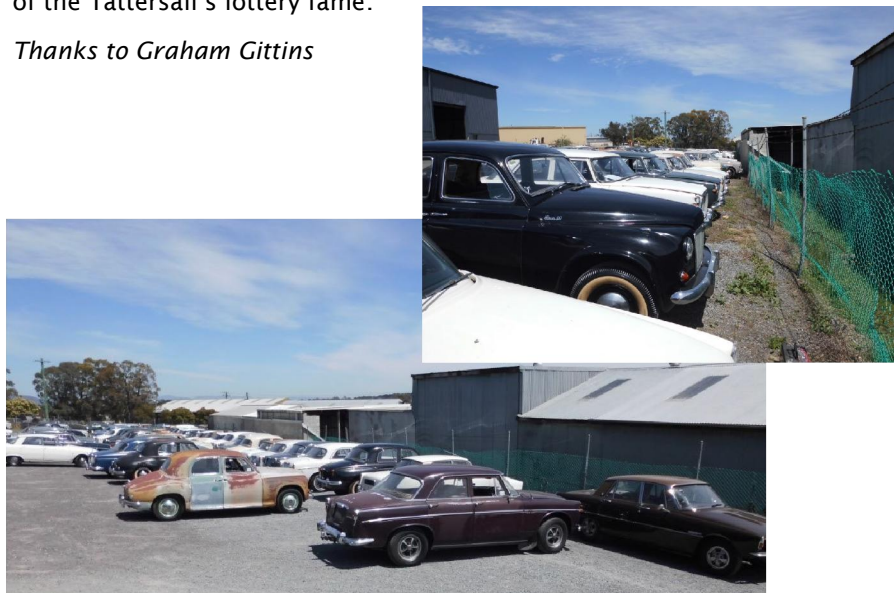
A total of 160 Rover cars and Cadillacs, LaSalles, Buicks, rare number plates and enough parts to fill 143 shipping containers were put under the hammer by Exoticars and Slattery Auctions in Queanbeyan on 18-19 November.

All the lots were unreserved with drivable vehicles being knocked down for as little of \$100, top price \$9500 for a rare 1949 Rover Cyclops.

Bidders from Sweden, England, Germany and New Zealand attended the auction to bid on items including a rare right-hand drive chauffeur-driven 1934 Cadillac bought by Dr Flynn in tribute to Mahatma Gandhi.

The auction was bought about by the death, last May, of Dr Flynn who amassed the collection over many years. Dr Flynn’s mother was an Adams of the Tattersall’s lottery fame.

*Thanks to Graham Gittins*





# *Tell us where to go?*



Now's your chance!

The Events Committee wants **your suggestions** on where to go for club runs in 2017.

**Any favourite trips, places, events?**

All suggestion that are used will receive a bottle of wine or box of chocolates. The most interesting suggestion will receive a premium bottle of wine or box of chocolates.

**So: send us your suggestion now:**

Brett Goyne: [brett.goyne@grapevine.com.au](mailto:brett.goyne@grapevine.com.au), 0423 089 429

Jan Wyatt: [wyattd@grapevine.com.au](mailto:wyattd@grapevine.com.au) , 6286 1782

## SUMMERNATS 2017

The Council of ACT Motor Clubs has advised that an invitation to Canberra car clubs to attend the family day Sunday 8 January 2017 has been received from the Summernats organisers.

Vehicles should start assembling at the Dickson College Car park from 8.00am for a 9.15am departure. At the assembly point wrist bands and windscreen stickers will be handed to drivers.

Vehicles will then head off to Exhibition Park in Canberra (EPIC) and enter via gate 5 behind the service station.

Parking will be on the main arena. Once parked you will be able to wander around the Summernats exhibition area.

The organisers have requested that no street machines type vehicles be entered.

An indication of number of vehicles attending would be useful and should be provided to Graham Gittins as soon as possible  
( [gittins@iinet.net.au](mailto:gittins@iinet.net.au) or 6251 5645.

## 2017 AUSTRALIA DAY CARNIVALE Parramatta Park

The trip to Parramatta for the CARnivale vehicle display is on again in 2017. A mini bus 12 seater will depart Dickson College car park at 6.15am on Australia Day 26 January 2017 stopping at one of the service centres before arriving in Parramatta Park.

The rest of the morning is spent looking at the vehicles on display and other attractions in and around the park.


Around 1.00pm we depart the park and head to a lunch venue departing there around 2.30pm stopping on the way back at one of the service centres before arriving back at the Dickson College car park around 6.00pm

Cost of the day excluding lunch is around \$50 which includes bus hire, fuel and tolls.

If interested please contact Graham Gittins 62515645, email [gittins@iinet.net.au](mailto:gittins@iinet.net.au)



## CA&CMC EVENTS CALENDAR—2016-17

DATE	CONTACT	DETAILS
13 Dec	Any Events Committee member	Please come and join us—Instead of our usual monthly meeting we will have a Christmas Barbeque in the carpark next to the YMCA Sailing Club, Alexandrina Drive, Yarralumla. The club will provide sausages, onions, bread, tea and coffee. <b>Names are required for catering purposes.</b> Contact an Events Committee member by 8th Dec. Bring along some change for the Christmas hamper raffle and also I am told apple pies will be for sale again.
17 Dec	Any Events Committee Member 	As an extra Christmas short run on Saturday 17th—we will go to the reopened Mount Stromlo Information Centre and Café for morning tea/brunch. Meet in the Cooleman Court carpark nearest to Woolworths at 9.15 am to leave by 9.30 am. Café does not take bookings so it is “first in best dressed” for seating and food. However there is plenty of outdoor space.
Jan 15 2017	Jan Wyatt 6286 1782 0400 603686	Twilight run—Chicken and Bubbly. Meet at the end of Black Mountain Peninsula, turn off Lady Denman Drive onto Garryowen Drive and follow road round to the end picnic spot. BBQ trailer will be there for tea/coffee but club will provide chicken, bubbly, orange juice. Please bring anything else you require. <b>NAMES ARE REQUIRED FOR ORDERING PURPOSES PLEASE.</b> Names to any Events Committee member at the Dec BBQ or by phone/email before 12 Jan 2017.
Feb 19	Jan Wyatt 6286 1782 0400603686	We have had to cancel our plans to go to the Gilmour Inn due to lack of interest. Instead we will go to one of the cafes or to the Loaded Dog Hotel at Tarago. Details in the February Colonial.
Mar 12	Jan Wyatt 6286 1782	Annual Shannons Wheels Display Day. We will not take the BBQ trailer but encourage members to purchase food/drinks from the various outlets to support the charity of the day or bring your own. More details as they become available.
		SEE ALSO BOTTOM OF PAGE 29.

## EXTRA RUNS AND SWAP MEETS—2017

DATE	CONTACT	DETAILS
8 Jan		Summernats classic car display at EPIC. See page 19.
Jan 26	John Flower	Australia Day Carnivale 2017 in Parramatta Park. Email: <a href="mailto:flower@parracity.nsw.gov.au">flower@parracity.nsw.gov.au</a> See page 19
5 Feb		Michael Livingstone Memorial Run and Cootamundra Antique Motor Club 37th birthday run to Jugiong Recreation Park at 10 am. Other clubs invited to attend.
10-11 Feb	Jim Hawkes 0263361934 (after 6 pm)	Highlands Steam & Vintage Fair, Oberon Rugby League Club, Lowes Mount Rd, Oberon. <a href="http://www.oberonsteamfair.com.au">www.oberonsteamfair.com.au</a>
12 March		Shannons Wheels 2017, Treasury car parks. Organised by HSV and BMW Clubs
23 March		Seniors Expo at EPIC.
1 & 2 April	Ian Hampton 0400 528 115	Cooma Monaro Historic Automobile Club Vintage & Classic Pre-1960's Car Rally <a href="http://www.coomacarclub.com.au">www.coomacarclub.com.au</a>
2 April		Auto Italia on lawns of Old Parliament House
18-22 May		The Antique Car Club, Albury-Wodonga will be celebrating their 50th anniversary, holding a 5 day rally in and around Albury, hosting the 2017 Council of Heritage Motor Clubs NSW 47th Annual Rally. As well as National Motoring Heritage Day. Limited to 200 vehicles or 450 persons. <a href="mailto:plymouthpalace@gmail.com">plymouthpalace@gmail.com</a>
Jul 4-25	1800 630 343	Join Warren Brown for the Classic Automobile tour to England and Germany including the Silverstone Classic, and an opportunity to drive the Nurburgring Email: <a href="mailto:Balwyn@travelrite.com.au">Balwyn@travelrite.com.au</a> <a href="http://www.travelrite.com">www.travelrite.com</a>

## A LABOUR OF LOVE : 1932 CHEV BA CONFEDERATE ROADSTER

BY *DAVE SEMMENS*

### Love at first sight...but first the makeover

I purchased the car in 1992 from a fellow in Bendigo, Victoria. He was I believe the second owner after the first attempt at restoration. During the time he had the car it had done several long rallies. It sat for quite a few months before I decided I would look at doing a bit of a tidy-up on her. On closer inspection *Tony* from *Modena Smash Repairs* and I realised that quite a few things with the body in the tub area were not as they should be. It was immediately apparent that the only thing I could do to get the vehicle to an acceptable standard was a full ground-up restoration.

Loaded and ready for the trip  
1992

Safely home and the start of a  
new life



### Solving the puzzle

The main problem with the tub was that the car had been cut into a ute at some time (as a lot were in those days). The job that had been done to get it back was not too bad, but there were also lots of things that were wrong.

To get a starting point for the restoration the car was slowly stripped with parts carefully labelled and photos taken to help when the day came for reassembling it. Late one afternoon I was taking the panels off the doors when I discovered a painted inscription inside the driver's door - "*B Matheson, Echuca*".



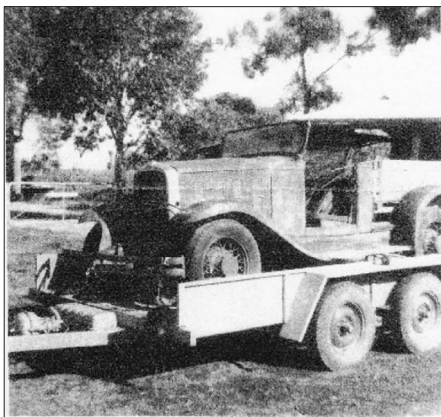
The beginnings of a new tub

My curiosity piqued, I contacted Telstra for help in solving the mystery. Bingo! They put me through to a number they had listed and a male voice answered. When I said that I was looking for someone who may have restored a 1932 Chev Roadster some time back, *Bill Matheson's* response was immediate and enthusiastic. I assured him the "Old Girl" was in good hands with a full ground-up restoration under way but he was adamant that what I intended to achieve "couldn't be done". He promised to mail a detailed letter of what he had done and why. True to his word, a letter arrived in the mail with pages of notes and a couple of old black and white photos. After reading his letter I could better appreciate what had happened with the car.

### Missing pieces of the jigsaw

Bill had driven 1932 Chev Roadsters in his young days while doing his training to be an engineer and wanted to restore one when he got the chance. The project started with two bodies and chassis, together with some bits and pieces. But with both bodies having been previously cut down into utes, he was up against it. To his credit he used photos of original cars to re-fabricate the rear tub but this also explains the reason that he didn't get it quite right.

A rough start in life -  
photo supplied by Bill Matheson



## Search for a solution

The search now began in earnest to find someone who could fabricate a tub for me as I had no luck in finding an original one. Eventually I was referred to a chap who had a shop in the shadows of the “Gabba” sports ground in Brisbane. He assured me he could do it if he had an original he could copy. Great! But where on earth was I going to find such a thing in the area? Back to the grindstone and after several initially promising dead ends, I was given a phone number of a *Bob Gray* in Brisbane. Unfortunately, although Bob’s car was in its original state (as found at Cunnamulla, Queensland) and in need of a full restoration, he was reluctant to let it out of his garage. After some further delicate negotiations he agreed for my contact to get in touch with him and have a chat. As it turned out, the workshop and Bob’s house were only minutes away from each other and with the promise of some free work on his car in return, he agreed to letting it be taken to the workshop.

## Progress, but still a long way to go

After many months the job was done, although it was not ideal. Fortunately, Tony (Modena Smash) said he could make good the things that had to be fixed. The woodwork was spot on but the bodywork’s main problems were the swaging – which was all over the place – and one side of the tub was “pregnant”; also the dickey seat lid had been done in two parts. The lid was re-done by *Robinson Bros* and came up a treat.

## Meanwhile...back at the ranch

While all of this was going on I had completely stripped the car, re-set the rear springs and the motor was removed, sealed up, sand blasted and undercoated. I then set about finding someone who could advise me on the right colour for re-painting. I got in touch with *Mike Kavanagh* in Brisbane who was also restoring a 1932 Roadster which had been in the family from new. He kindly sent me a sample of the colour. Mike was also a great source of helpful advice. With the motor painted and all the bits bolted back on, it was ready to go back in. I had bought new engine mounts because the originals had been given the “bush mechanic” treatment during their life and were in a sorry state, to say the least.

Engine as it would have  
come off the production  
line in 1932



## **Houston...we have a problem**

The motor slotted in – easily – but when I started to tighten the mounts I heard an ominous cracking sound. I couldn't see anything untoward at the time so I started to tighten the other side and again the cracking sound with not a lot of tension on the mount. On closer inspection, I found the mounts were of poor quality and cracked.

I took them to *Beb Fox* (who is renowned for his ability to be able to make and repair things) to see whether he could do something with the old ones. By using the rubber out of the cracked ones and inserting them into the old ones, the problem was solved and in no time the motor was bolted in.

## **Now for the perfect smile**

Next came the radiator surround and the grill. A local business did a terrible job of re-chroming the grill which left it in a condition that rendered it useless. After much searching, I finally found a company in the USA who made them in polished stainless steel. Following several unsuccessful attempts to get in touch with them, a mate in Washington was able to get the grill for me and send it back to Australia at no charge. I couldn't believe my luck! The re-chroming was done by *Shane and Brett, Electro Plating Technology* in Queanbeyan and they did an excellent job. It looked great and once installed into the surround it looked most impressive. I was over the moon.

## **And a new coat of paint**

The bodywork was proceeding slowly but I was happy to put up with this because Tony was the best in town. Importantly, it also kept the cost down as he worked on it in his down time. Finally it came time to choose what colour to paint the car. Over the years I had changed my mind a few times, but in the end I picked a deep burgundy/plum colour. With the help of Tony and his painter, *Carlos*, the car was painted with a BMW colour called "*Malaga*". I must add that the work carried out by Tony was achieved virtually without any use of fill – the guy really is a master at his trade. Carlos then performed his magic with the spray gun and I had a job that was superb.

## **Finishing touches**

I had lined up local upholsterer, *Norm Betts* some 10 or more years before to get the upholstery done. I'm sure he thought that it would never get to the stage where his touch was needed. The car was carefully loaded onto a truck for the trip to Norm, with the understanding that it may take



some time but it would be done right. After all, so many years had passed since the restoration began, why rush things now? The finished result was worth it – Norm’s work was indeed impressive and was everything I hoped it would be.

*Interior looking a treat ... thanks to Norm*

### **Last little fiddly bits**

With the car back home and in the garage I found the seal in the LHS of the rear axle had let go. Beb Fox came to the rescue. With his and local mechanic, *Chris Hedges’* expertise, it was fixed and back home again in no time. With the help of my good lady I got it re-installed and the wheels back on – looking good again. The next thing was to get it fired up and with some tweaking.... it was up and running.



### **The long and winding road**

After many years, hundreds of hours of labour and conquering all the many problems encountered along the way, I am very happy with the end result. This was something I always wanted to do and I’m pleased that I took on the tasks that were within my capabilities. It has given me a greater understanding of the mechanics and things that were special about the 1932 model. This model was a major leap forward with many innovations, like the down draught carburettor and counter balanced crankshaft, to mention just two.

I am also most grateful for the help I have been given by many people over the years. There are still a couple of minor things to do before it is ready for rego, which I hope will happen before the end of 2009.

### **Postscript**

I sent Bill Matheson photos of the finished car but sadly his brother rang to say Bill’s health had taken a serious downturn, so unfortunately I didn’t get the chance to discuss with him what he thought of the job he told me.....couldn’t be done.



*People's Choice at Wheels  
2009*

Reprinted from the January  
2010 Colonial.



This car also won People's Choice at Wheels 2016. Here are some follow-up words from Dave.

"Not much has happened in the years since, except I have had to look into an overheating problem, which I now know was a problem with this motor being the start of the 6 cylinders built by Chev. The Chevy hasn't been out of town, as I intend to try and keep it in as good as condition as it was when restored (definitely no trips in the rain !)

I have had some enjoyable times with the "Ol Girl" the most memorable being the lead Historic Car in the Centennial Rally of Canberra, from EPIC to Old Parliament House. I have also enjoyed the times I have had with members swapping stories.

Kind regards,  
Dave"



## MURPHY'S LAW OF SWAP MEETS

### Punters

1. A desired item purchased at one site will be found cheaper at the next but one site.
2. A desired item not purchased immediately will not be found elsewhere and on return will have been sold.
3. Items purchased on the site holder's verification will later prove to be the wrong size, model or year.
4. The slicker the site display, the higher the prices.
5. Useful objects are usually found at the bottom of old cardboard boxes.
6. Most worthwhile items will have been traded among site holders themselves, before opening time.
7. Items purchased will represent 17% of any original shopping list and exceed the budget by 222%.
8. Change for a ten dollar bill for items costing less than two dollars will be given in 10, 20 and 50c coins.
9. Sites are always unattended or minded by a wife when a vital purchase is at hand who says "No, I don't know the price—he went viewing an hour ago".
10. Objects transported home for friends will be filthy, rusty or leak oil.

### Site Holders

1. Objects displayed will always be cheaper on adjacent sites.
2. Objects repeatedly requested at one event will, if stocked, be ignored at the next.
3. Objects sold early will reappear on other sites at a higher price.
4. Objects scrutinized by punters will display defects hitherto unknown to the site holder.
5. The cash value realized for any surplus objects will never exceed their original purchase price.

*From the Veteran and Vintage Car Club of the ACT*



Just a few more to give you a laugh before Christmas

If you can smile when things go wrong, you have someone to blame.  
 Television may insult your intelligence, but nothing rubs it in like a computer.  
 There may be no excuse for laziness but I'm still looking.  
 Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.  
 Women sometimes make fools of men, but most guys are the do-it-yourself type.  
 If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.

## FOR SALE – OTHER CLUBS PLEASE COPY

### PARTS FOR SALE

Early 1960s Austin Freeway/Wolseley 24/80 differential assembly. 3.89 ratio. Rebuilt with new bearings/seal in excellent condition. Was told it would fit my MGA slippery diff fitted to my Sunbeam Alpine race car which disintegrated some months ago. Not so! Cost over \$1,100. Happy to recover close to \$900. This common English diff fits many British cars from mod 50s to late 60s, eg MG/Magnette/MGA/ 6 cylinder Austin A95/Healy/early Bs etc. More detail from Llew Robb phone 0428 994 594 any hour.

Vauxhall Victor Estate Wagon FB Series, 1962-63  
Roof rack; Alloy sunvisor; Handbook  
All in very good condition. Best Offer.  
Brett Goyne 0423 089 429

### WANTED

Desperately needed for 1930 Series "S" Hupmobile Sedan: Front brakes assembly. These are the Midland Steeldraulic type, actuated by cables and rods. A number of 1920s and 30s cars had similar braking systems. Any assistance with locating a set, hints, loans, etc would be very much appreciated as this is the only outstanding registration inspection failure. Please phone Michael on 0402 756 454 or 0420 485 622.

### ANOTHER CLUB EVENT FOR 2017

March 25-26 We are planning to go to the Gosford Classic Car Museum, Gosford. Entry cost: Adults \$20.00 Seniors \$12.00. Then on Sunday to do a Hawkesbury Rover cruise (Riverboat Postman cruise) if there is enough interest. Cost for morning tea and fish and chips cruise lunch is \$50.00 for Adults, Seniors \$44.00. Drinks are available for purchase.

If you would like to join in on both or either of these days, please contact one of the Events Committee by 15 January 2017 and we will start making arrangements, including suggestions for accommodation if needed.

## 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.)*

**Austin 7 Sports Special**, Red body with black mudguards. Ruby chassis with three bearing crankshaft engine with a 1937 head. Hydraulic brakes and 16 inch wheels. 4 Speed gearbox, recently reconditioned by John Needham. Currently registered in the ACT but this registration is not transferable. A range of spares will be included as part of the sale package. Asking price \$13,500. Car is in Canberra. Please contact Geoff Tyrrell on 02 6251 1255 for further details. Additional photos available.



**1917 T Model Ford**, exceptionally good functionality. Always garaged and rarely allowed to even get dusty, low kms with only 150 kms since full rebuild. This UNIQUE Ford Model T is soon going to be 100 years old. Priced to sell quickly at \$18,000, sale is due to ill health. No reasonable offer refused. The car comes with a full 12 volt conversion and is accident free. Contact Ollie's son Steven on 0408 664 561.



**1970 Chrysler Valiant VG 2 door Coupe**, Hemi 245 6 cylinder, convertible, auto, very good condition, reliable and runs well, kidney mags, black interior, garaged, straight, all new lights/chrome/carpet, door cards, black interior, custom dust cover, 9 months rego, excellent tyres. Reluctant sale, great car a real eye catcher. NSW and Vic engineers certificate VIN=4m23477, Reg NSW BB-70-LM. Mechanically A1—will pass an inspection. Is in Griffith NSW. Phone Warwick 0429 890 583



**SOLD** 1964 Mark III Austin Healey Sprite



## 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.)*

**Morris 8 Tourer** complete car unrestored, asking \$4,400 ono for deceased estate. Located in Traralgon. Please phone 0488 342 525



**1977 MGB Roadster**, Midnight Blue, Club rego, Rover 3.5 litre , 5 speed gearbox, soft top and tonneau cover. Manual, American Convertible by MG Workshops, Melbourne. Please contact Helen Brown on mobile 0411 527 254.



**1950 Anglia Tourer** 10 HP, older restoration, drives and runs well, many spares. \$15,000 ono. For photos please email Mark on [Jems.fam@bigpond.net.au](mailto:Jems.fam@bigpond.net.au)

**1930 Model A Roadster** which belonged to my late brother. Complete as far as I know, it needs to be assembled and painted and tyres. All new and restored parts. Reconditioned motor. All new leather seats and springs from USA, front end, diff and gearbox all reconditioned, radiator and surround been reconditioned, includes new insect screen, new hood frame. Might need small amount of bodywork. Needs a hood made. American hoods were different. Have material. \$15,000 cash. For more information please call Alan in Moss Vale 0412 680972  
Email: [chevlandpark@gmail.com](mailto:chevlandpark@gmail.com)

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## CAR RESTORER AVAILABLE

**Experienced car restorer** available to help with your project. Mechanical, electrical, panel beating, spray painting. Ring Greg on 0417 853 441. This information supplied by Bob Alexander.

**SEE ALSO TOP OF PAGE 34**



## MARQUES IN THE PARK - 30 OCTOBER 2016



Not sure exactly how many cars we had there but it was a good showing.

New car in the club 1954 Daimler of Richard and Dilber Thwaites.

Next to it is Dave Rogers' Triumph.

Also new to the club this Triumph of Brian and Margaret Ely.

Below Phil Cancillier has acquired another Buick. He also brought his 1939 Buick, just showing in the corner of the photo.



Brian O'Donnell brought his small vehicle this year—Morris Minor ute instead of the Skyliner which caused so much interest last year.



Right to left: Geoff Hall's Austin 7 Roadster, Ken Walker's Austin A40 Jensen Sports and Geoff Tyrrell's Austin 7 Sports.



Gentlemen's chat circle—Geoff Tyrrell, Roger Amos, Ken Walker, Ray Gallagher and Bob Garrett standing.

The Catanzariti Holden Monaro GTS

This eccentric gentleman does not intend to restore his Lagonda. Not in our club but parked near us.



The Seniors Humber Super Snipe.



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## FOR SALES FROM SCHVC PAMBULA/MERIMBULA

Forced sale **1962 Jaguar Mark II** (BW Auto) Saloon, original 3.8 L engine replaced in 1985 with a 4.2 L and triple 2 inch SU carburettors. Motor runs well. Full restoration commenced in 2005. Car was totally stripped and cut back to metal and primer paint applied to prevent rust. Installation of a new wiring loom partly completed and all wires identified and labelled. All chrome in good condition. Garaged under cover at all times. All reasonable offers considered. Inquiries and/or inspection suggested. Contact Rob Young, Merimbula 02 6495 1561 or 0447 627 156.

**1986 Toyota Celica** ST Liftback "super-red" Coupe, auto (with push button overdrive), 2 litre EFI twin cam, takes 91 Ron fuel, air con, 5 alloys, stereo cassette, 62,300 kms from new, totally original and in showroom condition. Trophy winner at 2013 Toyota Fest Show, 10 months full rego @ \$300 a year. Eligible for club rego and refund. Comp Ins \$279 a year. Sporty wallet-friendly and best looking Celica, great to drive and own. Selling to buy a convertible. \$6,900 ONO Phone Michael Quinlan on 02 6495 7353 or 0419 166 572.

**1969 Renault** 16TS, runs and drives well. On club plates. Manuals and spares included. \$1,500 Contact Neil Thiedeman 02 6495 7551.



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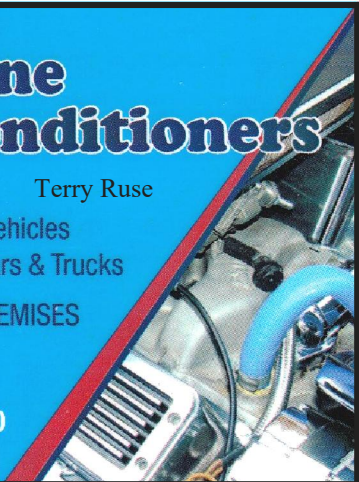
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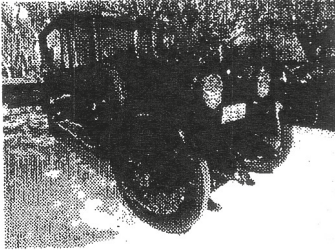
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The car is now undergoing a full overhaul. Sorry I had to cut your story short., Michael. If anyone wants the full list of sales, please ask.






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