



Canberra Chapter Newsletter

December 2011

Canberra Coordinators

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Fly the flag for Blighty and the club!

Terribly British Day on 4 December

The layout for TBD is shown in the attached schematic. We will be putting on a good show with a wide range of older and newer British cars for the delectation of the unwashed masses. For exhibitors, the sooner you get there, the better your chances of scoring a good position, or just a position, depending on how late you arrive. Stalwarts will be there before 0800 and we recommend you do the same. Don't forget to bring a drip tray, which can be as informal an item as a sheet of cardboard. For spectators, viewing will last most of the day.

Christmas lunch

Our end of year function will be the traditional lunch at Springers Rest on 11 December. We will be having a three-course catered barbeque, taken outdoors if the weather permits or indoors otherwise. The cost for this is \$45 per person with drinks optional on top. Pre-payment into our bank account is required (BSB 062914, account 1071-7349) but we will take cash or a cheque made out to Calver. Deadline for payment and reservations is 4 December. We look forward to seeing you there.

From an observant reader

A gentleman member who owns an Aceca and who follows our newsletter keenly has pointed out an inadvertent but nevertheless regrettable case of *lèse majesté* in the last bulletin. The Union Flag shown flying proudly over the Armstrong Siddeley was in fact being flown from the wrong side, an offence punishable by death in times of turmoil but these days fortunately incurring little more than a stern scolding. Lest any readers be labouring under a misapprehension, we wish to point out that no slight to the Monarch was intended by the inclusion of the offensive photograph. A reprimand will be sent to the

Armstrong Siddeley club in hopes that they take greater care with this important symbol in the future.

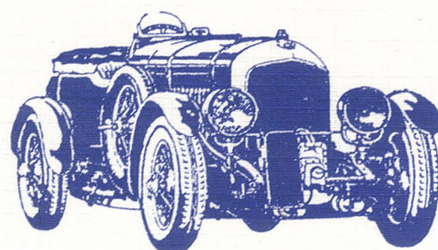
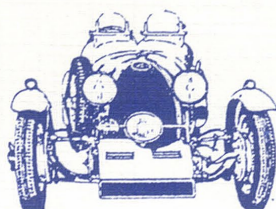
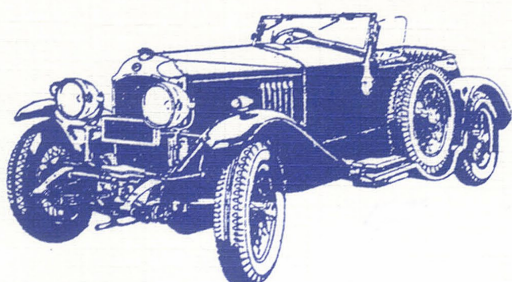
Welcome to our newest members

Margaret and Edward Snape of Goulburn joined us for lunch at the Loaded Dog in October and liked it so much that they joined the club. Now that they have fallen into our clutches, we look forward to seeing more of them and their 1979 Morgan 4/4 at forthcoming events. A warm welcome from all members to Margaret and Edward.



Big day coming up in Goulburn

The Golden Era Auto Racing Club (GEAR) is organizing a celebration of what they are calling the 85th anniversary of the first Australian Grand Prix which is said to have been held at the Goulburn showgrounds on 15 January 1927.



The celebration will commence on Friday 13 January 2012 at Belmore Park in the centre of Goulburn at around 10 a.m. with a display of vintage cars, motorcycles and racing cars. There will be entertainment, an official opening ceremony and in the evening a free outdoor movie show including comedies of the 1920s. Some of our older members may wish to skip this part as they have probably seen the reels before. However, if you turn up in period costume, you might be selected by the wandering judges to receive a fashion award.

Track events will follow on Saturday and Sunday at Wakefield Park. Club members who have vintage vehicles are invited to display them at Belmore Park on 13 January, and those who don't have such machines are of course welcome to go along and have a look. Confirmations from intending displayers should be sent to Gil Whitehouse, tel 0408.786685 or lhoy8@bigpond.com.

News from Council of Motor Clubs

We would like to remind our loyal readers that Ian Barges is the Chapter's delegate to the ACT Council of Motor Clubs and the man to call when you need to renew your ACT historic registration. Ian reports as follows on issues discussed at recent Council meetings.

Seat belts

Discussion continues on the potential safety issue of seat belts, historic cars without seat belts and small children riding in historic cars. There is a national agenda being discussed to either limit usage of cars for children under 7 years old without wearing a seat belt, or to implement a guideline on the issue. Nothing has yet been decided.

2013

There are many events on the provisional calendar for 2013. Among those well into the planning phase are a Canberra Centenary motoring event such as Wheels. For those with a vintage Vauxhall (who doesn't have one?), there are discussions about a Vauxhall only rally in Victoria and NSW (being organized by the VSCCA Sydney clan). The National Trust is keen to get a motor vehicle event underway as the new head of the Trust in Canberra is a keen historic car person with previous organizational roles in the Bay to Birdwood run. This could be combined with the Canberra Centenary event.

SIVS

A SIVS (Special Interest Vehicle Scheme) has been in the planning phase for a number of years and is targeted for implementation or at least acceptance by the Government by the end of 2012. SIVS would differ from the current CRS (Concessional Registration Scheme) in that it would allow greater freedom of vehicle usage for up to 90 days per year rather than vehicles being limited to events logged with the club or Council as at present. Currently the paperwork is with the ACT Government and has not yet gone to Treasury for approval or otherwise.

Caravans and trailers

Historic caravans and trailers were a hot topic at the last meeting. The less said the better, although it would be nice to see a Howitzer towed behind a '42 Jeep one day.



Drip trays

The Council is keen to encourage the use of drip trays (supplied and retrieved by the owner) in Canberra events to protect lawns and hard surfaces. This would assist in maintaining the harmonious relations which exist between the Council and Alfa fan Gary Rake, who is head of the NCA. If members can remember to bring a tray or piece of cardboard to events at OPH or the Patrick White lawns, it will help keep those areas accessible for future use.



The Great Gatsby

A couple of gentlemen with inside knowledge inform us that a certain well known Vauxhall 30/98 was in Sydney recently being filmed as part of a remake of *The Great Gatsby*, due for release about a year from now. Whether you are a budding actor or an accomplished car restorer, it's always nice to have a profile for your car in a quality fillum like this, so watch for it towards the end of 2012.

The Newsletter

The newsletter goes out every month as an email attachment to the Canberra regional members and to anyone else who expresses an interest in receiving it. If you don't want it by email, let John Phillips know and you can have it posted instead. Back issues are posted on the club web site.

Regalia

Calver carries the club regalia around in the boot of his Interceptor so if you see it and/or him, that's when you should make your move.

Navy blue bucket and surf hats are available at \$18. We have only a few so be quick if you want one of these. The club is also holding the enamel grille badges (\$60), clothing patches (\$5), adhesive decals (\$2), key rings (\$5) and two of the 2008 George Green Rally DVDs (\$10). For sunny or wet days, golf umbrellas with the VSCCA logo are available for \$30.

The stylish bomber jackets are a discontinued line but we have one L and one 2XL remaining at \$60 apiece. A new addition to our holdings is the popular polar fleece vest (two sizes available at \$30). We are fresh out of the stadium jackets but you can order these for \$45, and also the \$75 woollen navy pullovers, from Jim Cuthbert in Sydney. They are available in sizes 14 = S, 16 = M, 18 = L, 20 = XL, 22 = 2XL, 24 = 3XL, 26 = 4XL and 28 = 5XL.

Name badges

The Canberra Trophy Centre, 12 Molonglo Mall, Fyshwick, makes the proper VSCCA name badges for members. The order code is T-VSCCA-NB and you can have them in magnetic form for \$11.55 or with a pin for \$8.80. You can order by phone and have the badges posted for a little extra, or collect direct from the store. Their number is 6280 6520.

Club web site

John Grant looks after maintenance of the club web site and asks that all members submit photos of their cars, together with a brief technical description. You'll find the details at www.vsc.ca.org.au.

Contributions

If you have anything you want to spread around for the benefit of all, send it to Richard Calver for inclusion in the next newsletter. If you have a great idea about something to make things better, or anything at all related to the club and the Canberra Chapter, don't assume we know about it already – speak up and let your voice be heard. For longer stories, remember that Cliff King will be interested in anything you send for inclusion in the main publication, *The Vintage Car*.

Lakeside on Thursdays

Thursdays are for catching up with your clubmates down by the lake over lunch. With the weather warm and conducive, bring your folding chair and cut lunch to the water's edge at Yarralumla Bay. On the off-chance of rain, the alternate venue is the Turner Bowling Club in McCaughey St. Noon til whenever. UBD map 58, ref M10.

Breakfast at The Diplomat

There won't be a breakfast in December but other times the usual date is the final Sunday in the month, 0830 for 0900. Because we are dining among the hotel's in-house guests, we need to advise numbers in advance. Don't wait for Phillips to ring up and remind you. Make sure to RSVP a week ahead and we'll save you a place. Don't forget to pay, either.

Money matters

The Vegemite jar continues to give good service in attracting donations to support our activities and we have a useful reserve of \$707 in the kitty.

In the works

4 December — Terribly British Day

11 December — Christmas lunch, Springers Rest

Calendar

13 January — GEAR display at Goulburn

Farewell to 2011, hello to 2012

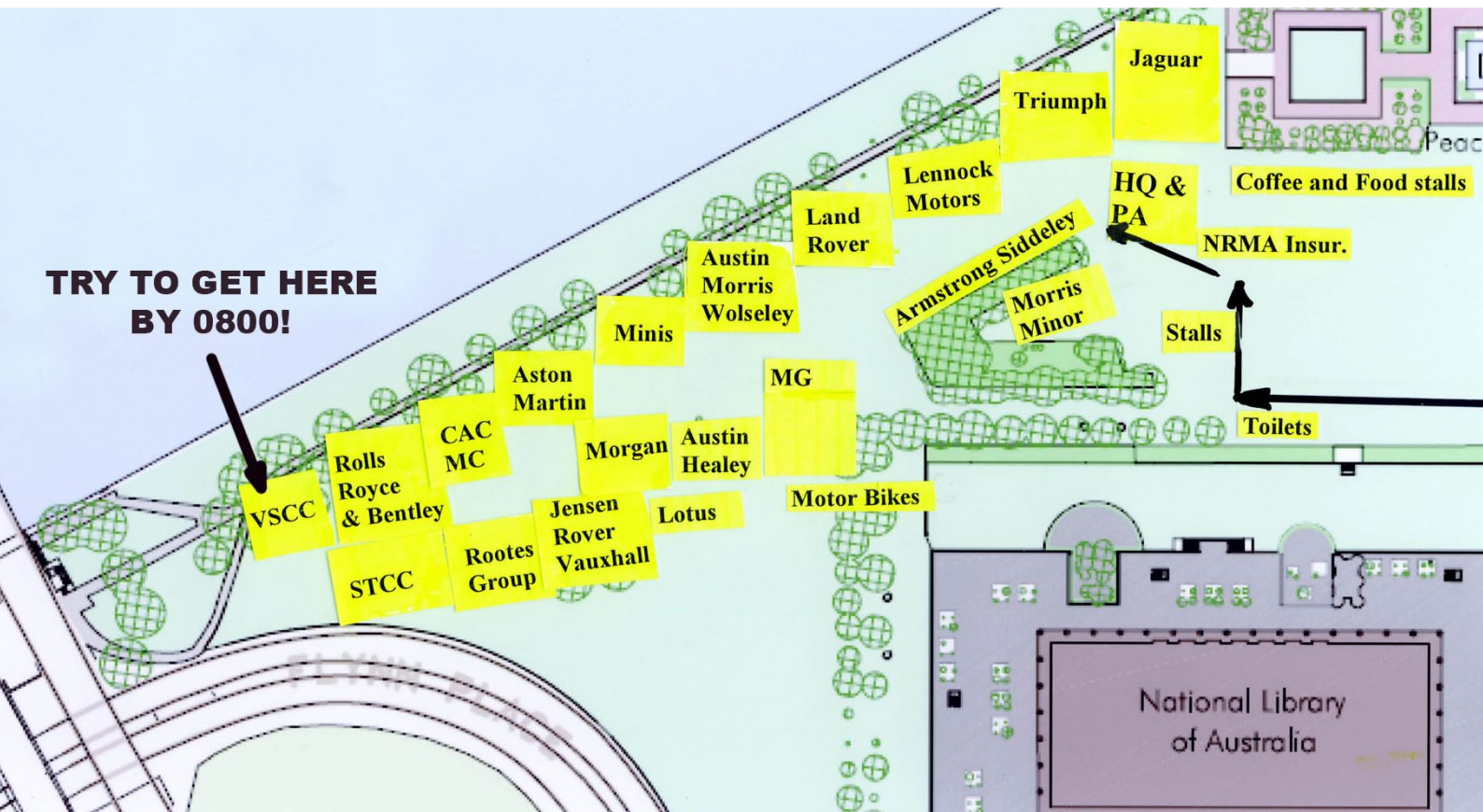
Well, another year has come and just about gone and the club in Canberra has gone from strength to strength. We have seen new members join our ranks, we've had some fine runs and rallies, and the comradeship remains strong and committed to the ideals of the outfit.

Any club is only as good as its membership and we are blessed with some dedicated and hard-working people who get things organized for the benefit of all. The coming year will no doubt see more changes to the line-up of cars and members in Canberra. There's lots to do and no time to do it, as always seems to be the case, so stay tuned, stay involved and support your club to the maximum whenever you can.

In our selection of featured photos this month, we include a few shots of the recent gathering on Mt Stromlo of the Delage chapter, welcomed in part by VSCCA Canberra members with their own (non-Delage) conveyances.

We look forward to seeing you all at our Christmas event and again in 2012.

TERRIBLY BRITISH DAY 4 DECEMBER



ATTRACTIONS AT THE BREAKFAST



SO FRENCHY, SO CHIC – OOH LA LA!



THE VINTAGE SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AUSTRALIA (CANBERRA CHAPTER)