



Canberra Chapter Newsletter

September 2011

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Cootamundra has something for all!

The third sprints are on next week

If you have been reading *The Vintage Car*, you will know that Sydney has organized another Cootamundra Sprints for the 3-4 September weekend.

This will be our official club run for September. In previous years, some of our members have gone up to have a look, either for the Saturday only or staying overnight and hob-nobbing with the Sydney crowd before returning on Sunday. The heavy rain last year didn't dampen spirits noticeably but what are the chances of that happening twice in a row? Not great, I reckon. We had a fine time last year in spite of the dismal weather and we are looking forward to going again.

For those with other interests, just up the road the folks at Temora will be putting on a Commonwealth flying day on the Saturday, weather permitting, featuring the Boomerang, Wirraway and Sabre aircraft.

As an added attraction for fossickers and bargain hunters, the Cootamundra Swap Meet will be staged over the same weekend, so there'll be something for everyone.

There's a dinner at the Services club on the Saturday night which promises to be as enjoyable as ever.

For overnight accommodation, we recommend the Heritage Motel at 94 Hurley St, tel 1300 221000. We can vouch from experience that this is a modern, comfortable and inexpensive setup and it's where the right crowd will be staying.

Competition entries are welcome and spectators are always accommodated — check *The Vintage Car* for details and contact Tim Shellshear in Sydney.

David Pearse's Bristol reunion

Driving along The Strand in Townsville recently in my Europcar, I happened to glance in the rear-vision mirror and was astonished to find that it revealed a Bristol 405 drophead - a very rare beast - immediately behind me.

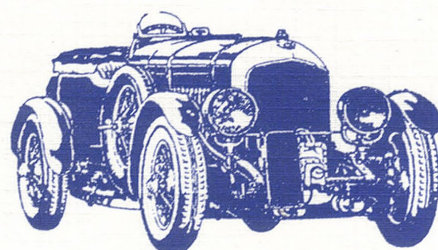
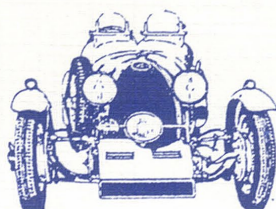
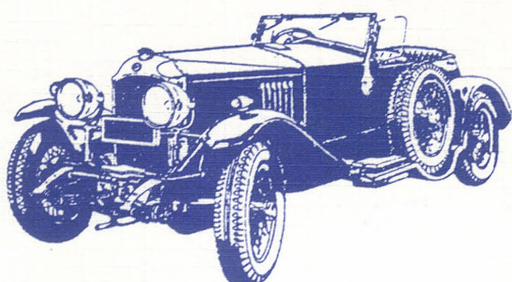
It swung into Mariners North, a high-rise block of holiday apartments, so naturally enough, I followed. The driver turned out to be Geoffrey Herdman, President of the British Bristol Owners' Club, who is touring the world with his wife Hilary.

So far, they've travelled from Miami to Canada then back down the west coast of the USA to Mexico, followed by Argentina as far south as Tierra del Fuego, then up through Chile as far as Santiago. The car was then shipped out of Valparaiso.

On its arrival in Adelaide, it was registered to avoid GST problems, whatever they were. From Adelaide, they drove via Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane up to Townsville, which they reached having done 27,000 miles since leaving the UK.

They went to Townsville to take part in the annual Australian Festival of Chamber Music (which is why I was there too). The car had been suffering erratic and very bad misfiring for over 700 miles, and he was getting desperate, as he'd tried everything but couldn't cure it. So I led him to a little garage I knew of old; they dropped everything and (working at the weekend) fixed it in two days.

They found a lot of gunge in the fuel system and thoroughly cleaned that out, reset the tappets, cleaned the air filter, and advanced the ignition a little. Bingo, it was back to its old self. I had left by then, and Geoffrey



emailed me to say that he thought this little garage had probably been the best and most enthusiastic garage they'd visited in Australia. They went on to Cairns, but I understand that they were intending to ship the car out by sea from Brisbane to southern Turkey round about the 23rd of August (Somali pirates permitting).

If you want to read about it, you can visit www.10DPG.com (10 DPG is the car's British registration number), then click on DPG's Diary, then on Diary, then on Day 370, then on Previous (at the bottom of the page), and keep clicking on Previous on each new page until you get to Day 367.

George Green is coming ...

Bookings for this year's George Green are nearly full — check *The Vintage Car* for details and contact Dave Stuart in Sydney for more information. An option for those in Canberra who do not wish to enrol for the full diploma is to take a part-time interest in proceedings on Saturday 8 October. Rally participants will be visiting the historic Bedervale Homestead near Braidwood and partaking of lunch so if you would like to join in for the day, that's an option. Just let Dave Stuart know so that costs and catering can be organized.

... and the geese are getting fat

Seems like we celebrated some kind of Christmas only last month but here it comes again. We are booked in provisionally at Murrumbateman for our closing event on 11 December and this time we are hopeful of enjoying one of those wonderful garden sessions which are so pleasant when the sun shines.

Jenny Foley is proposing to lay on a barbeque this year so that we can have a buffet under the trees. This will be a prepaid event for which you will need to make deposits into our account, so mark the date and start thinking about what hat to wear.

Lakeside on Thursdays

Thursdays are for catching up with your clubmates down by the lake over lunch. It's pretty brisk out there in winter but soon those days will be a thing of the past. Meantime, bring your folding chair and cut lunch down to the water's edge at Yarralumla Bay. On the off-chance of rain, we can use the alternate venue of the Turner Bowling Club in McCaughey St. Noon til whenever. UBD map 58, ref M10.

Breakfast at The Diplomat

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. This

means you need to confirm with Phillips ahead of time and not just show up on the day. Make sure to RSVP a week ahead and we'll save you a place.

Money matters

The Vegemite jar continues to give good service in attracting donations to support our activities and we have a useful reserve of \$805 in the kitty.

Calendar

28 August — breakfast at The Diplomat
3-4 September — Cootamundra Sprints
25 September — breakfast at The Diplomat

In the works

7-10 October — George Green rally
16 October — Loaded Dog, Tarago
11 December — Christmas lunch, Springers Rest

A-Team on the ball

The club continues to play a mean game right across the field with its star performers and supporters all contributing to the winning streak. Our top grade scorers are awarded a point for a behind, two points for a goal and three points for an exhibition grade try in the special monthly outing. Double points apply if the kicker is at least 30 years old and triple points if he is over 60 and playing in seniors. So far, our leader board looks like so:

John Phillips, manager	99
Richard Calver, coach	91
David Pearse, forward	71
John Clarke, goals	60
John Higham, wing	58
Andrew Riley, umpire	51
Brian Lockwood, crowd control	44
Mike Shanahan, ticketing	42
Peter Hoskin, rover	37
Peter Dechaineux, ruck	36
Graham Moore, trainer	32
Ian Phillips, band master	28
Geoff Nickols, medic	24
Vic & Warwick Nicholson, water boys	24
Brian Oxley, half back	24
Alistair Kinloch, owner	24
Arne Schimmelfeder, hot towels	22
Ray Gulson, cheer leader	21
Tim Friend, refreshments	18
Peter Makeham, publicity	18
Rob Baker, full back	18

PROGRESS ON THE SILVER GHOST



SUNNY SUMMIT OF MT STROMLO



THE VINTAGE SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AUSTRALIA (CANBERRA CHAPTER)