



Coordinating Committee

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Battle of Waterloo fought in Canberra!

Shock win to Wellington's side

20 June saw the Battle of Waterloo contested again on the Patrick White lawns behind the National Library. This automotive recreation of a different type of event entirely is a static contest fought annually between devotees of French and British cars for supremacy of a field on which the opposing marques line up facing one another.

The French had the high ground this year but it didn't save them from defeat, the outcome being decided by a simple count of cars in which the British won handsomely.

VSCCA members were flying flags on both sides of this squabble and afterwards a few of them retired to The Pork Barrel Café in the parliamentary rose garden to lick their wounds. This is a nice place to take a break from slaying the enemy, offering as it does both shelter from the elements and good fare to boot. We liked it so much that we considered using it for our weekly runs during the winter months, but in the end decided that old car enthusiasts should be tough enough to withstand a little bracing weather from time to time.

Canberra Driving Tests?

Your Committee has floated with Sydney the idea of a Driving Tests event to be held in March 2011 at the Sutton Road Driver Training Complex. This would build on the success of the Yarralumla display, but would be open to all club members.

There are three tracks at Sutton Road which suit the purposes of a club such as ours. There is a handling circuit of 2.5 km in length used for developing skills under road conditions. There is a smaller surface of 100×100m used to train drivers in manoeuvrability situations, and there is a skidpan circuit for practising in wet conditions.

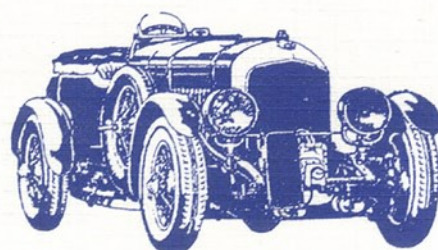
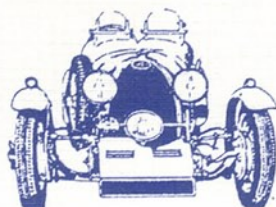
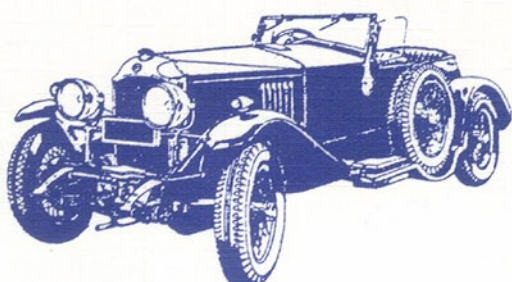
It is hoped to book all three tracks for a Sunday morning event lasting about 5 hours. Marshals would run each track continuously and simultaneously so that participants could drive on any or all of the circuits as they preferred. A feeder queue would operate on each circuit so that drivers, after completing a circuit, could return to the back of the queue for a further attempt or else go to another circuit. Those who participated in the Jensen event at Sutton Road in April 2009 know what it's all about.

To facilitate participation by drivers from Sydney or further afield, we would make this a weekend event. Sydney members could drive to Canberra on the Saturday and stay at The Diplomat Hotel where a club booking would be arranged as with the Yarralumla show. A dinner would be held at the hotel on the Saturday night and members would be escorted to Sutton Road on the Sunday morning, returning to Sydney in the afternoon.

To make it viable financially, at least 30 cars would be required. To cover costs, a fee of about \$50 would be charged per car admitted. Those requiring the BBQ lunch afterwards would pay about \$20 per head. These amounts could vary depending on the level of support.

As an added attraction, it might be possible to attract sponsorship from Canberra motor dealers who could provide the loan of some modern performance vehicles which could be tested or demonstrated on the circuits.

Because the track needs to be booked well in advance, we need expressions of interest now. If you would like to attend this event, send an email to Richard Calver or phone John Phillips. There's no obligation to follow through but the more expressions of support we receive, the better the chances of it going ahead.



In the works

Coming up soon is our Christmas in July. The venue is Springers Rest, Murrumbateman, on Sunday 11 July. You know how well we are treated there so confirm your acceptance to John Phillips now and mark it in your diary. The cost will be \$40 a head, drinks on top at your option.

We've had good reports about Linda's Restaurant at the Goolabri Resort just north of Canberra so we are considering a fireside lunch there for our run in August.

Sydney has organized another Cootamundra Sprints for the 4-5 September weekend and that will be an official run for the Canberra Chapter. We had a great time last year and are looking forward to going again.

Suggestions for our closing run in October include a visit to Lanyon Homestead, the Carrington in Bungendore, or an overnigher taking in the landra Castle and McFeeters Motor Museum in Forbes.

The Wolseley Hornet Special Club has a few members in Canberra and the club's annual rally, to be staged here from 15 to 17 October, will be of interest to those devotees of the marque.

Marques in the Park will be held in November, date TBA, but now it will be staged on the Patrick White lawns behind the National Library, like all the other events this year, rather than in Belconnen as in previous years.

Syd Reinhardt is organizing an excursion for the Sydney people based around Braidwood's annual airing of the quilts. The cars will leave Sydney on Friday 26 November and head home on Sunday 28 November. Details are in *The Vintage Car*. The lunch and dinner on the Saturday promise to be enjoyable and interesting opportunities for Canberra members to mix and mingle with our comrades, so watch for further announcements.

Terribly British Day, which is organized by the Jaguar Drivers Club, will be held on Sunday 5 December on the lawns behind the National Library. Our club has been invited to put on a display and our inclination is to do so. If you would like your British car to be included, let us know so that we can convey numbers to the organizers. All members are of course welcome to go along for a squiz.

Club web site

John Grant has taken on the task of maintaining the club web site and has asked if all members would kindly submit photos of their cars, together with a brief technical description, for inclusion. You can find details at www.vsc.ca.org.au.

Vale Garry Bates

Members will have heard by now of the death of Garry Bates who passed away on 13 June after losing a long fight with cancer. Several of our Chapter attended the service at St Philip's Anglican Church in Bungendore on 18 June. Also in attendance were folks from the MG Car Club, of which Garry was a member. We extend our sympathies to Beverley and the family. So long, mate.



The Newsletter

The Canberra Newsletter goes out about every month, depending on the pace of events. It is sent 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.

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 it in magnetic form for \$11.55 or with a pin for \$8.50 (prices correct last time we checked). You can order by phone and have it posted for a little extra, or collect direct from the store. Their number is 6280 6520.

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 might send him for inclusion in the main publication, *The Vintage Car*.

Money matters

The Vegemite jar continues to give good service in attracting donations to support the activities of the Canberra Chapter. We now have \$501 in the kitty, giving us a handy reserve for planning future events.

Lakeside

Our weekly sojourns to Yarralumla Bay continue to attract a good roll-up and no wonder — the right crowd and no crowding, as always. In deference to the weather, a jacket would be a good idea at this time of year.

We have been thinking about switching to an indoor venue for the colder months but so far haven't come up with anything suitable. Maybe we'll get there by next winter. Meantime, if you have a good workable idea, let the Committee know. If not, don't moan about the cold after driving to the lake in an open car and forgetting to bring your excellent VSCCA jacket. 11:30 til whenever. UBD map 58, ref M10.

Breakfast at Delissios

The club breakfast at Delissios in Curtin is held on the last Sunday in the month, 08:30 for 09:00. The price is \$15 so have the exact money ready as you go in. Overpayment on your part will be considered a donation on our part, unless by some miracle there is still change left when you show up late.

Dates to mark in your calendar

11 July – Christmas in July, Murrumbateman
25 July – breakfast at Delissios

It's life as we know it

In their never ending quest to push back the final frontiers of classic car ownership, the members of the Starship Canberra are extending themselves ever further in the search for new and exciting discoveries across the automotive universe. Boldly going where no self-respecting driver has gone before are :

First Officer Richard T. Calver	83
Chief Engineer John T. Phillips	80
Romulan Brian T. Oxley	56
Klingon Geoffrey T. Venn	55
Capt. Graham T. Moore	37
Lt. John T. Higham	37
Lt. Cdr. Geoffrey T. Nickols	36
Ensign Peter T. Makeham	33
Second Officer Brian T. Lockwood	33
Helmsman David T. Pearse	33
Navigator Ian T. Kenny	31
Tactical Officer Andrew T. Riley	29
Yeoman Ian T. Phillips	26
Security Officer Robert T. Baker	23
Vulcan Peter T. Dechaineux	22
Ship's Biologist Bryan T. Purcell	21
Captain's Log John T. Prentice	19
Science Officer Phillip T. Coltman	15
Chief Medical Officer Arne T. Schimmelfeder	15
Communications Officer John T. Clarke	13

Welcome to our latest (car) member

Bryan and Jan Purcell are now the proud owners of a lovely MG TC which made its debut at the Battle of Waterloo and played its part in the victory achieved by Wellington over the French. Our Hero is pictured below.



Jensens at Sutton Road, Easter 2009



The Battle of Waterloo in Canberra



Wellington's victory – Best of British!



THE VINTAGE SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AUSTRALIA (CANBERRA CHAPTER)