Canberra Chapter Newsletter

October 2010

Coordinating Committee

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Cootamundra Sprints and Temora air show

Rain or shine, the show goes on!

The club's sprint day at Cootamundra on 4 September took place in appalling weather conditions which resulted in large sections of northern Victoria and southern NSW becoming flooded, with disaster relief services stretched to the limit for days afterwards.

Such difficulties, great though they were, were as nothing when compared with the trials of navigating a 50-year old car through deep water on a washed out airstrip at speeds of 100 mph or more. A stalwart band of die-hard enthusiasts braved the atrocious conditions to achieve exactly this, namely straight-line speed runs which tested the endurance of man and machine to the limit.

With such trials completed as could reasonably be attained under the circumstances, competitors and spectators alike repaired to the relative comforts of saloon cars and saloon bars for warmth and respite.

The Canberra contingent decided to brave the conditions and push on to Temora where the historic aircraft museum was in full swing and where, remarkably, a break in the weather allowed four of the finest vintage warbirds to take to the skies for some stupendous formation flying. Our resident photographer was on hand to capture the lovely image which we reproduce elsewhere in this exceptionally fine newsletter.

It goes to show, you can get wet and cold and still have fun, so in future don't be put off by a little rain or wind when the club organizes these events. The cars may be what draws us together, but it's the cameraderie of the day that you take home with you in the memory bank.

Well done Sydney for all your hard work in laying this on for us. More sporting events, please!

To the Loaded Dog with an old dog

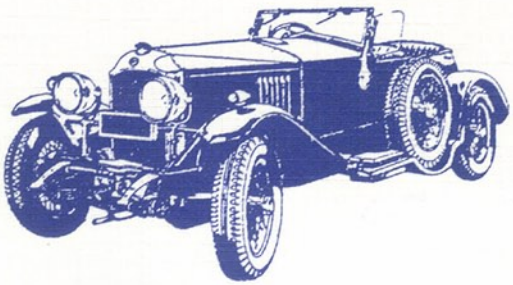
Our lunch run on 10 October will be to the Loaded Dog at Tarago where our hosts Nicole and Mark Ryan will be sitting us down to a fine repast. Many of you know this rustic establishment which has served us admirably on previous occasions. You will be ordering individually, so pre-payment is not required, but we do need numbers in advance so let one of the committee know your intentions without delay. We will meet at noon for a 1230 sit down. How could you forget a date like 10/10/10?

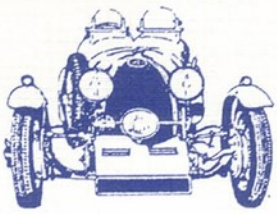
Canberra Driving Tests

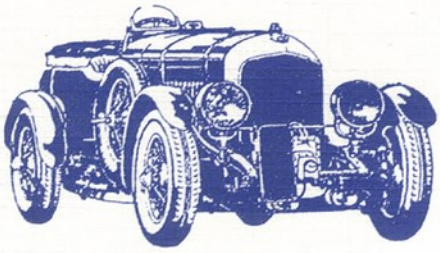
Sydney has approved our cunning plan to host a Driving Tests event on 13 March 2011 at Sutton Road. Because the track needs to be booked months in advance, we are seeking expressions of interest now. If you would like to attend, send an email to Richard Calver or phone John Phillips. There's no obligation to follow through but, the more expressions of support we receive, the better the chances of it going ahead. We need confirmations by the end of December. No confirmations – no show. No promises about the weather either, but we've put in a word with the bureau and are hopeful that someone on a higher plane will watch over our day.

A gentleman's carriage

Andrew Riley's 1963 Daimler V8 saloon is for sale. We saw it at the breakfast last week and it looked a picture of periodicity, nicely patinated and running well. Andrew and the car live in relative harmony at Bungendore and their particulars may be found in your club register. If you are interested in breaking up the happy relationship, give Andrew a call and start haggling around the $8,500 mark.







Pull the wool, tip the bucket

New club regalia is available from Sydney with a minimum order of six items. The all-wool navy pullovers are available in sizes 14 = S, 16 = M, 18 = L, 20 = XL, 22 = XXL, 24 = 3XL, 26 = 4XL and 28 = 5XL. These are $85 each including postage to Canberra. Matching navy bucket hats are available at $25 each, post included, in sizes M, L and XL. To order, contact John Phillips. Payment will be requested once the minimum numbers are reached. These items are not stocked and have to be made, hence the requirement for minimum orders.

Lakeside on Thursdays

Thursdays are for catching up with your clubmates down by the lake over lunch. With the weather turning warm again, it can only get better so bring your folding chair and sandwiches to Yarralumla Bay. In case of rain, we'll be at the alternate venue of the Turner Bowling Club in McCaughey St. 1130 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, 0830 for 0900. 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. The October breakfast will be the last scored event for the year, so come along in a proper car and boost your final tally by 4 points.

October calendar

10 October – lunch run to Tarago
15-18 October – George Green rally
31 October – breakfast at Delissios

In the works

Marques in the Park will be held on Sunday 21 November, not on the Patrick White lawns behind the National Library as everyone had been expecting, but at Belconnen in the John Knight Memorial Park as in previous years, and no wonder – they're expecting 1000 cars this time. Looking is still free and they have something for all tastes.

Syd Reinhardt is organizing a Thanksgiving Weekend based around Braidwood's annual airing of the quilts. Cars will leave Sydney on Friday 26 November and head home on Sunday 28 November. Lunch on the Saturday promises to be an interesting opportunity for Canberra members to mix and mingle with our visiting comrades or join the display in the town centre with an appropriate car. There will also be a dinner that evening at Trapper's Motel just south of Goulburn. Details are in *The Vintage Car*.

Tewibbly Bwiddish Day, 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. However, nobody has expressed any interest in going along so the chances are not looking good. If you would like your British car to be displayed under the VSCCA banner, let us know so that we can decide and, if necessary, convey numbers to the organizers.

Our closing event for the year will be lunch at Springers Rest at Murrumbateman on Sunday 12 December. Costs will be advised next month and pre-payment into the club bank account will be required. Confirm attendance now with Herr Phillips and mark it in your diary.

Money matters

The Vegemite jar continues to give good service in attracting donations to support our activities and we now have a useful reserve of $734 in the kitty.

More new members

Another two devotees of old cars have applied to join our ranks and their forms are with Sydney for processing. This is encouraging news because it shows we have what it takes to continue to attract interest in our club. Once we have the proper notices, we shall be delighted to welcome the newcomers to our growing band.

Conduct unbelievable

For their sterling efforts in supporting the VSCCA's multifarious undertakings in Canberra so far this year, we pay due regards to the achievements of:

The unsurpassable John Phillips	122
The unassuming Richard Calver	117
The unmoving Geoff Venn	60
The understated Brian Oxley	58
The unforgettable Graham Moore	57
The undeniable John Higham	54
The unimpeachable David Pearse	53
The unwavering Andrew Riley	51
The unassailable Brian Lockwood	49
The unbiased Peter Makeham	48
The unmitigated Geoff Nickols	43
The unintentional Ian Phillips	42
The unutterable Ian Kenny	37
The unobjectionable Bryan Purcell	33
The undiscoverable Peter Dechaineux	32
The unexpurgated John Clarke	31
The undivided Rob Baker	30
The unpretentious John Prentice	26
The unadulterated Arne Schimmelfeder	20
The untouchable Ray Gulson	16

Temora airshow still flying high

Come rain or shine, we will race!