



An incorporated club

A0035462V

A friendly family social motoring club

Edition 81

December 2004

Your ABCCC News

REFLECTIONS



This superb MG 'A' is owned by new member, Mauro Farinola, who has kindly sent in a really good portfolio of photographs of this well travelled MG. It was exported from the factory in Abingdon in 1959 to its first owner in Kenya. It was used in that location until 1979, when the original owner moved to South Africa. The car and its owner then migrated to Australia in 1987. The car was then sold while in South Australia and its unknown owner kept it in storage in Adelaide.

Mauro bought the MG in Adelaide and he has owned it since 1991. This car was fully registered in South Australia and then again in Victoria. The car is now operated on the Victorian Club Permit Scheme. It is Mauro's intention to be an active club member using this beautiful condition MG. Other photographs will appear as space is available.

Please send in photographs of your British Classic so that it can be featured here – otherwise, more Jowett pictures! A small description of the car and how it was purchased would also be nice.

"Owning and Appreciating the Spirit of Fine British Classics"

ALL BRITISH CLASSICS CAR CLUB (VIC.) INC. – YOUR COMMITTEE

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THE ALL BRITISH CLASSICS CAR CLUB WEBSITE IS <http://www.abccc.com.au>

IMPORTANT CLUB INFORMATION

Introduction

The All British Classics Car Club of Victoria Incorporated, hereafter called the ABCCC, is a fully incorporated club in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act. Accordingly, any publication or document officially issued by the ABCCC, must carry the ABCCC's Association Incorporation Registered Number: A0035462V.

The ABCCC Magazine (Including Disclaimer)

The publication, *Your ABCCC News*, is the official magazine of the ABCCC Inc. It is published once a month, with the exception of December. The magazine's issue date is during the week of the 25th of each month. To make the editor's task a little easier, it is requested that articles, events information and photographs are with the Magazine Editor prior to the 14th of each month.

Articles published in *Your ABCCC News* may be used without permission. However, the ABCCC does ask that appropriate acknowledgment be given.

This publication contains general information that should not be relied upon without specific advice from a suitably qualified professional. The authors and the All British Classics Car Club Incorporated expressly disclaim liability for anything done or omitted to be done by any person in consequence with the contents of this publication.

Those products and/or services mentioned in this publication are not necessarily endorsed by the ABCCC Inc. Articles and photographs published in *Your ABCCC News* do not necessarily reflect the views of the Committee, the Club's Membership or the ABCCC Inc. Events, other than those conducted by the ABCCC, are included for interest purposes only, and they are reproduced in good faith. The ABCCC Inc. cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies relating to other clubs' listed events.

For those members who receive their issue of *Your ABCCC News* via E-mail, the magazine will be available to download from the ABCCC website <http://www.abccc.com.au> at the same time that the printed copy of the magazine is mailed to those club members who do not have access to the Internet.

Address all correspondence to: The Magazine Editor, 59 Rowson Street, Boronia, Victoria, 3155. Other editorial contact information is listed above.

The Association of Motoring Clubs Inc.

The ABCCC Inc. is a long-time member club of the Association of Motoring Clubs Inc. (AOMC). It maintains two Delegates to the AOMC, who attend four Delegates' Meetings conducted by the AOMC per year. The meetings are on the fourth Monday of February, May, August and November and they commence at 8:00 pm. The venues for the meetings can be obtained from the ABCCC Delegates. Visitors are very welcome at all AOMC Delegates' Meetings. The ABCCC also sends representatives to AOMC conducted Information Seminars. The ABCCC also supports, enthusiastically, the motoring shows presented by the AOMC.

The Victorian Club Permit Scheme

The ABCCC Inc. is a club that is authorized by VicRoads to operate vehicles under the Victorian Club Permit Scheme. On the Committee there are two Victorian Club Permit Scheme Officers, and their contact details are listed in the Committee Directory.

Club members will be kept up to date with respect to changes and improvements to the Victorian Club Permit Scheme. However, it cannot be stressed enough, that a vehicle operated on the scheme, must carry the VicRoads Permit (current), the AOMC Victorian Club Permit Scheme Handbook and a copy of *Your ABCCC News* that contains details of the event the permitted vehicle is participating in.

All enquiries should be directed to the ABCCC Victorian Club Permit Scheme Officers.

Membership Subscriptions

The annual membership subscription for the ABCCC Inc. is \$35.00. There is a joining fee of \$20.00.

Please send membership subscriptions to Pat Douglas, 14 Grandvalley Drive, Chirnside Park, Victoria, 3116.

Membership subscriptions should be paid prior to the end of December.

COMING EVENTS

Note: All events listed in this directory are placed in good faith. Events for inclusion must be with the Magazine Editor prior to the 14th of each month. Events organized by other clubs or associations have a contact telephone number, that should be contacted prior to the event, if giving consideration to take part in it, to confirm date and venue.

December 2004

- | | | |
|----|---|------------------------------|
| 5 | Christmas Break-up Luncheon (Note the confirmation of this date)
Venue – RACV Country Club, Healesville, Victoria. | Frank Douglas (03) 8704 2533 |
| 12 | Early Morning Run – ABCCC Event | Chris Newell (03) 9735 2335 |

January 2005

- | | | |
|----|---|------------------------------|
| 16 | Rally Bag Stuffing Day. Start at 10:00 am.
Venue – 14 Grand Valley Drive, Chirnside Park | Frank Douglas (03) 8704 2533 |
| 23 | The RACV Great Australian Rally – ABCCC Inc.
Start Points – Fox Classic Car Collection, Docklands; Brandon Park, Glen Waverley; Casey City Council, Narre Warren and, Western Port Marina, Hastings.
Finish point – Mornington Racecourse | Frank Douglas (03) 8704 2533 |

February 2005

- | | | |
|---------|--|-------------------------------|
| 13 | ABCCC Annual General Meeting. Commences at 2:00 pm
BYO Picnic Lunch and a chair.
Venue – Como Gardens, Basin-Olinda Road, The Basin. | Val Jeffereyes (03) 9725 1117 |
| 19 – 20 | South Gippsland Wanderings – ABCCC Event.
Note – The date has changed! | Jim Spence (03) 5956 6124 |

IMPORTANT! Book Now for South Gippsland Wanderings! Motel cannot hold rooms for much longer.

- | | | |
|---------|---|--|
| 26 – 27 | Shannons Historic Race Meeting
Venue – Phillip Island GP Circuit, Back Beach Road, Phillip Island, Victoria. | |
|---------|---|--|

March 2005

- | | | |
|---------|--|---|
| 12 – 18 | 4 th RACV Fly The Flag Tour – ABCCC Inc.
"Alpine & Lakes Tour" | Frank Douglas (03) 8704 2533 |
| 19 | Set-up Session for RACV British & European Motoring Show | Frank Douglas (03) 8704 2533 |
| 20 | RACV British & European Motoring Show – AOMC
Venue – Dandenong Showgrounds, enter from Sinclair Street. | Frank Douglas (03) 8704 2533
Mike Allfrey (09) 9729 1480 |

April 2005

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| 3 | Pub Run – ABCCC Event | Bill Allen (03) 9846 2323 |
| 16 | Set-up Session for RACV American Motoring Show. | Frank Douglas (03) 8704 2533 |
| 17 | RACV American Motoring Show – AOMC
Venue – Mornington Racecourse, Mornington. | Frank Douglas (03) 8704 2533
Mike Allfrey (03) 9729 1480 |

May 2005

- 1 Como House Luncheon & Tour – ABCCC Event Lyn Higginson (03) 9336 7306
In addition to the lunch and tour, there will be a Farmers' Market in the grounds.
Como House, Como Avenue, South Yarra.
- 22 Club Run – ABCCC Event Mike Allfrey (03) 9729 1480
Visit a country car club for a joint tour and lunch.
- 28 – 29 Historic Winton – Austin 7 Club. Grant Campbell

June 2005

- 11 – 13 Weekend Away – ABCCC Event Lyn Higginson (03) 9336 7306
On the Sunday, take part in display at the Echuca Steam Rally.
Venue – Flag River Country Inn, Meninya Street, Moama, New South Wales.
- 25 – 26 RACQ Motoring of Yesteryear 2005 Centenary Celebrations Albert Budworth (7)3361 2424
Finish point of run from Cairns to Brisbane organized by the RACQ.
Venue – St Joseph's College Playing Fields, Vivian Street, Tennyson, Brisbane, Queensland.
- 26 Event to be advised.

July 2005

- 10 Event to be advised.
- 24 Annual Dinner – ABCCC Event. Frank Douglas (03) 8704 2533

August 2005

- 14 Event to be advised.
- 27 The Grand ABCCC Trivia Challenge Colin Brown (03) 5964 9291

September 2005

- 14 Mid-week Run – ABCCC Event
- 25 Event to be advised.

October 2005

- 9 Event to be advised.
- 23 Event to be advised.

November 2005

- 1 Yarra Glen Races (Cup Day)
- 20 Mystery Bus Ride – ABCCC Event Ray Higginson (03) 9370 5236

December 2005

- 11 Christmas Luncheon – ABCCC Event Frank Douglas (03) 8704 2533
Venue – RACV Country Club, Healesville.
- 18 Early Morning Run – ABCCC Event Tony Pettigrew (03) 9739 1146

PLEASE NOTE!

This coming events directory is as accurate as we can make it. However, it is possible that an event's date, format or venue could change. All changes to event information will be placed in this directory as soon as they are conveyed to the magazine editor.

In fairness to our event organizers, please advise them of your intention to take part in an event. They need to know numbers, particularly if any catering or meal bookings are involved.

EDITORIAL NOTES – ISSUE 81

Being at the stage where another year is nearly completed, means that the Bendigo National Swap Meet has come and gone. This year the weather was kinder to us, and the Friday night rain storm did much to keep the dust down. On the Saturday, the close-to public parking areas were full before 6:30 am, a fair indicator of the crowd's size and interest. For some years now, my club has had a site in Club Corner, a free site located inside the main site booking hall. This is an area for promoting a club by being in attendance and handing out club information and membership forms. Sometimes we acquire new members through our display.

Maybe we can share the Jowett Car Club site by erecting a banner and having a supply of ABCCC information to hand out. It would certainly help promote our club. Next year, if anyone wishes to provide assistance, please contact me and we'll work out a site manning schedule.

This year has witnessed some extremely disturbing happenings within the historic vehicle movement. Firstly, there were a number of forged entry passes into the display area for the RACV Great Australian Rally. Steps have already been taken to ensure that this does not happen again. Secondly, even more disturbing, was the announcement at the Bendigo National Swap Meet that fake \$50.00 notes were being circulated. Site holders were warned by officials to be careful and, in the afternoon, there was a significant police presence. Our movement has for many years been free of such activities and organizers have had respect and trust from such events' participants. Such trends are extremely worrying for the credibility of major events that could so easily be brought into disrepute.

This has been a very busy, and satisfying, year for our club. We have enjoyed good attendances to our events. And, I believe, all have been most enjoyable. Our calendar is now being handed out well in time for next year's events. The dates are firm but some events may change slightly. No matter, any changes will be broadcast in this magazine as they happen. If you want a calendar – well, you all know who to contact, Frank on (03) 8704 2533.

Our Committee wishes all members a very special Christmas Season and a very Happy New Year. May safe and enjoyable driving of those precious classics and their denizens be with you for 2005. This greeting is a bit early, but the next issue will not be published until end of December.

Mike Allfrey.

A SPECIAL ABCCC MILESTONE

The new members listed in this issue have ensured that our club has reached an important milestone – we now have more than one-hundred members. The magic 'ton' also brings a few ponderables that will require discussion at our Annual General Meeting in February. We shall be discussing whether the ABCCC's membership should be limited to a certain number, or whether the club should keep on growing *ad infinitum*, with all the consequences that go with that. Should we decide in February that numbers should be limited, we will also need to decide at what number we should be limited to and how to implement a waiting list.

Please give this agenda item some thought prior to our AGM.

VALE

It is with great sadness that we advise of the passing of Wilma Gardini, wife of Ray, after a long illness. Our sincere condolences to Ray and family.

MAJOR EVENTS' PROGRESS

The RACV Great Australian Rally

This event is fast approaching now. We are at the fine tuning and tying up loose ends stage. For the Hastings start, we are planning to have a display of sample cars at the Hastings Thursday Market in the two weeks prior to the event. This will provide an opportunity for gaining good publicity from the local newspaper and would help make market goers aware of the part Hastings is playing in this event, and the finish display at Mornington. We are therefore, asking for some volunteers to display their cars at the market. If you can help promote this event by displaying your classic on two Thursdays, please contact Mike Allfrey on (03) 9729 1480 **now**.

Rally Bag Stuffing Day

An important aspect of the RACV Great Australian Rally, is the bag that contains the rally kit and other items. To make up these bags we have what is now known as the Rally Bag Stuffing Day. This activity will take place on Sunday 16th January, at the home of Frank and Pat Douglas. We look forward to your help with this important part of the rally. If you can help on the day, please call Frank on (03) 8704 2533.

A Major Events Comment

Reading the foregoing reports on our major events progress, you can be forgiven for thinking that we are over-playing the calling for volunteers matter. This is largely true. However, **it is our major events that are the financial backbone of our club**. Monetary donations from these events go a long way to providing the funds required to operate our club. There are some costs that membership subscriptions alone can not cover. It is therefore vital that we all put in that little bit of effort so that we can continue to enjoy a very low subscription, but have a great amount of wonderful club activity in spite of those low rates. We look forward to your help as it is called for. **The ABCCC is an equal opportunity volunteer recruiter!**

Mike Allfrey.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Already it is that time of year again when membership subscriptions are due. The importance of being a financial member of a club cannot be stressed enough. Currently, our Public Liability Insurance premium is based on the number of financial members our club has. In addition, a member of this club who operates a motor vehicle on the Victorian Club Permit Scheme, through the authorisation of the ABCCC Inc., must be a financial club member. If not, the vehicle being used on the Scheme, is judged to be an unregistered motor vehicle, and the normal penalties apply for driving an unregistered vehicle.

Please send your subscription of \$35.00 to Pat Douglas, 14 Grand Valley Drive, Chirnside Park, VICTORIA, 3116. Cheques should be made payable to the All British Classics Car Club Inc., not to the ABCCC. Please ensure that your subscriptions are lodged prior to the end of December.

Thank you.

Pat Douglas – Membership Secretary.

Brain Teaser

Where was Moses when the oil lamp was extinguished by a breath of Holy air?

Look for the answer. It is hidden in the text!

THE RACV AUSTRALIAN CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE

Recently our President, Frank Douglas, submitted a proposal to the President of the Royal Automobile Club of Victoria (RACV), Mr David Bullard, for a new event to be created in the name of the RACV.

This event is the RACV Australian Concours d'Elegance – an event that is proposed would become the number one Historic Motoring Event in Australia. It is proposed that the RACV Australian Concours d'Elegance be an annual event that would be conducted in one of Melbourne's major exhibition complexes over a number of days.

Having received the submission, the RACV has authorised further planning and development of this prestigious event.

It is presumed that the All British Classics Car Club will be involved with this exciting new event.

Frank Douglas – President.

DRIVING GLOVES

Recently your Editor sought to replace his driving gloves that had given sterling service, and placed a plea for the source of such string-backed gloves in Melbourne. Harry Cooper kindly advised that Henry Bucks in the city could supply. They were contacted, but had no stock.

Now, we have an item from Chris Newell about driving gloves:

"One of our members (*Triumph Car Club*) has been looking for some driving gloves for some time and has found a gentleman who sells a whole range of beautiful looking soft leather gloves 'for the sports car enthusiast and those who wish to make driving more pleasurable'. He even offered a range of fingerless gloves, presumably for those who want to make their intentions absolutely clear to other motorists."

"MokPok is the name of the supplier, and although they are really set up to deal with the trade, I am told that they will sell directly to car enthusiasts. MokPok's office is on 1st Floor, 109 Canterbury Road, Heathmont and their telephone number is (03) 9729 2228. Their gloves cost about \$30.00 per pair – with or without fingers."

Chris Newell.

REQUEST FOR VARIETY CLUB BASH VEHICLE

Club member Barry Coates is on the lookout for a car that can be donated for the Variety Club bash. The car should be of pre-1970 age and in a condition suitable for Bash preparation. The preparers will be a group of students at the local technical and further education college.

If you have a suitable motor car and wish to donate it to a worthy fund raising cause, then please contact Barry Coates on (03) 9776 3037, or, E-mail to bcoates@barringtonbc.com.au.

A donated motor car will be greatly appreciated by the students, it will also help bring youth into the hobby of old cars and such.

Barry Coates.

PAST AND FUTURE EVENT REPORTS

ALONG THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD – 30th & 31st October, 2004

Those taking part: Tony Hodges (*Armstrong-Siddeley Sapphire*), Harry & Jean Cooper (*Daimler V8 250*), Frank & Pat Douglas (*Rolls Royce Silver Spur*), Colin & Joy Brown (*Jaguar XK150 FHC*), Ray & Lyn Higginson (*1981 Rolls Royce*), Ross & Pat Wolstenholme (*Aston Martin DB5*), Richard & Pauline Tonkin (*Alvis Graber*), Jim Spence and Val Jefferyes (*Jaguar XJ-6*), Rob & Mary Nolan (*Mazda Modern*) and Mike & Sue Allfrey (*Rover 75 Modern*).

It was a fine clear Saturday morning when the Ocean Road Tourers met at the Todd Road Service Area on the Westgate Freeway, at 9:43 am precisely as instructed in the tour directions in a recent *Your ABCCC News*. After a quick coffee at the KFC, we departed for Geelong at 10:00 am sharp. The run down Geelong Road was quite busy, but wasn't a solid 100 kph three lane sausage. However, once we were in Geelong and on the advisory route that sort of by-passes the main CBD, traffic was slowed down dramatically. Three into two (sometimes one) does not go, hence the queue of holiday traffic. Once through Geelong and past Deakin University, we had the road to Anglesea virtually to ourselves. It was a very easy task finding the Anglesea Golf Club for our luncheon stop.

While we had a superb lunch, we did see some kangaroos hopping around the practice green. It was in the car park that the participating cars were lined up for a photo session.



Cars basking in sunshine at Anglesea Golf Club, left to right – Daimler, Aston Martin, Jaguar XJ-6, Jaguar XK150, Rover, Armstrong Siddeley, Alvis, Rolls Royce (2). A fine variety of six and eight cylinder British engines.

After lunch we set off along the Great Ocean Road for Lorne. The sea was brilliant turquoise and the surf was bright creamy white. Upon our arrival at Lorne, we checked in at the Lorne Coachman Motor Inn and,

for the rest of the afternoon, did our own thing. We chose to walk along the beach to the jetty. Of course, once there, we had to walk right to jetty's end. Upon returning, we had a long cool drink at Spiro's Bar and then set off back to our motel. On the way we met Rob and Mary who had just arrived after crossing from Sorrento to Queenscliff on a later than anticipated ferry. Others did their own thing and after some nibbles it was time to head for the Lorne Hotel for our evening meal. This is a place that has changed since the last time we'd stayed there for a weekend. The bistro dining room had the appearance of feeding the 40,000, all at once. Thankfully, Tony had made a booking for us and the meal went smoothly. It was interesting to note that as we departed replete, there were more than 100 people waiting for tables. We were indeed fortunate.

Next morning we made an early start, at 10:30 am, for Gentle Annie Berry Gardens & Tea Rooms at Pennyroyal just off the road to Deans Marsh. It was a very nice drive up through the coastal forest, with a long climb until we came out into green farming country. At the berry farm, there was not too much choice due to our timing in the season. There were, however, plenty of strawberries to pick and a few early gooseberries for us to pick. The intention was for strawberries and ice-cream to accompany our planned evening meal. We picked a fair amount of very sour gooseberries to take home and cook with a fair dose of sugar.

Lunch was in the berry farm tea rooms and we had a choice of Cornish pastie or quiche, with blackberry pie and cream to follow. Both choices were excellent and after consuming our fill, we set off for our scenic tour back to Lorne. Our route took us through Forrest to Skenes Creek and on to Apollo Bay. It must have been an impressive sight, a line of British classics led by the blue Armstrong Siddeley. Because of our slow pace behind a farm truck on the twisting road, there were some overtaking dramas by those less patient than us. In several cases it was very fortunate that we maintained sufficient space between cars, and, more importantly, there was not much traffic travelling in the other direction. The truck driver very graciously pulled over into a parking bay for us to overtake him, and then we had a good run down to sea level at Skenes Creek. The cars were lined up on a grassy reserve while some of us indulged in an ice-cream during our rest break in Apollo Bay. On our return run to Lorne, the boys in blue had set up a breathalyser stop for us. None of us registered, but a few motorists were caught and had their cars set aside, for collection after the sobering and payment of dues process.

We decided unanimously to give the booked hotel evening meal a miss and organised an outdoor meal for ourselves at the motel. Our hosts Terry and Angela baked special bread and made two types of potato bake and provided salads at very reasonable costs. A party was detailed to the local BBQ chicken purveyor and our substantial meal was crowned with the fresh strawberries – what a feast!

Our thanks to all who chipped in with nibbles, wine and beer. It was a lovely warm evening and with great company it was a magnificent way to spend an evening. A special thanks to Tony for putting it all together for us, the weather was perfect and the Great Ocean Road and its views were sensational. We set off on the Monday morning and drove home via Deans Marsh, Birregurra and the Princes Highway to Geelong, a pleasant sunny drive after a most enjoyable weekend.

Mike Allfrey.

AROUND THE BAY IN A DAY – Sunday 14th November, 2004

Those taking part: Dianne & Nello Mafodda, Mary & Rob Nolan, Pat & Frank Douglas, Maxine & Tony Pettigrew, Seiglinda & Peter, Lore & Ulli (both couples from Germany), Val Jefferyes, Jim Spence, Tony Hodges, Sue & Mike Allfrey, Terri & Bill Allen, Joy & Colin Brown, Heather Gillespie & Bill Bonner, Pat & Ross Wolstenholme, Dot & Fred Sawyer, Frank Sawyer, John Lee (from England), Ross Gardiner, Lyn & Ray Higginson, Marjorie & Brian Pepper, Marlene & Don Pepper, Sue & Walter Thompson, Judy & Jeff Birkett, Pam & Geoff Andrews. If anyone was missed, our sincerest apologies.

The weather was kinder to us in the early morning as we gathered by the Yarra for our breakfast. Those who took part in the charabanc tour last year will remember the wind carrying the cracked open eggs over the lawns and onto passing motorists windscreens – yes it was blowing that hard. This year we had a calm breakfast, cooked on the patent super-heated Higginson Triple Burner (mit Turbo) BBQ plate. Talk about eggs over-easy, this was land from the shell and immediate flip and scoop all in one fast smooth motion! Only a split-second's hesitation and you were eating pure carbon.

There were congratulations all round because Terri and Bill Allen had become grandparents again. The photos of the new grandchild were admired. You can take a well earned holiday Bill, now that all the stress and hard work is over!

There were also welcomes to our German visitors, guests of Maxine and Tony Pettigrew (*next page*), who were on a tour from Sydney to Adelaide – the long way, via the Great Ocean Road and the Grampians. Our visitors read this magazine on the Internet, hence the smatterings of German to help them understand what we were doing.

All too soon Frank (unserer Wagenmeister) was calling the familiar "All Aboard!" so that we could board our coach in time for a Swiss watch timing departure at 09.00 hrs. Well, this time the Higginson Charabanc Touring Company had done us proud – we had a fifty seater Australian Denning charabanc for our tour around the bay. Yes, there she stood, in all her shining glory, a true Australian long distance touring coach. Ray kindly lifted the engine cover and there it was, all four-hundred and sixty horsepower (pferde stück), sitting there in all its majesty – a Detroit turbo-charged diesel engine, Spicer gearbox and Rockwell running gear. This magnificent engine in its state of power rating puts out just half of what a good Formula One engine is capable of. But our power source is calm and relaxed, not a high pitched, tortured, super-tense scream. All in all, we had more than enough power, because in circumnavigating Port Phillip Bay (anti-clockwise to save fuel) our charabanc was never more than a handful of metres above sea level all the way.



As we set off down St Kilda Road and the Nepean Highway, we quickly came to appreciate just how quiet and smooth the AD coach is. As we cruised along, Ray gave us an interesting commentary about aspects of our journey. We saw the architectural desert that used to be the Mordialloc Racecourse and, there was more of the same near Werribee on what was good farming land. In addition to the commentary, Lyn organised several lucky dips and all of the prize winners seemed to be to the rear of the coach. No sooner than the first lucky dips had been completed, a large bowl of lollies (Süßigkeiten) was passed around. Then we were treated to an example of the efficiency that is a trade mark of the Higginson Charabanc Touring Company, lunch orders

were taken from a very comprehensive lunch menu. Each tour member was allocated a space to have their choice written in. Once we were in Sorrento, the order was relayed across The Rip to Lindsay at Vic's Hotel in Queenscliff.

We were supposed to detour to visit club member Peter Chandler at Red Hill on the way down to the ferry at Sorrento. Somehow this didn't happen, to Peter's disappointment. We arrived in Sorrento with sufficient time to brew a morning cuppa (eine tasse kaffee oder tee) and enjoy the sunny vista of the bay. This was all very pleasant, but all too soon our Wagenmeister gave his usual call and we drove onto the apron to await our turn for the ferry crossing. There was a spot of ferry operators' confusion here, because we were directed into Lane 2, but once we settled there, we were asked to move over into Lane 1. It was just as well there wasn't a small car parked right behind us. Otherwise it would have felt the might of that Detroit as we reversed. Then the communication was in error again as we had to cross right over to starboard (rechte seite) from the port side (links seite) to drive onto the ferry. A direct line from Lane 8!

Our crossing was in brilliant sunshine, with a moderate swell, (*mal de mer time, right*) and took about forty minutes. Our charabanc was first off the ferry in Queenscliff and we had the entire ferry's worth of traffic following us to our lunch venue. Here tables were reserved for us and, right away, cool drinks were the order of the day. It was soon discovered that the hotel's Lindsay had done a bunk – very likely because the lambs



shanks soup had all been consumed before we arrived. Would tomato soup be a fitting substitute? Of course. It was an excellent soup, because it was still reminding of its presence well into next day! The lunch was good and very fairly priced. Some of us took a walk to work it all off and met the charabanc at the top of the main street. We were then given a tour of the town before heading for Geelong.

It was as we were coming into the city area that Ray demonstrated the tenacity of those Rockwell brakes on all six wheels. A foolhardy motorist decided to turn in front of us, Ray braked and some of us realized



that the seat belts, provided for the passengers at great expense, were, in reality, of practical use. Once through the city of Geelong we stopped for another cuppa break at the Little River Services Area, (left) provided by BP. Here it was almost as windy as at last year's breakfast, but the charabanc provided good shelter and the patented urn was soon heated to make coffee and tea. There was also fruit cake, very similar to that Ansett used to provide when flying was a pleasure. All too soon it was time for our

Charabancmeister to call "All Aboard", and we were off on the last leg of our tour around Port Phillip Bay. We skilfully blended in with the 100 kph sausage that is the Geelong Freeway traffic. The big Detroit Diesel pushed us along effortlessly and quietly up over the Westgate Bridge, from where the city view was magnificent from our elevated position. At precisely 18.00 hours we were back in the parking bay in Alexandra Avenue where we had parked our cars for the day.

Our special thanks to Frank Douglas (Charabancmeister) for keeping the tour on schedule. This was one of those special days that are remembered forever, one of those days that just had to be soaked in and savoured – happily. Very special thanks to Ray and Lyn for organising and conducting such a memorable tour for us, your generosity knows no bounds. Thanks are also due to the Higginson Charabanc Tour Company for permitting us to make use of their coach, it acquitted itself superbly and was most comfortable. So comfortable in fact, that someone fell into a very deep sleep on the leg after lunch.

And, who was it that breathed so heavily in the front that the huge Vista Vision windscreen very nearly fogged up completely?

Mike Allfrey.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH – 5th December, 2004

This year our Christmas lunch function will be held at the Rotunda, RACV Country Club, Healesville. Book now to join us on this festive occasion. Lunch will cost \$25.00 per person and drinks will be provided by the ABCCC. Bookings are essential and should be made with Frank Douglas on (03) 8704 2533.

Drinks – wines, beers and soft drinks are included in the cost of the lunch. If you desire anything stronger than those, then it is at your cost.

Don't forget your Chrissie Cringle – one each for girls and boys. Please ensure that your gift is interesting, entertaining and to our usual \$5.00 limit.

Be sure not to miss this special event. Call me now and make your booking!

Frank Douglas – President.

MORNING MYSTERY MEANDER – Sunday 12th December, 2004

Our last club event for this year will be a Mystery Meander kindly organised for us by Chris Newell. Our Mystery Meander will start from the Lilydale International Club car park, at the corner of Maroondah Highway and Nelson Road. We will gather there from 9:00 am for a 9:30 am start on our mystery tour that will take us to a venue in the hills for Brunch, where the meals are excellent, are of the best Australian

tucker and even do roast beef and Yorkshire pudding. The venue is fully licensed and sells a selection of good wines, Aussie beers and a fair selection of English beers. After lunch coffee or tea will be on the house and there will be a raffle, exclusive to the ABCCC, for a meal for two at the venue. The prize has been kindly donated by the proprietor to us. The car park area at the side of the lunch venue has been reserved for ABCCC motor cars.

Route maps and instructions will be provided at the start point.

For bookings, please contact Chris Newell on (03) 9735 2335 or chrisnewell@abccc.com.au.

Chris Newell.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 13th February, 2005

The Annual General Meeting of the All British Classics Car Club Inc. will take place at Como Gardens, 79 The Basin – Olinda Road, The Basin. The meeting will commence at 2:00 pm sharp.

We look forward to your input into our club.

Val Jefferyes – Secretary.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND AWAY – 11th to 13th June, 2005

We have made a booking at the Flag River Country Inn at Moama just across the Murray River from Echuca, where we will be taking part in the display of historic vehicles at the Echuca Steam Rally. The rooms booked are twin share and have been booked for two nights, Saturday and Sunday. Eighteen rooms have been reserved in the ABCCC name, and it is up to you to confirm the booking with the River Country Inn. We recommend that you make your confirmations **now**, this will avoid disappointment later. It took a fair amount of persuasion to make the booking for just the two nights on a long weekend, so if you wish to spend a third night there, it would be well to confirm that also. The negotiated room rate is \$104.00 per night, with further discount if using your RACV blue, bronze, silver or gold card. The River Country Inn's telephone number is (03) 5482 5511 and the fax number is (03) 5482 2591.

It is proposed that on one evening we have a barbecue evening meal in the motel's courtyard that is sheltered on three sides and can seat thirty people. It is also anticipated that we will travel to Moama via Shepparton, so that we can visit the Goulburn Valley Motor Vehicle Drivers Club's clubrooms. Our display at the steam rally will be on the Sunday. More on this later. Be sure to get your bookings in at the River Country Inn **now!**

If you have any questions about this event, please call me on (03) 9336 7306 AH.

Lyn Higginson.

CLUB REGALIA

Set out below is a listing of the ABCCC's current stock of Club Regalia items:

1. Metal Bumper/Grille Badge	\$35.00 Each
2. Window Decal – Club Logo	\$2.00 Each
3. Cloth Badge – 75 mm Diameter with Club Logo	\$3.50 Each
4. Cloth Badge – 205 mm Diameter with Club Logo	\$25.00 Each
5. Club Polo Top White and Blue (some with ABCCC on collar) All Sizes	\$35.00 Each
6. Club Polo Top White and Black – Small Size Only	\$7.50 Each
7. Club Polo Tops 1 White, 1 Dark Blue (Small Size Only)	\$12.50 Each
8. Tee Shirts White, Black with Club Logo (Small Size Only)	\$7.50 Each
9. Jumbuck Jumper c/w ABCCC Logos	\$120.00 Each
10. Jumbuck Jumper Less ABCCC Logos	\$100.00 Each
11. Caps with Club Logo, Blue/Fawn	\$15.00 Each
12. Caps with Club Logo, Black	\$12.50 Each
13. Hats – Plain, Colour Fawn (Slightly Soiled) Large Size Only – Special at	\$5.00 Each
14. Jackets with Club Logo (Heavy Weight) S. M. L. XL. & XXL.	\$140.00 Each

I will bring a limited range of Club Regalia to all events that we attend for perusal or purchase.

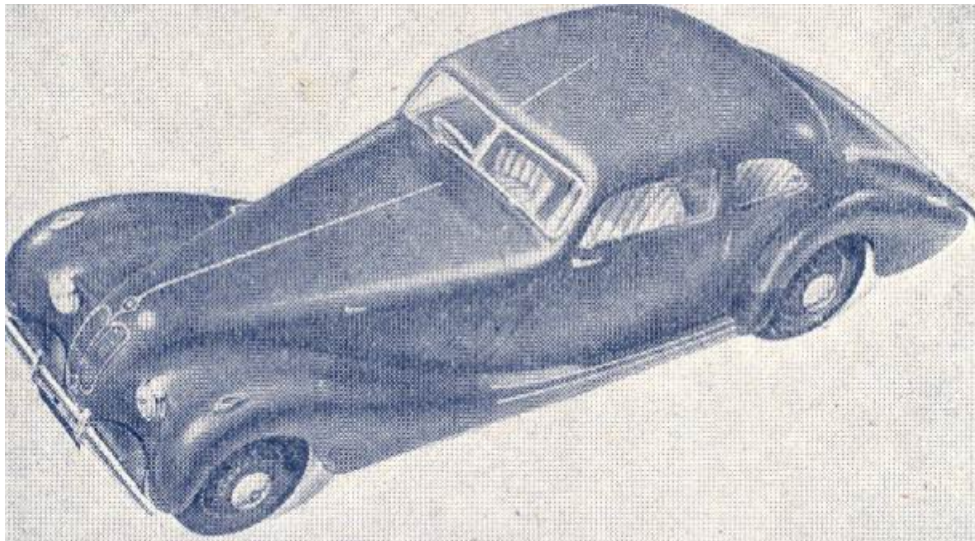
For all your Club Regalia requirements, please contact me on (03) 9846 2323.

Bill Allen – Regalia Purveyor.

1949 CLASSICS

The *Australian Motor Manual 1948-9 Annual* features interesting reviews on all motor cars that were available in this country for 1949. Each month we are going to feature one of the cars here. It is interesting to read what was said then, about the British cars in the market place. We now know how they all performed, but let's enjoy the writers' expectations of the British offerings for 1949. Here is Number 9:

BRISTOL 400 – 16 h.p. Six



The Bristol Aeroplane Co. has put its resources behind the Frazer-Nash and BMW design to produce what is really a connoisseur's car, both in appearance and performance. Its 16 h.p. develops 80 b.h.p. at 4,200 revs and will give a comfortable 90 m.p.h. as it has a six cylinder engine, similar to the winner of the 1948 Grand Prix at Point Cook. Imported streamlined coachwork is of extremely high quality and accommodates five. It is bristling with added features such as rev-counter, thermostatically controlled radiator shutters, easy starting devices, one-shot lubrication, free wheeling and countless other features that make it a car far beyond what one expects these days.

Editor Comment: Now here's a bonus! Below is the latest 2004 Bristol *Fighter*, powered by a ten cylinder 525 h.p. engine – a true 'Gentleman's Express' built without constraint with respect to costs. Picture taken from Bristol Cars Ltd Website. As Audrey, in the BBC's *'To The Manor Born'*, would have said – "Ohhhh — Gosh!"



1949 Text from Motor Manual Annual with thanks.

A WARM WELCOME FOR NEW MEMBERS

The All British Classics Car Club extends a warm welcome to our new members, and their cars, who have joined our club since the last issue of *Your ABCCC News*. We look forward to meeting you at one of our events very soon.

New Members	Motor Car	Model	Year
John & Sue Hudson	MG	'B' GT	1972*
	Alfa Romeo	Spyder	2000
Frank & Lorraine Bradley	BMW	Mini Cooper	2002
Roger & Jean Stanley	Austin	London Taxi	1972*
	LTI	London Taxi	1986
	Jaguar	XJ6 Series III	1981
John & Cheryl Vernon	Jensen	Interceptor Mk 4	1976*

* Good front cover photo matter – please note.

Pat Douglas – Membership.

SPECIAL EVENT – 10:00 am on Sunday 16th January, 2005 **RACV Great Australian Rally – Bag Stuffing Day**

As we all know, a most important part of the RACV Great Australian Rally is the rally pack that is handed out at the start points. To make up these rally kits, we conduct what is known as the ABCCC Bag Stuffing Day. This time it is going to be a little bit different. The bag filling activity is going to be the same as for previous years. After the bags have been filled we will be having a good house warming with a BYO barbecue meal. Drinks will be supplied. The new house is situated just below our old address, so come along and we will give it a thorough introduction to the ways of the ABCCC.

The new address is 14 Grand Valley Drive, Chirnside Park.

Please arrive on time so that the task can be finished cleanly. We look forward to your help with this most important part of the rally. If you can help on the day, please call Frank on (03) 8704 2533.

Frank Douglas – President.



Line of cars on popular Peninsula Run – June, 2004.

SOUTH GIPPSLAND WANDERINGS



The beautiful Phillip Island Bass Strait coast, looking towards Cape Woolami.

Let's start the new year's events for the ABCCC with an interesting and entertaining weekend in the Gippsland and Phillip Island area. On the Saturday morning we will meet at 10:00 am at Caldermeade Farm, approximately 15 kilometres southeast of Tooradin on the South Gippsland Highway (M420), where we shall partake of Devonshire Tea or coffee. We will then take a scenic drive to Wonthaggi for lunch.

After lunch we will head inland through the attractive hills of South Gippsland to a small Alpaca farm and, after finding out interesting things about alpacas, we will drive down to San Remo for our overnight stay at Pelicans Motel. After settling in and taking refreshment, we will enjoy our evening meal at Taylor's Surf Restaurant on Phillip Island.

Sunday is organized to visit Churchill Island, see the pelicans if time permits, followed by a nice lunch and then a walk along the board walk at tree top level in the Koala Reserve.

Accommodation details:

Pelicans Motel, 43 Back Beach Road, San Remo.
Telephone number (03) 5678 5380.

Please telephone the motel to make your booking soon to avoid disappointment. When making your booking, mention that you are with the All British Classics Car Club group. Motel accommodation in this area is very limited at the time of our visit. The green arrow placed on the map at right indicates the location of Back Beach Road only, not the actual location of the motel.



For further information, please contact either Jim Spence at home on (03) 5956 6124, or Val Jefferyes at home on (03) 9725 1117.

IMPORTANT! Book Now for South Gippsland Wanderings! Motel cannot hold rooms for much longer.

Event Dates: 19th and 20th February, 2005.