



## **ABCCC NEWSFLASH!**

### **THE ALL BRITISH CLASSICS CAR CLUB INC.**

**Registered Number: A0035462**

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**3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2010**

To All Club Members,

#### **REFERENCE: CHANGES TO YOUR ABCCC NEWS**

At our Annual General Meeting it was proposed, moved and carried that our club adopt an every two months schedule for *Your ABCCC News* to help ease the Editorial workload. It should be carefully noted that, should a reasonable quantity of articles be sent in on a regular basis, then we could return to a monthly schedule. At the AGM, it was proposed that there be, when required, a single page issue of *ABCCC NewsFlash!*, published so that urgent news can be conveyed to our membership. Such *ABCCC NewsFlash!* will not be produced every vacant month, and therefore should not be relied upon for publicizing your events – that is the prime purpose of *Your ABCCC News*.

This issue defies that statement a little, but we believe that the Com o Gardens Open Weekend rates special mention, especially as there is now an attraction that can get our Grand-children involved – the Scarecrow Competition. Well worth getting the youngsters involved in. If you can help on either day, please let George know about it.

Back to Editorial matters of import! From now on, *Your ABCCC News* will be published on or as close as possible to the 25<sup>th</sup> of the following months: March (April copy), May (June copy), July (August copy), September (October copy), November (December copy) and January (February copy). As usual, close off dates for articles and such is the 14<sup>th</sup> of each of those months (not the ones in brackets). So, those of you who are organising events for us, please get the information to the Editor well in time, before the event being promoted. We have to change our ways a little, but it is not too much change, is it?

#### **Publishing Your ABCCC News**

For quite some years, Mary Nolan has been ensuring that you get your edition of *Your ABCCC News* on time and looking presentable. We owe Mary considerable thanks for her valuable input over those years. She was a pleasure for a novice like me to work with and, all of my requests for help, additions or modifications have always been carried out without any sign of exasperation or dismay. *That was* greatly appreciated. During her spell as Editor's assistant, Mary printed approximately 61,600 pages (double sided too!), and mailed out 4,400 copies of *Your ABCCC News* to our membership. Sort of makes me wonder about my stints as Editor of the Jowett and AOMC newsletters over the years! Our appreciative thanks go to Mary, for such a magnificent effort, and for some very fine proof reading too.

Mary has, as of the AGM, stepped down as Editor's Assistant and Betty Taylor raised her hand during the meeting and was promptly elected as Editor's Assistant for the foreseeable future. The promptness was so swift, another example of how our club is a well-oiled machine in the way it functions. I must confess to being somewhat nervous, on my way home, about whether Betty had put her hand up simply to ask a question. A golden rule at our AGMs, keep your hands in your pockets – or be elected to some position – very quickly! Thanks Betty, for your offer. We hope that the transition of tasks is smooth. Mary has offered help with that, so all should be OK.

#### **Changes To The ABCCC Committee**

At our AGM, there were other changes to our Operating Committee. Our long serving and very understanding Treasurer, Tony Hodges, stepped down after guiding our club into a very sound financial position. Bill Allen has taken on this task and the changeover has already taken place, that well-oiled machine again! A very grateful thanks are due to Tony from every one of us. To be able to cope with our varied financial transactions should, in all probability, qualify Tony for some sort of medal. Thanks Tony.

Another Committee position change that took place, was that of our purveyor of Club Merchandise. Bill Allen has relinquished this position so that he can concentrate on our club's finances. Our new purveyor of Club Merchandise is Maxine Pettigrew. Watch out, for we have a skilled seller of goodies here! Exciting times ahead, and thanks for taking it on board, Maxine.

The final change at our eventful AGM, was when Chris Newell stepped down from the Webmaster's position. It is very largely due to Chris's work alone, that we have such a good Website. Thanks for that, Chris. Our new Webmaster is Ed Bartosh and it is anticipated that some minor changes will be made to our site up there on the information super-highway. One innovation will be the ability to feature members' motor car photos in a large, clear format. A number of clubs are doing this very effectively, and there are, in our club, many fine cars that can be featured.

Welcome to our new Committee volunteers, and our collective thanks to those who have chosen to step down.

Two event notices follow this introduction. Please give them serious consideration and join in the fun.

Mike Allfrey.

## VISIT TO BLUE LOTUS WATERGARDENS – Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March

This will be a great day out, we will meet at the usual place, you guessed it, the car park at the Lilydale International Club, Lilydale, for a 9:30 am departure. First stop will be for a coffee and cake at the Killara Estate, a new winery with magnificent views of the Yarra Valley. After this interlude we will proceed up the Warburton Highway to the Blue Lotus Watergardens, you have never seen gardens like these, with 14 kilometres of walking tracks, spectacular bridges, and the biggest display of lotus and water lilies in Australia. Prior to lunch we have arranged for a 20 minute talk about the gardens and the plants on display, which should be very interesting.



Lunch arrangements: Bring your own, there are BBQ facilities, with undercover tables and chairs, a coffee shop that has sandwiches, cakes etc, or if you prefer the Gladisdale Bakery is 200 metres from the gardens. Ladies take note, within the complex you will find the Blue Waters Boutique, and as the gardens close at the end of March, you will find many bargains. For details and more information on a great website go to [www.bluelotusfarm.com.au](http://www.bluelotusfarm.com.au)

After our tour of the gardens we head back down the Highway to Woori Yallock and take the road to Healesville, our next stop, Domain Chandon for a tour of the winery, it will be a good time to see the winery, as wine production will be in full swing.

Cost for morning tea, entrance to gardens, and lecture, \$10 to \$12 depending on numbers.

Please let us know if you can make it to this day out, phone 5964 9291 or 0408 343 176

Joy Brown.

## OPEN GARDEN WEEKEND – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2009

### Come Along And Help With This Worthy Fundraiser At Como Gardens

Over the past several years, our club has provided assistance with the running of the Como Gardens Open Garden weekend. This time around, it is the turn of the autumn opening and, with recent rains, the garden will be looking especially good. There is quite a lot for us to help with – such as train rides, serving morning and afternoon teas,



selling tickets, car parking and so on. Your help will be greatly appreciated on both days. This is a very popular event with visitors coming from far and near. This time, the beneficiaries will be the St John Ambulance and the local State Emergency Service (SES). The garden is open from 10:00 am till 4:30 pm each day.

A new attraction will be the Scarecrow competition, this is a free competition, however, entries will have to be registered before 14<sup>th</sup> April. Entries are free and can be registered either via Email to [comogardens@bigpond.com](mailto:comogardens@bigpond.com) or, telephone George or Pat on (03) 9761 1341. Entries will be given an entry number, which must be attached to the scarecrow and be water-proof. There will be prizes for:

- Best Under 15 Year-old Entrant
- Best Over 15 Year-old Entrant
- Best School or Scout Group Entrant

All scarecrow entries must be erected in the gardens before Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April. Participants may position their scarecrow anywhere within the gardens – examples, guarding the veggie patch, guarding the train station or keeping watch over the pond.

Judging will take place from 10:00 am on the Saturday and prizes will be presented on the Sunday at 2:00 pm. All exhibitors must collect their scarecrow during the week after the Open Weekend.

In addition to the usual activities and the interesting car collection, there will be feature displays put on with the generous help from some specialist organisations. There will be:

- The Rainy Day Bookstall – the best little bookshop in the hills.
- Horticulture – ferns and orchids for sale.
- Garden tours and a sausage sizzle, Devonshire teas and other refreshments.
- Model boats, live music and croquet on the lawns. Rides on the Como Gardens Miniature Steam Railway.
- The famous sinking of the SS Titanic re-enactment.
- The world's most powerful motorcycle – bring your ear plugs!
- Visit the Fairy Tree for face painting, children's activities and a dolls from around the world display.
- Cheese and wine tasting on the Sunday, kindly donated by the Jindi Cheese Company and Sutherland Estate Wines of the Yarra Valley.

In addition to all of that, there will be live demonstrations of the St John's Ambulance, the Alpha Dog Training Group and the SES. Como Gardens are at 79 The Basin – Olinda Road, The Basin (Melways Map 85, Ref: H7).

If you can provide some assistance on either or both days, please contact George Hetrel on (03) 9761 1341. Club cars can be displayed outside the car museum.

George Hetrel.