



ABCCC NEWSFLASH!

THE ALL BRITISH CLASSICS CAR CLUB, INC.

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COMMENT

For our club, it has been quite a hectic time these past two months. The RACV Fly The Flag Tour, the tenth running anniversary of this event, lived up to our expectations. There was a mild drama prior to one of the breakfasts, but the well-oiled machine prevailed and most knew nothing about that one! On the run down to Healesville, *Pea Soup* decided to act up a little by a pool of petrol on the concrete at the RACV Country Club. Patrol officer, Tristan Jones, offered to have a look at the problem and it was soon discovered that the RHS SU carburettor was flooding in a copious manner and charcoal filtered petrol was pouring out of the evaporative canister drain. In age-old tradition, the offending carburettor was given a hefty thump to wake up the needle and seat. It seemed to work, but the drive home was quite smelly. Later it turned out that the float was three-quarters full of petrol. Interestingly, the trapped petrol doesn't leak out of the semi-transparent plastic float. All is fixed with two new floats along with new needles and seats that should give good service. I used The Carby Shop at 5 Sherwood Court, Wantirna South. Very helpful, quick and reasonably priced, too.

Hot on the heels of the Tour came the RACV Classic Showcase and right after that came the Alpine Tour (report someone please). Then we were busy at Como Gardens helping Pat and George Hetrel with their fund raising event. Pat has started a bee hive and on the first day she sold off all of the honey that was available from some very busy bees. She says that another hive is probably needed!

On another topic, it would be nice to have a photo of George's 'new' Aston Martin for a coming front page of *Your ABCCC News*. This is a true British classic and needs to be out on one of our runs very soon.

Mike Allfrey

PAST EVENTS

RACV Fly The Flag 10th Anniversary Tour – Saturday 26th March To Friday 1st April 2011

There will be a full report on the RACV Fly The Flag Tour in the next issue of *Your ABCCC News*.

RACV Classic Showcase – Sunday 3rd April 2011

A Threesome At Flemington

Driving down the Eastern Freeway it started to spit with rain but by the time Flemington and the RACV Classic Showcase 2011 came into sight any sign of rain had disappeared. The cool dry day seemed perfect for British classics. On arrival the marshals tried valiantly to direct me to the MG area, as I was driving my recently acquired MG BGT. Eventually they confirmed that the ABCCC had been allocated our usual area opposite the Tote. Making my way over there I expected to be greeted by other members, as it was already well after 9.00. Instead I found.....an empty area of grass.



John Holmes arrived shortly after in his MG TF and we agreed we were in the right place even if club numbers were much thinner than usual at this event. The two of us were starting to look like a breakaway from the MG Car Club until Rob and Mary Nolan arrived in their Hillman Gazelle to add the variety expected in an ABCCC display.

Left: Keeping the Nordic Hordes at bay – three worthy British Classics, the sum of our display.

Although no other club vehicles arrived to join our threesome, some members' vehicles were present elsewhere at Flemington, most notably Bill Allen's immaculate P3 Rover which won the "Car you would most like to take home" vote at the Rover Car Club display.

Various members who didn't have cars at our display arrived from time to time for a chat. We all took time to wander around and admire the fine machinery on display. All in all, a most enjoyable day was had by those members who did attend. Apparently the lower than usual turnout of ABCCC members was due to the Fly the Flag tour only returning on the preceding Friday. Let's hope the two events don't clash again next year.

Colin J Oberin

COMO GARDENS OPEN WEEKEND – 16th and 17th April 2011

We helped with this 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 was the turn of the autumn opening and, with very recent rains, the garden was damp enough for the usual car parking area to be closed off. As it was, a couple of vehicles became bogged in the soggy roadside verges. Assisting this time were, to my knowledge (Sunday only), Colin Forrest, Val Jefferyes, Ray and Lyn Higginson, Tony Pettigrew, Bill and Terri Allen, Wally Thompson, David and Paddy Bullard, Don and Margot Kinsey, Bryan and Anne Tootell, Nick Smith, and Yours Truly. To any that have been missed, my apology. Grateful thanks to all who helped over the weekend. It is greatly appreciated by George and Pat who put in a vast amount of work for this popular event. As I can only report on Sunday's activities, similar can probably be expected for the Saturday.

Once again, I was stationed on the entry gate, collecting the entrance fees. This is a most interesting task, as, in the space of a few hours, we get to see a fair section of the world go by. Many are becoming 'old acquaintances' because there are so many repeat visitors. This time there were goodie bags for the children, and the look on their faces as the bags were offered was wonderful. Just why the bags had carry handles designed for very tall people was a mystery. Maybe the SES can answer that one?

Was the weekend a success? There will be a report in the next issue of *Your ABCCC News*. The next Como Open Gardens Weekend will be over 15th and 16th October. We look forward to more of us joining in on this splendid fundraiser for our club, the State Emergency Service and the St John's Ambulance Service.

Mike Allfrey

COMING EVENTS

Mid-Week Lunch Run – Wednesday 4th May 2011

We will meet at the Lilydale International Club car park at 9:30 am to leave at 10:00 am. From there, we will take a short drive to a morning tea stop at The Herb Farm in Lilydale, where herbs can be purchased.

After our morning tea, we will enjoy a scenic drive to Chesselles, a French Café Restaurant, at Mont de Lancy for 12:30 pm. The café stocks a fine selection of jams, sauces and mustards that can be bought while we are there.

If you wish to join us on this very pleasant luncheon run, please contact me on (03) 9739 4829.

Pat Douglas

The Cream Sponge Run – Sunday 15th May 2011

This year we have planned to START and FINISH at the Main Hall, Ferny Creek Recreation Reserve, Clarkmont Road, Ferny Creek (Melways Map 75, Ref: 1D). Entry point is just past the Ferny Creek CFA, Clarkmont Road on the RHS. Those of you who went on our mid-week run last year to the log cabin will remember the spot. The hall comes complete with all facilities, tables, seating, kitchen, toilets etc. The Club BBQ will be in attendance, so you can plan your own gourmet lunch to suit. (A porterhouse with all the trimmings and a glass of red).



We will start at 10:00 am, with a cream sponge morning tea, before you all set off on a journey of discovery and laughter, to finish back at the hall for lunch. To cover the hall hire, there will be a cost of \$5.00 PER ADULT with no other cost involved. As usual, you will get your tour notes after morning tea. We hope those of you who have not followed the touring notes before, will join up with another team on the day and join in the fun.

Left: At the start of a previous Cream Sponge Run.

Sunday 15th of May is Motoring Heritage Day, and it would be wonderful to see as many of our club classic cars on the road as possible. Of course, there are prizes for most points scored to add to the enjoyment.

Please phone on (03) 9755 1772, to let us know you will be attending, so that there will be enough cream sponges to go around. We have planned the day to be a low-cost family day out for all to enjoy.

Geoff and Judy Birkett

Rex's Big Day Out – Sunday 5th June 2011

Rex Hall is currently working on this event. There will be an update mail out after 30th April. Essentially, the Big Day Out will start from a location in Keilor, motor northwards for about an hour to a special morning tea location. During this stop there will be an interesting tour of the location. Then it is on northwest for about 45 minutes to our lunch stop. After lunch we will take a touring route home.

If you wish to join in on this special day out, please call (03) 9795 7669 to let Rex and Deanna know that you wish to join the Big Day Out's activities.

ABCCC EVENTS CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

May 2011

- 4 Mid-Week Lunch Run – An ABCCC Event
Lunch Venue – Mont de Lancy, Victoria. Pat Douglas (03) 9739 4829
- 8 Mothers' Day.
- 15 The Famous Cream Sponge Run – An ABCCC Event
Venue – Ferny Creek Reserve, Clarkmont Road, Sassafras, Victoria. Geoff & Judy Birkett (03) 9755 1772

June 2011

- 5 Rex's Big Day Out – An ABCCC Event
Venue – TBA. Victoria. Rex Hall (03) 9795 7669
- 19 A Special Club Run – An ABCCC Event
Venue – TBA, Victoria. Frank Sawyer 0408 633 778

July 2011

- 10 Pub Lunch Run – An ABCCC Event
Venue – TBA, Victoria. Bryan Tootell 0412 549 906
- 24 Annual Club Luncheon – An ABCCC Event
Venue – Marybrooke, Sherbrooke Road, Sherbrooke, Victoria. Colin Brown 0408 343 176
- 31 Car Clubs' Winter Seminar – AOMC Inc. TBA

August 2011

- 14 Grand Tour of Sorrento – An ABCCC Event
Venue – TBA, Victoria. Karen McDonald (03) 5975 1867
- 28 Mystery Coach Tour – An ABCCC Event
Venue – A real mystery, but within Victoria. Ray Higginson (03) 9336 7306 (AH)

September 2011

- 4 Fathers' Day
- 14 A Hills' Driving Experience – An ABCCC Event
Start Venue – TBA, Victoria. Geoff & Judy Birkett (03) (03) 9755 1772

Note: Event organisers – please keep us informed with event details in good time prior to your event. Thanks.
