



YOUR ABCCC NEWS

The Official Newsletter Of

THE ALL BRITISH CLASSICS CAR CLUB VIC. INC.

Edition N^o. 195

May, 2016

RACV CLASSIC SHOWCASE – 2016



Our display at the 'AOMC British Motoring Show'. The London taxi and the RM Riley, bracing the Jupiter, were not members of our club. They sort of drifted in, parked and went.



Associations Incorporation Registered Number: A0035462V



THE ALL BRITISH CLASSICS CAR CLUB VIC. INC. – YOUR COMMITTEE

Executive Committee	Name	Telephone	E-mail Address
President	Tony Pettigrew	(03) 9739 1146	president@abccc.com.au
Vice President	Nello Mafodda	(03) 9719 7949	nello@abccc.com.au
Treasurer	Bill Allen	(03) 9846 2323	treasurer@abccc.com.au
Secretary	Pat Douglas	(03) 9739 4829	secretary@abccc.com.au
Committee Positions			
Membership Secretary	Gordon Lindner	0418 540 920	membership@abccc.com.au
AOMC Delegate	Bill Allen	(03) 9846 2323	
AOMC Delegate	Mike Allfrey	(03) 9729 1480	editor@abccc.com.au
FVV & CCC Delegate	Bill Allen	(03) 9846 2323	
FVV & CCC Delegate	Tony Pettigrew	(03) 9739 1146	president@abccc.com.au
VCPS Officer (Applications)	Nello Mafodda	(03) 9719 7949	
VCPS Officer (Renewals)	Colin Brown	(03) 5964 9291	colin@abccc.com.au
Web Master	Ed Bartosh	(03) 9739 1879	webmaster@abccc.com.au
VCPS Attendance Records	Sue Allfrey	(03) 9729 1480	sue.allfrey@bigpond.com
Club Regalia Manager	Maxine Pettigrew	(03) 9739 1146	
Committee Member	Frank Sawyer	0408 633 778	
Committee Member	Colin Brown	(03) 5964 9291	colin@abccc.com.au
Committee Member	Ken McDonald	(03) 5975 1867	
Committee Member	Rex Hall	(03) 9795 7669	rex@abccc.com.au
Magazine Editor	Mike Allfrey	(03) 9729 1480	editor@abccc.com.au
Editor's Assistant	Rick Lloyd	(03) 9830 1752	
The All British Classics Car Club Vic. Inc. Website http://www.abccc.com.au			
The Association of Motoring Clubs Website http://www.aomc.asn.au/			
The Federation of Veteran, Vintage and Classic Car Clubs Website http://www.federation.asn.au/			

CONTACTING THE ABCCC VIC. INC.

On The Web <http://www.abccc.com.au>
 On Facebook www.facebook.com/AllBritishClassicsCarClub
 Postal Address PO Box 201, Chirnside Park, Victoria, 3116

CLUB INFORMATION

Visit the club's Website for information about how club matters are conducted. This Website also features information about how the Victorian Club Permit Scheme (VCPS) is operated by the All British Classics Car Club Vic. Inc.

Our club does have one explicit rule – for those motor cars operating on the Victorian Club Permit Scheme (VCPS), using the auspices of the All British Classics Car Club Vic. Inc., for the ongoing benefit of the VCPS, their owners must continue to be a financial member for the duration of the permit period, and attend a minimum of three club events during the permit's active year. Failure to respect this rule will result in the VCPS renewal being insupportable and void.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual membership subscription for the All British Classics Car Club Vic. Inc. is \$45.00 per annum. This subscription fee also includes the club member's partner. In addition to that, there is a once-only \$30.00 Joining Fee. Please address membership enquiries to: Gordon Lindner, 9 Hagen Drive, Berwick, Victoria, 3806. Telephone Number 0418 540 920.

Note: Membership subscriptions are due before the end of December each year.

**The All British Classics Car Club Vic. Inc. was founded by the late Frank E Douglas
on 19th September, 1997**

LIFE MEMBERS

**The ABCCC Vic. Inc. is proud to grant Life Membership to those who provide exceptional service to our club.
Current Life Members are: Pat J Douglas, Ross Wolstenholme**

ABCCC EVENTS DIRECTORY

Event Organisers – please provide basic event-start details as soon as possible – Thank you.

May 2016

Sunday 29th Rex's Big Day Out – An ABCCC Event Rex Hall (03) 9795 7669
Start Venue – TBA

June 2016

Friday 10th to Monday 13th Hamilton Rally – An ABCCC Supported Event Tony Pettigrew (03) 9739 1146
Rally Base Venue – Hamilton Showgrounds, Cnr. King and Gordon Streets, Hamilton, Victoria.

Sunday 26th A Tour of Discovery – An ABCCC Event Christopher Constantine (03) 9898 4431
Start Venue – Lilydale Lake Car Park, Swansea Road, Lilydale.

July 2016

Sunday 10th **Please Note: This event has been cancelled.**

Friday 29th to Sunday 31st Wet'n Wild Weekend Whale Watching – An ABCCC Event Bryan Tootell 0412 549 906
Destination – Warrnambool, Victoria. (Note: Fully booked but others can be accepted and placed in the queue, in case of any cancellations by those who booked earlier.)

August 2016

Sunday 14th The ABCCC Annual Luncheon – An ABCCC Event Colin Brown (03) 5964 9291
Function Venue – TBA

Wednesday 24th Mid-week Twilight Run – An ABCCC Event Peter McKiernan (03) 9787 6003
Start Venue – TBA

September 2016

Saturday 3rd Something Spritely – An ABCCC Event Robert Stark (03) 9728 6308
Start Venue – TBA

Sunday 18th Brewery Tour, Tasting and Lunch – An ABCCC Event Greg Anglin (03) 9876 3293
Venue – Gippsland, Victoria.

October 2016

Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd Visit to Daylesford – An ABCCC Event Marj Pepper (03) 9439 7875
Start Venue – TBA

Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th Como Gardens Open Weekend – An ABCCC Assist Event Tony Pettigrew (03) 9739 1146
Venue – The Basin to Olinda Road, The Basin. Bill Allen (03) 9846 2323

Sunday 16th Britain To 'Bunna – Rover Car Club (Tasmanian Register) webmaster.roverclubaust@gmail.com
Venue – Triabunna, Tasmania.

Sunday 23rd Touring Visit to Puckapunyal – An ABCCC Event Ian Terry (03) 9841 9876
Start Venue – TBA

November 2016

Tuesday 1st Melbourne Cup at Yarra Glen – An ABCCC Event Colin Brown (03) 5964 9291
Start Venue – Meet at Coldstream, Victoria.

Wednesday 9th Special Mid-week Run – An ABCCC Event Bryan Tootell 0412 549 906

Friday 18th The Famous ABCCC Indulgence Weekend Peter McKiernan (03) 9787 6003
Information Indulgence – TBA

December 2016

* Saturday 10th Christmas Luncheon – The ABCCC End of Year Event Maxine Pettigrew (03) 9739 1146
Venue – Chirside Park Country Club, 68 Kingswood Drive, Chirside park, Victoria.

January 2017

Saturday 22nd RACV Great Australian Rally – A Major ABCCC Event Colin Brown (03) 5964 9291
Start Venues – Melbourne, Stud Park and Hastings
Display Venue – Mornington Racecourse, Mornington.

Important!

Please Note: Our scheduled events on Sunday 10th July and Saturday 10th December could be affected by renovations planned for the rooms that we will be using at the Chirside Park Country Club.

Any changes will be notified in forthcoming issues of Your ABCCC News, be sure to be aware of all likelihoods of event change information in this Directory. Our Website will also be a location where these changes could be realised.

*** Note the change of date for this event.**

EDITORIAL NOTES – Issue N^o. 195

The year is progressing rapidly and some of us are wondering, how did the first quarter pass so quickly? A possible answer is that there has been so much going on in the historic motoring movement, that our commitments effectively sped-up time as it passed us by.

Reportedly, there have been some quite surprising classic car auction results. At a recent UK auction, in Poole, Dorset, a 2.4-Litre Mk. II Jaguar was sold for just over £30,000 and, remarkably, it was fitted with a 2.8 litre Nissan turbo-charged diesel engine. Apparently the car was sold with an 'overhauled' Jaguar engine in a crate. Also, at the same auction, a 1976 Rover 3500 P6B sold at £23,000, well above its expected price, but a long way below its restoration cost. The Rover was described as a limited edition end of P6B production run, with 70-plus being built for British Rover dealers. It is reported that only seven (7) of these limited edition Rovers still exist. This information was from an edition of the magazine *Classic & Sports Car*. Out of this, the Jaguar's result compares somewhat strangely with Humber saloons with Perkins P6 diesel engines fitted – in the 1960s they could not be given away!

Please be sure to note the changes to our Events Directory, shown in red.

It will soon be time to get *Pea Soup* ready for the Winton Historic Race meeting and for another visit to Hamilton for the June long weekend. Both wonderful events to be involved with.

Enjoy this issue of *Your ABCCC News*.

Mike Allfrey – Editor.

A THANK YOU LETTER

The All British Classics Car Club
Attention: T Pettigrew
16 Lawler Lane
Coldstream 3770



Como Gardens Pty. Ltd.
79 The Basin – Olinda Road
The Basin, Victoria, 3154

21/4/16

Dear Tony,

Our recent Ope gardens Weekend was a great success and yielded a nett profit of \$18,000 for local charities, down a bit on the October event.

Please convey our appreciation to the club membership who helped.

I enclose a cheque in favour of the club for \$1,000.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'George Netzel'.

NEW MEMBERS

A hearty welcome to the well-oiled machine that is the All British Classics Car Club. Our club is one of the fastest growing motoring interest clubs in this country. We hope to be able to welcome you and, in actual fact, your British classic motor car, at one of our events soon. Our club aims to have two motoring events each month, so there are plenty of fabulous events for you to select from. Welcome!

Name	Car	Model	Year
Les and Kaylene Jarvis	Triumph	Stag	1975
Robert and Janet Lloyd	MG	B	1969
	MG	ZT	2004
Peter and Alexandra (Daughter) Collingwood	Austin	1800 Mk II	1970
	Austin	1800 Mk I	1968
Philip Squire	Jowett	Javelin PB	1950

Gordon Lindner – Membership Secretary.

DEVELOPMENTS AT SCOTT'S OLD AUTO RUBBER

Well known suppliers of:

- Old Auto Rubber Co. Automotive Rubber Products
- Fasteners and Hardware
- Rust Repair Sections
- Body Panels
- Engine and other components and whatever . . .

Business Telephone Number (03) 9545 3222. **Postal Address:** PO Box 105, Mt. Waverley, Victoria, 3149.

EMAIL: scott@scottsoldautorubber.com.au **WEB PAGE:** www.scottsoldautorubber.com.au

Scott's premises at Oakleigh has been sold and is now closed. We are now trading only on-line and our new telephone number is advised above. Our PO Box, E-mail and Website addresses remain unchanged. All ordered parts will be forwarded by mail or courier. We apologise for any inconvenience that may arise from this change.

Scott Richmond.

OUR PRESENTATION TO PETER MAC – Tuesday 12th April, 2016

Handover Of Cheque For Funds Raised In The RACV Great Australian Rally

After the Advisory Committee Meeting, at the RACV City Club, where the date was settled for the 2017 running of this major event, we were joined by Kevin White (President and Chairman of the RACV Board), David Mann (Promotions & Marketing Manager 3AW Radio), Jennifer Doubell (Executive Director, Peter Mac), Professor Lester Peters (Chairman of Peter MacCallum Cancer Foundation) and Aly Pekin (Peter Mac).

We had, after expenses, raised \$58,000.00 for the folk at Peter Mac. It is a stipulation that all of our contributions help with cancer research. This presentation is a very moving event, first Kevin White spoke to us about the great achievements made by our Rally over the years. Then David Mann told us about the ongoing commitment to the Rally from Radio 3AW, and then Jennifer Doubell introduced Professor Lester Peters who spoke about the work at Peter Mac and how grateful the Foundation is for our fundraising effort. Aly Pekin was busy taking photographs that were probably better than those here!

Right: Our President, Tony Pettigrew, presents the cheque to Professor Lester Peters.



The RACV Club kindly provided us with tea and coffee, along with some rather sumptuous and tasty finger food. It is this presentation that makes all the work worthwhile for us. A very moving experience for all of us and our thanks go to all of our club members, and other organisations, who helped along the way. Then, also, there was the active enthusiasm with which Aly Pekin assisted at Mornington by handing the rally bags to entrants who were queueing for them!

Jennifer's address to us follows below. For next year's presentation, we will need to draw the curtains to cut out the glass that so vividly reflects camera flash units. The photo below was edited somewhat, and it is hoped that it worked.

Mike Allfrey – RACV Great Australian Rally Advisory Committee.

PROCEEDS FROM RACV GREAT AUSTRALIAN RALLY, 2016

Presentation Acceptance Speech



Good afternoon everyone. It's a great pleasure to be here with you again today. Over the years, you've become a very important part of the Peter Mac family, so it's a pleasure to be able to celebrate your achievements once again.

I must say, the contributions each of you makes to Peter Mac's work really are outstanding. I've run a couple of events in the past myself, so I know only too well the months of planning and preparation it takes to make an event run as smoothly and successfully as the RACV Great Australian Rally. I hope you are all extremely proud of the extraordinary feat that you achieve each year.

The Chair of the Peter MacCallum Cancer Foundation, Professor Lester Peters, is here with us today, and will talk to you briefly about some of the exciting research that you have helped to enable throughout the last year. But before he does, I would like to thank you for all that you have done in bringing together the community to raise funds for Peter Mac. I would particularly like to acknowledge the contributions of Colin Brown, Daryl Meek, Tony

Pettigrew and the passionate members of the organising committee. I know that each of you has been crucial to the success of this event.

I would also like to highlight the contributions of all of the volunteers from the All British Classics Car Club, RACV, the Rotary Clubs of Keilor East and Waverley, and the Tyabb Scouts. I hope you will pass on our thanks to those who are not in attendance today.

Thank you for taking action to help accelerate the pace of discovery in cancer research, and for remembering Frank Douglas, past President of the All British Classics Car Club, in a way that has such impact on others in the community. It is a wonderful way to remember him.

I thank each of you most sincerely for your generous support.

*Jennifer Doubell
Executive Director,
Peter MacCallum Cancer Foundation*

TIME FOR A SMILE

I was out walking with my four-years-old grand-daughter.

She picked up something off the ground and started to put it in her mouth. I took the item away from her and then I asked her not to do that.

"Why?" my grand-daughter asked.

"Because it has been on the ground. You don't know where it has been, it's dirty, and probably has germs," I replied.

At this point, my grand-daughter looked at me with total admiration and asked, "Grannie, how do you know all this stuff?" "You are so clever."

I was thinking quickly, "All Grannies know this stuff. It's on the Grannie Test. You have to know it, or they don't let you be a Grannie."

We walked along in silence for two or three minutes, but she was evidently pondering this new information.

"Oh! – I get it!" she beamed, "So if you don't pass the test, you have to be the Grand-dad."

"Exactly", I replied.

From: Peter Hibbert.

EVENT REPORTS

WHAT WE HAVE BEEN DOING

RACV FLY THE FLAG WESTERN TOUR – Sunday 13th March to Saturday 19th March, 2016 (Part Two)

To continue our story: It was an easy drive to our accommodation in Belmont as the highway approached Geelong. Our motel was a short walk to the dinner venue, with the entrance to the car park well away from the Princes Highway. Dinner was at the South Barwon Civic Centre and our entertainer was Denis Tucker who provided us with some older and not so old tunes that soon had a good number of us up on the dance floor. Once again, it was a mild night for our walk back to the motel.

Right: Evening sunshine at Belmont. Marg Pepper is sort of wondering about someone's parking 'technique'.

Breakfast was at the previous evening's dinner venue so, because we were to take part in an ultra-low profile flag-off ceremony, we drove *Pea Soup* to the Centre's car park. It was a short drive, with some of our marshals looking a mite perplexed as a number of Flaggers made 'U' turns in strange places. The reason for the low profile flag-off this time, was due to a certain nervousness shown by the local council, about some of our traditional activities. We think we got away with it!

After flag-off, we soon made a left turn (from the highway's right hand lane) and took the Midland Highway to the left turn into the road that would take us through Bannockburn and on to Skipton. It was at this turn off that the TomTom navigation device thought we were in a paddock, trying furiously to guide *Pea Soup* back onto the Midland Highway. Obviously the turn-off had been re-profiled since the map software was installed. As we motored along, we came to a very long stretch of dead straight road that was visible a long way in front of us, Sue dropped into her best north Somerset accent to imitate her Uncle Vernon (he who owned a pub and ran his 1950s Ford Zephyr with a Worthington 'E' beer bottle label as a tax disc for well over a year!), saying, "How far do you think that is, then?" Exactly the sort of question he would have asked, and we had a really good chuckle over it!

We drove into Skipton and were directed around a loop by tour marshals to pass a school, and there were no children to wave at us. We thought we were too early, but on arriving at Mooramong Homestead we found that we were not at all early. Soon, we parked and joined the queue for our lunch, prepared for us by the community of Skipton, and very



good it was too, in the very pleasant surroundings with warm sunshine. Some even took advantage of the opportunity and made good use of the swimming pool.

After lunch, we continued to our accommodation in Ballarat, the address for which caused a degree of stress for the TomTom's little brain. Apparently, there was no such street number in its memory as that for the resort. The screen told us to carry out several 'U' turns which were ignored and we finally spotted the resort's sign. Our entertainment that night was by the Dave Allen Duo and matters became so hectic that the dance floor had to be hastily repaired!



Left: The very capable ladies from around Skipton getting ready to feed the hordes. The coleslaw was rather special!

Of note, on both sides of the musicians, were projection screens and a thought came to me – why not, on a future tour, have a projector showing a slide-show of images from earlier RACV Fly The Flag Tours? This could be entertaining at dinner during our Noggin'n Natter evening on tour. It would not be difficult to organise photo images onto a USB stick device and, should a venue have a projector, presto, a nostalgic slide show!

Next morning was a free day, a number of us visited the newly acquired RACV Resort at Creswick and others went looking for suitable items for the fancy dress gala that

evening. We drove into the Ballarat CBD, found a parking space with a long time limit and set off in search of two plain white tee-shirts and a broad tipped permanent marker pen to make our costumes. Not at all easy to find in Sturt Street! From days long gone, I went to where there used to be a really good stationery shop, only to find one of many coffee shops now filling the footpaths. Finally, in a well-hidden Post Office we found the required marker pen, Then at last, after visiting several shops/stores, we drifted into Myer and found the tee-shirts in the sleep wear department. This left us wondering if, eventually, someone would have only the lower half of pyjamas available to them!

As soon as we walked into the entrance foyer, that evening it was evident that the Flaggers were all set for an evening of friskiness and frivolity. Some of the costumes must have had a great deal of thought put into them. The Queen of Hearts was rather special and, just what being covered in green balloons meant, could have had some striking themes – peas out of a pod, anyone? Gavin Lydell was our versatile entertainer with some good songs from proper times. A most enjoyable evening and thanks are due to those who set it all up for us!

Right: The Fancy Dress Ball – Dummy Spitters! Rex and Deanna Hall with Ernest and Gayle Jenkins.



Next morning, after witnessing a certain motor car being winched onto a tilt tray (a serious electrical concern, it was said) we elected to drive straight home from Ballarat and, somewhat mistakenly, set the TomTom to take us home – direct, because there were pressing needs to be done. Coming out of the resort, the route was a bit confusing because, while on the Western Freeway, the map thought we were supposed to be on the Midland Highway. Close to Pyke's Creek, it settled down and we motored on. Then, at the Ballarat Road exit, it became a bit messy – Sue wanted us to take that exit, the map was determined to use the Westgate Bridge for us to get to the far side of Melbourne. I elected to follow the map, until, we came upon one of those electronic signs stating; "Lanes closed on Westgate Bridge, expect long delays, or seek alternative route". We took the very next exit to make our way to Ballarat Road. Then we became lost in the affluent western suburbs and, finally, found an area that we knew and motored to the Eastern Freeway and home. Another successful RACV Fly The Flag Tour completed, including absolute reliability from *Pea Soup*.

Mike Allfrey.

COMO GARDENS OPEN WEEKEND – Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th April, 2016

Saturday dawned with reasonably pleasant weather, but rain was forecast sometime during the day. Bill Allen and Bryan Tootell had spent the Friday afternoon marking out the Como Gardens' car parking area with nice straight white lines in readiness for the expected crowds. We in the parking area, were ready for all the folk who help to make this event what it is, park their cars. Matters became a bit apprehensive due to electronic signage and some discussion about a cycle ride on the Sunday. The warning boards informed that roads would be closed for the cyclists; it was also rumoured that there had been very little information about the road closures with the local residents affected by Sunday's ride event. A local paper later reported that tin-tacks had been spread over the road in an attempt to sabotage the bike ride; a pretty sad sour grapes situation. While mentioning newspaper reports, there was a good spread about the coming Como Gardens event in the *Knox Leader* newspaper, with a photograph of George and some of his car collection. We are not sure if the 'RELICS' description, and mention of in the article, referred to the cars, or to George himself, but *Leader* writers should really look up the word 'relic' in the Concise Oxford Dictionary and find out what it really means!

Anyway, at Como Gardens, all of the activities went ahead and it was wonderful to have the steam locomotive in action again. A fair amount of work had been carried out on said locomotive, the 'diesel' locomotive, rolling stock and to the permanent-way (particularly near the bridge at the public entrance). All of this work meant some really smooth running of both types of trains. Best of all, there were no derailments to distress young boys.

The car park did nearly fill to capacity, but probably due to cooler weather, natural attrition allowed us to cope easily with parking duties. Yet again, there were some rather amusing parking incidents that makes us wonder if it is being on a grass surface that causes a degree of uncertainty while being guided into a space? No matter, the ground was firm and there was no need for traction control assistance – i.e. pushing vehicles. Just after the lunch period, the surrounding hills disappeared behind clouds and a sprinkling of rain started to fall. This short shower was enough to prompt a mini-exodus from the car parking area. The rain was just sufficient to instigate the unfolding of umbrellas, and then it stopped and the clouds drifted away. The car parking activity did reduce somewhat after the shower.

The Sunday was a different matter altogether, brilliant autumn sunshine and pleasantly warm. It soon became apparent that attendees had looked outside and decided the garden visit was definitely 'on'. Soon we had a car park that was close to being full. The trains were also well patronised, in fact we were so busy that there was no chance to take any photographs. All too soon, the car park was full and we had to direct parking onto a property, with understanding owners who helped a great deal (along with their old dog who comes across the road for his sausage), where a large bus with forty visitors from Maryborough had room to park. Very soon that parking area was full too!

This brings on a concern about congestion in the road close to the entrance gate. There were some quite dangerous incidents with people arriving at the gate, not indicating but obviously debating whether to come in or continue on along the road. Soon, a line of waiting vehicles builds up and this causes impatience and arrogance from locals who want to get further along the road without any delay. High speed and violent swerving to get around the stationary line of waiting vehicles was a definite concern. There could well be some solutions, like an electronic sign board at the entrance to the road from the roundabout, warning of hold ups further along the way, a temporary 40 kph speed limit in the area and the use of a speed camera (with its donations to the event). Even though there is a Como Gardens car park sign at the entrance, many visitors are in great doubt as to where the entrance really is! There are increasing numbers of motorists who do not use their trafficator switch at all, and, frankly, we cannot help them while they are stopped in the middle of the road. With some of the elderly folk from the bus slowly crossing the road, there were some rather dangerous moments for them too – and for us.

The crowd was such that the Aldi hamburgers were reportedly sold out before 12:00 noon! Our thanks go to all of our club members who gave such wonderful assistance on the days, it was greatly appreciated by Pat and George Hetrel.

Mike Allfrey.

COOMBE COTTAGE GARDEN TOUR – Wednesday 27th April, 2016

On Wednesday the 27th we gathered in the Coombe car park area at 9:30 am, then headed into the immaculate tea rooms where Coffee and Tea along with scones, jam and cream awaited us. While we tucked into those Daniel Johnston, Estate Manager of Coombe Cottage talked about recent developments at the estate.

Sue then briefly talked about the many firsts of Melba – singing on the wireless; her own record labels; the public broadcast of one of her operas and her teaching future opera singers.

Di Logg our tour guide took us firstly into the gallery and then into the cottage gardens.

The day was nice and sunny allowing plenty of pictures to be taken of a well-manicured garden, while being told of some history of the layout. In the hedge we were shown a cut out where Pamela Lady Vestey would to hide as a child.

A lot of us found the house interesting (outside only) so a lot of snaps were taken while being told of the features and extensions that have been added to ensure Melba was comfortable and able to cater for her guests. Melba's swimming pool was one of the earliest in Victoria and is in good working order even today. After the tour we were invited to taste some of the wines and to go through the gift shop.

Right: Our group being addressed by our guide Di Logg.

Leaving Coombe we travelled up to Olinda, going via Lilydale and Montrose arriving at the Mt Dandenong Hotel for lunch and a bit of refreshment. After much chatter and a leisurely lunch we went on our way, some to the antique shop across the road.



Sue and Wally Thompson.

SPACE FILLER

The Earth gets 100 tons heavier every day due to falling space dust.

Due to Earth's gravity it is impossible for mountains to be higher than 15,000 metres (oh?).

Not Known!

WHAT WE ARE ABOUT TO DO

REX'S BIG DAY OUT – Sunday 29th May, 2016

We will meet at the Cranbourne Botanical Gardens at the Corner of Ballarto Road and Botanic Drive (off South Gippsland Highway), Cranbourne (Melway Map 133; Ref: K10) at 9:30 am for morning tea/coffee, scone jam and cream or savory scone at \$10.50 per person. At the Gardens we have several options:

Walk the many sealed or granitic gravel tracks, or, take the Garden Explorer, which is an open-air motorised people mover that seats twenty-three people. It circulates around the Australian Garden every 20 minutes. \$8.00 adult, \$6.50 child/concession.

We are able to pre-book the Garden Explorer so please indicate your intentions if you wish to participate. Or, just enjoy the views of the gardens from the café whilst enjoying your morning tea.

Lunch Arrangements

We will leave the Australian Gardens at 11:45 am and travel to our lunch venue at D'Angello Estate Winery at 41 Bayview Road, Officer. This will be \$25.00 per person to be collected on the day. Cash only please as no credit card facilities are available. Shared platters and pizzas. Special dietary requirements will be available for us.

Please contact Rex or Deanna on telephone numbers (03) 9795 7669, mobile 0408 303 129 (Rex), 0408 520 729 (Deanna) or email rha41579@bigpond.net.au if you would like to join us on 'Rex's Big Day Out' by Friday 20th May, so that the numbers and dietary requests can be provided to the venues for catering purposes.

Rex and Deanna Hall.

ANNUAL QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY TOUR – Saturday 11th To Monday 13th June, 2016

The Hamilton Rally's 'Southerly Wanderings'

The Tour Committee of the Hamilton VVC Drivers Club invites us to join them on their Annual Queen's Birthday Weekend Tour, the *Southerly Wanderings Tour*. The programme is as follows:

Saturday 11th June

- 12.00 Noon Registration and Tour Packs available at tour headquarters.
- 1:30 pm Assemble for a delightful run down to Branhholme to visit the historic property of Arrandoovong. Afternoon tea will be provided at a cost by the owners of the property.
- 5:30 pm Happy Hour at our tour headquarters. Participants need to be registered for the tour.
- 6:30 pm Join us for a two course meal with official welcome and a guest speaker. Drinks will be available at bar prices.

Sunday 12th June

- 9:00 am Assemble at Tour Headquarters (tea and coffee available) prior to a drive.
- 9:30 am We will be heading to Portland where we will visit Keppel Prince, Manufacturer of wind towers. We will have a conducted tour of the factory.
- 12:00 Noon This year we have decided to allow you free time to wander the main streets of Portland and purchase your own lunch from the many shops available or BYO. A list will be provided.
- 1:30 pm We will assemble near the Motor Museum and some will visit the museum while others will visit the Marine Museum on the Portland Foreshore. Due to restricted numbers this will be organised on a rotation basis. Participants can then make their own way back to Hamilton.
- 6:00 pm Pre-dinner drinks. The bar will be open.
- 7:00 pm Dinner will be served. Followed by presentations, awards and entertainment.

Monday 13th June

- 9:30am – Farewell Brunch will be available at our clubrooms. A walking tour of the historic city area and botanic gardens will be conducted for those who wish to attend.

NOTE: Programme may be subject to change depending on weather and arrangements with landowners etc. If you have any special dietary requirements please contact us.

Special Note: For those who enjoyed last year's Kelpie festival in Casterton, may like to go independently on the Saturday for their 20th Anniversary. You will need to leave Hamilton by 8:00 am to catch the parade. This is not a part of the 2016 Tour programme.

Once again we will be using the Goldsmith Motor Inn for our accommodation. This is a Golden Chain motel and has been comfortable for us. Their contact is Peter Walsh on (03) 5572 4347. There is a Southern Wanderings Tour booking form on Page 14 of the April, 2016 edition of *Your ABCCC News*. Detailed enquiries: E-mail ljwilson52@gmail.com Website <http://hamiltondistrictvcdriiversclub.webs.com> or, telephone Mike on (03) 9729 1480, or Tony on (03) 9739 1146.

Tony Pettigrew.

A TOUR OF DISCOVERY – Sunday 26th June, 2016

Meet at the Lilydale Lake, Melway Map 38; Ref: G7, car park, enter from Swansea Road (C401), at 9:00 am for a 9:30 am departure to view one of the best pre-war, mainly British, sports car collections in private hands.

Following this we will take a pleasant drive through the Dandenong Hills to enjoy Gembrook's Arts/Crafts, Gourmet Foods Market Day. Here, David Peck has agreed to open his private museum (The Motorist) for our enjoyment and 1:00 pm, Puffing Billy arrives at the station opposite, after which we lunch.

To book for this outing, please call Christopher on (03) 9898 4431, or, E-mail to: christopheraaa@bigpond.com

Remember to bring a camera!

Geraldine and Christopher Constantine.

TRIVIA NIGHT – Sunday 9th July, 2016

Please note: This event has been cancelled.

Maxine Pettigrew.

WET'N WILD WEEKEND WHALE WATCHING – Friday 29th to Sunday 31st July, 2016

Bookings are now full for the weekend away, however, if you wish to be placed on an emergency list, we will register your interest, thank you.

Anne and Bryan Tootell.

THE ABCCC ANNUAL CLUB LUNCHEON – Sunday 14th August, 2016

An early warning of this upcoming event, that will be held at the Killara Estate Winery, which is located on the corner of Warburton Highway and Sunnyside Road, Seville.

We have held many successful events at this Winery, and at the last visit we had morning tea, prior to driving on to the Blue Lotus Water Garden, I proposed holding our Annual Luncheon here to the attending members, and it was duly approved by a show of hands. (So, if you do not like the location or meal, a list of all the members who attended that day will be made available upon request.) To those members who brought presents last year this is not Christmas in July or August so save your presents for our Christmas lunch.

A great menu has been chosen:

<i>Entrée:</i> Crumbed Calamari Prawn Cutlets	<i>Main Course:</i> Roast Lamb and Roast Vegetables Stuffed Chicken Breast
<i>Dessert:</i> Lime Tart Sticky Date Pudding	<i>Refreshments:</i> Coffee/Tea

This is a club members only event, and the cost for the luncheon will be \$35.00 per head, and all drinks will be provided by the club. **A booking form will be in the next newsletter.** All bookings *via* the booking form please.

Looking forward to your company.

Colin Brown.

CLUB HOLIDAY TOUR OF VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA – Friday 7th October, 2016

The tour is now settled upon visiting Vietnam and Cambodia, as this was preferred, over including Laos in the itinerary. Our departure date will be October 7th, 2016, and the duration of the tour will be 19 days.

There are several vacancies still available, to be finalised about mid-May, with deposit due about end of May, to confirm.

Anyone with interest or questions please contact me at paddybee@alphalink.com.au Or telephone (03) 9898 1881, or on mobile 0429 140 183.

There will be more detailed information in the June issue of *Your ABCCC News*. Very likely, we will distribute the information *via* our E-mail group.

Pat Bullard.

SOME INTERESTING FIGURES

From The Federation Of British Historical Vehicle Clubs (FBHVC)

The National Historic Vehicle Survey, 2016 – A Précis Of The Seminar

In March there was the 2016 ClubExpo event at the British Motor Corporation Museum, Gaydon, where the FBHVC delivered a seminar entitled '£4-billion Hobby', thus referring to the results of their 2011 Survey and to announce the launch of the 2016 Survey which was scheduled to begin on the 19th March, 2016. The 2016 Survey will be the largest and the most detailed survey of Historic Vehicles and their respective owners that the Federation has ever conducted, and the results will help shape the future of the industry and our 'hobby'.

There are 1,039,950 historic vehicles registered with the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) of which 512,499 (49%) are motor cars; 296,936 (29%) are motorcycles; 124,812 (12%) buses, coaches, vans, trucks, LGVs and HGVs etc.; 105,703 (10%) are agricultural tractors.

For clarification, the FBHVC's definition of an Historic Vehicle is one that is at least thirty (30) years old. In the Survey there is a section entitled 'Future Classics' for vehicles 1986 – 1995. This time, as well as surveying enthusiasts and those working in this arena, the FBHVC are carrying out the survey in two distinct stages.

Stage One – is an attitude and opinion survey of a representative sample of the whole UK population over 16 years of age. Carried out by TNS, the premier researcher in this field, this is the first time this has ever been attempted. This part has already been completed and provides fascinating insights into the general public's attitude to historic vehicles. For

example, eight-million people expressed an interest in historic vehicles, one-in-ten people aspire to own one, and two-million people attended an event or regularly read about them in magazines.

Stage Two – to get the maximum value from the survey, the FBHVC need as many Historic Vehicle owners as possible to take part. This is the stage where they drill-down amongst ourselves, the enthusiasts, and get to the in-depth details. In the time since the last survey, in 2011, there have been many changes in the Historic Vehicle world. The Federation need to update its research information in order to represent fully and more accurately the interests of all historic vehicle owners and enthusiasts both to Government in the UK and more widely, including internationally to the EU.

The FBHVC hopes that as many historic vehicle owners as possible will complete the survey, which takes about 10-15 minutes on line, and the results of this survey will support the Federation's lobbying efforts on our behalf in Parliament for the next five years and help them protect our rights and to uphold the freedom to use the highways with our Historic Vehicles.

Historic vehicle clubs in Britain have been asked to circulate the invitation to participate in the National Historic Vehicle Survey 2016, and, in this request that they provide the Internet link: <http://bit.ly/22F6bsG> to their members. The National Historic Vehicle Survey 2016 will run until 30th June, 2016. You can reach the survey at the above link or, via the Federation's Website: www.fbhvc.co.uk

If you have any questions concerning this survey please contact Paul Chasney, director of research at E-mail address: FBHVCresearch@hotmail.com

From The FBHVC – With Thanks.

AOMC NEWS

Delegates' Meeting Dates

Monday 15th August, 2016. Monday 14th November, 2016 (Also AGM), Monday 15th February, 2017. Please Note: These dates are provisional, one meeting is planned to be held on a Saturday in a country area.

Reporting A VCPS Vehicle – AOMC Advice

If you see a vehicle that either:

- a) Should not be on the Victorian Club Permit Scheme,
- b) Has an 'H' plate when it should have an 'M' plate, or,
- c) Is operating outside the terms of the permit (e.g. number of days, used for commercial gain).

Then send:

- (i) A photo of the vehicle,
- (ii) The time, date and location where the photo was taken,
- (iii) The reason you believe an offence has occurred, and,
- (iv) Your name, address and phone number to: AOMC 1/3 Edgecombe Court, Moorabbin, 3189. Or you can E-mail to: secretary@aomc.asn.au

The AOMC will check that the information provided is complete and correct, and will pass it on to VicRoads. Note that the AOMC will *not* pass on your details (unless asked by VicRoads), and then only with your permission. The AOMC cannot guarantee that we can report back on the outcome of your notification.

The AOMC Restoration Seminar

This popular event will be conducted as a morning session on Saturday 18th June, 2016. For booking details, E-mail to: secretary@aomc.asn.au or, visit the AOMC Website at www.aomc.asn.au.

Motor Homes On The Victorian Club Permit Scheme – A Note For Delegates and Member Clubs

The Association has been made aware of differences of opinion in allowing motorhomes to participate in the Victorian Club Permit Scheme (VCPS), and we seek your input. An opinion that has been passed on to both VicRoads and the AOMC is that the inclusion of motorhomes on the VCPS is a method of cheap registration for a vehicle that isn't an 'enthusiast vehicle' and the owners have no interest in their vehicles or furthering the objectives of the VCPS. The objections appear to be against both 25-years old vehicles that have always been motorhomes, and 25-years old vehicles that are fitted out with contemporary equipment. It should be noted that, given they pass the appropriate safety certification, both are compliant with the VCPS regulations.

The AOMC seeks the views of our membership on the inclusion of Motor Homes on the VCPS. We have included in the May, 2016 AOMC Newsletter two views on the matter. The first, which was presented by Denis Brooks (HCVCA) at the February Delegates Meeting, and the second, a letter which was sent in by CHACA Delegate, Bob Clark.

Could delegates respond on behalf of their clubs to the Secretary via E-mail at: secretary@aomc.asn.au by Friday May 13th for discussion at the May Delegates meeting on Monday 16th May, 2016.

Editor's Note: The above Item has only recently arrived, making the deadline rather short. The topic may not directly concern our club, however, should there be valid comment, then please make that comment known either direct to the AOMC E-mail address above, or, in writing to one of our Delegates listed on Page 2 of this magazine, who will be pleased to forward such comment to the AOMC. For reference, the May 2016 edition of the AOMC Newsletter, can be downloaded in PDF format from www.aomc.asn.au where the two items referred to can be read.

From the AOMC Newsletter – With thanks.

NEWS FROM THE FEDERATION

Delegates' Meetings Conducted By The Federation

Saturday 8th(?) August, 2016

Swan Hill, venue to be advised (includes the AGM).

Saturday 15th October, 2016

Trafalgar Truck Restorers, venue to be advised.

Saturday/Sunday 12th-13th November, 2016

Bendigo National Swap Meet, Bendigo Show Grounds.

The Delegates' Meeting – Saturday 13th February, 2016 – Report

Our Delegate, Bill Allen, who attended the Federation Meeting in Shepparton, presented to the Committee and Delegates present, the submission by our club to become a member club of the Federation. The ABCCC (Vic.) Inc., was accepted as a member club of the Federation. Our submission was placed in the March edition of *Your ABCCC News*, where it can be referred to.

Notes From The Federation President's Report

Modified Vehicles And Vehicles Doing Burnouts On VCPS Plates

If VicRoads are advised by police of a vehicle they suspect has been modified beyond VSI-33 then they write to the Vehicle Owner and ask for a VASS report to be compiled if one is not already on file. It appears that some do comply but a number they do not hear from again and as such the VCPS is cancelled. If Police have evidence that a VCPS vehicle is involved in illegal drag racing or doing burnouts the VCPS is cancelled for that vehicle.

Victorian Club Permit Scheme

At the time of writing this report we have not met with VicRoads. We still need to do so with the AOMC and Street Rods Federation, but VicRoads staff have been busy on other tasks, and we believe a meeting will be held soon. That will cover Club requirements and if there is a move to 30 years for vehicle eligibility plus a couple of other small things. I noticed that the new vehicles coming onto the scheme has slowed right down. Just a reminder that when a Club Committee becomes aware that a vehicle on their VCPS register may not be safe to drive on the road then they must take action to have the vehicle assessed again. So if a member says that he could not attend some function or similar because the brakes were playing up for example then the Committee must have the vehicle assessed to ensure it is safe. Just a reminder that the authorised Club Committee members need to sign VCPS renewals and take care when signing them that they are for vehicles attached to the Club and the member has not brought along ones from another club they are in.

Club Newsletters, Fed News And WWW

Thank you to the few clubs that are sending their newsletters to Dawn by E-mail so as they can be loaded onto the Federation WWW site. But some are now sending them to Mal electronically and does not want them that way and thus the offer to do so to Dawn. Can Delegates please sort this out with Editors as sending them electronically to Mal. Mal will gladly give the Editor of *Fed News* away in coming months and the new Editor can then get them any way they so choose. Are Clubs coping with E-mailing the newsletters to members or posting them mainly still? Have members who need to print them at home been doing so or do you feel vital information is being lost in not having printed copies for members?

Committee Members And Delegates

You will recall last meeting we raised that not all Committee members will be continuing on after August. You will recall also that the Federation is at a stage where a number of the Committee members are over sixty-years old and we need to attract younger people from the movement to be involved and to be our future Committee people. To that end then we need you as our current Delegates to seek out younger people from your club's membership and bring them along to Federation meetings so as they can commence to take in what being in the Federation and on the Committee is all about. This needs to start with everyone in this room, and in our member clubs please.

Reports To Your Members

How are you all going providing reports back to your clubs and members of your Clubs? I hope that it is happening. Even this report if nothing else. Sadly, I heard recently that a Club has never heard that, for fifteen years I have been providing Presidents' updates and that Federation actually does discuss matter. Working that out we would have over that time invested a reasonable amount of hard earned Federation money into those Delegates with lunches and Delegates payments and raffle tickets etc., and for nothing to be taken back is concerning. *Neil Athorn – President.*

Editor's Note: Editorially, we trust that the Federation is receiving Your ABCCC News. These last two items in Neil's report reflect on matters that are all too common in today's car club scene. Also, while attending Delegates' Meetings and looking around the room, one wonders how much information gets back to the actual club members? All are no doubt well aware of the VCPS, but what about other important matters that affect our hobby? I am even aware of people requesting that such information be banned from a national club's newsletter!

From FedNews – With Thanks.

SPACE FILLERS – The Useful Yellow ABCCC LED Torch

The useful pocket torch that was available at our Christmas luncheon can exhibit a bothersome concern. The battery cover is not a very snug fit. As a consequence it can fall off while the torch is handled. A suitable fix for this is to apply two strips of draught excluder foam (the self-adhesive type) to the inside of the cover, so that as the cover is pushed into place, the foam strips exert pressure on the batteries. This ensures that the cover's holding lugs do their job.

Mike Allfrey.

BRANDING THE MOTORIST

The enemies of motoring are numerous, often powerful; usually vociferous. To them, like manna to the Israelites, has come a Los Angeles news item, which records that a woman convicted of exceeding the speed limit has been ordered to display a label on her car, proclaiming that she is a 'Traffic Violator'.

Right: . . . not such a new idea at all.

Branding motorists. What a splendid idea! Make them carry a label on their cars when convicted of offences. Why was not this idea thought of before?

It has been. It will soon be in force. On and after June 1st every motorist who has not previously obtained a licence to drive will be branded with a large red letter 'L'. This will indicate that the driver is a 'learner'. The label will have to be displayed when driving (accompanied by another motorist with at least two years' experience – another form of discouragement) until a so-called proficiency test has been passed, in which quite likely the novice will be ploughed by a tricky question concerning the Highway Code.

Why a Large Letter 'L'? – It has to be a large letter 'L', measuring 7 inches each way. Half the size – as with the figures and letters on registration plates – would have sufficed, for no useful object is really served by distinguishing such cars, except to discourage learners.

Are our motoring associations doing anything at all to persuade the Minister not to label the cars of learners? Has a single one lifted a voice in protest? Is the industry blind to the effect? I can imagine nothing more likely to discourage taking up motoring than this pernicious form of branding. There is a definite stigma in the learner's plaque which is resented.

Meanwhile, those who do not hold a licence should get one now. They will not then have to take out a provisional licence, display the learner's plaque during a probationary period and have to be accompanied by an experienced driver. Of less importance, they will also save 5 shillings.

The Press has been flooded, with letters recommending the adoption of the branding idea for all drivers convicted of an offence. One writer puts it this way:–

Most men who own cars are, at any rate, reasonably well off. To fine them a few shillings is ludicrous punishment – The fear of having to carry a notice on their rear mudguard: 'This man can't drive properly' would, be a very powerful deterrent to carelessness.

Many letters are couched in the vein that motorists are rich and that motoring, motor vehicles and motorists means solely private car owners. The fact that half the registered motor vehicles are handled by more than one driver escapes their notice.

How would you label a vehicle like a motorbus or motorcoach, to which no single driver is attached? One could hardly display the notice only when the convicted driver was at the wheel.

I have no doubt whatever what their answer would be to that: Do not allow him to drive at all. In the case of chauffeur-driven cars, I do not suppose that the owners would.

As the number of convictions for motoring offences is this year expected to reach half a million – fully half that number will apply to professional drivers – the mere addition of a quarter of a million to the unemployment figures is presumably of no account. Truly it will be making the punishment fit the crime to take away a man's livelihood for slightly exceeding the speed limit!

Reductio ad Absurdum – Let us develop the idea to its logical conclusion. If you brand one type of user you must brand all. Motor vehicle drivers are in the minority of those responsible for causing accidents, so you must brand the careless pedestrian. How intriguing to see parading the streets numbers of pedestrians endorsed 'Jay Walker'! Fortunately, the people of this country are not easily stampeded into making themselves ridiculous.

Public interest is lacking in fatuous schemes purporting to aim at road safety, which are merely heaping regulations and restrictions on one single class of road user.

A national scheme of safe road building which would have a substantial effect in reducing road accidents, would have far wider general support. For one thing the public who pay the dole, either directly or indirectly, would feel that something useful was being done to absorb the unemployed. And that is of far deeper concern to the mass of the people than pettifoggish ways of harassing the section of the community which is supporting our fourth largest industry.

Fingermark.

Editor's Note: The above article came from The Motor® magazine, of Tuesday 7th May, 1935. With thanks.

SPACE FILLER – WOMEN'S LOGIC

Husband's Message (by mobile phone): "Darling, I got hit by a car outside the office. Paula brought me to the Hospital. They have been doing tests and taking X-rays. The blow to my head though very strong, will not have any serious or lasting injury. But, I have three broken ribs, a broken arm, a compound fracture in the left leg, and they may have to amputate the right foot."

Wife's Response: "Who is Paula?"

Peter Hibbert.

Rex's Big Day Out

Sunday 29th May 2016

The Start

We will meet at the Cranbourne Botanical Gardens at Cnr. Ballarto Road and Botanic Drive (off South Gippsland highway), Cranbourne, 3977. Melway Ref: 133 K10 at 9:30 am for morning tea/coffee, scone jam and cream or savory scone at \$10.50 per person.

At the Gardens we have several options:

Walk the many sealed or granitic gravel tracks



Or,

Garden Explorer

The Garden Explorer, <http://www.rgb.vic.gov.au/whats-on/gardens-explorer-cran>, is an open-air motorised people mover that seats 23 people. It circulates around the Australian Garden every 20 minutes. \$8.00 adult, \$6.50 child or concession. We are able to pre-book the Garden Explorer so please indicate your intentions if you wish to participate.



Or,

Just enjoy the views of the gardens from the café whilst enjoying your morning tea.

Lunch

We will leave the Australian Gardens at 11:45 am and travel to our lunch venue at D'Angello Estate Winery at 41 Bayview Road, Officer, at \$25.00 per person, to be collected on the day. Cash please, no credit cards available. Shared platters and pizzas. Special dietary requirements available.



Contact

Please contact Rex or Deanna on (03) 9795 7669, 0408 303 129 (Rex), 0408 520 729 (Deanna).

Or E-mail: rha41579@bigpond.net.au if you would like to join us on 'Rex's Big Day Out', by Friday 20th May, so that the numbers and dietary requests can be provided to the venues for catering purposes.

Cheers, Rex and Deanna Hall.

GREAT AUSTRALIAN RALLY BADGE WANTED

I have finally got around to mounting my collection of badges from the Great Australian Rally and have found that I am missing a cloth badge from 1999. Can anyone help me complete my collection?

If you can help, please contact me on 0408 343 176

Colin Brown.

