



An incorporated club  
A0035462V  
**A friendly family social motoring club**

Edition 96

May 2006

**AT LAST! A BENTLEY!**



This is *Lady Rowena* a 1972 T type Bentley in stunning Alpine grey, owned by club member John Forbes-Proctor. She has covered 142,000 miles and John is her third owner. *Lady Rowena* was delivered new to Australia, hence there is no British 'rotting' disease.

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*Please send in photographs of your British Classic so that it can be featured here – otherwise, more Jowett and Rover pictures!*

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**MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS**

The annual membership subscription for the ABCCC Inc. is \$35.00. There is a once only joining fee of \$30.00. Please send membership subscriptions to:

Val Jefferyes and Jim Spence, PO Box 8092, Burnt Bridge, Victoria, 3134.

**Please Note: Membership subscriptions are due prior to the end of December.**

**THE ALL BRITISH CLASSICS CAR CLUB (VICTORIA) INC., FOUNDED - SEPTEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup> 1997**  
**THE ABCCC IS AN ACTIVE MEMBER CLUB OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MOTORING CLUBS INC.**

**"Owning And/Or Appreciating the Spirit of Fine British Classics"**

**Your ABCCC News**

## 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>

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### 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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 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.

## ABCCC EVENTS DIRECTORY

**Note: All events listed in this directory are placed in good faith. Events for inclusion must be with the Magazine Editor prior to the 14<sup>th</sup> 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. *Events organizers, please get your event information to the Editor – SOON!***

### May 2006

- 27 – 28 Historic Winton – Austin 7 Club Inc.  
Venue – Winton Raceway, Benalla, Victoria.
- 29 – Murray River Houseboat Cruise – An ABCCC Holiday Event Frank Douglas (03) 8704 2533  
June 7 **Note! Unfortunately this event is now postponed until a future date.**  
Venue – Cruising from Mannum, South Australia.

### June 2006

- 18 Melbourne Cricket Ground & Victorian Parliament Tours Frank Sawyer 0408 633 778  
Meeting Point - Lilydale International, Nelson Road, Lilydale, Victoria.
- 29 The Great ABCCC Trivia Challenge – An ABCCC Event Frank Douglas (03) 8704 2533  
Venue – Lilydale International, Nelson Road, Lilydale, Victoria.

### July 2006

- 8 – 9 Nagambie Wineries Weekend – An ABCCC Event Peter McKiernan (03) 9787 6003  
Venue – Nagambie Area.
- 23 Christmas In July – The ABCCC Annual Dinner Colin Brown (03) 5964 9291  
Venue – Tokar Estate, Coldstream, Victoria.

### August 2006

- 6 Bylands Tram Museum Visit – An ABCCC Event Geoff Birkett (03) 9755 1772  
Venue – Meet at Lilydale International Car Park at 9:01 am.
- 20 Point Cook RAAF Museum – An ABCCC Event Lyn Higginson (03) 9336 7306  
Venue – Point Cook, Victoria.

### September 2006

- 6 Mid-week Run – An ABCCC Event Frank Douglas (03) 8704 2533  
Venue – To Be Determined.
- 17 Visit to HMAS Cerberus – An ABCCC Event Rob Nolan (03) 5978 7798  
Venue – HMAS Cerberus, Stony Point, Victoria. Frank Sawyer 0408 633 778
- 17 All British Day – All British Classics Car Club (Queensland) Richard Higgs (07) 3385 5312

### October 2006

- 1 Port Arlington Run – An ABCCC Event Tony Hodges 0419 307 026  
Venue – Port Arlington Area.
- 14 Visit to Melbourne Zoo – An ABCCC Event Lyn Higginson (03) 9336 7306  
Venue – Melbourne Zoo, Elliot Avenue, Parkville, Victoria.
- 21 – 22 Como Gardens Open Weekend George Hetrel 0418 323 376  
Venue – 79 The Basin to Olinda Road, The Basin.

### November 2006

- 5 – 12 Whale Watching – An ABCCC Event Tony Pettigrew (03) 9739 1146  
Venue – Lakes Entrance, Victoria and Eden, New South Wales.
- 18 – 19 Bendigo National Swap Meet – A Federation Event  
Venue – Prince of Wales Showgrounds, Bendigo, Victoria.
- 26 Observation Run – An ABCCC Event Chris Newell (03) 9735 2335  
Route – To Be Advised.

### December 2006

- 3 Christmas Luncheon – An ABCCC Event Frank Douglas (03) 8704 2533  
Bookings are essential.  
Venue – RACV Country Club, Healesville, Victoria.
- 17 Badgers Creek BBQ – An ABCCC Event Janet McGregor (03) 9735 2533  
Venue – Badgers Creek, Healesville, Victoria.

## EDITORIAL NOTES – ISSUE 96

First of all, apologies of the most profuse type for the lateness of this issue. April has been the most busy of months for us. It all revolved around matters Jowett and overseas Jowett enthusiasts visiting us. We had a total of seven English Jowetteers staying in the Editorial Home and, for that, Sue should be thanked and rewarded. Hotel Rowson is closed down for the time being and, hopefully, all should return to normal. On top of all that, my two Jowetts performed faultlessly on their 1,800 mile journeys. Thus it was a splendid effort all round.

This issue is of the most fortunate sequence of momentous events – others have sent in articles for publication and successfully helped me out of a sticky position – there being not much toner flowing from my Microsoft pen! Much could be written about Jowett activities in April, but I will desist and not bore you to tears and frustration.

One point that has been ably demonstrated by newer member, Richard Downes, is that sticking hydraulic brake cylinders are not only in the realm of Jowett, but are also in such exotics as Ferrari. Maybe that is what happened to the great MS at Silverstone a few years ago? Thankyou Richard for the explanation of why the 308 didn't reach Kelly's on the Hill.

We have also a very entertaining report on the recent RACV Fly the Flag Tour, thanks to Beth and George Basseler. It sounds as though we missed a 'good one'. Here's to next year's event.

I will get out of your way now, it's not long before the next edition is due!

*Mike Alfrey.*

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## OUR PRESIDENTS

Once again our President, Frank Douglas, has been in hospital undergoing surgery. Our good wishes are with you Frank for a good recovery. We are most relieved that the operation was a success and are grateful that the date was brought forward so that the condition was caught in the best way possible. Frank is now home, convalescing, but no doubt will be 'aboard' soon.

I am sure that everyone in our club, and those on the RACV Fly The Flag Tour, wish you all the best in your recovery.

On a similar note, our Vice President, Ray Higginson, has also had a spell in hospital. Make it a careful recovery Ray, and Lyn, you had better make sure that he does – or else!

All the very best to you both from all of us.

*Mike Alfrey.*

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## CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!

Congratulations to Mike Alfrey on his appointment as National President of the Jowett Car Club. Well done and deserving!

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## PAST AND FUTURE EVENT REPORTS

### RACV FLY THE FLAG TOUR – 2006 – "Rivers and Ocean Tour"

*This is an editor's dream come true! Thanks Beth, believe me – it is greatly appreciated (Ed.).*

After a great preparation by every participant, we are well and truly ready for the next great get-together of old mates and meeting new ones on this fabulously organized rally. All vehicles arrive at Federation Square in Melbourne, around 7:30 am, with an 8:00 am inspection of cars. Here for us were two hundred of the most beautiful vehicles you could imagine. The highland pipe band plays and at 8:30 am the Lord Mayor of Melbourne, John So, RACV President Clive Hall and RACV Director Professor Peter Chandler, inspect the cars. After all speeches, all the vehicles depart Federation Square for the drive to Kerang, on the Loddon River in northern Victoria, via Shepparton and Echuca.

We travel through Nagambie, and on for a lunch stop at Shepparton on the lake, and then on to Peter Ross-Edwards (a former leader of the National Party) Causeway, to Mooropna. Along the way, one can choose to check out the river port and paddle steamers at Echuca, and on through Gunbower to Cohuna with its lovely fountain in Gunbower Creek. On arrival at Kerang there is time to explore the Historical Museum, the Water Tower or the very futuristic new Library. Kerang's population stays relatively the same at 4,400 – is situated on the Loddon River and as well as an irrigation area, there is dairying, grain and other

crops as well as tomatoes, cherries and olive groves. Kerang is a major centre for the Ibis, and has the most populous rookery in the world. It is wonderful to watch the Ibis at about 4:00 pm each afternoon, fly back to the rookery after spending the day catching crickets at the end of each irrigated paddock. Then, again, each morning, off they fly in a 'V' formation to the irrigated paddocks.

A wonderful night was held in Kerang at the Basketball Stadium. A warm welcome was offered by the Mayor of Kerang, Cr Lui Basile – I must mention here that at each evening venue, the local mayor welcomes us to his town. The Lions Ladies and their men put on a wonderful meal, the music was great and nobody wanted to leave the dance floor at the end of the evening. The local Kerang Vintage Car Club members acted as security guards for the cars parked on the oval. It was a great 'First-nighter' – the camaraderie and warmth of feeling of a small town was so obvious. The next morning – I can now say at the end of the 'tour', had to be the very best organized set-up for breakfast. There were separate areas for juice, cereal, home cooked stewed fruit, cooked breakfast, eggs, tomatoes, sausages, bacon, mushrooms, tea and coffee. And, no long queues. The breakfast was also the very best, although I think Lorne pipped them at the post – but, only just. To top everything off, the whole town turned out at the 'flag off' to wave our drivers off. It was just so wonderful, and so encouraging for the drivers.

I can now add, George and I had the misfortune of breaking down halfway up the road. We were in the Merford, (in which we had previously done a 'trial run' the weekend before, to Mortlake successfully) when George decided he did not like the way he had tied the flag on the aerial. We consequently pulled over, re-did the flag, and yes, we could not get the car to start. No need for a long story, the RACV arrived as did son Geoff, and a couple of unknown helpers. The RACV guy did not have his timing light with him, so Geoff towed us to a man's house along the road, then drove us home in the front of the ute, to get the Fairlane, which we then drove out to the man's place, emptied the contents of the Merford into the Fairlane, and back on the road. Having left Bendigo at 12:00 noon, we arrived at Kerang at 6:30 pm, just in time for our meal.

I can add here, that on the following Saturday, we went out to the man's house, taking a new set of ignition points with us and George got the Merford going in fifteen minutes, and we set off for home. I think that on the Saturday of the tour, our helper was a bit intimidated by so many people offering assistance, it was a little off-putting. Nevertheless, the rest of the Tour was great in the Fairlane, as its air conditioning was superior to that in the Merford.

We had a great night in Kerang, catching up with many old friends, and staying with dear friend Ray. In the morning we called on more friends, and then on to Mary and Murray Pay along the highway just out of Kerang, and we all waited at the end of their driveway and waved to all the Tour cars as they passed. Mary and Murray could not believe the variety of vehicles. On then, to Swan Hill – there was the opportunity to visit the Catalina Flying Boat Museum at lake Boga, the Pioneer Settlement at Swan Hill, the Burke and Wills Tree, an enormous Moreton Bay fig opposite the Bowling Green and the largest windmill at 18.3 metres in diameter at Robinvale. We lunched along the river at Boundary Bend and motored on to Mildura where we called on more friends for an hour or so before dinner, which was held at the Settlers Club on 8<sup>th</sup> Street. It was a very nice meal and the acoustics were excellent. We were able to catch up with good friends Joan and David Tynon in their beautifully restored Cadillac. We also met with several other friends in Mildura and the entertainment at the dinner was good.

After a hearty cooked breakfast at the Settlers Club, all Tour vehicles assembled for a display at the Mildura Wharf where the locals could feast and dream of being part of our Tour with the vehicle of their choice. The local car club took us for a run to Wentworth where the Murray and Darling Rivers meet. We visited Orange World and were given a great commentary by the lady driver of the little train we rode amongst thousands of orange trees, and tried to remember the names of all the varieties – not least of these, the Shaddock Orange, which is about the size of parts of Dolly Parton and of a very bright orange hue. Each orange tree uses eight-hundred litres of water and its fruit is picked almost year round. Valencias from September to June, and Navels from June to November. It is the frost that ripens oranges, and Valencias are ready to eat when green and yellow – that is when they are at their sweetest.

You may well remember in last year's episode, the young couple who had eloped in their Bentley and were married at Bruthen. Simon and Bernadette had the Bentley done to a tee, in all its finery, "bra" and wedding ribbons. Later that night the Wagon Master called Bernadette up to the microphone and congratulated them on the occasion, referring to something Bernadette had 'left behind', and she was given her cardigan. Suffice to say, all things come to fulfilment, and this year their young daughter, Nellie-May, four or five months old, came along with them.

There was also an option of visiting the Botanical Gardens at Coomealla, or the Old Wentworth Gaol. Lunch was provided at the Wentworth Sporting Services Club. Then it was back to the wharf in the evening, where we boarded two paddle steamers – we were on the Mundoo – and had a lovely cruise along the Murray to Trentham Estate Winery for our barbeque dinner. It was the most beautiful setting on lawns run-

ning down to the river. Tables and umbrellas were set up and dinner was very quickly served. The cruise back to Mildura in the dark of the night was fantastic. The bird life was settling for the night, the lights from the steamer pin-pointed some late-comers flying in beside us and calling out. The gnarled and white ghost gums were reflected in the water as we sat chatting and sipping our hot coffee. It was magical! Everybody sleepily went off to their respective motels at the end of another glorious day.

It should be mentioned here, that breakfasts have really been a highlight of our day. This will give you some idea of what I mean – cereal, fruit juice, stewed fruit, scrambled eggs, bacon, hash-browns, tomatoes, sausages, toast, tea and coffee. One place also had chops, mushrooms, biscuits, cheese, salami, croissants and French pastries – and nothing to stop you partaking of the lot!

It was then off to Red Cliffs where we stopped to have a look at 'Big Lizzie', and here George swapped drivers, he driving the big Cadillac of David and Joan, and Bill driving my car to Ouyen where we stopped for a cuppa. Then it was on through Speed, Tempy, Lascelles, Turrif and Beulah, continuing on to Warracknabeal where we had lunch by a shallow river. We called in at Parkinson's Clocks where an elderly gentleman built them all himself and also a lot of metal and steel work, as well as ceramic paintings. I tried in vain to look up evidence of Bernie Dunn's dedication and inspirational work for the shire of Yarriambiack and Warracknabeal. Bernie was the leader of the National Party a few years ago, and played a huge part in the political life of country Victoria. It is a sad reflection on life, but one has to wait until one dies to find the evidence of past loyalty and dedication. In Horsham dinner was at the Town Hall – it was actually quite funny and a delight to behold today, top see Mercédès and Jaguars outside Op Shops – the ladies, of course, were all after hats and outfits for our dress-up night next day at Warrnambool.

It was yet another fabulous breakfast at the Town Hall in Horsham, then off – leaving via the Western Highway out of Horsham. Horsham is a great regional centre with much to offer. On our way out, I noticed the letters H O R S H A M cut out of hedges, meticulously trimmed, facing either side of the highway. It was then on to Kar-kana – the very enterprising business run by a sheltered workshop and management. There are several acres and a large number of workers and staff. They grow their own vegies and many of the men have tractor licences, and peel potatoes, carrots, pumpkin and onions. The young lady peeling onions wore goggles to stop her from crying. All of this is for hospitals in Victoria and South Australia, as well as restaurants and hotels. It is quite a large entity and the vegetables are peeled and packed each day and delivered to their respective destinations.

Into the Wartook Valley, looking very overcast with rain clouds and lots of winding roads. Out came my supply of ginger, which is used constantly when travelling if climbing mountains and winding roads. It is absolutely marvellous. Here we see dozens of kangaroos in the paddocks, obviously driven out of the mountains by the fires. Into the Grampians National Park with much soul destroying evidence of the recent bush fires all around us. Thousands of huge black trunks of trees, with burnt leaves at the tops, but now new, green growth starting to appear. Strangely enough, the ferns low on the ground have done incredibly well and look very lush. All of a sudden – civilisation – the fires had been so very close to so many at Hall's Gap. We passed the huge 'Elephant's Hide' rock formation, George actually walked up it once many years ago, and now the wipers are on – it is trying to rain.

We drove into Dunkeld, the southern gateway to the Grampians, for lunch and then on through Penshurst, Kirkstall and Koroit. Tonight is the reason we saw so many of our vehicles Flying the Flag outside Op Shops in Horsham and Warrnambool. IT IS OUR DRESS UP NIGHT! Dinner is at the City Memorial Bowls club. There were some fantastic outfits by some very clever and innovative members. George not being one who likes dressing up at any time, did it the easy way. He brought his old work clothes, boots, a hat as old as Methuselah, and an old grey blanket rolled up and attached to his walking stick, with a billy and pannikin attached, dressed as a 'swaggie'. He also daubed his face with black Nugget. It was very original, but I was a little worried they may not let him in at the venue? I think permission was given when I explained he was my 'toy boy'. George didn't win a prize, but won a few hearts, I think, for being game enough to dress so unostentatiously as a 'swaggie'. People were most compassionate when dinner was served. It was certainly a meal that any 'swaggie' would give up his lifestyle for! It was a night where other entertainment was not necessary – just catching up with those dressed up, provided ample fun in itself. It actually rained nearly all day and throughout the night, so most happy about that, plus we are to have a sleep-in tomorrow.

Next morning we headed for Allansford, passing Cheese World which also is worth visiting. We then left the Princes Highway to take on the Great Ocean Road. It was a lovely sunny morning with just a few showers. We passed the beautiful Bay of Islands, a lot of rock formations in the bay, and there is a very rugged coastline and the sea is rough with huge white breakers foaming and spraying as they open onto the beach. We stopped at Port Campbell for a cuppa, visit the Loch Ard Gorge where the ten, eleven or twelve apostles were standing solidly in the Southern Ocean. Rain hindered some viewing as we approached beautiful Apollo Bay. Help! It's freezing, the wind is so strong and it is icy. Twice we passed the lovely little

red Car Wash ute from Benalla. It must leave early each morning to keep up and looks lovely on the road. The sun is out, the wind has dropped a bit and the ocean is snow white foam with great surfing waves. It is a glorious spot surrounded by undulating hills. It was then onwards through Wye River, with beautiful views of the ocean all along the coastline.

We are now travelling along very windy roads, up and down mountains – I'd be lost without my ginger. Into Lorne – cold wind and more showers. We have a very large room, very well appointed with a kitchen, a *chaise longue*, a bath and all that we require. A delicious meal was served at the Lorne Hotel Convention Centre, in three rooms. I will note here, that with four-hundred people on tour, it must be a difficult job to obtain a room or function centre large enough to cater for this number each evening, and again for breakfast. We have been most fortunate in the venue choices, and I guess at Lorne the meal, presentation and many other areas have to be considered when choosing a venue and, I guess everything else made up for the fact that we have to use three rooms instead of just one. The only drawback of course with this, was that the Wagon Master had to speak to each room with the daily briefing, and because the two smaller rooms were together, we were consoled with some entertainment which those in the main room and the bistro did not have. We had a magician, and he was really quite clever, and we all enjoyed his act. After dinner, we walked back to our apartment – a lovely evening walk, clear sky, and the air was still. It is getting a little sad, tonight is our last night on the Tour, we must start saying our goodbyes in case we don't catch up with everyone tomorrow.

Our last day. I, as well as others had declared Kerang as the provider of the very best breakfast. It was just so well laid out, with no queuing, but I think Lorne may have pipped them to the post, this is what we had – fruit juice, cereal, eggs, bacon, chops, sausages, hash browns, toast, croissants, biscuits and cheese with salami tarts, fruit turnover pastries and cappuccino coffee. I am not sure if I have left anything out, but it was FANTASTIC! We leave Lorne heading to Keilor for lunch at the Ultima Convention Centre. Driving around the very windy mountainous roads, George tells me that after the 1<sup>st</sup> World War, returned soldiers built this highway by going over the hills from Colac to Anglesea, to dig this road using pick and shovel. Now, isn't that amazing, it is mind boggling as we drive along it so brazenly taking it all for granted. We pass Split Point lighthouse at Fairhaven, then Airey's Inlet, down the hill into Anglesea tucked in a little hollow, and into Torquay – heavy rain clouds above. Along the way, we called in at a seventy-seven year-old cousin whom I have never met. I am so excited by it all, we have talked on the 'phone and corresponded. Our Dads were brothers, and distance back in the 1940s prevented us meeting. Armed with my photo albums etc, we arrived at Helen's home at Highton just after 10:00 am just in time for a cuppa. Husband Alf is a District Governor of Rotary, and a retired school principal. They had visited Kerang some years back to a Rotary function, when I would not have known who they were. It was a wonderful meeting, Helen's mother, ninety-four year-old Aunty Delcie and her young daughter Caroline were also there. There was just so much to say, there really wasn't time to take for coffee, but somehow it was fitted in. There are other cousins Helen has never met, and I have suggested a get-together of all living cousins next year, as so many of them have sadly left us.

We follow very closely the instructions on how to get to the Ultima Function Centre, because we are late, having stayed longer than anticipated at Helen's. I am a little intimidated by the heavy traffic, but the signage is very good. It is our first visit here and is a wonderful venue for our four-hundred. A lovely meal again, very well presented, speeches of course – we are all about to leave each other for another year – and an emotional time for many. There were just so many people involved in organizing this Tour, and constant check-ups and follow-ups with changes to original planning etc. etc. I applaud those who have given us another wonderful RACV Fly The Flag Tour for 2006. Frank and Pat, we take our hats off to you both and to those who have assisted you. It has been a tour we have been proud to be a part of. We wish you both

every good wish for good health and much relaxation with those you love.

Our sincere appreciation for all that you have done.

With warmest wishes.

*Beth and George Bassler.*



*Left: 1<sup>st</sup> night of dancing at Kerang.*



*Above: A great send off from Kerang.*



*Above: Our transport to dinner at Trentham Winery in Mildura.*



*Above: Morning car display at Mildura Wharf car park.*



*Above: Fancy Dress night; Left: Bill & Heather Right; Frank, Joan, Ray, Lyn, Patrick*



## **GUIDED TOUR OF PARLIAMENT HOUSE AND THE M.C.G. – 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2006**

Meet at Lilydale International car park off of NELSON Road Melways Ref 38 H3 at 9.40am for 10.10am departure.

We leave Lilydale and travel on Maroondah Highway to Springvale Rd where we turn right and travel through to the Eastern Freeway.

We turn left onto the freeway and travel through to the end of the freeway which becomes Alexandra Parade. Turn left into Nicholson Street. Continue on past the Melbourne Museum over Victoria Parade and past Parliament house.

Take the next left into Macarthur Street look for the second entrance on your left into the rear of Parliament House.

We should be there by 11.00am. There will be a guided tour of Parliament house and the grounds.

After the tour a Sausage Sizzle will be provided in the gardens.



At approximately 2.00pm we will leave Parliament and travel to the M.C.G where we have a guided tour booked for 2.30pm. The cost of the tour is \$8 per head. This should be an interesting and informative day out.

IT IS ESSENTIAL that you let us know if you are joining us for catering purposes.

We look forward to hearing from you. So give us a call on 0408 633 778 or 9770 0904 and leave a message after approx. 12 rings or email [frank.cars@bigpond.com](mailto:frank.cars@bigpond.com) and let us know.

*Frank Sawyer & Val MacRae.*

## **NAGAMBIE WINERIES WEEKEND – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2006**

### **A Weekend of Wine and Indulgence**

Departing from Coldstream, at 9:00 am sharp, we proceed through the picturesque Yarra Valley stopping for morning tea (bring your Thermos and bun) before continuing via the Strathbogies Ranges to our lunch stop at Euroa. Departing Euroa, we are able to visit various boutique wineries in order to collect reinforcements for the evening, finally arriving at our accommodation, the four-star Nagambie Motor Inn, where we will be staying for two evenings in self-contained studio apartments.

After some time to refresh, we proceed to a well known Nagambie nightspot for dinner.

Saturday is spent visiting various local places of interest in and around the Nagambie and north-eastern region, returning to our motel for a barbeque and an evening of enjoyment.

Sunday is a morning of relaxation which may include visits to a nearby winery and also the Nutshack before attending at our luncheon venue, the Tabilk Winery, for a boat trip on the Nagambie wetlands and a sumptuous lunch at the Tabilk Wetlands Café, prior to our journey home.

The itinerary includes lunches on Friday and Sunday, dinner for two evenings and a breakfast hamper for two mornings. All this for \$430.00 per couple twin share. Places are limited and are filling fast.

For bookings, contact Peter McKiernan on (03) 9787 6003.

Please note, final payments are due by 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2006.

*Peter McKiernan.*

## **VISIT TO TRAMWAY MUSEUM – Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2006**

We have arranged for club members to visit the Historic Tram Museum at Bylands, just out of Kilmore. Our meeting point will be at Lilydale International car park, off Nelson Road, at 9:00 am, for a 9:30 am departure, then travelling along the Melba Highway, turning left to Kinglake, Whittlesea, Wallan and following the old Hume Highway up Pretty Sally Hill to Bylands, which is just outside Kilmore. There is a very short stretch of gravel road to the museum, but no problems with careful driving.



Left: An historic picture of trams in Bendigo.

There is a kiosk on site selling light refreshments and tea or coffee, or members can BYO. A museum guide will be arranged for us by Society. We can enjoy a ride on an old 'green & gold' tram along two kilometres of track which has been laid through the paddocks on the property. Entry to the museum is \$8.00 per person and does not include refreshments.

Lunch is being arranged at the Royal Oak Hotel, Kilmore. It is located on the left hand side adjacent to the pedestrian traffic lights in the main street. There is ample parking at the rear of the hotel. On Sundays there is a

special \$10.00 roast luncheon, or we can choose from the menu board.

Of course we would be obliged if members would contact us before the run if they are attending so the Museum and Hotel can be advised of numbers. Please call us on (03) 9755 1772 to make your booking.

*Judy and Geoff Birkett.*

### HMAS CERBERUS (& Mulberry Hill) – 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2006



Give your car a spring clean, **pack a picnic lunch, & meet at 9.15am** for a **9.30am Tour at "Mulberry Hill"** Golf Links Rd Baxter 3911 (**Melways 107 C2**) and enjoy a "Cultural Tour & morning tea. Joan Lindsay (who wrote Picnic at Hanging Rock), lived here with her husband Sir Daryl Lindsay who was a very notable artist & you will see his personal collection of Art & his Georgian furniture. I'm sure our "Joy Brown & Ann Tootell" will fill you in on his talent ! The house is a late 1920's Colonial style residence with commanding views of Western Port Bay. This National Trust property is very interesting & well worth a visit.

**Cost** is \$8.00 per person (Includes Concession).

**Then** we visit **HMAS Cerberus** for a "Heritage Tour & Walk". We will visit the Historic Museum & the wonderful & very significant Chapel. We can relax with our picnic lunch around the Ornamental Lake & Rose Garden (Shelter & shade trees) & soak up the "Spring air & sunshine". Did you know that Graham Kennedy performed "IMT" (In Melbourne Tonight – for you youngsters) in the Cinema in 1966 ? You old timers must remember Dame Nellie Melba doing a concert in 1927 in the old Drill Hall ? (just like yesterday – wasn't it ?) I can remember John Landy AC MBE training on the athletics track next to the gym and I used to sit and watch the only "water driven clock" in the Southern Hemisphere (it's now electric of course – water restrictions?)

**Cost** is \$3.00 per person.

**Remember to BYO picnic lunch.** A BBQ is on site if weather permits and you want to use it.

Note: If weather is reasonable, you are all invited back to Rob & Mary's. (It's on your way home)

**Please advise Rob Nolan by 13/9/06** if you want to come on: 5978 7798 or [RobNolan@bigpond.com](mailto:RobNolan@bigpond.com)

*Rob Nolan & Frank Sawyer.*

## 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.

Note – Due to editorial bungling (lying under your classic and working on it), some new members who have joined since the April magazine, may have been missed. This was not at all intentional and, we extend an extremely warm welcome to you.

New Members	Motor Car	Model	Year
Margo and Kevin Heeley	Jaguar	XK 140 FHC	1956
	Jaguar	XJ 12 Series II	1976
Belinda and Bill Burke	MG	B	1978

*Val Jefferyes – Membership Secretary.*

## 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 British cars here. It is now 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. There has been an Editorial mishap in the numbering of these classics, so, to put matters right – here is Number 24 in the series. My apologies for any confusion caused.

### M.G. 1¼ Litre 11 h.p. Saloon



*A post-war introduction that is an "all-rounder" as far as saloons go, being full of comfort for the family, yet offering a lot of interesting motoring for the man who is attracted by the car's sporting characteristics and fast cruising speed, this being 70 m.p.h. from its 11 h.p. 4 cylinder O.H.V. unit. It has been engineered for good mileage and its one S.U. carburettor which will deliver 33 m.p.g. at 40 m.p.h. Imported saloon coachwork has most extras as standard – the fog lamp, sunshine roof, opening windscreen and other luxury accessories. These include four wheel jacking, independent suspension and high grade leather upholstery.*

*From Motor Manual, 1949. With Thanks.*

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## ASHAMED OF STEELS CREEK

The day had finally arrived, after two years of planning, obtaining our visas, shipping the cars (er, and our personal belongings, of course...) we were about to use a classic Ferrari on the sunlit Australian roads for the first time!

We'd joined the club, successfully negotiated the Vic Roads Club Permit Scheme (thanks Frank!) and, at great expense, fitted two new Michelins to the 308 as the present ones were a little past their best. She was washed, levels checked, small adjustments made and battery charged – all ready for our first All British Classics Car Club event.

I should have guessed that things were just about to go pear shaped....

Firstly, Annie came down with a recurring bug and I couldn't really expect her to endure a trundle around in a Targa topped car which announced it's presence with a sound of four gulping Weber carburettors about three feet behind her head – we've been married long enough for me to know that this was not 'A Good Idea'.

Still, no matter, the weather was great, the car started and I was off to meet some new friends and drive some of the most interesting roads around. Fantastic!

Pulling strongly down the Melba Highway towards Lilydale she warmed up quickly with all the water & oil temperatures and oil pressure exactly as the makers in Modena intended. Hmmm, the last time I drove her, it was January in England with the temperature around 5 °C and I was following my mate who was towing a trailer with my still-to-be-completed Bristol 411 down to Southampton docks – this trip was shaping up to be much better. The sun shone, the birds twittered and all that stuff...

Slowing to a halt beside Dame Nellie Melba's to join the Maroondah Highway, a faint sniff of friction material – funny that, as I hadn't been using the clutch that hard at all. Maybe it's just bedding in again after so long without being used for any length of time eh?

Nicely catching the traffic lights at green at the junction of the Warburton Highway, that same familiar smell again, and was that me, or are the brakes a bit spongy? – must leave a bit more room, perhaps they're bedding in again as well?

Down to the new lights and come to a stop at the red. Hmmm, Very Much More Of A Smell.



Blast, but we're there now and I'll have a quick squint in the car park. Best park it towards the back, out of anyone's way, then out to say hello to Frank, Pat, Colin *et al* and back to the car to have a quiet look at each corner. No leaks, so that's a good sign – but no brake pedal either, which isn't!

*Left: The cause of Richard's concern*

Touching each wheel in turn finds a very hot front offside with a nicely binding brake calliper which wasn't letting off – deep joy! No brake pedal at all now, as without the effect of cooling air as the car was moving, the fluid has boiled and the pedal hits the floor. Think about calling the RACV, but then think about the embarrassment, might be better than running up the back of a members car though...

Time to sheepishly explain that my first All British Classics Club outing was to the car park to watch everyone go off and enjoy themselves. At least Frank was kind in his introductory speech and didn't rib me too much – but I suspect the jokes about Italian engineering will come back to haunt me at some time.

After seeing everyone leave it's time to try the brake pedal again – this time it's much better as the fluid has cooled. OK, let's limp into the BP garage, trying to look unconcerned whilst filling up and praying that the brake will cool down enough for me to nurse the car home. Drive as smoothly as possible homeward and reach Steels Creek without touching the brakes once...pleased with that.

After a good look around, it seems that this was just a sticky calliper which did cure itself on the way home, and, in defence of the car, I can honestly say that this is the first time that she's ever let me down - but she could at least have done it at a better time. Such is life with an Italian mistress!

Still, we'll try it again soon at the next outing and maybe it'll start and stop this time.

Safe driving

*Richard Downes.*

PS: Just learnt about Frank and the op – sincerely hope you're back behind the wheel soon Frank.

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## **MOTEL ACCOMMODATION – A WARNING!**

Because the National Jowett Rally was the club's fiftieth anniversary celebration, and because the event was held in Armidale in NSW, it was decided to book accommodation on the way there and back, early. This was done to ensure that there was good accommodation for some English guests who were travelling with us. Bookings were made in mid-October, 2005 and, being a modern thinker, the Internet was employed. I have to admit that I was not aware of the fact that, for one of the motels (in Forbes), I was making a booking through an agency.

It became apparent after the credit card transaction, that the agent was in Queensland, and there was an additional booking fee. In addition, the agent demanded full payment for the four rooms up front, with no refund if there was a cancellation. The agent thus got hold of the full accommodation fee six months before our departure! There was also a clause that stated that no cancellation refunds would be given.

This prompted a telephone call direct to the motel and a full cancellation refund was negotiated in case our British guests decided to cancel their trip. Apparently it was the Easter holiday that required the full payment and no refund situation. This seems strange, because while we were at the motel, travellers were calling in asking for cancelled rooms – the place would have been easily filled, so there would have been no loss of income should one of the reserved rooms have been cancelled at a late stage!

Another incident, at Coonabarabran, was where we elected to dine at the restaurant across the road from the motel. Yes, they could charge our fourteen meals to our rooms at the motel – no problem. Next morning when bills were paid, it was discovered that a ten per cent fee had been added to our meal costs. Upon enquiring, it was described as an administration fee. In all my years on the road as a company representative, I had never seen such a charge made.

Three club rallies have been attended over the years in New South Wales and all have left a slightly sour taste after the event. So far, we have experienced holiday loadings at motels, increased room rates due to change of motel ownership since bookings were made and, worst of all, several cases of petrol supply pumps set to run fast over the Easter breaks. On one occasion, my XJ-6 took more than twenty indicated litres more than the tanks could hold to fill, and one tank was quarter-full when filled! On another, my Ford Falcon took an indicated seventeen litres more than the single tank could hold if it was absolutely empty! Mention of Weights and Measures inspection turned the attendant really nasty.

In Armidale this year, premium unleaded was \$1.509 per litre during Easter, on the Tuesday it had dropped to \$1.41 per litre.

It would be wise to give careful thought to spending Easter in New South Wales! Another cause for thought is the condition of both the Newell Highway and the Olympic Highway. Driving on those two goat tracks is extremely tiring – even in a modern car. Our politicians, both State (NSW) and Federal should be thoroughly ashamed of the way motorists are treated.

Despite all that, we had a grand rally.

*Mike Alfrey.*

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## **CLUB REGALIA**

New car badges are now available at a special LOW price of just \$10.00 plus postage. These are made of brass and are 90 mm diameter. They are very smart and can be obtained by contacting the writer. The pre-existing club car badge remains at \$35.00, so you will realize that this new badge is a STEAL! Get yours now.

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. Stainless Steel Key Ring (New!)	\$10.00 Each
3. Window Decal – Club Logo	\$2.00 Each
4. Cloth Badge – 75 mm Diameter with Club Logo	\$3.50 Each
5. Cloth Badge – 205 mm Diameter with Club Logo	\$25.00 Each
6. Club Polo Top White and Blue (some with ABCCC on collar) All Sizes	\$35.00 Each
7. Club Polo Top White and Black – Small Size Only	\$7.50 Each
8. Club Polo Tops 1 White, 1 Dark Blue (Small Size Only)	\$12.50 Each
9. Tee Shirts White, Black with Club Logo (Small Size Only)	\$7.50 Each
10. Jumbuck Jumper c/w ABCCC Logos	\$120.00 Each
11. Jumbuck Jumper Less ABCCC Logos	\$100.00 Each
12. Caps with Club Logo, Blue/Fawn	\$15.00 Each
13. Caps with Club Logo, Black	\$12.50 Each
14. Hats – Plain, Colour Fawn (Slightly Soiled) Large Size Only – Special at	\$5.00 Each
15. 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. The new key rings are rather special, place your orders now.

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

*Bill Allen – Regalia Purveyor.*

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## **FOR SALE – Austin Lancer**

Austin Lancer CE56 Classic Sedan, Registration Number UUM 751. The car goes but needs some amount of mechanical and electrical attention. It also needs re-upholstering. Free spare car with it, not working but thrown in for parts. View at Moonta Bay in South Australia. Telephone (08) 8825 1981 or E-mail to friends@yp-connect.net. Asking for \$1,900.00.

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# Christmas In July

AND OUR ANNUAL DINNER  
SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> JULY 2006  
12 NOON FOR 12:30PM

TO BE HELD AT  
**TOKAR ESTATE COLDSTREAM**  
IN THE HEART OF THE YARRA VALLEY  
MELWAY MAP 276 REF K10

LAST YEAR THIS DINNER WAS BOOKED OUT, SO DON'T MISS OUT.  
LETS GET TOGETHER AND ENJOY A CHRISTMAS IN WINTER WITH  
ALL THE TRIMMINGS, XMAS CAROLS (SONG SHEETS PROVIDED)  
FATHER CHRISTMAS, BON BONS, AND LOTS OF GOOD CHEER !!!!!

## MENU

SOUP:	Vegetable Soup
ENTRÉE:	Seafood Platters & Antipasto Platters
MAIN COURSE:	Turkey wrapped in Ham Roast Pork complete with Crackling Roasted Vegetables & Red Wine Gravy
DESSERT:	Plum Pudding with a Rich Brandy Custard Sauce
AFTERS:	Plunger Coffee Twinings Teas Traditional Shortbreads Port

THE CLUB WILL PROVIDE DRINKS TO THE VALUE OF \$700 DOLLARS



**KRIS KRINGLE, EACH PERSON TO BRING A  
GIFT (\$5.00 VALUE)**



**BOOK NOW!!!! NUMBERS LIMITED**

**NOTE: Please complete the form below and send your cheque to Colin Brown if you wish to confirm your attendance. For people that have already notified Colin Brown but have not completed the form below and sent a cheque, please do so immediately so as to confirm your attendance.**

I WISH TO ATTEND THE DINNER

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_ NO REQ \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$40.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUE TO **All British Classics Car Club of Victoria** AND FORWARD TO:

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PO BOX 40  
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