



An incorporated club

A0035462V

A friendly family social motoring club

Edition 138

June 2010

Your ABCCC News

A FINE ROVER P₃



Colin Oberin's very smart black Rover P3 model is at last venturing more frequently on to our roads. This version is of the six light type – having three windows along each side. This model featured a very robust chassis that terminated at the rear springs' front anchor points and the rear of the springs were attached to the actual body itself.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual membership subscription for the All British Classics Car Club Inc. is \$35.00. There is a once-only joining fee of \$30.00. Please send membership subscriptions to Pat Douglas, PO Box 201, Chirnside Park, VICTORIA, 3116.

Please Note: Membership subscriptions are due by end of December.

Life Member: Pat J Douglas

THE ALL BRITISH CLASSICS CAR CLUB (VICTORIA) INC.

FOUNDED 23rd SEPTEMBER, 1997.

Club Founder – The Late Frank E Douglas

“OWNING AND/OR APPRECIATING THE SPIRIT OF FINE BRITISH CLASSICS”

THE ALL BRITISH CLASSICS CAR CLUB – YOUR COMMITTEE

Position	Name	Telephone	Other Telephone No.
President	Tony Pettigrew	(03) 9739 1146	
Vice President	Ray Higginson	(03) 9336 7306 (AH)	(03) 9310 5286 (BH)
Treasurer	Bill Allen	(03) 9846 2323	
Secretary	Pat Douglas	(03) 9739 4829	
Membership Secretary	Pat Douglas	(03) 9739 4829	
Editor	Michael Allfrey	(03) 9729 1480	
Assistant Editor	Betty Taylor	(03) 9739 1879	
AOMC Delegate	Ross Gardiner	(03) 9589 2013 (AH)	
AOMC Delegate	Bill Allen	(03) 9846 2323	
VCPS Officer	Nello Mafodda	(03) 9719 7949	
VCPS Officer	Colin Brown	(03) 5964 9291	
Club Regalia	Maxine Pettigrew	(03) 9739 1146	
Committee Member	Frank Sawyer	0408 633 778	
Committee Member	Colin Brown	(03) 5964 9291	
Webmaster	Ed Bartosh	(03) 9739 1879	

The All British Classics Car Club Website Is: <http://www.abccc.com.au/>

IMPORTANT CLUB INFORMATION

The All British Classics Car Club (Victoria) Inc, (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: A00035462V.

The Official Club Magazine – *Your ABCCC News*

Your ABCCC News, is the official magazine of the ABCCC (Vic) Inc. The magazine's issue date is during the week of the 25th of every second month – February, April, June, August, October and December. To make the Editor's task a little easier, it is requested that articles, event information and photographs are with the Editor prior to the 14th of each of those months. Articles published in *Your ABCCC News* may be used without permission, however, the ABCCC does ask that appropriate acknowledgement be given.

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 at the same time that the printed copy of the magazine is mailed to those who do not have access to the Internet.

Disclaimer

This publication contains general information that should not be relied upon without the specific advice from a suitably qualified professional. The authors and the ABCCC Inc. expressly disclaim liability for anything 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' events.

All correspondence should be addressed to the Editor *Your ABCCC News*, 59 Rowson Street, Boronia, Victoria 3155. Other Editorial contact information is listed above.

It is club policy to have the right to refuse placement of advertising material in *Your ABCCC News*, from those who are not members of the ABCCC Inc.

The Victorian Club Permit Scheme

The ABCCC Inc. is a club that is authorised by VicRoads to operate vehicles under the Victorian Club Permit Scheme (VCPS). On the Committee there are two VCPS Officers and their contact details are listed above.

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

THE VICTORIAN CLUB PERMIT SCHEME AND THE EVENTS DIRECTORY

IMPORTANT, BE AWARE: All ABCCC 'noted events' in the Events Directory above are VCPS authorised. To qualify for the VCPS, under the auspices of the All British Classics Car Club Inc., your VCPS permitted motor car must attend a minimum of three (3) club-run events per year, from the date of the motor car's permit issue.

VICTORIAN CLUB PERMIT SCHEME RENEWALS

For your Victorian Club Permit Scheme (VCPS) renewal, please forward your completed renewal form to Colin Brown, PO Box 40, Coldstream, Victoria, 3770. Please enclose a stamped envelope addressed to VicRoads, along with a cheque/money order for your VCPS fee, and I will sign on behalf of the club and forward it on to VicRoads for you.

NEW VCPS APPLICATIONS

For members wanting to place a motor car on the VCPS under the auspices of our club. Please contact Nello Mafodda on (03) 9719 7949, who is the ABCCC VCPS Officer In Charge. Nello will be able to provide all the information required to place a motor car on the VCPS.

Nello's position is entirely voluntary, so due consideration should be given when contacting him.

ABCCC EVENTS DIRECTORY 2010

Note: All events listed in this directory are placed in good faith. Events for inclusion must be with the magazine editor prior to the 14th of each month. Events organised 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.

NOTE: TEXT IN RED INFORMS OF CHANGED OR CORRECTED EVENT INFORMATION.

June 2010

- 4 – 6 Special Touring on the Murray – An ABCCC Weekend Run Frank Sawyer 0408 633 778
Touring Base – Tocumwal, New South Wales.
- 27 TBA – An ABCCC Event Nello & Diane Mafodda (03) 9719 7949
Venue – TBA, But it will be good!

July 2010

- 11 Girls' Day Out – An ABCCC Ladies Event Pat Douglas (03) 9739 4829
Venue – TBA.
- 25 Christmas in July Luncheon – An ABCCC Event Colin Brown 0408 343 176
The traditional annual lunch
Venue – Marybrooke, Sherbrooke Road,

August 2010

- 8 ABCCC Coach Trip – An ABCCC Event Ray & Lyn Higginson (03) 9336 7306 (AH)
Includes a Trip on Central Goldfields Railway – Castlemaine to Maldon
A Higginson Charabanc Tour Company Event.
- 22 Pub Lunch Run – An ABCCC Event Frank Sawyer 0408 633 778
Venue – TBA, but will include a light bush walk.

September 2010

- 3 Friday Night Dinner and Slide Show – An ABCCC Event Mike Allfrey (03) 9729 1480
Includes a presentation of trip to India and Club Event Images
Venue – Lilydale International Club, Nelson Road, Lilydale, Victoria.
- 15 Garden Day Out – TBA – An ABCCC Event Geoff & Judy Birkett (03) 9755 1772
A Mid-week Run
Venue – TBA.
- 26 Pine Ridge Museum Visit – An ABCCC Event Phil Cook (03) 9842 5449
Venue – Mornington Peninsula.

October 2010

- 8 – 10 ABCCC Indulgence Weekend – The ABCCC Event Peter & Rosalie McKiernan (03) 9787 6003
- 16 – 17 Como Gardens Open Weekend – An ABCCC Assist Event George Hetrel (03) 9761 1341
Venue – Como Gardens, 79 Basin-Olinda Road, The Basin, Victoria.
- 31 ABCCC 2011 Calendar Planning Meeting Tony Pettigrew (03) 9739 1146

November 2010

- 13 – 14 National Swap Meet Bendigo Pat Dyball 0427 446 660

17 – 24 ABCCC Holiday Trip – An ABCCC Tour
This holiday is fully booked – thank you.
Touring – Tasmania

Marjorie Pepper (03) 9439 7875
Karen McDonald (03) 5975 1867

28 Rob Roy Hillclimb (Historic) – MGCC

Colin Brown 0408 343 176

December 2010

12 ABCCC Christmas Lunch Run – An ABCCC Event
Venue – TBA.

Karen McDonald (03) 5975 1867

EDITORIAL NOTES – ISSUE NUMBER 138

In this issue there is a cartoon that shows a desk calendar. This brought back a memory of a company's expensively produced calendar that had somehow managed to get the month titles and the date grids mixed up. July of that year had just twenty-eight days and so on, the mix up could not have been more thorough. At that time, a late friend of mine (into Triumph Heralds) was First Mate on a Port Line refrigerated meat transport ship. He was briefly in Melbourne while loading butchered meat for the Persian Gulf, and spotted the calendar while visiting us for lunch. I gave him the calendar and he later, as the ship was approaching the Gulf, hung it up on the bulkhead of the ship's bridge. It was showing that June had thirty-one days. The Captain took one look at the calendar and said, "I trust our navigation equipment is more accurate than that calendar!" The calendar had been produced for one of the Sperry group of companies – and, his ship relied on Sperry navigation equipment!

On a more serious note, VicRoads has been receiving submissions from motor car clubs, giving feedback on the proposed changes to the Victorian Club Permit Scheme (VCPS). I am not sure if our club has responded to the VCPS Discussion Paper, but it is known that VicRoads have received more than four hundred responses from clubs. They are currently considering these responses and will be making recommendations for VCPS changes to the Minister for Roads and Ports. There is, as yet, no indication of when this action is expected to happen.

Be sure to make your bookings for our Xmas in July event which is being organised by Colin and Joy Brown. Details are in the Coming Events Notices and there is a booking form at the bottom of Page 14. This event is a members-only event and we definitely need to know numbers for catering purposes. Last years luncheon was very well supported and this year we hope to attract a few more.

The bus illustrating the coming ABCCC Coach Tour, is the transport from the railway station down to the small fishing village of Blanes, on Spain's Costa Brava. The picture was taken in June 1966 and recently dug out of the editorial filing system. The bus was a Pegaso, re-powered by a Ford tractor engine. Our coach will be more modern and will not need the steering wheel being turned metres before a bend to take up the slack! We rode on it twice.

Mike Alfrey

OUR BRAIN TEASER

I dig out tiny caves, and store gold and silver in them. I also build bridges of silver and make crowns of gold. They are the smallest you could imagine. Sooner or later everybody needs my help, yet many people are afraid to let me help them. Who am I?

The answer is that easy it does not need to be buried elsewhere!

A WARM WELCOME TO 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	Make Of Car	Model	Year
Peter & Darell Jones	Mercedes-Benz	230 SL Pagoda	1965
Ian & Glynnis Murray	Rover	P6B	1974
Clive & Louise Hall	TBA	TBA	TBA
Graeme & Linda Mather	Triumph	2500 TC	1976
Ian & Lyn Terry	Ford	Mustang	1965

Pat Douglas – Membership Secretary

ASSISTANT EDITOR – “CHANGING OF THE GUARD”

Since my first edition on March 2004 as Assistant Editor, we felt it was about time to pass the job onto someone else who also wanted to contribute to the ABCCC. Both Rob and I want to travel a bit more and believed that that may hinder the timely production of the newsletter. We wouldn't want that to happen!

We joined the car club in March 2003. We had just settled in when one day Heather Cannon, who was the previous Editor, pounced on me (just like one of the “cats” she has and loves), and asked if I would like to take over and help Mike Allfrey with the newsletter. Of course I could, I said. This was a good opportunity for us to



display on the front page of the March 2004 edition, our English Panther Kallista Roadster. It was bought in 2003 at Shannon’s auctions at the end of the Grand Prix event. Back then, after we had bought the car, we realised that we should join a car club and hope to find another Kallista to talk intricacies with! Another Panther was found (or it found us) but it was up in Tamworth NSW. After ringing a couple of car clubs, it was the gravelly and firm but friendly voice of the late and great, Frank Douglas, ‘The Wagonmaster’, who convinced us to join the ABCCC. He said it was the Club’s family friendliness, charity work and regular social networking that made it a great club to be part of. It is a decision that we have never regretted. Assisting and helping the illustrious Michael Allfrey Esq, has been both an honour and a pleasure.

How many mistakes can you see at left? (Note: Michael doesn’t make mistakes!)

Mike mentioned at the recent AGM, that I have formatted and printed some 61,600 pages and posted out some 4,400 copies during the past six-plus years. I think Michael could also make a good statistician or accountant going by his fascination with figures! This amount of printing

has seen one printer retired and upgrading to the current one. I hope it will still last for some time to come.

I would like to thank firstly Heather and secondly Mike and the ABCCC for trusting and giving me an opportunity to contribute as Assistant Editor, which I have enjoyed immensely. And to my Rob for helping me with some of the tasks involved (he did sometimes help fold, insert, stamp & post them out!). I also take this opportunity to welcome Betty Taylor (the new assistant editor) and wish her the ‘Best of British’ luck in taking over the job of keeping you all enlightened & well informed. So now it’s: “Over to you Betty”!

Mary & Robert Nolan

Tore shares his love of Riley at picnic

A SCORESBY grandfather is a car nut who will display the love of his life on Australia Day.

Tore Pannuzzo has 15 classic cars in almost mint condition parked in his garage, but admits he has owned more than 100 over the past 50 years.

The 73-year-old will today exhibit his most prized possession, a rare 1950 Riley RMC, at the 2010 RACV Australia Day Picnic and Federation Vehicle Display in the Kings Domain gardens for the 15th time.

“I love bringing it down, everybody knows that I’m there and because of the colour it stands out like the proverbial,” Mr Pannuzzo said.

He said he bought the rare post-war relic in 1978 for \$15,000 and spent another \$30,000 fixing it up.

And he considers himself one of



Tore Pannuzzo will include his 1950 Riley RMC in today’s 2010 RACV Australia Day Picnic and Federation Vehicle Display. Picture: LAWRENCE PINDER N31KN300

the luckiest car lovers around. “When I was a lad in Black Rock I wanted one of them – only 507 were made, but I reckon it would be lucky if there were 30 left in the world,” he said.

The former truck driver said his

passion had driven him for years and pushed him to help start Victoria’s All British Classics Car Club. He also runs wedding car business Fleetwood Chauffeured Limousines, with a fleet of his own classic Armstrong Siddeleys.

Spotted in the Knox Leader Newspaper recently.

COVER MOTOR CAR

A Poaching From South Australia

It is quite a while since I offered to send you a photo of my 1948 Rover P3 for *Your ABCCC News*. No doubt most of our members will relate to the unexpected problems and delays I had in getting this British Classic back on the road. This was initially achieved last September and the few hardy souls who made it to Coldstream airfield would have seen my black beauty while she was still registered in SA. (Report on Page 8 of *Your ABCCC News* November 2009).



Left: The P3 shows off her new registration plate.

Re-registration in Victoria also took longer than expected. Then on the very day of her re-registration we found a hairline crack in the carburettor which meant yet another delay. However she is again back on the road – this time as a naturalised Victorian and here's the proof. In case anyone is wondering, the number LA 507 was the number of the first car I remember my father owning, and, so I am told, was first issued in 1948. Hence it is the right vintage for the Rover.

I look forward to driving this beauty to a club event real soon.

Colin Oberin

SOME HINTS FROM THE E-MAIL 'IN' BOX

Good Vision In A Downpour

Editor's Note: This item came via the E-mail system and seems to have originated on the North American continent. Use of these warnings is always dubious, and care and consideration should be given while reading them. I would think that if such a message were genuine, then better spelling and grammar would have been employed. I do know, however, that when looking into a clear running creek, vision to the creek bottom is clearer when wearing good quality sunglasses. I also know that, when rain is falling, each drop reflects sunlight (or headlamp light) that can be a bit dazzling. This also applies to mist and fog conditions, which makes me wonder why on earth modern cars can have 'fog' lights switched on while dipped and main headlamp beams can be operated? The recommendation to use sunglasses at night should be treated with great caution. In these times when clothing fashion colours are so similar to those of the road, pedestrians may not be seen so easily in poor light.

How To Achieve a Good Vision While Driving During a Heavy Downpour.



We are not sure why it is so effective; but try this method when it rains heavily. This method was told to me by a police friend who had experienced and confirmed it. It is useful – even driving at night. Most of the motorists would turn on 'high' or 'fastest' speed of the wipers during heavy downpour, yet the visibility in front of the windshield is still bad.

In the event you face such a situation, just try your sunglasses (any model will do) and, miracle! All of a sudden, your visibility in front of your windshield is perfectly clear, as if there is no rain.

Make sure you always have a pair of sun glasses in your car, as you are not only helping yourself to drive safely with good vision, but also might save your friend's life by giving him this idea.

Try it yourself and share it with your friends! Amazing, you still see the drops on the windshield, but not the sheet of rain falling. You can see where the rain bounces off the road. It works to eliminate the 'blindness' from passing semis spraying you, too. It also works if you are following a semi or car in the rain. They ought to teach that little tip in drivers' training; it really does work.

Use Of Cruise Control (Speed Control)

This warning is a good one! I wonder how many people know about this.

A 36 year-old female had an accident several weeks ago and totalled her car. It was raining, though not excessively, when her car suddenly began to hydroplane (*aquaplane*) and literally flew through the air. She was not seriously injured, but was very stunned at the sudden occurrence! When she explained to the highway patrolman what had happened, he told her something that every driver should know – never drive in the rain with your cruise control on. She thought she was being cautious by setting the cruise control and maintaining a safe consistent speed in the rain. But the highway patrolman told her that if the cruise control is on when your car begins to hydroplane and your tires lose contact with the pavement, your car will accelerate to a higher rate of speed making you take off like an aeroplane.



She told the patrolman that was exactly what had occurred. The patrolman said this warning should be listed, on the driver's seat sun visor – never use the cruise control when the pavement is wet or icy, along with the airbag warning. We tell our teenagers to set the cruise control and drive at a safe speed – but we don't tell them to use the cruise control only when the pavement is dry. The only person the accident victim found, who knew this (besides the patrolman), was a man who had a similar accident, totalled his car and sustained severe injuries.

NOTE: Some vehicles (like the Toyota Sienna Limited XLE) will not allow you to set the cruise control when the windshield wipers are on. If you send this to 15 people and only one of them doesn't know about this, then it was all worth it. You might have saved a life.

Editor's Note: This one has been around for some time and, despite giving the subject considerable thought, I still wonder about the mechanics of speed control devices and the aquaplaning situation. Many years ago, I drove a Holden HQ model, and soon came to the conclusion that the only time it steered nicely was when the front tyres were aquaplaning! The two illustrations come from the Editorial File.

From Bryan Tootell

TOURING WITH THE BIRKETTS

The 9th Annual Link Automotive Mini Tour, March 2010

Having left the beloved pooch in deluxe accommodation section of the boarding kennels, we started out on a perfect sunny Friday morning along the Princes Highway to our meet up point at Bairnsdale. It seemed every motorist was in good humour; we were getting toots and waves. Geoff getting quite excited as a 4WD passed and there were smiles from the lady passenger. I pointed out she was older than I and obviously peroxidized, which settled him back into reality. Driving over distance with Geoff is a bit like travelling with Winnie the Pooh, insofar as the tummy rumbles and 'time for a little snack' happens quite often. Generally this can be offset by a large supply of sweets, which sorts things out for a while. But it was after lunchtime, and I felt a little peckish, and as Geoff pointed out, we had passed through Sale, we may as well pull over. Had we gone through Sale? I hadn't noticed, but we stopped anyway. 'Welcome to Sale', said the sign further down the highway. (This is why I navigate and he drives.)

We arrived at our usual preferred motel in Bairnsdale, and our unit had been upgraded at no extra cost, with a chockers bar fridge. In hindsight we should have availed ourselves of it, as the BYO in food venues were fairly pricey, with the motel prices being very competitive. After a Nana and Grandpa nap, we had a lovely stroll around Bairnsdale. I can't believe nothing took my fancy in the antique shops. We met up with the other early arrivals for dinner, then we were off to bed for an early drive to Eagle Point in the morning.

Saturday morning and another perfect day! We drove out to Eagle Point and saw quite a few Jaguars travelling in the opposite direction. Of course we gave them a wave. A scrumptious bacon and egg breakfast at Eagle Point - arranged by the tour organisers, was enjoyed in a beautiful setting by the water. Then we were back to Bairnsdale to meet up with the Saturday starters at the water tower. We were given instructions to proceed to Metung along with another 30 or so Minis for a pub lunch. That began the tour. At Metung we found an old friend at the farmers market who has a stall of preserves. Greg and Lil Margetts soothed the conscience by purchasing doggie treats at an adjoining stall to take back to the dogs on Monday.

After lunch we return to our car to find a gaggle of spiffy Jaguars parked nearby, with five or six gentlemen paying homage to our Mini. They turned out to be members of the Jaguar Club *en route* to a display at Maffra, but were eager to know all about our Mini. This was most flattering considering the calibre of the cars they were driving. Never had the Mini been called "exxxxquisite" before! When asking about the colour, they were delighted to be told it was Daimler 'Regency Red'. That got the thumbs up.

Now the serious work began navigating, Melways Country with the main route highlighted. With the clue sheet on top and heading via a very devious route to Bruthen, divorce proceedings starting before we left Metung. Geoff apply the 'we do not turn for a missed clue' principle. My answers to some questions are hopefully fanciful enough to make the officials smile.

A magnificent drive to Omeo, the Mini singing a perfect tune in the key of Series A. With Geoff's foot finding the accelerator, we both enjoyed everything about the trip on that perfect afternoon. We had no more clues to answer after Omeo. As the late afternoon light made magic of the passing scenery, we travelled to Angler's Rest to take the new road to Falls Creek. Geoff did this section last year coming from the Falls Creek end with a friend navigating.

There were more divorce proceedings when asked the approximate distance from Angler's Rest to the turnoff to Falls Creek. I was amazed he could not remember. I realize I was the navigator for good reasons; nothing was marked on the latest Country Melways. That made worried we would end up in Mitta Mitta. I recommend the route to Falls Creek as some more updating will be done next summer. Currently it is an excellent sealed road all the way to the Falls Creek Country Club. They were nice clean lodgings with a kitchen and ensuite which had complimentary toiletries in the bathroom. Alice in Wonderland was the theme for the night, and I have never

seen so many white rabbits. They must have been multiplying between Metung and Falls Creek. What happens in cars!



We ate dinner with other ABCCC members: Greg and Lil Margetts; Ron Rogers and Glenda Duncan. Glenda was wearing a magnificent hat with a Mad Hatter's tea service atop! An auction followed, the money raised going to the Royal Children's Hospital.

Left: Judy explaining why a Mini needs four driving lights!

We enjoyed a good night's sleep in absolute quiet. The Minis looked great lined up against the lavender backdrop of the mountains on Sunday morning. Off to a perfect Mini road down to Mt. Beauty and up to Wandiligong for morning tea. This sounds like ABCCC. Passionfruit cream sponge and tea at the Wandiligong Maze, and off with our navigation sheets for the next section. The sneakiest way to Milawa you could imagine, the answer to one clue on the left, fol-

lowed by another question hard on its heel on the right. I miss that one. Next question relates to advertising hoarding somewhere on the edge of the football ground, the Mini presses resolutely on, and he who is in command of the steering wheel refuses to turn around. I did get his full attention when one question demanded we stop at the front of a stock horse stud. Not to worry, we can't fit a horse in the Mini, but we can come back another day, can't we?

Minis arriving like buzzing colourful bees at the Milawa cheese factory for lunch and our final stop before choosing our route home. I pass our final sheets in no chance of being in the top 5 here. At about 2.30 pm Geoff decides he would rather go home on the Mini-friendly route than hit the highway. Read into this, lots of twists and hilly bits through Whitfield and Mansfield and over the Spur. Arriving home just as evening was gathering in after a fabulous weekend away.

Next year will be the 10th Tour, count us in.

Geoff & Judy Birkett

PAST AND FUTURE EVENTS

A section is devoted to reporting on what has or is about to happen within our club. All club members, not just those who have organised events, are encouraged to submit reports for inclusion here in Your ABCCC News. Event reports will be accepted in hand-written form, typed or via the E-mail system.

THE RACV FLY THE FLAG TOUR – 20th to 26th March 2009

Personal Views Of A Fun-filled Tour Through Gippsland

This year the Tour took us through some of Victoria's most scenic rural country. The Editorial Rover (*Pea Soup*) started early from the well-placed start at RACV's Service Headquarters at Noble Park. This allowed us to welcome the Tour participants into Newhaven on Phillip Island for lunch. The Rover had extensive preparation maintenance carried out just prior to the event – all fluids were changed and the braking system was fully overhauled. It was when we climbed the grade towards the Anderson roundabout to make the turn for Phillip Island, that the car's engine started to falter and surge dramatically. As soon as we reached level going, the engine performed well again. An intermittent fault;; not easy to diagnose. We pressed on and took up our marshalling stations for the lunch stop.

Lunch was at the hall in Newhaven and the wonderful ladies ably coped with the multitude. The rest of the afternoon was free to do the attractions on the Island. This was an opportunity to have a look in the Rover's engine bay and the new fuel filter was found to be sparkling clean. Our evening meal was at the San Remo Recreation Centre. There we were ably entertained by Kevin Walsh playing good 1950s and 60s music. Kevin now appears to be very comfortable with our group and knows what gets us up on the dance floor.

Right: From Rex Hall, the Newhaven Luncheon Ladies. Rex says that someone requested this photo from him, but can't remember whom. Molly Downing at right is a supreme raffle ticket seller!



The next morning, before the Tour set off, the Rover went ahead so that we could get the Tour properly parked at the State Coal Mine site. We were all in position in good time, and then it happened, the Tour vehicles came from the wrong direction! They had all been directed to go the wrong way on a one-way system! All those splendidly polished cars came through the dustiest part of the site instead of the designated roadway. Coastal

breezes (gale force wind) and squally showers came in just as the opening ceremony commenced. Things then calmed down and we were able to enjoy the facility with the local stalls that tempted us.

A barbecue lunch was provided by the Bass Shire. A lengthy line of Tour participants formed a long time before the barbecues were lit. It appeared as if the lunch organisers were unaware of just how many of us there were! It has to be said that, after the long wait, the steak was probably the best we have had for some considerable time – good things come to those who wait!

On our way back to Phillip Island, the Rover faltered again on the climb to Anderson. This time, reasoning said, "Fuel starvation". The next morning, the run to Loch was spectacular. The Rover coped with the short hills with ease. We had a breakfast stop at the Hard Loch Café, whose staff was not aware that the Tour was coming through. Things became a little tense when the staff was informed that four of us had left a Tour brochure with the owner (who was away while the Tour came through). Such situations are becoming quite a problem. The Tour organising process does advise businesses along the route of the date and numbers coming through. We visited all of the shops in Loch a month before – what more can we do?



In Loch, a Tour participant makes good use of his Route Notes, while taking a break.

We then set off to visit friends at Foster on the way to Bairnsdale. The car's engine played up on the climb out of Loch and then later on the long climb before the Foster turn-off. The entire Tour passed us as we crawled up the hill in first gear. That was embarrassing. Next morning, the RACV Depot in Bairnsdale seemed a bit shocked that someone would require assistance. When

the symptoms were fully explained, the fellow brightened up and directed us to a repairer one block away. This fellow asked some searching questions, all aimed at the car's fuel system. He finally asked if the Rover had been on a hoist recently? It had, so we placed it on his hoist and started looking for a pinched fuel pipe. The mechanic was commenting on the nice brake job, and then pointed his torch and asked what the cable control did. "The cable operates the main/reserve fuel changeover tap," I replied. And there it was, the tap's arm was in the mid-position! I swung the lever over to the main tank position, and noted that it could be moved without any movement of the under-dash knob. The fix was easy after all. We caught up with the Tour at the famous Maffra Shed that houses the Gippsland Car Collection. This was one of the highlights of the RACV Fly The Flag Tour and, the shed's history is just as interesting as that of the motorcars on display. Our thanks to those volunteers who made us feel so welcome.

That night we stayed in Sale and had a good Flag-off Ceremony in the closed off Bond Street. Then it was back to Maffra and west to Heyfield where it was time for morning coffee. We chose Café 3850. A very wise choice it was, too. The ladies looked after us well, and the fresh date scones were sensational. A place well worth another visit. Then it was on along quiet roads, via



'Pea Soup' takes a breather in Heyfield.

Glengarry, to our lunch stop at Old Gipps Town Pioneer Village in Moe. We drove in and parked on the lawn outside the gate. Inside several Tour cars had been parked in the roadways to give the village some atmosphere. This display is well worth a visit, where many interesting old buildings were brought in and restored. A barbecue lunch was provided, and very enjoyable it was, too. We then settled in to our accommodation in Morwell spending two nights. I think we settled in too well, because none of us were woken when the Peppers' immaculate Holden HR was broken into and some valuables stolen.

The run up to Walhalla was executed effortlessly by *Pea Soup*. This was proof that the fuel starvation concern had been well and truly fixed. The sight of Walhalla filled with older motorcars was something to be beheld. We had found our lunch via a little diversion to Rawson, and parked on the camping ground above Walhalla. We had a nice spell in the warm sunshine, while we enjoyed our lunch. Our next stop was at the Thompson Dam wall. I'm afraid more rain is needed to bring the water level up to a more satisfactory level. We returned to our motel to get ready for the Fancy Dress evening. More superb entertainment from Kevin Walsh was provided. The marshals were dressed as hyperactive Mickey Mouse Club members in white tee shirts with our names on the front and dark trousers. When proceedings were underway, we performed a little ditty in admiration of Tour Organiser, Tony Pettigrew. The act, which drew a fair amount of applause, was splendidly put together by Marj Pepper and Karen McDonald. All of this was quite a 'do' and, after our antics, normal(?) dancing resumed.

After a Flagg-Off Ceremony our run to Dandenong South was via a morning rush hour roundabout where roadworks were in progress. The workers soon realised what we were doing and, very helpfully parked an exca-

vator in a strategic position to let the RACV Fly The Flag Tour have right of way! We passed two primary schools and an aged care facility to entertain the inmates. After a good lunch at Villa Adriana, *Pea Soup* was headed for home and to be made ready for the Rover Car Club's National Rove in Adelaide a few says later. Our thanks to all who made it happen so smoothly. We are looking forward to the tenth running with keen anticipation!

Mike Alfrey

Best Coffee In Glengarry

On day 5 of the Fly the Flag 2010 Tour we were flagged off at Sale and on our way to Morwell. As our car was one of the earlier ones to be flagged off, we decided to go on to Glengarry before stopping for morning tea. After arriving in the town, imagine our surprise to find that nearly everything was closed. In particular, the only place that seemed like it might serve tea or coffee was a Bakery which had apparently closed down the previous November. On speaking to some of the locals, they made a suggestion we try the local Hairdressing Salon. Although we were a bit sceptical - we were getting desperate by this time, so we and some other tour participants decided to give it a go. We entered the salon (which was very large for a small country town) and noted that they actually did have a coffee-making machine. The girls were very friendly and agreed to make us coffee, even though I think it was normally just a service for their regular customers. Pretty soon the queue was out the door as more Fly-the-Flaggers found the only place in town serving coffee!! The salon owner, (using her initiative) pointed out to us that haircuts were "on Special" that day, so Nello and a couple of other participants had a great haircut and head massage as well as enjoying the best cup of coffee in Glengarry!!! We were so impressed with the girls in the salon that when we got to Morwell we nominated their business for the Small Business Award in the Latrobe region.

Diane Mafodda

THE RENOWNED CREAM SPONGE RUN – Sunday, 11th April 2010

A Fun Run With A Superb Lunch At The Finish



Thanks to all who came on the 2010 Cream Sponge Run. I must say the Birkett Bakery was becoming a little stressed when numbers got dangerously close to 60. With the oven in robot mode, we ended with 47 keen competitors.

We seemed to have a few more sponges than usual left over for Brigade morning tea. Then Deanna Hall donated more money to take a cake home, saying she was claiming it would be of her own making. (*"Lovely cake, dear. Did you buy it yourself?" A visiting friend, to the Editor's mother – who never-ever bought cakes!*) Good for you, Deanna, the Brigade still had plenty. The generosity of you all, plus a cheque from the

Club, resulted in \$518.00 for the Sassafras Ferny Creek Brigade. Geoff and I really enjoyed putting the day on, but that amount of money was really the icing on the cake, (if you pardon the pun). The Captain, John Schauble, gave a very interesting talk, and everyone present understood how very much fundraising, such as this, is so gratefully accepted.

Determined to have a clear winner this year, we tried to have a cunning and devious question sheet. Really everyone did quite well. It was entertaining to mark them; I think a special award should go to the team with the most enlightening answers next time. I mean why wouldn't you see Kevin Rudd or Ghost Busters about laying rabbit bait, or start divorce proceedings over an answer. I wish I could have been an invisible passenger!

We were getting concerned when Maurie and Margaret Monk hadn't arrived by 1:00 pm at the hotel. They did, however, completed the course and achieved a very good score. According to Margaret some disputes arose over which way they should be turning. But you were right, weren't you Margaret?

The encouragement award went to Team Pettigrew. Tony always says he hasn't a hope with two women in the car. But spare a thought for Team Pepper; Brian had three ladies to contend with!

Here are the complete results, out of a maximum 45 points:

Sandra & Alex Farrow	38 pts
Phil Cooke	37 pts
Nello & Dianne Mafodda	36 pts
The Red Hot Chilli Peppers	35 pts
Lyn & Ray Higginson	35 pts
Ken & Karen McDonald	34 pts
Ron Rogers & Glenda Duncan	31 pts
Rex & Deanna Hall	30 pts
Maurie & Margaret Monk	29 pts
Frank Sawyer & Val MacRae	28 pts
Team Pettigrew (the Snowball Encouragement Award)	27 pts
Brian & Anne Tootell	27 pts
Neil & Margaret Clayton	23 pts
Greg & Liljana Margetts	20 pts

Ian & Pam Hankey	11 pts
Ross & Pat Wolstenholme	5 pts
Jean & Harry Cooper	14 pts
Val Jefferyes & Cohn	4 pts
Peter McKiernan	2 pts

And a few sheets returned in pristine condition! Thank you all from both of us for the fun of planning the day for you.

Judy and Geoff Birkett

OPEN GARDEN WEEKEND – Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th April 2009

Our Club Helped With This Worthy Fundraiser At Como Gardens

This year Pat and George ordered some special autumn Melbourne weather for this popular event. We got a bit of a fright as we came in, with a competing scarecrow eyeing us sternly. There were a good number of scarecrows entered in the Como Gardens Scarecrow Competition. The judges' task must have been daunting. We all settled into our usual duties with the whole day going as well as George's Bugatti in the museum.

The task at the entry gate is now like meeting so many old acquaintances. Our thanks for their on-going support. The popular scones with jam and whipped cream made it a very summer-like affair. Train rides were also very popular with our club providing the necessary railway staff. From the entry gate, we could hear the raucous engine of the Bugatti being run up under Don Kinsey's splendid narration on the Eastern FM's roving microphone.

George and Pat Hetrel will probably announce the sum collected for the SES and the St John's Ambulance local groups in a separate letter. Our thanks, yet again, to George and Pat for putting it all on – a heap of work goes on before and after the event. These weekends are now well established and that is a tribute to the hard work put in. Finally, thanks to all of the ABCCC members who gave such valuable assistance on the two days.

Mike Alfrey

AN OVERSEAS TRIP – Sunday, 2nd May 2010

'Targa French Island In A Transit Van'

Bryan and Anne Tootell wrote – When congregating outside the Stony Point Kiosk, the weather turned grey and rain started to fall. We weren't surprised after having to limit our attendance due to the 'bus' breakdown and use instead an 11 seater bus (?) to shuttle us about in groups. The Island is similar to Phillip Island of the 1930's and you could visualise an early Australian Grand Prix with Austin 7s racing around the unmade roads with gay abandon.

The population of around 85 have only a small general store, a school for 5 students, and a community hall -where we were gathered for an excellent lunch. Farming sheep and cattle is the main pursuit following the demise of chicory production some time ago. A short bush walk through the scrub revealed how inhospitable it was prior to clearing by the settlers in the early 1800's. Our guides gave most informative talks. The subject could change at any moment, depending on the situation, e.g., upon spotting 'wild' cats crossing in front of us, a description of 'Tom' castration by first pushing the animal headfirst into father's wellington boot, etc., was narrated. At the rear of an old kiln the afternoon Devonshire tea was served. The last group to be transported back to the jetty were nervously checking the time. Standing out on the 'road'. Looking for the 'bus'. Hoping we would not be left on the island overnight. *Below: Tourists from overseas enjoying good French Island fare.*



Mary and Rob Nolan wrote – An ABCCC tour of French Island with local guide Lois Airs, who expertly steered us through parts of the island on a scenic tour. Just for us, a native Koala keeping an eye on us, was spotted as we entered the Community Hall for a fantastic two-course lunch.

This was followed by a walk through native vegetation before entering Bayview Chicory Kiln. There chickens, horses, sheep, and ducks greeted us. Even the ferret and lorikeet said, Hello! It was simply, and we mean **simply** amazing, eye opening, thoroughly amusing and enlightening day! Only disappointing thing was that we didn't stumble across Jethro and Ellie-May. But I bet they were out there somewhere!



Anne in charge of the chicken muster.



A Mini Traveller behind barbed wire fence.

What an amazing time warp, so close to the mainland. "Good on them", for enjoying and maintaining their own patch of settlement history on their amazingly friendly and unpolluted island.

Anne & Bryan Tootell with Rob & Mary Nolan

REX'S PUB LUNCH RUN – 23rd May 2010

After a very cold morning wake up and negotiation of the many Vic Roads "improvement" projects for some, we met at the airplane viewing area on the corner of Oaklands Road and C743 for the start of Rex's Pub Run. It was freezing for some. Ray was helped out by putting on Rex's London Fog coat; "that's much warmer" Ray was heard to say. "Take off" was on time at 9.30 am. The convoy was made up of a good selection of the British stable. We proceeded thru Romsey at a good pace; then onto Lancefield where the Birketts and Rows joined us for morning tea at the Old Railway Station Nursery & Café. A total of 17 cars with 37 club members were represented. Lyn Higginson could not let the opportunity pass for some marshalling duties; directing the tail-enders and those who overshot the turn into the Nursery. Well done, Lyn! Morning tea was enjoyed. The cakes were delicious. After morning tea, the antique building was visited. The three stories of antiques were viewed with the usual comments "Hell, so much for that rubbish" or "We have one just like that at home". We then motored to Riddell's Creek and met at the Local Hotel. The Manager, Garry Nish looked after us with tables near the open fire reserved especially for our club. We had a very nice meal in pleasant surroundings. Garry commented that 'it was a pleasure to have our club for lunch. The members were all very friendly, and we were welcome back anytime". Thanks to all those who attended Rex's Pub Lunch Run.



Rex Hall

TOCUMWAL WEEKEND – 4th to 6th June 2010

Touring by the Murray

We will meet at the Lilydale International car park (also known as the ABCCC car park in Lilydale) at 9:00 am for a 9:30 am departure. We will travel through Yarra Glen and up the Melba Highway (via the bypass) to Yea. Then it's on to Seymour and Nagambie, where we will stop for a welcome cuppa and to use the facilities, if we so desire. We then have the rest of the day to travel to Tocumwal, where we have booked out The Bakery Park Motel. I am sure we will get together for a social drink and natter before being picked up by a courtesy bus that will take us to our evening meal venue. There is no need to drive to dinner and back, so all can relax.

This will be a very relaxing weekend so the rest of the time we will decide what we want to do having discussed the many options available to us over a glass or two. As usual we aim to have a great time enjoying each other's company and have lots of laughs. If you require more information, call Frank Sawyer on 0408 633 778.

Frank Sawyer

WINTER TOUR OF THE YARRA VALLEY – Sunday, 27th June 2010

The Cool Crisp Air of Winter!

Please come join us on our tour of the Yarra Valley. We will be meeting at our home at 300 Alma Rd., Watsons Creek (Mel. 272 D4) at 9:15 am for an early morning tea or coffee. After a refreshing cuppa and some delicious muffins or cakes, we will depart at 10:00 am on our tour. Our tour takes us through some of the most scenic parts of the Yarra Valley with a stop at the Yarra Valley Cheese Shop. Cheese tastings are available at \$3 per head. Then it's onto the "Boat O'Craig" Vineyards at Healesville where the wine tastings are free. You may want to purchase wine to have later with lunch, (the prices are quite reasonable). Our tour continues through Healesville and on up Myers Creek Road into the Toolangi State Forest. The scenery is spectacular all the way to our lunch venue "The Singing Gardens of C.J. Dennis (Melways Map 10, Ref. Q2). Lunch at 1:00 pm will include either Beef or Lamb Roast Dinner and Dessert, plus Tea or Coffee for \$25.00 per person. This price also includes

a talk on the Poetry of C.J. Dennis. Feel free to tour the gardens at your leisure. (Please note: **NO** Credit Cards or EFTPOS are accepted at this venue. It is B.Y.O.)

Please ring to let us know if you are attending. (03) 9719 7949 or 0417 052 254 by June 20th.

Diane and Nello Mafodda

A DAY OUT FOR THE GIRLS – Sunday, 11th July 2010

The Girls From St Trinians Invade Warburton!

We were to visit the Costume Collection, but that will have to be deferred due to the lady who runs it, being away for the whole of July. However, other plans have been made for a most enjoyable day out. We will meet at the Lilydale International Club, Nelson Road, Lilydale, at 9:30 am.

Our run will take us to Healesville, where morning tea has been arranged at the Blue Berry Café. After our refreshments, we will continue on to our lunch venue in Warburton. I do need to know numbers attending so that we can be catered for. Please call me on (03) 9739 4829 to make your reservation.

Pat Douglas

OUR ABCCC ANNUAL LUNCHEON – Sunday, 25th July 2010

Xmas In July

After the great success of last year's *Xmas in July* at Marybrooke we have booked the 25th of July for another Christmas luncheon, and have kept the same traditional menu as last year. Drinks will be provided by the Club.

Luncheon Information

Date: Sunday 25th July 2010

Time: 12:30 pm for 1:00 pm

Location: MARYBROOKE 10 Sherbrooke Road, Sherbrooke (Melway Map 75 Ref: H2)

Menu: Cream of butternut pumpkin soup

Roast pork and turkey with crackling, and cranberry sauce

Served with an assortment of roasted vegetables, pan gravy and condiments

Individual plum pudding with warm custard.

Coffee/Tea

Cost: \$30.00 per head (Drinks provided by our club)

By popular demand we will have a Kris Kringle (\$5 Minimum)

Note: **This is the Annual Club Luncheon, and a Member-only Event. Pre-booking and payment is required by the 15th of July. A booking form is provided at the bottom of the back page.**

Colin & Joy Brown

THE AOMC 2010 WINTER SEMINAR – Saturday, 31st July 2010

Will Appeal To All Club Members

The Association of Motoring Clubs (AOMC) is organising a Winter Seminar that re-visits the motor vehicle restoration scene in a practical way. The topics to be covered by guest speakers are:

- Radiator repairs and reproduction radiators
- Manufacture and supply of wiring looms (harnesses)
- Body panel manufacture and fabrication
- Body trimming
- Batteries of various shapes, sizes, 6-volt and 12-volt

The Seminar will commence at 8:30 am and will be conducted in the Chevrolet Car Club's clubrooms at 1/3 Edgecombe Court, Moorabbin. Tea and coffee will be available from 8:00 am.

Bookings are essential. Please contact the AOMC office on (03) 9555 0133 or, E-mail to secretary@aomc.asn.au. You can also contact me and I'll book it on your behalf.

Mike Alfrey – An AOMC Delegate

ABCCC COACH TOUR – Sunday, 8th August 2010

All Aboard The Higginson Charabanc Tour Company Bus!

We will meet at the Moonee Valley Bus Depot, 7 Tullamarine Park Drive, Tullamarine (Melways Map 15, Ref: E5) at 8:30 am for a 9:00 am departure. We will travel by luxury coach to Malmsbury for a morning tea break where tea, coffee and cakes will be provided. After a filling morning tea we will then travel on to Castlemaine, where we will board the train at 11:30 am and go to Maldon. The cost of the train trip is \$12.00 per person. The June, 2010 Fellowship, Friendship — That Is Your ABCCC



bus will go on to Maldon where it will pick us up and take us to a hotel for lunch. After lunch you can wander around the township. We will leave at 3:30 pm for our journey back to the Depot. There is a limit of 50 people on the bus, so it's first come, first served or should I say get a seat. Please contact Ray or Lyn at home on 9336.7306 (evening hours) or you can email Lyn on lhigginson@kangan.edu.au. A great day is promised for all who attend.

Ray & Lyn Higginson

INDULGENT WEEKEND – 8th -10th October 2010

Indulgence No. 5

It is on again – this time Indulgence 5. After four successful indulgent weekends Rosalie and Peter are now attempting to emulate their previous successes.

We will be meeting at the Shell service station (outbound) at Todd Road at 9:00 am for a 9:30 am departure. After approximately a one-hour's drive, we will stop for morning tea and a cookie. Afterwards, we will proceed to our luncheon venue, then on to our accommodations. After settling in, we shall enjoy nibbles and drinks before we head off to dinner.

Starting with a hearty breakfast, we will be picked up by coach for a tour of the general area. We will stop at various wineries, and then on to our lunch at a vineyard and deli – well known for its quality wines and foods. During the afternoon our tour will continue until we return to our motel. Again, after nibbles and drinks we will enjoy our barbeque and a wine tasting. On Sunday we will proceed to a well known café for brunch, then it's back to Melbourne.

The final costs have not been determined. It will be provided in the next issue of *Your ABCCC News*. We are limited to the number of participants. It may be necessary for some attendees to be accommodated in an adjacent motel.

To date we have received expressions of interest from some sixteen parties, so, if you intend to be part of this weekend, please get in early by contacting Rosalie or Peter on 03 9787 6003 or on our mobile 0407 876 023.

Peter McKiernan

CLUB HOLIDAY TO TASMANIA – 17th to 24th November 2010

A Progress Update

We are pleased to advise that interest in our holiday to Tasmania has been such, that it is fully booked. There will be a tour itinerary in a forthcoming issue of *Your ABCCC News*.

Marjorie Pepper & Karen McDonald

A LETTER FROM GEORGE HETREL – April Open Gardens Weekend

Sent To Pat Douglas – 24th April 2010

Dear Pat,

The event was held in ideal weather conditions and the turnstile attendance was very pleasing. Our ability to accommodate such numbers (say 2,000 all up) calls on our voluntary workers caring, and with a smile, attend to car parking, canteen refreshments of course, and the very popular train rides that netted \$2,000 at \$1.00 per person. Let's also mention our raffles that are major contributors to the bottom line, all told \$15,000 net and equally shared by Knox SES and St John's Ambulance.

To all fellow club members who helped make it happen, thank you. Enclosed is a cheque in favour of the ABCCC for \$1,000.

Best regards,

George Hetrel, Como Gardens, The Basin.



BOOKING FORM – XMAS IN JULY LUNCHEON

Please Reserve Seats..... for: Name

Enclosed is a cheque/postal note/money order for (\$30 per person)\$.....

Payable to: All British Classics Car Club Inc

Send to: Colin Brown
PO Box 40
Coldstream, Victoria, 3770

Form can be copied if you do not wish to mutilate your ABCCC News.