

# **OPEN TOPICS**



**Edition No.210  
March /April  
2018**



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issue:**

15th April 2018

([editor@rsca.net.au](mailto:editor@rsca.net.au))



Photography by :-  
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Kim McConchie



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## LIFE MEMBERS

Roger Benjamin

† Roy Hartles, † David Fraser, † Ross Jones

## Picnic at the Pub 2018



Phew, it was hot, but the cold drinks and shade on the balcony of the Kinross Hotel, made for a great viewing platform to survey the cars.

Some cars came and left early, some came later and stayed longer, so total numbers are difficult. I didn't count the individual cars, but my rough estimate put it about 110 vehicles on display, which was an awesome turn out.

Thanks to everybody who made the effort to bring their car along, it certainly made for a great display.

Did anybody see the WIN TV News item? – it was short but featured some great cars, especially Garrie's great MG TC.

I posted the News item on the RSCA Facebook page, so if you missed it, you can check it out there.

This display is a great opportunity for members of the public to check out the cars and for prospective new members to talk to RSCA members and get a feel for the club before deciding if they want to join.

We must have been a friendly bunch as membership applications were received from 5 prospective members, and there may be more on the way.

My day ended well. I had a great steak from the Bistro and eating it on the balcony amidst other RSCA members made it more enjoyable.

As has been noted many times previously "We are a noisy mob when we get together".

Noel sold a heap of calendars – he still has some at \$10 each – and Warwick and Marilyn even managed to sell some regalia....

I think this new venue is much better than the park we used to use and hope that we can continue to use the Kinross Hotel site for years to come.

John Allott



## Picnic at the Pub



Greg & Lyn Harris,  
Colin Lawrence-Parnaby,  
Bill Harding, Alan Brink,  
Dave Anderson, Bruce Gibbens,  
Bruce Doughty, Adrian Meredith,  
Les Eddington, Ray Barrette, Harry Greenhalgh, Gordon Nicholls, Susan,  
Bernie & Matt Campbell, Mick Donahue,  
Rebecca Thomson,



Neil Butler, Harris Filer,  
John Panlook, John Carter,  
Warwick Jones,  
Phil & Julie Wilkins,  
Allan Black, Malcolm  
McEachern, John Carthew,  
Jim Grice, Cheryl Grice,  
Michael Mohr, Peter &  
Carolyn Spasojevic,, Snow  
Taylor, John Fairway, Tony  
Duffy  
Richard Heather,  
Lesley Frede, John Wag-

ner, John Adams, Chris Gay, Neil Battles, Greg Ortlipp, Dave Mills, Jeff Seidel,  
Garry Davy's, Tracie Macvean, Wayne Vankerhof,  
John Haydon, Greg Sims, Kerry Bedford, Ian Tuttle, Terry Gay, Neil Sutherland,  
John & Joy Allott, Tim Banks, Gavin Dykes, Daryl Maclagan, Des Saunders, Karl  
Richardson, Peter Cooper, Colin Grouping,  
David Buckley, John Buckley,  
Tony Bullivant, Kim McConchie, Chantelle  
McConchie, Howard Anderson, Julian  
Crouch-Hall, Phil Craig, Tony Nott, Geoff  
Watson, Ian Edgar, Marc Torrid,  
Gary Humphrey, Ted Seignior, Stephen  
Jones, Brian Aplin, Graham Bartel,  
Andrew Nicholls, Amanda Armstrong



# Coming Club Events

## MARCH

**Sun 4 Picnic on the Lake Yarrawonga** 10am to 3pm Enter Murphy st gate. \$5 per car. Depart gateway at 08.30 am. Contact Gordon for details. (see back page)

**Sat./Sun. 10/11-Weekend trip to Illabo Vintage Speedway**

Leaving Gateway 0930 am Sat travel via Wagga to Junee for lunch and visit the Rhythm and Rail Festival for a few hours then on to Cootamundra for our overnight stay. Sunday travel to Illabo for the Vintage Speedway Spectacular Race Meeting.

Call Gordon 0427215233 or Dave Anderson 0450749232

**Tue 13 Monthly Meeting.** "The Elizabeth Room" of the Commercial Club. Enter from the rear of the Commercial Club. - 7.45 pm  
Guest Speaker—Greg Chapple

**Wed 14 Mid Week Run - Dartmouth Dam Wall** via Tallangatta Bakery for morning coffee, lunch at Eskdale Hotel (travel via the beautiful Lockhart's Gap Road ) - **a drivers delight**

Depart 9am Gateway Viliage

Call Malcolm for details 0418691296

**Sun 18 Cars and Coffee** - 10am at Harry's BBB on Wodonga Pl., Albury. (The old Pizza Hut.) meet for coffee, and see where the day leads, stay for 30 mins, go for a drive with others, or have a leisurely brunch. Nothing planned, see what happens. A folding chair may be useful.

**Sun 25 Social gathering at the Commercial Golf Resort.** Meet with other RSCA members for a relaxed time at 5pm to 6pm on the last Sunday of each month. Stay for a meal if you want

**Sun 25 Morgan Country Car Club Swap** Jindera Recreation Ground  
Gates open 7 am Mob 0427 218 627 Own arrangements

## APRIL

**Sun 8 Chiltern Cancer Cruise** -Regional Cancer Centre Fund raising event

Cost \$5.00 per vehicle

Food, displays and stalls at venue

Details Bruce 0418488003

## April

**Mon 9 Monthly Meeting** . "The Elizabeth Room" of the Commercial Club. Enter from the rear of the Commercial Club. - 7.45 pm  
Guest Speakers Phil & Julie Wilkins "Antarctic Trip"

**Wed 11 Mid Week Run Tallangatta Hotel** via Chiltern "The Hub" for morning coffee. (an interesting route via Beechworth)  
Depart 9am Gateway Village  
Call Malcolm for details 0418691296

**Sun 22 Coffee and Cars** –9am at the Rotary Market for Coffee and Car display Kiewa Street (new multi level car park)

**Sun 29 Social gathering at the Commercial Golf Resort.** Meet with other RSCA members for a relaxed time at 5pm to 6pm on the last Sunday of each month. Stay for a meal if you want

## May

**Mon 14 Monthly Meeting** "The Elizabeth Room" of the Commercial Club. Enter from the rear of the Commercial Club. - 7.45 pm

**Wed 16 Mid Week Run** Bright for Lunch via John Stanley's Australian Stoewer Car Museum at Tawonga South and morning tea. Depart 9.00 am Gateway Village  
Call Malcolm for details 0418691296

**May 20 National Motoring Heritage Day** RSCA won the shield for the the most number of cars at this event last year lets repeat it again this year. Location and details in next magazine.

**May 20 Coffee and Cars** -10am at Harry's BBB on Wodonga Pl., Albury. (The old Pizza Hut.) meet for coffee, and see where the day leads, stay for 30 mins, go for a drive with others, or have a leisurely brunch. Nothing planned, see what happens. A folding chair may be useful.

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# Coffee & Cars



Coffee & cars again proved popular on the 21st January 2018  
It was an opportunity to get the Sporties out on a beautiful day and  
enjoy the new year together.

Those who attended:

Roger & Kay Benjamin, Alan & Lynne Bink, Gordon & Janene Nicholls,  
Harry & Averil Greenhalgh, Dave Anderson, Noel Ferri, Bryan & June  
Liersch, Bernie, Susan & Matt Campbell, Pete Spasojevic, Terry & Anne  
Gay, Kerry Bedford, Neil Sutherland, Peter & Cheryl Grice, Phil & Julie  
Wilkins, Neil Butler, Greg Chappell, Alan Black.

**Gordon Nicholls**

**Replica Bentley owned by  
Alan Black caused quite a stir, great talking point for the day**





# *President's Report*

March April

The year 2018 has started well with our second "Picnic at the Pub" event happening Sunday 4th February.

There was an impressive roll up of members cars parked in neat rows on the grass behind the Kinross.

Thanks to our committee members and other helpers who ensured the afternoon was a great success.

There was a good turnout of members club plated vehicles and our club permit officers were able to inspect members cars.

This is an important event on our club calendar so for those members who were unable to attend this year I do encourage you to attend next year, particularly those members with cars on a club permit.

This is also a great social event for our members with the under cover outdoor area a great spot to chat and enjoy a cold beverage.

Many members lingered and enjoyed a pub meal for dinner (beats cooking).

Our event in January was "Coffee and Cars" at 10am on Sunday 21 January. Members now meet at Harry's BBB on Wodonga Place. I believe there was quite a few members attending.

Our first midweek run for the year was 14 February and I'm sure there was a great attendance to this popular monthly club event.

March and April has some of the best weather in our beautiful region, so get your classic car out of the garage and join in on at least one of our runs.

Happy and safe motoring,

Howard



Please remember to wear your name badge  
to all Club events.

It is also important for older  
members to make yourself know to our

# Midweek Run

## RIVERINA SPORTS CAR ASSOCIATION MIDWEEK RUNNERS FEBRUARY 14<sup>TH</sup> 2018

### YARRAWONGA/MULWALA – BENALLA

8.30am and the cars began to roll up.

Slight cloud covering but going to be a brilliant sunny North East day. (great for convertibles with the roof down and touring with friends).

As registration/attendance signing concluded, final running instructions given I was then presented with bouquet of three red roses to commemorate Valentine's Day – thank you Susan, very thoughtful.

24 cars assembled at the Gateway Village as the club motored to Yarrawonga/Mulwala with new member Stuart McMurray joining the convoy at Barnawartha North as the convoy, by now exceeding one kilometre in length, motored through the Howlong exit on the Murray Valley Highway on their way towards Rutherglen. We now had 25 cars - 45 members and guests in attendance.

Leaving the Gateway Island start at 9.15 am we only arrived at the Mulwala Services Club at 10.30am where secure parking was in abundance, adjacent to the low flying DC3 aircraft at the front entrance to the club.

At the club we were welcomed and catered for either at the main bar or at "Diggers Restaurant" where plenty of chairs and tables were ready .

The coffee, cool drinks and assorted treats were excellent – thank you to the Services Club management.

New member Stuart McMurray drew the disc which disclosed that Tony & Nanette Brandt won the box of chocolates celebrating Valentine's Day,

Congratulations on your attendance and the presentation of the delightful Porsche 911.

Approximately 11.30am the convoy departed Club Mulwala and toured to Benalla through violent wind and dust storms. Branches and debris being blown onto the roadway – all in all not a very pleasant time for touring.

By 12.20pm we were all at the North Eastern Hotel, Benalla, where the Proprietor "Jamie" & his staff watered and fed everyone and I believe enabled the R.S.C.A. members to remain social at the Hotel until well after 2.30pm.

It was another great days motoring with friends.



R.S.C.A.  
ATTENDANCE  
14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2018

- |     |   |                         |
|-----|---|-------------------------|
| 1.  | Malcolm McEachern                                       | Jaguar XKR coupe        |
| 2.  | Peter & Carolyn Spasojevic                              | Jaguar XK convertible   |
| 3.  | Raymond & Tina Jones                                    | Jaguar XKR convertible  |
| 4.  | Peter & Lorraine Daly<br>(plus guests – Haki & Cicilia) | Jaguar XF saloon        |
| 5.  | Tony & Nanette Brandt                                   | Porsche 911             |
| 6.  | Neil & Jillian Buttler                                  | Porsche 911             |
| 7.  | Les & Shirley Eddington                                 | Mazda MX5 roadster      |
| 8.  | Ray & Marg Barrette'                                    | Mazda MX5 roadster      |
| 9.  | Chantelle McConchie                                     | Mercedes 350SL roadster |
| 10. | Clive Faul  | Mercedes SLK200 r'dster |
| 11. | Kim McConchie   | Mustang convertible     |
| 12. | Stuart McMurray   | Mustang convertible     |
| 13. | Bryan Liersch   | Mustang Shelby GT       |
| 14. | Bruce Gibbens & Jan Salan                               | Holden Monaro GTS       |
| 15. | Noel Ferri & Maria Kable                                | Saab convertible        |
| 16. | Ian & Christine Edgar                                   | MGB GT                  |
| 17. | Brian & Yvonne Aplin                                    | MGB roadster            |
| 18. | Ian & Gail Tuttle                                       | Honda 1300 coupe        |
| 19. | Paul Bell & Mary Widdicombe                             | BMW 118d convertible    |
| 20. | John Carthew  | Ford FG GT              |
| 21. | Bernie & Susan Campbell                                 | VW Sorocco R            |
| 22. | John & Jodie Buckley                                    | Toyota land cruiser     |
| 23. | Bob & Chris Towers                                      | Toyota 86GT             |
| 24. | Graham & Patricia Bone                                  | Audi TT                 |
| 25. | Jim & Cheryl Grice                                      | Chevrolet Corvette      |

Happy Motoring Forever

Malcolm J McEachern  
TOUR DIRECTOR



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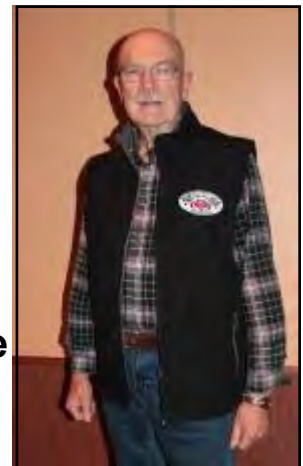
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## ***Its another road trip what will break this time?***

There's something about organising a road trip that can bring out the best use of the word Optimism, and the subsequent execution of said road trip can result in either a great sense of satisfaction as the car makes it through the front gate without any sense of mental anguish or physical damage, or it can give a great sense of relief when, despite everything, the car makes it through the front gate... eventually.

When the road trips involve bringing home cars which at best have been seen and maybe even given a squirt around the block, or at worst it's something that's only been seen in photos and there is total reliance on the sellers' honesty, that word Optimism comes breezing in through the door, settles down in a comfy chair, gives you a wink and asks "When are we leaving?" And possibly "Where are we going?" The Where is often important for that organising a road trip bizzo, as I do have a bad habit of finding interesting cars which are far, far away.

Previous efforts resulting from inspired evening perusals of Carsales over a glass of something drinkable have seen the HQ Monaro set the distance record, having been for sale in Mackay, FNQ, from where it was driven back to Melbourne over 3 days, a sight unseen purchase with almost nothing going wrong.....OK, the fuel gauge stopped working, a couple of window winders fell off, and we had to bleed off an airlock in the cooling system which finally stopped it overheating. Almost nothing, like I said.

A VL Commodore Targa rally car was an accidental ebay purchase from the west coast of Tassie, which made for an exciting drive as we flogged it back to the boat to just make the evening sailing, and I was then threatened with a noise pollution infringement when I gave it a rev in the bowels of the boat on arrival in Melbourne – yes it still had the near enough to open exhaust from its last rally, and rattled windows in the CBD as we headed for home on a quiet Sunday morning. Subsequently, that exhaust was retired before the local plods took an interest, although you'd never call its replacement subtle either.

The Mustang was another case of bought sight unseen, and the first test drive was Sydney to Melbourne. Its LHD, so planning (conducted with my good friend Optimism) had us fly in to Sydney on an early flight, have the essential checks done and paperwork completed by late morning, and get the heck out of Sydney before the afternoon traffic ground to a halt. Reality saw a traffic jam in Melbourne that resulted in us missing our flight, the subsequent later flight arrived in Sydney just in time for us to be caught up in a police incident which meant all vehicles coming in to the airport were being checked – yes, that included the taxis – so we eventu-

ally got to the car early afternoon, did the checks, had a couple of electrical issues sorted, and left for Melbourne just as the traffic ground to halt.... As a case of 'LearningLeftHandDrive 101' goes, I can highly recommend trying to navigate through Sydney traffic, hemmed in by busses and trucks, and trying to figure out where to place the car so I was, more or less, staying in the lane I was meant to be in. We made it to Gundagai that night, where medicinal Scotch was required to repair the shattered nerves and the neck gone stiff from trying to swivel 360 degrees to see what was going on. Car didn't have a right-hand door mirror, did it? That made lane changes an exercise in hope

and go, and trust the other drivers to give a bit of allowance if I cut them off. Sydney drivers, always a forgiving lot!

By comparison bringing the Merc 280CE home from Sydney on a stinking hot day was relatively straightforward, except for it trying to stall in the tunnel as the traffic stopped and started, and the temperature gauge kept



heading up the top bit where you don't want to see it at the best of times, but never in a traffic choked tunnel. And soon noticing the fuel gauge sinking and the warning light blinking which meant a desperate across lanes manoeuvre to get to an exit to find a petrol station, where 62.5 litres were put into the 63-litre tank. That, it was pointed out to me, was cutting it a wee bit fine!

Which brings us to our latest effort, a 1965 Alfa Romeo 2600 Sprint coming, once more, from Sydney. At least these days we live a lot closer to that fine city than we used to, which brings an extra polish to the Optimism factor, as its only hop and a step from there to home! At least I had given the car an inspection prior to the sale, even having it on a hoist to do the full "poke everything with a stick and see what falls off" professional inspection, and I had driven it up a hill, where it performed like a car running on old petrol would be expected to. I was passed by an ancient Bedford tray truck with a load of

bricks on the back, and lost a drag at the lights to a lady on a mobility scooter who didn't even know it was a race. A bit of tune and fresh fuel was promised to sort that one out, so the latest expedition was planned. As the car was being sold by the Gosford Car Museum, Chantelle and I took the opportunity to make it a bit of a holiday, spend a reasonable time looking at the collection, and head home via Goulburn overnight. More importantly, do it on a Saturday in the hope Pennant Hills Road wasn't its usual cattle crush of cars and trucks, after all I had no idea how the Alfa was going to go in traffic. All went well, the car ran considerably better than the test drive, Goulburn was reached in good time, and we had a fine view of the bum end of the Big Merino from our motel. Full of confidence and, dare I say it, Optimism, we set off Sunday morning for home. It was not all that far down the road, happily sitting at the 110 limit when I gave a bit of a stretch, pushing back in the (very comfortable) seat, and Bloody Hell, there was a ratchetty crack and the seat back reclined ALL THE WAY DOWN, leaving me clinging to the steering wheel, trying to see over the dash top and not do any unwanted lane changes or divergences into the shrubbery. Needless to say, the wheels fell off the Optimism factor very quickly – and the trip was completed with a large bag stuffed behind the seat to hold the back in position. Still it did get through the front gate, so I shouldn't complain. And the seat recliner mechanism has been restored to full functionality once we figured out how to take it apart, find why it preferred to be reclined more than anything else in the world, and then reassemble. A simple job which required a die grinder for disassembly – damn thing has a pressed and punched shaft, never intended to come apart – and a 20 ton press to correct distortion in the body, some brass shims to take up clearances and a mig welder to reverse the work of the die grinder, and then strip the seat base of trim as one of the captive nuts fell into the seat body, so find it and a bit more mig action to fix. And then re-sew the seat base material. By hand. Good thing I know a motor trimmer!

So that's some of our car collecting road trip highlights and lowlights, and even the uneventful ones are fun – and so far only two cars have been trailered home! However I am now developing another theory that for every thing you fix, something else breaks. The Alfa is a working case study so far – fix the seat recliner, then electricity fails to find its way from the battery to the starter motor. Find and fix the dud connector, car now starts, but drivers window now refuses to lift. And so on. Still, I'm Optimistic it will all get sorted eventually!

Cheers,  
Kim McConchie



Enthusiast Motor Insurance is our new advertiser in the magazine please check them out when you are renewing your Insurance.

Details Page 9

Make sure you use all our advertisers as they support us to lower the cost for us producing to our magazine and there are better outcomes for you as a consumer. Please let them know you are from RSCA so that they are aware that their Advertising is creating new business.

Harry & Averil Greenhalgh are the proud owners of Mercedes Sedan looking forward to seeing them at more events over the year.

The Mercury Comet has been sold and is on its way to Western Australia to its new owner.

Don't forget to buy your 2018 Calander from Noel Ferri \$10 Copy  
All proceeds go to charity to be decided by committee.

### **Welcome to New Members:**

Terry Bradley / Elaine Turner : Ford Fairlane  
1969

Christopher Daley : Holden HZ 1978

Stephen Kilgour / Katrina Bayona  
Ford Falcon XR8 2009

Stuart Mc Murray : Ford Mustang 1965

Noel & Elizabeth Pearce: Ford Coupe 1932

Glenn Perry : 166 3lt V6 Alfa Romero

John Tyrrell/ Anne Mc Hardy: Corvette 1959  
WB Ute 1982 Ducatti SS900



# COMMERCIAL CLUB ALBURY

## Open Seven Days

Sunday to Wednesday 8am - 1am

Thursday to Saturday 8am - 2am

KENO and TAB operates daily in spacious lounge

## The Red Room

A-La-Carte Dining

Tuesday to Friday for the business lunch 12-2pm

Tuesday to Saturday Dinner from 6.30pm



## Sevens Restaurant

Open 7 days a week.

Lunch 12pm - 2pm and Dinner 6pm - 9pm  
self serve smorgasboard with bistro dining

## Reflections Cafe

Open 7 days

Open daily for breakfast through to late supper.  
A kaleidoscope of cuisine made from the  
freshest seasonal ingredients and on site  
bake house

For further information call  
02 6057 2000 or visit the club at  
618 Dean Street, Albury NSW 2640  
[www.commercialclubalbury.com.au](http://www.commercialclubalbury.com.au)

*Experience Our Excellence*

# Picnic on the Lake

**Sun Country**

**Historic Vehicle & Machinery Club**



## Yarrawonga Foreshore

**SUNDAY 4<sup>th</sup>  
MARCH 2018**

10:00AM to 3:00PM

Trophies for:

Veteran – Vintage - Post  
vintage – Historic/Classic

CARS, TRUCKS, MOTOR  
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Entry via Murphy St Gate

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[suncountrycarclub@gmail.com](mailto:suncountrycarclub@gmail.com)

