QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER





TSCC TURNS 21 AND CELEBRATES IN STYLE



2003 COMMITTEE

| President | Peter Smart | 9630 1050 (H) |
|---|------------------|-----------------|
| Vice President / Social Director | Colin Allerdice | 9874 0356 (̀H) |
| Secretary | Sue Smart | 9630 1050 (̀H) |
| Treasurer | Vic Andrews | 9589 3381 (H) |
| Editor | Lindsay Day | 9939 2863 (H) |
| | | 9262 6077 (FW) |
| Sporting Secretary & Point Score Keeper | Lester Gough | 9799 3209 (H/F) |
| Club Plate Registrar | Roland Clark | 9653 2866 (H) |
| | | 9653 2867 (F) |
| Club Shop / Raffles / Club Property | John & Val Dixon | 9403 6905 (H) |
| | | |

Please note these are all honorary positions, carried out by members in their own time. If you call them, please accept that they may have to call you back at a time convenient to them.

General Meetings of the Club

Held on the second Wednesday of the month at the Ryde RSL Bowling Club (Bowling Club Rooms) 724 Victoria Road, Ryde commencing at 8:00pm

OBJECTS OF THE CLUB

Fostering a better acquaintance and social spirit between the various owners of Thoroughbred Sports Cars in Australia

To help and advance Thoroughbred Sports Cars in Australia

To establish and maintain, by example, a high standard of Conduct and a Respect of the Laws of the Road

> INCORPORATED AS AN ASSOCIATION Registered No. Y15083-35 TSCC is affiliated with CAMS Limited (formerly Confederation of Australian Motor Sport)

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO THE SECRETARY Sue Smart 204 Bettington Road CARLINGFORD 2118

CALENDAR 2003

| | DATE | | EVENT | ORGANISER | PHONE NUMBER |
|------|---|-------------|---|-------------------------|------------------------|
| JAN. | Sun. 26th | S | NRMA Motorfest | | |
| FEB. | Wed. 12 th Wed. 19 th Sun. 23rd | M F S | Monthly Meeting Wednesday Run CMC President's Run | Sue Smart Vern Kelly | 9630 1050 9651 2770 |
| MAR | Wed. 12 th Wed. 19th | M F | Monthly Meeting Wednesday Run | Sue Smart Vern Kelly | 9630 1050 9651 2770 |

<u>NRMA MOTORFEST 2003</u> - MEET FOR LUNCH IN HYDE PARK – MACQUARIE STREET SIDE, OPPOSITE ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL. Enquiries: Phone Peter or Sue 9630 1050

NOTES:1. The events above are club sanctioned for the purposes of using club plates. Other events listed elsewhere may be sanctioned upon application at a monthly meeting of the Club.

2. Wednesday Run destinations will be selected from the following: Lithgow Small Arms Museum, Berrima Historic Village, Mt Anna Botanical Gardens, Brooklyn, Megalong Valley, Fitzroy Falls, Toronto, Mt Tomah Botanical Gardens, Wallacia, North Head Artillery Museum, Berry, and the Central Coast. Suggestions welcome, Contact Vern Kelly 9651 2770.

| LEGEND: | M = Club Meeting (3 Points) | S = Social Events (2 Points) |
|---------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| | R = Racing Event (1 Point) | F = Fun Run (No Points) |

CLUB MEMBER OF THE YEAR: The above points are awarded to members for participation in the events specified in the TSCC Calendar as printed, and any later amendments. With racing events, one point is awarded either for racing or attending as a spectator. Also, you will be awarded two points for contributing an article to **Top Gear** (to a maximum of 10 points).

INTERNET CORNER

Maserati afficionados may like to have a look at <u>www.maseratinet.com</u> which is the site for what is described as the largest Maserati club in the world.

Aston Martin enthusiasts may like to have a look at <u>www.amoc.org</u> which is the site for the Aston Martin Owners Club in the UK.

THOROUGHBRED SPORTS CAR CLUB MEETING HELD 13.11.02

Meeting commenced 8.00 p.m.

PRESENT

Les & Roselee Johnson, John & Val Dixon, Roland & Stephanie Clark, Grant Liddell, Tony & Sandra Johnstone, David & Barbara Muir, Chris & Joan Johnson, Ron Pulling, Col Allerdice, Vern & Wendy Kelly, Wayne Watkins, Lester Gough, Sue & Peter Smart. APOLOGIES: Norm & Pam Johnson, Ray & Margaret Ross, Lindsay Day, Vic Andrews

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved that minutes of the meeting held 9/10/02 be accepted: Chris Johnson CARRIED

Seconded: Colin Allerdice

CORRESPONDENCE

- ٠ NRMA Motorfest Entry forms
- **CAMS** Newsletter
- Folly Foot Motel letter •
- Marque Motor Books flyers •
- Thank you note from Judy Andrews

TREASURER'S REPORT

Bank Balance as at 31/10/02

Term Deposit

\$5.972.88 \$ 754.58 Total \$<u>6,727.46</u>

This balance includes amounts totaling \$2,540.00 to be paid out for Pride of Ownership Day and 21st Birthday Rally leaving a balance in cheque account of approx. \$3,400.

EDITOR'S REPORT

The October edition was completed and mailed recently, and Lindsay needs articles for the next one in January.

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

21st Birthday Rally – Les gave the meeting a short talk on the rally activities.

Christmas Dinner - numbers are needed as soon as possible to allow Les to finalise.

Pride of Ownership Day - held on17th Nov. at Oatlands House - an enjoyable day.

Wednesday run – next one on 20th Nov to Wollombi – Vern Kelly handed out flyers.

Ladies Day 1st Dec – Chris Johnson handed out a flyer – numbers needed by 25th Nov.

SPORTING SECRETARY'S REPORT

Lester advised that the winner of the Club Championship had been decided and would be announced on Presentation Night. 4 or 5 members competing on 1/12/02.

CMC DELEGATE REPORT (Lester Gough)

Concessional Rego. Log Book is required to fill up with AVGAS for cars on H - Plates.

CAMS DELEGATE REPORT (Grant Liddell)

Grant advised that he had been voted onto the State Executive.

The increase in CAMS fees has been cut back.

GENERAL BUSINESS

NRMA Motorfest – to be held on Sunday 26th January 2003. Forms are being sent out by NRMA to individuals who participated last year. Several club members will be showing their cars and the usual gathering in Hyde Park will be on.

Citizen Kane Award - voting was conducted on this year's articles.

Club Polo Shirts - are available from Val & John Dixon in various sizes for \$35.00.

<u>THOROUGHBRED SPORTS CAR CLUB</u> <u>ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 13TH NOVEMBER 2002</u>

Meeting commenced 8.50 p.m.

PRESENT

Les & Roselee Johnson, John & Val Dixon, Roland & Stephanie Clark, Grant Liddell, Tony & Sandra Johnstone, David & Barbara Muir, Chris & Joan Johnson, Ron Pulling, Col Allerdice, Vern & Wendy Kelly, Wayne Watkins, Lester Gough, Sue & Peter Smart. APOLOGIES: Norm & Pam Johnson, Ray & Margaret Ross, Lindsay Day, Vic Andrews MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING Moved that minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held 13/11/02 be accepted: Colin Allerdice, Seconded: Lester Gough CARRIED TREASURER'S REPORT Financial Statements for the year previously circulated to members showing: Bank Balance 31/10/02 \$5,972.88 Term Deposit \$ 754.58 Total Funds \$6,727.46 PRESIDENT'S REPORT Peter Smart gave a short report (to be published in January newsletter). He then declared all positions vacant. Officers elected as listed on Page 2.

MEETING CLOSED: 9.25 p.m.

PETER'S PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

Dear fellow car enthusiasts,

2002 has come and gone, and our club continues to provide members with a full calendar. Since our last magazine we have enjoyed:

- 21st Birthday Tour
- Pride of Ownership Day
- Ladies Surprise Day to Mt Keira
- Christmas Party & Presentation Dinner
- New Year's Party at Charlotte Pass

I wish all members good health and happiness for 2003, and look forward to your full support of your committee to ensure this year is as successful as last. I look forward to seeing as many members as possible at our next club meeting at Ryde RSL Bowling Club on Wednesday 12/2/03.

Would you all please help your club by renewing your membership by sending your renewal form in the magazine, together with your cheques, to Treasurer Vic without delay.

PETER

PRESIDENT'S REPORT A.G.M. 13/11/02

I am pleased to report that the club's 21^{st} year has seen membership numbers retained and our financial position strengthened.

Club events have been well attended & supported, with our major event, the 21st Birthday week away recently completed. This event was undoubtedly the highlight of our "social" year and was a credit to Les and Roselee Johnson and their hard working committee.

The path ahead will provide some challenges to you and your new committee as the full effects of the increased costs of 3^{rd} party liability insurance takes effect.

On behalf of Sue and myself, I thank you all for your support during the past year, and we look forward to continuing as active club members.

Happy motoring, *PETER*

SPORTING REPORT

By Lester Gough

Two events have been held since the last edition of Top Gear. One at Wakefield Park at which no members competed. The other at Oran Park on December 1 saw three members compete with plenty of laps being run. Points from this round will count in the 2003 Pointscore.

| 1/12/02 Oran Park South | Car | Class | Laps, | Fastest | Best Time |
|-------------------------|--------|-------|-------|---------|------------------|
| Ken Parsons | Jaguar | 1D | 15 | 6 | 00:52.9 |
| Adrian Walker | Jaguar | 1D | 23 | 18 | 00:58.4 |
| Bruce Grant | Jaguar | 1D | 23 | 14 | 00:59.3 |

Ken had the fastest lap in Class 1D and Adrian the second fastest, with new member Buce Grant third fastest.

The calender for 2003 is being formulated and will be published in full in the next edition of Top Gear. Any member wishing to compete in the first few months of the year, or just wishing to discuss competing or attending as a spectator should feel free to contact me on 0411 117 370 or 9799 3209.

WEDNESDAY RUN TO WOLLOMBI

A small gathering of TSCC 'day off' Wednesday drivers met at the Old Northern Rd., Dural. We arrived a little late with our granddaughter, Amanda, in our family Subaru equipped with air-conditioning and child seat.

We were greeted by Roland and Stephanie in their Lexus, Tony and Sandra in Sandra's Lexus, Vern and Wendy who never fail to bring the mighty E-Type convertible (with the roof down). Norm and Pam were in the XK120 open top and Peter and Sue in the air-conditioned luxury of the Holden Statesman. The Smart's BMW was suffering gearbox problems and was in the mechanical workshop.

We headed off towards Wiseman's Ferry crossing where little Amanda awoke when we were half way across the river, which she saw as a very exciting adventure. Then we were away, keeping the Hawkesbury River on our right hand side. It was quite a pleasant drive through the low flat areas, stopping for a quick relief break in the Dharue National Park. We then followed the road through Spencer, a quaint little village on the banks of the Hawkesbury River.

We then wound our way passing Mangrove Mountain and on to the Wollombi countryside. A very pretty drive on a very-very hot day. (I love air-conditioning!) Upon arrival in Wollombi we all honed in on the local Wollombi hotel, made famous for the jungle juice known as Dr. Jurd's Jungle Juice. I didn't indulge but I have heard it said that it could be a good 'paint stripper'. It was heaven in the air-conditioned bar.

After a few drinks we meandered up the road like 'John Brown's cows' to a small café in the centre of town where we enjoyed a nice lunch in very hot conditions. I think Amanda had three ice creams and a number of drinks whilst we enjoyed a number of glasses of wine. The great company made up for the oppressive conditions.

After discussing cars, politics and religion we soon readied for home. Vern was ahead of us because he had a meeting in Sydney to attend. Tony and Sandra dilly-dallied a while and had a look around town. Norm and Pam had a whirlwind look around town before heading off. Les, Amanda an I were next to leave heading down the freeway, leaving Peter, Sue, Roland and Stephanie to leave at their leisure.

Many thanks to Vern and Wendy for organising another great day.

Roselee Johnson





Occasional jottings since the last edition of Top Gear which are numerous this edition. Apparently car stories are not the 'go' for the Horse's Mouth. Keep the 'goss' coming.

- Ray Ross has brought a new 4 wheel drive to tow his new caravan. A new Pajero, but guess what, he was at a garage filling up with petrol. Then, after realising his new 4 wheel drive is a DIESEL he had to drain the tank and start again. After all, he has had a lot on his mind lately.
- Chris and Joan were caught in Chatswood. Chris sitting on SANTA'S lap telling him what he would like for Christmas {we all know what he would like but he will have to wait until Easter}. Joan was busy buying gifts to take to the USA for the grandchildren.
- Pam Johnson gave Jan Goddard a black eye on the dance floor at the Christmas Dinner. Apparently a loose elbow flick while dancing and as Jan Goddard is not tall she places her self in an awkward position at times.
- Les and Roselee took off to Lord Howe island for rest and recovery after recent events. They celebrated their Wedding Anniversary there, as well as Roselee's recovery from Meningitis.
- Now Margaret is out of Hospital, she and Ray have the awkward task of moving to Oberon. It could not come at a worst time for them and we wish them well.
- Ron Pulling played in the NSW VETERANS HOCKEY TEAM in Perth late last year which won, and he is now in the Australian team to play in the world championships.
- Vic and Judy are busy preparing for son Ross' wedding. No peace for the wicked they say.
- Grant Liddell was elected to the State Executive of CAMS in October 2002. Grant is also the Chairperson of the CAMS NSW Hillclimb Advisory Panel.
- A welding helmet may have to be added to the Club tool kit. Just in case of the big spark, smoke, singed wrist hair and bad language that occurs when your Rolex shorts out across the battery while you are working in someone else's engine bay.
- Roland and Stephanie help organise an 'adventure' into the unknown area of the Snowy Mountains with car club members being caught in a blizzard some 10km from nearest sealed road. Only stamina and car club training got the group back to safety.
- Joan and Chris arrived safely in the US and had a great Christmas with the family. Spent the last few days at Lake Tahoe, Chris and Adrian did some skiing. We got caught up in a snow storm on the way back to Adrian's, we thought we were going to spend the night in the car but managed to get home eventually after putting on the chains. There were cars all over the place wrong side of the road etc a bit scary at times. We hadn't seen so much snow fall in such a short time. I think there was 2 to 3 ft of it..... Hope you have a good New Year party...
- Club member makes members and their wives suffer by making them walk a further 2 kms through rain and snow with temp around 2 degrees as he did not want to get his lambs wool seats wet.
- Three TSCC club members enjoy NEW YEARS EVE meal in the TOP OF AUSTRALIA Restraurant to early hours of New Years day with temperatures around 7 degrees.
- Dave, Barbara, Stephanie, Roland, Grant, Penny, Peter, & Sue steal the lime light with flashing New Year Body Lights.
- Last but not least......Any thoughts on a caption for the photo opposite??

LADIES DAY SURPRISE RUN 1st December 2002

Norm and I awoke late to good weather but after hail and rail on Saturday afternoon, we (Norm) decided to take my car.

We meet and the Caltex Service Station at Eastern Creek for a surprise run. We were on time – what a big surprise – no old cars! Joan, Chris, Sue, Peter, Wendy, Vern, David and Barb. Chris gave us instructions. Off we went traveling on the M4 toward our morning tea stop at Razorback. We took the Camden Valley Way which was just breathtaking. We reached Razorback Rest Area. A short stop overlooking the valley and back the way we came. Chris had a tin of biscuits and we all tried to be strong, but no go, thanks Chris. Thanks Barb, for the coffee.

Next stop was lunch but another surprise as we traveled where none of us had been before around beautiful roads and great views, and on to Mount Kiera lookout. That was another surprise , the whole area was burnt out except for the restaurant. It was saved, thank goodness, because we were all hungry. It had the best lookout back to Wollongong and the day was so clear, and the water so blue.

Judy, Vic, Val and John arrived for lunch. The wine, lunch and the company had us all laughing and joking, but this time it stays with us and not for the Horse's Mouth.

So, Joan and Chris, Thankyou for a great Surprise Day.

PS. Next year I hope Ladies Day will be another Surprise Day. Well, HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL.

Norm and Pam



Morning Tea at Razorback

TSCC 21st BIRTHDAY BASH

The following pages chronicle the tour organised to celebrate the 21st Anniversary of the formation of the TSCC.

DAY ONE – SAT 26th OCTOBER – TO BARRINGTON HOUSE

We woke up to a wet and miserable day, disappointing considering the weather we had been experiencing. So, grab a couple of pieces of warm clothing and we were on our way. The rain caused some traffic problems, which meant some late arrival of participants for our scheduled 8:00am meet at the Old Toll Gates Berowra.

The arrival of some fourteen cars, giving the odd honk of the horn, upset a big rig truckie who was having a nap and gave us a not too pleasant gesture and drove off. On arrival of the total group, we were presented with our travel kits and some strange items therein raised the question "What are we in for?" but what more can you expect from Les the deviate man.

So, comes the time, Gentlemen Start Your Engines!!!!

The instructions directed us to proceed to Morpeth for morning tea and a walk around town. Some interest was shown by a certain lady to purchase a Melbourne Cup Fashion Stakes Hat for a luncheon scheduled after our trip. Oops, nearly forgot the Handback which must be purchased to go with the Hat. Sorry Vernon, back to work, more dollars required.

Seems a pair of 1900 English pliers was added to the Leggot tool kit during our walk around town. A man was also noted carrying a metal sign detailing a GT40 and kindly thinking of his brother also purchased a model of a 120 Jag.

It is strange wht you learn about people and their hidden desires. One gentleman who owns a bright yellow two door Italian Sports Car has this craving for "meat pies" to the point that in his haste to devour the pie, dribbles on his shirt and is caught out by the Boss. As rumour has it, diet was on the program and pies are a NO! NO!

Time to move on to our first accommodation stop over, travelling via Hinton, Clarence Town, Dungog for our luncheon booking at 1:00pm at the Barrington Guest House at Barrington Tops. After lunch, due to the continuing rain, everybody went in various directions, some for 40 winks, some braved the weather and went for a short bush walk, some caught up for a chat, etc, etc...

Pre dinner drinks had been organised for 6:00pm in the Muir's mountain cabin and the opportunity to look over some old Club Magazines dating back to the 80s and for newer members to see what certain older club members look like with hair and trimmer bodies. And so, the start of our BONDING SESSIONS.

The dinner bell was heard ringing at about 7:00pm, so we all wandered down to the dining room for more drinks, food, story telling and laughter with the guest house organising a game of Trivial Pursuit for all guests.

Well, Les and Roselee, we are off to a great start for your section of the Rally and we ponder what you have in store for tomorrow, based on all the strange items in the Rally Pack.

Thank You DAVID & BARBARA

DAY TWO – SUN 27th OCTOBER – BARRINGTON HOUSE

The day dawned with some misty clouds over the mountain tops and through the valleys. After the surprise rains the day before on the way up, the expectation of possible further rain,



the first for about nine months, was created. In the event, the day cleared up as it went along.

After a leisurely breakfast in the old historic dining room, we all gathered out the front of the guesthouse for a group shot. After this, it was decided to take a beautiful walk in the surrounding forest. Most of us walked and, after the initial period of meandering, John Burton and Wendy decided that it was time to get serious and set a solid pace. They and I

walked a few km's almost to Rocky Crossing before turning back for lunch. The others chose a more leisurely and scenic pace and we all got back about the same time for lunch.

After lunch, Wendy and I set out for another walk while many others opted to watch the (very wet) Gold Coast Indy on TV or chose the opportunity for a well earned snooze after the morning walk and a big guesthouse lunch. There were, however, some other active people and Sue Smart and Barbara Muir had a good hour on the tennis court belting the yellow ball back and forth.

Later in the afternoon, following the previous day's tradition, pre-pre-dinner drinks were held at John and Sue Burton's apartment. This was high up the hill and breathless territory for most. Plenty of frivolity here! On the serious side, Ray Ross announced that he had lost his car keys to the 'E' Type (at least not "stolen" like the previous central coast episode) but mercifully they turned up in the apartment later.

Our esteemed El Presidente had announced earlier in the day that he was having an A.F.D (Alcohol Free Day) but obviously this was meant to refer to "Day" only as, come dusk, the lure of a cold Chardonnay was succumbed to. Tony Chapman was "operated on" at dinner by guesthouse staff to remove a tick, which had attached itself to him in the forest during the day and left a painful legacy.

After dinner, there was much hilarity and fun as Les conducted a "blow job" competition (no, not that) with prizes for the fastest to inflate the blow-up chairs provided as part of the rally kit. This was won by Kevin Leggott.

In all, a great day and a great scene-setter for the rest of the tour.

Vern and Wendy Kelly

Another view of Day Two:

Sunday at Barrington - weather cool and a lame attempt at precipitation most of the day. This was a 'free day' with the added incentive of daylight saving beginning to keep us in the cot.

Breakfast as late as we could manage then most opted for a walk to Lion Rock ~ one hour each way, John and one of the lady sprinters thought it was a race (the innate racing reflex seems to remain even when walking!!!). I convinced Robyn to take a 'short cut back which much to her annoyance saw us arrive some time after the main party. The exercise provided an appetite for what was unfortunately what turned out to be one of several average meals at the dining room.

Most of us just bummed around in the afternoon relaxing in the quiet cool misty environs of the Guest house. Barbara and Sue (Smart) were the exception who indulged in some very energetic sets of tennis. I had for several years visited a mate whose property was off the Dungog - Barrington road. We (John, Sue, Robyn & I) took to opportunity to stretch the memory glands and find this property. Somehow I did remember the turnoff (there ain't many) and after some rough road meandering found the old homestead, a little modified but still interesting for me after many years.

The 'Secret men's Business' was commandeered by the fairer sex and pre-dinner drinks arranged at the Burton's unit around 5.30pm. This was a mistake, there were grumblings about 'mountain goats don't climb this high in the summer` and many like comments. It was the highest unit but we all enjoyed the company and the drinking - we did have to use the oxygen respirator on Margaret and Les for a few minutes after they arrived but otherwise all was okay.

We then gathered at the dining room punctually at 6.30 (we were commanded to do so) and waited some time for the barbecued steak and sausages to arrive. We were entertained later by a 'game' which Les dreamed up involving the blokes inflating and then deflating a blow-up chair, the shortest time to complete the task deciding the winner, this was pursued on a table by table basis with the table' winners "blowing off'!!! for the outright winner.

The ladies were supposed to assist, this assistance seemed to me to mostly centre around defraying the opposition. We all enjoyed the fun. We were invited on a 'Spotlight Nature walk after dinner, this was organised by the Guest house and was enjoyable to have the local



wildlife types and habitats pointed out along the journey.

Rocky the local pet Eastern Grey Kangaroo was a highlight in his 'natural surroundings' of a specially made up bed with blankets and hand feeding by the guest house staff. We returned to the dining room where I think we ended the evening having drunk plenty of the amber fluid and probably alienated ourselves to the other guests by our loud behaviour.

Kevin L

DAY 3 - 28 OCTOBER 2002 - TO PORT MACQUARIE

Barrington Tops National Park lies on the northern side of the Hunter Valley in central eastern NSW. It is the highest tableland in the country outside the Australian Alps and falls quickly to near sea level. The abrupt topography has both nurtured and defended the World Heritage forests in the area.

However, the TSCC members had no such defence against what was to befall them at 9.30am! Our instructions were to proceed to Dungog for a fuel stop, turn left to Stroud & Gloucester through some very scenic countryside to Wingham for lunch, then on to Port Macquarie. Breakfast over, accounts paid, cars packed, engines fired and departure imminent our members were confronted with the first of the hurdles to overcome in order to complete the rally. THE FEELY BOX.

One by one, each vehicle was motioned by the Marshall to the lead car parked with the dreaded FEELY BOX on the bonnet. Ladies to feel, partners to record - within 90 seconds. It transpired that this exercise:

- (a) put a finish to the anticipated early start
- (b) greatly tested the sense of feel and touch
- (c) mystified onlookers what were those funny 3D type glasses for?
- (d) frustrated the tail enders who couldn't work out WHAT was happening
- (e) delayed the start by one and a half hours.

Finally, on the road at 11 am and headed to Dungog for a fuel stop. Travelling through some very scenic countryside, we stopped at noon for morning tea at Gloucester. Situated in a picturesque valley on the Gloucester River, it is traditionally the centre of a rich beef, dairying and timber district. The early pioneers were stockmen, shepherds and woodcutters who settled along the riverlands. Today, descendants of those early settlers still farm the district and beef, dairying and timber are still major activities. Gloucester has won the Top Tidy Town Award in NSW and is a very pretty place to stop for a while.



Bucketts Way led us into Wingham for a lunch stop. Some had a picnic in the park on the hill. We headed for a cold one in the pub with Pam and Norm. What a wonderful meal! Words cannot describe the gastronomic wonder the four of us experienced in that delightful country pub!

Reluctantly on the road again, we travelled on the Wingham Road towards Taree (where we broke away from the group and stopped for an hour to visit a friend) then north on the Pacific Highway towards Kew and

Laurieton. The scenic ocean glimpses from the road through Bonny Hills and Lake Cathie were a stark contrast to the mountainous scenery of Barrington Tops.

After settling into our rooms at the EI Paso Motel in Port Macquarie, we gathered for a "meeting" (read-"drinkies") on the upper level, overlooking the water and the setting sun. Dinner in the motel restaurant became a bit rowdy towards the end of the evening and eventually we all retired, anticipating the trip to Armidale the next day.

Tony and Sandra

Day Four - A DAY AT PORT MACQUARIE

We woke up to the sun shining, donning the shorts and T-Shirts -- gone were the woolly jumpers and long slacks of the previous days at Barrington Tops. We were ready for adventure. At breakfast those lucky enough to be sitting with Tony and Pauline were given a look at Tony's bare chest, where the tic bite of Barrington Tops had reared its ugly head and given him a swollen chest. Calm down girls!!

With the departure time set down for 9:00am we all met in the car park of the Motel. Pam relayed how Norm had locked her in the motel room -- he went to breakfast, locking the sliding screen door, thinking Pam could open it from the inside no go; one very hungry and claustrophobic Pam met us in the car park.

Probably because of the heat, doubling-up in cars was the go:

Ray and Margaret joined the Clarks in their air-conditioned car, Margaret giving the E-Type the thumbs down! Vern and Wendy were in need of an "open-air-fix", so joined the Smarts, Peter having put the top down to enjoy the sunshine. Les and Roselee "thumbed a ride" in the Rolls with the Dixons. John and Sue teamed up with the LeggotsI won't go any further -- I'm getting a little confused as to who went with who and who didn't

We took off for Gladstone and a few curio shops that Les and Roselee had just happened to find on their travels. Sad to say, they were closed for the day. We all saved heaps on the credit cards though!!

Then onto Crescent Head and the lookout. A magnificent spot, panoramic views, sun shining, no wind, and to top it off, we saw whales frolicking far out to sea it really made Les's day, having made up for taking us to shops that were closed.

Inspection of the Trial Bay Gaol was next on the itinerary. We took off, following the Rolls in close convoy, so close that we almost joined Roselee's parents for morning tea. Trial Bay Gaol: a very substantial granite building, built in the 1800s to house prisoners who were

engaged in building a breakwater to create an artificial port. However, as quick as it was built, the ocean washed it away, and the project was abandoned.



But in the 1900s it was used to house prisoners of war during the first and second conflicts. In the 1940s the roof was removed and sold, the only remaining portion being over the administration block. This is a great shame, because the building will eventually deteriorate without a roof. Spectacular views were available from the watch towers, right up and down the coast an interesting part of our history.

We were then ready for lunch -- and what a treat. We dined at "The Kiosk" at Trial Bay. Can well recommend this spot for a lazy afternoon and good food. The whole region of South West Rocks is quite incredible. We have friends that go there regularly each Christmas. We can see why now. Truly a magnificent part of New South Wales – beaches / eateries / walking / fishing /leisurely drive back to the Motel, taking in all the atmosphere and the scenery. A quick shower, a little rest, then saw us head to "strap the nose bag on once more". Grant and Penny joined us later in the evening for drinks; it was good to catch up with them once more.

Over dinner Margaret practiced her shooting skills (ready for Oberon) by taking aim and pretending to pull the trigger, every time Kevin mentioned the wind chimes there's a story there. If you ever want to buy anything for Kevin, he's really fond of wind chimes!!

As usual, after dinner, Roland and I were the first to head for the bug-hatch, so I can't tell you what happened after we left. 1 just know that we both slept very soundly, after a very enjoyable day motoring and sight-seeing and of course eating.

(One little thing that amused our table over dinner was the fact that both nights we had bread and butter plates and knives, but they didn't bring any bread. They dutifully cleared the plates between the main course and dessert, but not a bread roll in sightmust be how they do things in Port Macquarie.) Roland & Stephanie

Day Five - PORT MACQUARIE TO ARMIDALE

The end of two great days in Port Macquarie, thanks again Les and Roselee.

After getting the day's instructions, those dreaded question sheets, and an invitation to a black tie and Tiara dinner at our motel tonight, it was on the road again with a promise of winding roads, great scenery and morning tea at Ginger's Creek, Yes the Oxley Highway is very winding, the scenery is lovely and it was HOT. I think everyone was looking forward to morning tea at Ginger's Creek, however despite the sign say" "Open 7 days" the cafe was well and truly locked with no sign of life anywhere. So it was no morning tea and off to Walcha Road for lunch.

Every one arrived safely at Walcha Road Hotel for lunch and some welcome large cold beers. Conversations overheard were Roselee exclaiming that she had to cinch down on the seat belts and hang on to the roll-bar as Les proved his DB4 would travel at 140 MPH. Was that why it needed oil in the back end at Walcha?

On route to Walcha Road we passed lots of cattle and sheep grazing on the "long paddock" Was this the reason Ray and Margaret were last to arrive, was Margaret practicing her milking skills and Ray rounding up sheep in readiness for life in Oberon? An excellent lunch was available at the historic hotel, with braised rabbit being very popular.

After lunch a short drive to Armidale and our 2 night stop at the excellent Moore Park motel and thoughts of what to do for a tiara and bow tie AND those dreaded questions. Oh, I do wish they would ask me some thing like "where is Shakespeare's birthplace?" instead of the names of bush



postmen et al!

The motel had lovely garden settings, and some of us raided the rose bushes and flower beds to fashion our tiaras. The motel staff had gone to a lot of trouble to decorate the Chapel dining room and every one had made a great effort with their tiaras and how ties. Barbara won the ladies prize and Les the men's, however I do think a G string looks better in it's intended position!

Dinner was once again most enjoyable, and the

evening full of fun 1 will be so sorry when the rally ends, this is a fun way to live with great friends, good food and drink and lovely weather to be out and about.

Joan Johnson



The line up at Barrington



The Ladies and the view – Port Macquarie



The 'Long Paddock'



Trial Bay Gaol



One of many 'watering holes'



Time for a yarn

Day 6 - A DAY IN ARMIDALE

Gorgeous Gorges & Wonderful Waterfalls via The Waterfall Way

This very scenic drive was planned by our tour leaders, Val & John Dixon, to show us some of the spectacular sights and natural beauty of the New England Region in the nearby World Heritage-listed national parks, state forests and nature reserves. Peter and I invited Pauline & Tony to travel with us, as their Maserati was booked in for some work on the electrical system. After collecting our "playlunch" (kindly packed by John & Val with fruit, drink and nibbles) we set off into town to pick up Tony.

Our first stop 80 kms East of Armidale was Ebor Falls on the Guy Fawkes River. Viewing platforms enabled us to see the river cascading over the upper and lower falls, and the interesting rock formations around. The tiny village of Ebor is renowned for its trout fishing in the nearby streams and rivers. Captain Thunderbolt's sister lived in the area and their family folklore has it that when Thunderbolt was being chased by the police he would go to his sister's property where he was hidden in a hole, covered by a wood box in the kitchen. The police would be invited in, asked to sit on the wood box, and served a cup of tea, with Thunderbolt lying underneath.

After eating our playlunch we visited the L. P. Dutton Trout Hatchery (the late Mr Les Dutton started the hatchery in 1925). It is now run by NSW Fisheries, and our group did a tour including a film in the theatrette. Suffice to say, the tour left nothing to our imagination, and we left feeling rather sorry for the rainbow trout which live in the hatchery ponds. They are used to breed about 2 million "fry" annually which are supplied to fishing clubs to released in the local streams and dams.

A short drive down Point Lookout Road found us at our lunch stop, Yaraandoo EcoLodge. The environmentally-friendly lodge is next to the World Heritage Listed New England National Park, in a peaceful bush setting. Our host Simon was there to greet us and had a delicious lunch ready to serve with cool drinks, which we appreciated as the day was very warm. Inside the lodge it was beautifully cool; the walls made from rammed earth and mud bricks; the timbers recycled from old Waterfall Way bridges; and ceilings of natural straw mats. We enjoyed lunch and a "chill out".

Nearby, Point Lookout, 1,562 metres above sea level, has a spectacular view across the wilderness of the National Park to the Pacific Ocean 70 km away.

On the road again, we turned west for the return journey and stopped at Wollomombi Gorge where the Chandler & Wollomombi Rivers plunge over the escarpment to form one river in the gorge below. Wollomombi Falls is the 2nd highest waterfall in Australia (220 metres). Unfortunately, the rivers are drying up and there was only a trickle of water for us to see. We resolved to return again when the drought is over for another look over the 300 metre vertical drop.

As we travelled along the back roads, we came upon several herds of cattle being driven from the paddocks onto the long yard beside the road to graze a common sight during this trip. No drovers on horseback - we saw 4 wheel drives, motor bikes, and the ever-present dogs keeping watch over the herd.

In the late 1890s, the gold mining town of Hillgrove was a thriving community of 3,000 people. We took a drive through the streets to show Pauline and Tony what remained of the place where my father was born in 1909. His father was a police constable there during the goldrush. Not much is there of the original village except the Post Office (1902), Chalkers Cottage (1890), School (1896), the old wooden police lockup and a few other buildings. Signs have been put up

to show the location of houses, shops and hotels etc. which have disappeared. Antimony is mined there today, and the mine workers live in modern cottages dotted around the area.



Back on Waterfall Way to Armidale, Tony and Peter went to pick up the "Maser", Pauline and I continued on to the Moore Park Inn via the Berry Place. I wandered down to the pool to see what everyone was up to - some were relaxing in the spa, others were having a cool beer (with Monte the pet dog) or resting in preparation for our Halloween Dinner Party in The Chapel. Tony and Peter arrived back and they were joined by Kevin and John for secret men's business in the car park (see photo). After a lengthy post mortem they found that repairs

had been made, (the alternator replaced with a GMH alternator) but the original problem of the warning light remained.

Later, everyone changed for dinner, gathering for drinks at the bar. Many dressed with a Halloween theme, Witch Val and Wizard John leading the way. Our private dining room looked great - decorated with table centerpieces by Tony our host, and streamers and balloons put up by Val and Pauline. We had a wonderful evening, a superb meal, with wine from Archie's excellent cellar. It was a great day - from beginning to end, we enjoyed every minute and I am sure everyone else did, too.

Peter & Sue Smart

DAY SEVEN

The morning greeted us with beautiful crisp fresh air. Roselee and I arose early, 6 am, and headed off out of the motel for a nice walk whilst other rally enthusiasts took advantage of a sleep in, getting them over the previous night's Halloween frivolities. We turned right up the hill and out of the motel and walked to the Armidale Airport, some 5klms there and back. As we arrived for breakfast the temperature was rising rapidly so Roselee said, "I'm not getting in the Aston because it's going to be too bloody hot and my body will dehydrate and my skin will crack and fall off." Margaret Ross must have felt the same because they both abandoned their husbands and opted for lifts in cooler cars. Roselee with Chris and Joan and Margaret with Roland and Stephanie.

After breakfast it was time to leave and John and Val handed out instructions, and we were told to follow Peter and Sue Smart otherwise we might miss the turn off to Fred Hillier's pottery shop. He was a strange fellow, didn't like shoes or any kind of authority and lived in a mud brick house that he had built himself. He surrounded himself with large and small dunnies and many other old nick-knacks. We sat around for what seemed an eternity whilst he told us his much embellished life story. Stephanie nearly passed out from the oppressive heat. Fred then took us to his pottery factory where his main business seemed to be manufacturing urns to hold human ashes for crematoriums.

It was then off to Tamworth where John and Val had organised a coffee tasting and we could also see the process of grinding coffee beans, their grading and roasting. Lunch was supplied with the coffee and consisted of some very fresh sandwiches and delectable cakes.

After the luxury of the air-conditioned coffee factory Roselee still refused to come with me in the Aston. Tony Johnstone pointed out that he had a flat radiator fan that I could fit at a later date to the Aston. I believe it may be a great advantage to Roselee. Some thought this a bit of a laugh and they included, Chris and Joan, Barbara and David, Stephanie and Roland and Kevin and Robyn. Yes, you might have guessed it; it would be air-conditioning in full bore. Ray Ross squeezed his

large frame into his E Type and set off for the motel. On the journey Norm tried for the hard luck award by throwing his rear spat, but a quick bit of driving by Kevin and good navigation by Robyn saved the Jaguar spat from further damage.

As we made it to the Folly Foot Motel we were welcomed by Sue and John Burton in their Amaroo, sporting the 21st birthday rally badge, with cooling ale. We headed to the bar for pre dinner drinks, and then enjoyed the meal as we post-mortemed the day's journey prior to retiring (collapsing was more like it).

The end of another perfect day!

Les and Roselee Johnson

Day 8 - SIGHTSEEING AROUND SCONE.

8.30am, and as we head for the dining room, the temperature is already rising with the promise of another hot day ahead. After a huge country breakfast the assembly split for the day as some head for a tour of Historic Scone, another group head for the market day at Muswellbrook, while we proceed to Burning Mountain. It was pleasant to be a passenger in the Rolls with Val and John for the short drive to the track to the mountain. Also along were Peter and Sue with Roselee and Les. During the drive out none of us could identify the face of the Wingen Maid that can be seen on the escarpment. (Only 200ft high!). Peter explained that the translation of "Wingen Maid" is `Normal Woman". Peter likes the BMW so much that he slept in it that night . Burning mountain is an underground coal seam that has been alight and smouldering for a couple of hundred years. As it progresses, the ground above collapses to fill the void. Sulphurous gas vents at ground level to destroy the flora and mark the progress of the fire. It's slow - only one or two metres per year.



Heading back to Scone for lunch we stopped at the Wingen markets to buy some local produce, trout – olives – meat – fruit - eggs and some jams. That filled up the last two cc of spare space in the Maser. It won't see 110 again this trip. One of the stall holders property was within sight of the market, and was still green and lush, as he was on the riverbank. Since then the river has dried up, and our thoughts are with the farmers suffering this hundred year drought. Then on

to local antique store to complete an interesting morning.

We all assembled for a great pub lunch in the local beer garden at about 150 degree's and swapped stories of the mornings activities. Evidently everyone had a good morning, and after a few cooling drinks the ladies retired for another "Secret Meeting". The gents went to view the car collection and workshop of Max Roberts. 7.30pm and another congregation for drinks before the final dinner of the trip. Dinner was preceded by the gentlemen having to identify, by feel, various personal female items hidden inside a box. John Dixon won by a huge margin, but was disappointed to find that he could'nt keep the box. Les announced the various category winners as we enjoyed our last dinner. Once again, a fitting end to a great trip with fine company. Our thanks to the committee, Les and Roselee, John and Val and Peter and Sue for all the hours of hard work to ensure another memorable trip.

Tony and Pauline.

THE CONTENTS OF THE LADIES "FEELY" BOX

Mobile phone Ball pumper-upper (purple) Tetley tea bag (unused) Double adaptor Suspender belt (lacy - white) Small lock 2 keys on a key-ring Rubber band (thick) Spark plug Corkscrew/bottle opener Bottle top (used and bent) Battery (Eveready AA 1.5 volts) Hose clip Ring (used later by Roselee for her tiara) Coloured pipe cleaner thingies (used later by Roselee for her tiara) Key ring (see through with teddy bear and coloured balls) TSCC car badge (Western Plains Tour 1999)

Box of matches Small rubber dog (Dalmatian) Whistle (soccer ball shape - on a string) Cable lug Pop rivet Wing nut (black) Medium bulldog clip (silver) Small peg (yellow) Highlighter (pink) Pen (green) Small toy car (red) Tail light globe Wheel nut

21st AWARD WINNERS

BEST ORIGINAL CAR RAY AND MARGARET ROSS - E TYPE JAGUAR

BEST PRESENTED CAR TONY AND PAULINE CHAPMAN - MASERATTI MERAK

BEST DRESSED CREW

JOHN AND VAL DIXON - ROLLS ROYCE CLOUD III (HALLOWEEN)

TONY AND PAULINE CHAPMAN - MASERATI MERAK

BARRINGTON TOPS AWARD JOHN AND VAL DIXON - ROLLS ROYCE CLOUD III

PORT MACQUARIE AWARD

CHRIS AND JOAN JOHNSON - BMW 318i

ARMIDALE AWARD

PETER AND SUE SMART - BMW 320

SCONE AWARD

ROLAND AND STEPHANIE CLARK - LEXUS LS430

ORGANISER'S AWARD LES AND ROSELEE JOHNSON - ASTON MARTIN DB4

ORGANISER'S AWARD JOHN AND VAL DIXON - ROLLS ROYCE CLOUD 111

ORGANISER'S AWARD

PETER AND SUE AWARD - BMW 320

MINOR AWARDS

BLOW UP SEAT - KEVIN AND ROBYN LEGGOTT LADIES 'FEELY' BOX - ROBYN LEGGOTT MENS 'FEELY' BOX - JOHN DIXON TIARA COMPETITION - BARBARA MUIR BLACK TIE COMPETITION - LES JOHNSON

T.S.C.C. 21ST CHRISTMAS PRESENTATION NIGHT 7th DECEMBER 2002

Wow what a night! Let me start at the beginning. There were balloons to blow up, table settings to organise. Thankfully a hearty group of members arrived early and helped get things organised. There were drinks all round and then into it...the all important club banner was first to go up, but the question was, where to hang it? No-one could remember how it was done previously. Thanks to Sue Smart's idea and the aid of a couple of helpers it was finally up. Within minutes Peter and Chris were the master balloon organisers helped by Roselee and Joan tying gold ribbon onto the balloons, with the aid of Jan Goddard who said she was only too happy to reach up to the back of the chairs. It's one of the many low jobs that suited her height of approx two feet nothing. Her husband Paul (of average height) organised the drinks. (Paul and Jan took Jim and Val Peters' place as the road from the North was closed due to serious bush fires, preventing them from attending). Tony and Sandra with their friend, Eileen, were also happy decorators. (Eileen might have questioned the club antics by the end of the night). Barbara and David Muir won the free room and kindly gave it to Judy and Vic Andrews, because the Muirs live very close to the venue. On behalf of Vic and Judy we say thank you to David and Barbara.

Pre-dinner drinks started at 7 p.m. with a large array of black and gold outfits. Some of which were; President, Peter Smart wearing a gold wig, which was quite a change from the 'Uncle Fester' look. Vic (or should I say Vicky) sported a very smart black and gold glitter wig and Judy looked quite different wearing her yellow 'afro' wig. Sue and Roselee looked good in their black and gold outfits. It was good to see Pam Gough because Lester seems to allow limited social activities, so there was a lot of catching up to do.

After the main course it was time for the 21st birthday rally trophies to be handed out. Kevin and Robyn Leggott won the hard fought blow up award and Robyn also won the Men's feely box award. Kevin was not sure how to explain the later prize to their children. "They might think we're members of the I.R.A." quoted Kevin. I told them to never indulge what happens on a rally. John Dixon won the Women's feely box award. It was nice to receive an organiser's certificate, which allows us to see that our efforts in organising such an event do not go unnoticed. I also must thank our co-organisers, Peter, Sue, John, Val, and of course Roselee.

Peter Smart started with the more formal presentations by presenting the Clubman of the Year (maybe it should be made politically correct and name the Clubperson of the Year) to his lovely wife, Sue. The other awards have been mentioned elsewhere but one that should be mentioned was that after ten years of hard work, Graeme White won the Pride of Ownership Award.

Once the formalities were dispensed with, it took a little while (five seconds) for the dancing to start. Those evergreen Rock and Rollers, Chris and Joan, David and Barbara, Robyn Leggott (not Kevin because he was claiming jet lag from his flight to New Zealand), Peter and Sue, John and Val, Malcolm and Margaret got into the full swing of things as the music hotted up. Stephanie and Roland, Terry and Robyn and Diane watched in horror. As the night wore on Norm, Pam, Ricky and Lyn, together with Tony, Sandra and Eileen chose the more sedate music. Ricky (our twenty-seven year old son) did comment that he believes that members of the TSCC are a bunch of party animals.

Vic and Judy retired reasonably early, but it certainly was great to see them both. The late stayers (1.30 a.m.) were broken up with Barbara trying to get Dave home after he had just got

his second lot of wind. Wendy carried Vern off to the Den, because he looked completely worn out, nothing like a new Jaguar.

Results of the dance frenzy were:

| Jan Goddard | Black eye and two days off work due to sore legs. |
|----------------------|---|
| Wendy Kelly | Three days without walking. |
| Roselee Johnson | Two days of back and fatigue problems. |
| Dave Muir | Sunday was a wipe off. |
| Pam Johnson | Wobbly legs syndrome. |
| Chris & Joan Johnson | Laid around all Sunday but claimed it was the best Xmas |
| | party they had attended so far. |
| John & Val Dixon | Their hangover cure was to attend their Grandson's |
| | birthday party at McDonald's, Yuk! |
| | |

My thanks to Peter and Sue Smart for organising such a great night and congratulations to all the trophy winners. You deserved them! Here's looking forward to a great New Year.

Les Johnson



The Golden Presidential Locks

WEDNESDAY RUN TO WOLLOMBI

A small gathering of TSCC 'day off' Wednesday drivers met at the Old Northern Rd., Dural. We arrived a little late with our granddaughter, Amanda, in our family Subaru equipped with air-conditioning and child seat.

We were greeted by Roland and Stephanie in their Lexus, Tony and Sandra in Sandra's Lexus, Vern and Wendy who never fail to bring the mighty E-Type convertible (with the roof down). Norm and Pam were in the XK120 open top and Peter and Sue in the air-conditioned luxury of the Holden Statesman. The Smart's BMW was suffering gearbox problems and was in the mechanical workshop.

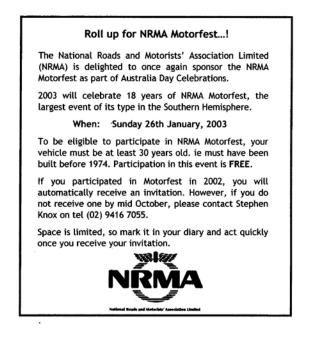
We headed off towards Wiseman's Ferry crossing where little Amanda awoke when we were half way across the river, which she saw as a very exciting adventure. Then we were away, keeping the Hawkesbury River on our right hand side. It was quite a pleasant drive through the low flat areas, stopping for a quick relief break in the Dharue National Park. We then followed the road through Spencer, a quaint little village on the banks of the Hawkesbury River. We then wound our way passing Mangrove Mountain and on to the Wollombi countryside. A very pretty drive on a very-very hot day. (I love air-conditioning!) Upon arrival in Wollombi we all honed in on the local Wollombi hotel, made famous for the jungle juice known as Dr. Jurd's Jungle Juice. I didn't indulge but I have heard it said that it could be a good 'paint stripper'. It was heaven in the air-conditioned bar.

After a few drinks we meandered up the road like 'John Brown's cows' to a small café in the centre of town where we enjoyed a nice lunch in very hot conditions. I think Amanda had three ice creams and a number of drinks whilst we enjoyed a number of glasses of wine. The great company made up for the oppressive conditions.

After discussing cars, politics and religion we soon readied for home. Vern was ahead of us because he had a meeting in Sydney to attend. Tony and Sandra dilly-dallied a while and had a look around town. Norm and Pam had a whirlwind look around town before heading off. Les, Amanda an I were next to leave heading down the freeway, leaving Peter, Sue, Roland and Stephanie to leave at their leisure.

Many thanks to Vern and Wendy for organising another great day.

Roselee Johnson



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CMC KNOWN MAJOR EVENTS at June 2002

<u>2003</u>

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