

top *gear*



SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT
2005 BEECHWORTH BASH



2005 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)
Webmaster	Ron Pulling	9579 2987 (H)
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 and 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 (except January and December)
at the Ryde RSL Bowling Club
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, TSCC

204 Bettington Road,
Carlingford NSW 2118

CALENDAR 2005

	DATE		EVENT	ORGANISER	PHONE
AUG.	Wed 10	M	Monthly Meeting	Sue Smart	9630 1050
	Wed 17	F	Wednesday Run	Ian Norman	0412489093
	Sun 21	S	All British Day	Col Allerdice	9874 0356
	Sat 27	R	Eastern Creek	Lester Gough	9799 3209
	Sun 28	S	Shannons Eastern Crk	Adrian Walker	9987 4299
SEP.	Wed 14	M	Monthly Meeting	Sue Smart	9630 1050
	Sun 11	S	Orange Blossom Festival	Vern Kelly	
	Wed 21	F	Wednesday Run	TBA	
	Sat 24	S	Trivia Night	Col Allerdice	9874 0356
OCT.	Sun 9	S	Sunday Run Leura Gardens	Col Allerdice	9874 0356
	Wed 12	M	Monthly Meeting	Sue Smart	9630 1050
	Wed 19	F	Wednesday Run	Malcolm & Toni Ireland	
	Sat 29	S	Harbour Cruise	Maria & Col Allerdice	9874 0356
NOV.	Wed 9	M	Monthly Meeting/AGM	Sue Smart	9630 1050
	Wed 16	F	Wednesday Run	Vern & Wendy Kelly	9651 2770
	Sun 20	S	Pride of Ownership Day	Peter & Sue Smart	9630 1050
DEC.	Sat 3	S	Christmas Dinner & Presentation Night	Col Allerdice & Peter Smart	9874 0356 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)

SUNDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2005
PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP DAY

VENUE: Oatlands House, 42 Bettington Road, Oatlands.

Please make a note in your diary for this annual event.

Judging of vehicles: From 10 a.m.
 Pre-lunch drinks & nibbles: 11.30 a.m. in the garden.
 Lunch 12.00 noon
 Cost: \$65.00 per person
 The meal will be 3 courses with beer, white and red wine, tea and coffee with port (all inclusive).

We hope you can join us, bringing along your “pride and joy” for the display and judging, to enjoy lunch in this beautiful old historic home.

Peter & Sue

THOROUGHBRED SPORTS CAR CLUB
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 11th MAY 2005

Meeting commenced at 8 p.m.

PRESENT: 26 members – Vic Andrews, John & Sue Burton, Roland & Stephanie Clark, John & Val Dixon, Paul & Jan Goddard, Lester Gough, Malcolm Ireland, Tony Johnstone, Les & Roselee Johnson, Chris & Joan Johnson, Vern & Wendy Kelly, Robyn Leggott, Greg & Kayelene Menzies, Peter & Sue Smart, Malcolm Stephen, Lionel Walker, Adrian Walker.

APOLOGIES: Bob Smith, Col Allerdice, Ian Norman, Lindsay Day, Ray & Margaret Ross.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved by Wendy Kelly that minutes of previous meeting held 13.4.05 as published in Top Gear Newsletter be accepted as a correct record. Seconded by Val Dixon. CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE - Inwards

Thank you card from Pam Johnson

CMC Minutes of Meeting held 4.4.05

CAMS Affiliation Certificate and accompanying documents

CAMS NSW Club Forum Invitation

CAMS Annual Report 2004

Monkey.com.au – flyer for new classifieds website

No correspondence outwards

TREASURER'S REPORT

Vic Andrews advised a credit balance of \$3,567.25. Some members are still to renew for this year. Accounts to be paid include reimbursement to Editor for newsletter expenses (amount not known) florist's account and Adrian Walker for Eastern Creek Classic booking \$160.

EDITOR'S REPORT

Lindsay Day sent apologies due to interstate work commitments. Articles are needed for the next edition of Top Gear due for publication in July.

SOCIAL REPORT

18.5.05 Wednesday Run – Organisers Val & John Dixon distributed flyers for the run through Galston Gorge, with lunch at Eden Gardens Nursery.

22.5.05 Beechworth Run – Paul Goddard distributed information packs.

19.6.05 Ladies Day – Sunday Run to Yarramalong Manor "Christmas in June" theme. Email with information to be sent to all members.

31.7.05 Brass Monkey Run with Austin Healey Owners Club – Les & Roselee Johnson will organise an overnight stay on the Sunday night when numbers are finalised.

A German car display day on Sunday 15th May open to the public at Stanmore, if members are interested.

Tasmanian Tour – Vic Andrews advised he is researching a 10 day tour for 2006, more information will be given next meeting. Approx. \$2,500 for the 10 days.

SPORTING REPORT

Lester Gough advised the next competition day would be Sunday 15th May, others are 3rd July, 27th August (run by Morgan Owners Club in conjunction with ECC).

CMC REPORT

Hawkes Nest/Tea Gardens Motor Club Inc. has been admitted to the CMC. Our club member John Burton is also a member, and his cars were featured in the presentation to CMC.

CAMS REPORT

NSW State Council Elections to be held 14.5.05, Adrian Walker will attend as our club delegate and vote on our behalf.

PRESIDENT PETE'S PONDERINGS



The last three months have brought plenty of club activities, and it is great to see so many members giving their time to organise runs.

These events have been enjoyed by a good number of our members, and there are more to come. It is also very encouraging to see so many people at our club meetings.

The Beechworth run was a huge success and our thanks go to Paul & Jan Goddard for organising this event.

Christmas in June at Yarramalong Valley was well attended, with everyone joining in the festivities.

Adrian Walker is busy organising our club display at Shannon's Eastern Creek Classic, and I hope many members come along to lend their support.

In September, Col Allerdice is organising a Trivia night and also a harbour cruise night in October.

Our Pride of Ownership day is in November with the Christmas party and presentation night in December.

I hope all these activities will have your support, and I look forward to seeing you enjoying each others company and the efforts of other club members who have organised them for our benefit.

President Pete.

SPORTING REPORT

By Lester Gough

There have been two events held since the last edition of Top Gear. The first was on 15 May at Oran Park GP Circuit and there were no TSCC members competing. The second was on 3rd July at Oran Park South. Adrian Walker competed in this event with a best time of 58.35 seconds in his last and fifteenth lap of the day.

The next event will be held on Saturday 27 August at Eastern Creek circuit on the day before the Shannon's Display Day.

Any member wishing to compete, or just wishing to discuss competing or attending as a spectator should feel free to contact me on 0411 117 370 or 9799 3209.

THOROUGHbred SPORTS CAR CLUB, INC.
GENERAL MEETING HELD 11th MAY 2005 (cont.)

CLUB PLATE REGISTRAR

Roland Clark reported that some registration renewals have been attended to and necessary documentation signed by Roland.

CLUB SHOP

John and Val Dixon advised they have cash on hand of \$213, \$60 of which was for T Shirts.

GENERAL BUSINESS

CLUB CONSTITUTION

Roland Clark brought up the subject of our constitution as a this had been discussed at another car club meeting he had attended. In the event of TSCC having to wind up, our constitution should state that monies should go to an institution with objects similar or a charity. The ATO is also targeting club for tax purposes with funds greater than \$5000.

Vern Kelly advised that this had been investigated by the Jaguar Drivers Club and the wording on the constitution is very specific. President to check into this, and Vern will assist.

EASTERN CREEK CLASSIC

Adrian advised he has planning under way for this event, with a booking for 16 car spots.

CITIZEN KANE

Voting was conducted for the articles in the April Top Gear.

CLUB MEMBERS

Roland advised he had received a phone call from Bob Smith, who had recently had a serious fall at home. He is progressing well, and should be fully recovered soon.

Pam Johnson is recovering from her recent operation, and appreciated the flowers and good wishes sent by club members.

MEETING CLOSED 9.01 p.m.

THOROUGHbred SPORTS CAR CLUB, INC.
GENERAL MEETING HELD 8th JUNE 2005

Meeting commenced at 8 p.m.

PRESENT: 21 members – Lester Gough, Richard Gough, Lindsay Day, Adrian Walker, Roland & Stephanie Clark, Bob Smith, Malcolm Ireland, Chris & Joan Johnson, Colin Watts, Paul & Jan Goddard, Vern & Wendy Kelly, Gordon Newman, Greg & Kayelene Menzies, Colin Allerdice, Peter & Sue Smart.

APOLOGIES: Roselee & Les Johnson, John & Val Dixon, Malcolm Stephen, Vic Andrews, Tony Johnstone, Toni Ireland, Ron & Jenny Pulling, Ray & Margaret Ross.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved by Lester Gough that minutes of previous meeting held 11.5.05 be accepted as a correct record.

Seconded by Adrian Walker

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Email from Hawkesbury Hospital re Fete 27.8.05
2. Brochure and letter from Kiama Cove Boutique Motel.
3. CAMS correspondence
4. Oatlands House letter re Pride of Ownership Day.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Vic Andrews sent apologies, will report next meeting.

EDITOR'S REPORT

Articles are needed for the next newsletter in July. Some outstanding expenses, will be finalised with Treasurer.



- Gordon Ketelby is the proud owner of a new dark green Aston Martin DB9. Les Johnson was one of the first to see the new vehicle, and is looking forward to a promised ride in the passenger seat.
- Norm and Pam Johnson are on a 6 week holiday, touring England Scotland & Wales.
- Val & John Dixon are presently in Cape Hillsborough (near Mackay, Qld.). Their Northern Safari in their Nissan X-Trail will take them as far as Mission Beach, Cairns & Cooktown. They will head for home at the end of September after touring extensively in Queensland.
- Les Johnson is progressing well after foot surgery following an accident. Stitches have been removed, and he has a new fibreglass cast which allows him to be more mobile. Les now has two more vehicles added to his collection - a vintage wheelchair, and a new lightweight racing model.



THOROUGHbred SPORTS CARS

FORD MUSTANG

The “Mustang” was arguably one of the most influential cars ever constructed. Born in 1964, the car is credited with both starting the muscle car era in the US and with improving the quality and performance of US made cars.

That they are a favourite with motor enthusiasts all over the world is without a doubt.

As one would expect, a number of our members are Mustang owners. Our members fall into three distinct types of owners.

The first category is the restorer, the second is the driver, and the final category is the “exploit men”.

The “Restorer” is John Burton who purchased his Mustang from Chad Parrish some 9 years ago. It was in need of total restoration however the body was in very good order with virtually no rust.

It turned out to be a 1970 model Boss 302 (probably the reason behind John’s email address) – car number OFO2G114689.

John’s car is nearing completion – as evidenced by the photographs. During the rebuild he has added some other options which were available in 1970 including Sports Slats, a Shaker and a Rear Spoiler.

The standard items included quick ratio steering, competition suspension, power front disc brakes, Traction Lock differential and a tachometer.

Alas, Air Conditioning was neither a standard or a factory option!

The project is nearly complete and John is looking forward to getting behind the wheel and driving it for the very first time.



John’s Boss 302 nearing completion



Final appearance may be similar to this car

The “Driver” is Adrian Walker whose daily driver is a Steve McQueen “Bullitt” look alike 1968 Mustang GT.

Adrian’s car is dark green with gold striping and has been used in past TSCC exhibits at the Shannon’s Day at Eastern Creek.

The “Exploit Men” are Terry Daly, Gordon Ketelbey and Les Johnson. These guys have been awesome in what they have done with their Mustangs.

In 1993 Les & Roselie Johnson (car 53), Gordon & Kim Ketelbey (car 43) and Terry Daly & Bob Brill (car 73) did the Lombard London to Sydney Marathon. A highlight on that “run”

was Gordon towing Les for 250kms to Delhi on a short rope of just two metres, after Les broke down. Terry's highlight was to break an axle just out of Delhi enroute to Simla. After locating a workshop, stripping down the axle, finding a foundry, all day was spent repairing the axle. Then within half an hour of setting off, the lights gave out. The final 20kms into Simla was done by torchlight as Bob Brill sat on the bonnet.

On arrival at the hotel at Simla car 73 found out that there was no food left, no cold drinks, and no hot water for a shower!!



The 1995 London to Mexico Rally followed. Les teamed up with Gordon (car 32) whilst Terry was again with Bob Brill.

Terry finished in ninth position overall, third in class D but was part of Team Ausford which won the Team Award.

The rally section around Lake Titicaca proved the competitive highlight for car 32. With Gordon at the wheel the car overtook seven cars as Gordon monstered the Mustang around the course. "Even St Christopher jumped off the badge attached to the dash and out the window" recalls Les.

The 1997 Panama to Alaska Rally saw more success for the Terry Daly / Bob Brill Mustang (car 3). They won class D and came fourth overall in a trouble free run.

For this rally Les teamed up with Jim Peters. 15,000 kms from Panama to Alaska is no mean feat, but unfortunately for Les and Jim they broke a front axle stub in Nicaragua and fell 3 days and 4,000 kms behind.

In a huge effort it took 63 hours to catch up with no sleep for the last 39 hours as they travelled the final 2,500 kms.

That effort was rewarded with the "Great Catch Up Award" at Anchorage.

There is no doubt that the Ford Mustang is a great car. Mustang's continue to give their owners immense pleasure and excitement whether as a daily driver, a restoration project or as a car in which to tour the world.

A true thoroughbred!!

Mustang Trivia

Born in April of 1964

Cars made before September of 1964 are considered 1964 1/2

1964 1/2 models included only the convertible and coupe

Fastback was introduced in the 1965 model year

1964 1/2 through 1966

Carroll Shelby introduced his GT-350's in fastback model (six convertibles exist from '66)

Engine options were:

- 260 V-8 (early)
- 200 Six Cylinder (4 lug wheels)
- 200 Horsepower 289 (C-Code)
- 225 Horsepower 289 (A-Code)
- 271 Horsepower 289 (K-Code) (aka Hi-po 289)
- GT package is second only to GT-350 in desirability and value today

1967 through 1968 (they were a little bigger)

Shelby GT-350 was joined by the GT-500 (big block) in this era

Shelby also added a convertible to his offerings

Largely due to consumer outcry started in Hot Rod magazine, a 428 was added in 1968

428 Cobra Jet was a success and one of the fastest things on the street

You could order a Mustang and have the dealer put a 427 into it

The age of the "Specials" arrive: California, High Country

1969 through 1970 (even larger this time)

Mach I is introduced

Boss 302 is introduced

Boss 429 is introduced, women pick up children off the street

Shelby's get completely civilized, Shelby himself turns the program over to Ford

Body styles increase: Sportsroof, Coupe, Grande, and Convertible

Options go ballistic: GT, Mach, Boss, Grande, Specials, etc. etc. etc.

1971 through 1973 (REALLY Big!)

Boss 429 and Boss 302 are replaced by Boss 351

429 is normal engine option

Shelby Mustangs are no more

The age of the classic Mustang is drawn to an end (sniff)

The End

Colin Allerdice

WEDNESDAY RUN – 20TH APRIL 2005

LUNCH AT HISTORIC COMO INN, COMO

In the now well-established TSCC tradition of monthly Wednesday Runs, another great run took place today, this time organised by Ron & Jenny Pulling. Our “southern cousins” did a great job of showing the rest of we predominantly “northern cousins” some parts of Sydney & surrounds which many of us had not seen – one of the benefits of sharing around the organisation of these runs.

The intrepid group of travellers for this event constituted 22 attendees – a record-breaking number for a Wednesday Run. The group comprised:

Peter & Sue Smart	BMW 320i Convertible
John & Val Dixon	BMW 318i
Ron & Jenny Pulling	Subaru Impreza
Colin & Kerry Watts	Toyota Camry
Brian & Barbara Marshall	Mercedes-Benz SLK 230
Vic Andrews	Volvo Amazon
Wayne Watkins	Rover 3500 V8 Saloon
Les & Roselee Johnson - Plus Madge, Les' Mum, & Amanda, their granddaughter	Subaru
Chris & Joan Johnson	BMW 330ci Convertible
Ian Norman & Jan	Holden Astra Convertible
Vern & Wendy Kelly	Holden Astra Convertible

It would have been an even bigger group had regular attendees The Clarks & The Goddards been able to attend. It was good to welcome Kerry Watts to her first TSCC Run, and Ian's friend Jan to her second run.

Ron's usual meticulous pre-run research elicited that a much-desired “McCafe” facility existed at the Lansvale “Macca's”, which thus became the launching pad for this run. The day commenced with intermittent light drizzle, with all hoods up. After our McCafe stop, only Brian & Barbara braved the still-threatening weather by dropping the metal roof of their beautiful little Mercedes-Benz into its place in the car's boot – instantly turning their metal-roofed “coupe” into a convertible at the press of a button!!

Our run took us across Heathcote Rd to Princes Highway, then down the Highway to Waterfall, where we picked up Vic Andrews at a designated meeting point, then proceeded through the ever-lovely Royal National Park to our morning stop at Bald Hill, where we enjoyed the beautiful vista over Stanwell Park & a distant area of the south coast.

Most of us got our first view from here of the new “island” section of the coast road being built out from the cliff face to avoid the regular road closures of the past due to rockfalls. The old coast road has been closed for a couple of years or so while the new road is being built. It will be good to do a future run on this new road. We also watched a hang glider take off into a stiff breeze at the cliff top with barely a step or two to get airborne & soar into the sky like a bird.

The caravan then proceeded to Woronora Dam, a place which most of us said we had never visited. It was built in 1941 & forms part of Sydney's water supply. From the previous high water mark well above the current dam level, it was easy to see how far the water level had dropped.

THOROUGHbred SPORTS CAR CLUB, INC.

GENERAL MEETING HELD 8th JUNE 2005 (cont.)

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Col Allerdice handed out information sheets with details of the events to be held over the coming months.

19th June Yarramalong Manor Christmas in June – flyers given out and sent by email.

31st July Brass Monkey Run – Les & Roselee Johnson are organising an overnight stay on the Sunday night for those interested, breakfast will be at Mudgee Soldiers Club.

28th August Shannons Eastern Creek Classic – TSCC cars on show at Eastern Creek, a huge display (1500 approx.) of CMC affiliated club cars for all members to enjoy.

21st August All British Day – display day at Kings School, North Parramatta, supported by Jaguar and Triumph clubs, open to all members, contact Col for info.

24th September Trivia Night – Col asked for feedback, to make the night a success we would need members to bring their friends along and make up tables of eight.

9th October Blue Mountains run – Leura Gardens Festival and private gardens on show.

29th October Harbour Cruise - \$35 per head, first in best dressed, BYO everything.

Wednesday Runs – Kayelene & Greg Menzies have organised a run for 15th June thru. Ku-ring-gai National Park to Newport Arms Hotel Bistro for lunch. Greg handed out flyers to everyone.

Chris & Joan Johnson organising the July run and Ian Norman the August run.

Beechworth Run – Paul Goddard gave a report on this tour, and asked for newsletter articles to be sent to him, he will edit and send to Lindsay for Top Gear.

SPORTING REPORT

Adrian Walker is leading the point score for sporting events. Next comp. day 3rd July at Oran Park Sth. A round of the State Supersprint Championship will be on 27th August at EasternCreek run by Morgan Owners Club(CSCA event) Lindsay Day will compete in this.

CMC REPORT

Ongoing problems with the Bus & Truck Museum, Minister for Transport has put sale of premises on hold for the moment. Some problems with RTA re concessional rego. and staff training.

CAMS

O H & S will remain a bit issue. Andrew Papadopoulos elected State Director for NSW.

CLUB SHOP

John & Val asked that members be reminded about summer polo shirt orders. Have only received a small number of orders so far. Payment should accompany the order form (in last newsletter).

GENERAL BUSINESS

Club Constitution – members requiring a copy please see Secretary.

Eastern Creek Classic organisation – Adrian reported on progress so far, a meeting of subcommittee after general meeting – Peter Smart, Vern Kelly, Col Allerdice, Ron Pulling. A flyer will be put in the next newsletter publicising the Eastern Creek display.

Col Allerdice congratulated Lindsay Day on the purchase of another Triumph, this time a TR6.

MEETING CLOSED: 9.15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY RUN – 20TH APRIL 2005 (cont.)

LUNCH AT HISTORIC COMO INN, COMO

From there we proceeded further north to our lunch stop at The Como Inn, a historic old pub at Como in Sydney's southern suburbs. With such a large (& some might say, noisy!!) group, Ron & Jenny had thoughtfully arranged for us to be seated in a private verandah area with views over Carina Bay. A beautiful spot.

Lunch was great, with a wide variety of excellent meals, washed down with a little (or a lot) of "chardy" or red. Apart from the usual conversations, lunchtime entertainment was also provided by Les & Roselee's granddaughter, Amanda, who provided talented drawings for many people & personal stickers for everybody to put on their hands. It was all good fun – good company, good food & a little vino – what else could you want?

Another great day & thanks again to Ron & Jenny for their efforts in organising this run with their own personal imprint on it for all of us to enjoy.

Vern Kelly



WEDNESDAY RUN - 15th June 2005

Starting grid :	John & Val Dixon	BMW 318
	Paul & Jan Goddard	MX5
	Greg & Kayelene Menzies	MX5
	Ian Norman & Jan Shearer	Astra Convertible
	Peter & Sue Smart	BMW Convertible
	Bob Smith	"The Silver Van"
	Colin Watts	Jaguar E Type

The film crew were already set up when we arrived at McDonalds, Mt.Colah. However they declined our offer of a parade of "Thoroughbred" cars and went on filming kids, while we went in for a coffee.

Suitably fortified, we proceeded at a leisurely pace down through Bobbin Head and out through North Turramurra, then along Mona Vale Rd. to the turn off into McCarrs Creek Rd. Another down & out through Akuna Bay brought us to West Head Rd. With a clear blue sunny sky and only a slight breeze, the views from West Head over Lion Island and Palm Beach/Pittwater were really something. In fact good enough to write about in an article for a magazine.



It was here that we established the reason for "The Silver Van". Apparently a Cadillac would have had difficulty negotiating the width of the Akuna Bay road had a cyclist come the other way, not to mention the possibility of sea-sickness.

From West Head we retraced the route back to McCarrs Creek Rd. and on to the Newport Arms for some well earned fish & chips. As each of the gates to the National Park were unmanned when we went through, the \$11 entry fee which was saved was quickly diverted towards liquid refreshments.

Everyone appeared to enjoy a good run with beautiful weather, except for one point when Peter was overtaken by a P-plater in a Falcon XR6 turbo over double lines.



Greg Menzies

July Wednesday Run



WEDNESDAY RUN 20th. July 2005

The meeting place for this event, organised by Chris and Joan Johnson, was at the Coffee Shop opposite RAAF Base Richmond. Whilst we were having our coffee Chris arranged a draw for the “lucky door prize” which turned out to be the nomination for writing this article. Guess who drew the short straw (with some help from Jan)?

There were 10 cars in the event with the following participating:

Chris Johnson
Paul and Jan Goddard
Colin Watts
Vern and Wendy Kelly
Ron and Jen Pulling
Peter and Sue Smart
Malcolm and Toni Ireland
Ronald and Stephanie Clark
Vic Andrews and Elizabeth
Ian Norman and Jan Shearer

It was a beautiful sunny day and we travelled via Richmond, Penrith, Wallacia, The Oaks and Camden to the Camden Valley Inn at Camden Park. This was an old English style Inn with low ceilings and a fantastic collection of plates and beer mugs with a nice log fire burning to welcome us.

The food was good but there was a bit of confusion with the timing of some of the meals. There were quite a few other diners beside us and the staff appeared to be a little overworked. Despite this we had a most enjoyable lunch with everyone leaving about 3.30pm. Thank you to Chris and Joan for organising and enjoyable days outing.

Ian Norman



Picture from the Smart's collection

CHRISTMAS IN JUNE - YARRAMALONG MANOR LADIES DAY, SUNDAY 19 JUNE 2005

It was a cool and frosty morning as we gathered at McDonald's McCafe, Mt Colah for a hot drink before a 10 am departure for our Christmas in June Luncheon at Yarramalong Manor.

Those in attendance were :

Joan & Chris Johnson
Roselee & Les Johnson
Jan & Paul Goddard
Maria & Colin Allerdice
Margaret & Malcolm Stephen
Val & John Dixon
Robyn & Terry Daly
Pam & Norm Johnson
Wendy & Vern Kelly
Jill & Lindsay Day
Sue & Peter Smart
Robyn & Kevin Leggott

We proceeded along the Pacific Highway crossing the Hawkesbury River and onto the Freeway to the Peat's Ridge Road exit and onto Tourist Road 33 arriving at Bumble Hill Studios where we had an hour to browse among the various artifacts. The Gallery was nice and warm which was most welcome and several purchases were made. Then it was on to Yarramalong Manor and our luncheon.

After our seating and drinks were organized we settled down to some serious eating and talking. On finishing our roast dinner we had some thinking and guessing to do in a quiz on early Australian events. The winner of this quiz was the team of Roselee and Paul who received a gift for their efforts.

We then had a sing-along and a performance from some very fine entertainers. The song we sang was "Santa Claus has got a new truck". Our Santa was Les - a very fine Santa he was - and he had a steering wheel to help with the act. Wendy was dressed as a swagman, Colin as a backpacker and Jan as a hippie. They all acted very well even though there wasn't a lot of room and I'm sure the photos of this performance will be splendid.

There was another quiz - this time on Christmas carols which Margaret and Chris won. Congratulations!!! Then another sing-along - this time an Australian



Version of "A Partridge in a Pear Tree" doing the appropriate actions as we sang. This was quite a long song with lots of interaction and was very funny.

Everybody selected their Kris Kringle gift - there was an array of many things, chocolates, money boxes, candles, soap, photo frames, car care and repair kits, sauces, etc.

Our hostess then sang many songs as we finished with dessert and tea and coffee and we joined in more singing.

Finally it was time to make our way home after a very enjoyable day. Thank you



to Sue and Peter for their efforts in making the event such fun.

Robyn and Kevin Leggott
June 2005

BRASS MONKEY RUN – SUNDAY 31ST JULY

The annual “madness” event has come & gone again this year.

As the result of a series of coincidental absences and unavailabilities to attend by various prior regular attendees, an unusually small number of TSCC-ers attended. Those doing the Run this year were the following 9 stalwarts:

Lindsay & Jill Day	Triumph Stag
Colin & Maria Allerdice	Triumph TR6
Terry & Robyn Daly	Mercedes-Benz SLK 230
Ian Norman	Astra Convertible
Vern & Wendy Kelly	Astra Convertible.

The meeting place for departure this year was the now well known (to TSCC Wednesday Run people) parking area opposite Richmond RAAF Base. As usual, the meeting place itself was in a cold spot, with the promise of much colder conditions to come!!!

The temperature at Richmond was 2 degrees, but with no wind to speak of it was quite liveable - in relative terms - with a couple of layers (alright, 3 layers!!) of clothes on.

Lindsay and Jill decided to go “comfortable” this year with the hardtop of the Stag firmly screwed on. Terry and Robyn likewise decided not to press the “hood down” button on the dash of the Mercedes and left the folding hardtop firmly closed. The two Astras of Ian Norman and ourselves, and Colin and Maria’s lovely TR6 (very pretty with the new wire wheels), opted to do the whole trip “topless” to brave the conditions.

The Run started right on time at the traditional starting time of 6 am. There was an unusually small number of attendees this year – I would say barely a half to two thirds of prior numbers. Engines fired into life at 6 am and as usual everybody flew off quickly almost as one into the night (well, it was still pitch dark at 6 am!!) and by 6:01am the car park was empty and quiet.

We roared across the Blue Mountains on the Bells Line of Road and down through Lithgow. As usual, it was very cold around Lithgow, with the white grass in the fields acting as a good telltale for the temperature, which on our car’s dashboard computer readout showed minus 4 degrees at one stage, and hovered below zero for quite a long time. It was bracing!!!

After thankfully uneventful journeys for all TSCC members, we arrived in Mudgee to a fine, sunny morning and enjoyed a hearty cooked breakfast at the Mudgee Soldier’s Club. This was the same Club we breakfasted at 3 or 4 years ago on this Run, but they had the arrangements down pat this time with no waiting time and good food.

Terry and Robyn had to leave us after breakfast to join their daughter for lunch in Sofala. She is studying in Bathurst and they were delivering some home comfort items to her. The rest of us wandered the streets of Mudgee before deciding to head up to the beautiful and historic town of Gulgong. We had lunch there in the same café where the photo of Miss Gulgong 1963 had hung!!! – remember that Sue?

Ian Norman and the Days then headed for home, leaving the Allerdices and ourselves as the only two couples who had decided to stay overnight.

Continued on Page 21

THOROUGHbred SPORTS CAR CLUB, INC.

GENERAL MEETING HELD 13th JULY 2005

Meeting commenced at 8.10 p.m.

PRESENT: Malcolm Stephen, Colin Allerdice, Sue & Peter Smart, Vic Andrews, Sandra Mahoney, Tony Johnstone, Malcolm Ireland, Kayelene & Greg Menzies, Ian Norman, Roland Clark, Lindsay Day, Jan & Paul Goddard, Chris & Joan Johnson, Wendy & Vern Kelly, John & Val Dixon, Adrian Walker.

APOLOGIES: Stephanie Clark, Les & Roselee Johnson, Lester Gough, Ron & Jenny Pulling, Ray & Margaret Ross.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved by Chris Johnson that the minutes be accepted as a correct record,
(with corrections made) Seconded by Malcolm IRELAND CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

1. CMC Minutes of Meeting 30/5/05 & Notice of Meeting for 25/7/05
2. Receipt from Oatland House re Pride of Ownership Day.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Credit Balance of \$3,094.90, plus \$150 cash on hand in Club Shop.

Vic gave a report on income and outgo for the previous 2 months.

Outgo approved – Approx. \$500 to Editor for “Top Gear” and cost of “get well” basket for Les Johnson.

EDITOR'S REPORT

Lindsay reported that he would start on the July newsletter this coming weekend. It would be a big issue, including Beechworth Run. Gossip needed for “the Horse's Mouth”.

SOCIAL REPORT

- Upcoming events – Wednesday Run 20th July, Brass Monkey Run 31st July (unsold tickets to be returned to AHOC). Harbour Cruise 29th October – bookings being taken by Colin now.
- Trivia night 24th September – the room has been organised and Colin is working on questions.
- Last month's Wednesday run was organised by Greg Menzies who gave a brief report on the drive from McDonald's at Mt Colah to Newport Beach via the Ku-ring-gai National Park.
- Christmas in June at Yarramalong Manor was attended by 24 members – an enjoyable day.
- July Wednesday run on 20th – Chris & Joan Johnson are the organisers and Chris gave out flyers for the run to Camden Valley Inn, via Richmond, Penrith, Silverdale & The Oaks.

CLUB PLATE REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Roland advised nothing to report re movement of vehicles. However, he did say that when swapping registration or re-registering vehicles the Chassis Number must be stamped on the vehicle for the rego. to be processed. Some discussion followed on Concessional Rego.

CLUB SHOP

Val & John Dixon will be away on a trip to North Qld until October, and handed over necessary paperwork etc. to the committee. Orders for the summerweight shirts will be called for again when they return.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- President reported that Les Johnson was home from hospital, after surgery on his foot, which he injured in an accident. Good wishes go to him for a speedy recovery.
- Toni Ireland has made a complete recovery after being unwell on the Beechworth run.
- Ray Ross has recently had a successful knee operation.
- Tasmanian Trip – Vic Andrews advised that he is working on an itinerary for a 2 week tour around Tassie, starting & ending in Sydney. Will have a more accurate idea of cost next meeting.

MEETING CLOSED: 8.42 p.m.

BRASS MONKEY RUN – SUNDAY 31ST JULY(cont.)

We stayed at a lovely old Heritage-listed Bed and Breakfast, Bleak House. This is a beautiful old two storey huge early Australian home completed in 1860. It has been superbly restored & was extremely comfortable. It is located a short walk from the middle of the town, in a quite location backing onto the Cudgegong River.

The four of us enjoyed dinner (accompanied by good Mudgee red wine) at a restored upmarket pub in town, and after a gourmet breakfast in the B&B on Monday morning headed to Rylestone for lunch at the historic old Bridge View Inn.

We then wended our way home in the small convoy of 2 cars back to the big smoke.

Let's all look forward to next year – it's a good event and the more the merrier if the usual big TSCC group can attend.

Vern Kelly

CMC KNOWN EVENTS AT MID JUNE 2005

6 th -7 th August 05	Newcastle Swap	Cessnock Showground
7 th August 05	All Holden Day	Clarendon
9 th -10 th August 05	Golden Era Motor Racing	Wakefield Park Goulburn
19 th -21 st August 05	MGCC – Festival of Sports Cars	Wakefield Park Goulburn
20 th -21 st August 05	Cootamundra Wattle Festival	Cootamundra
21 st August 05	All British Day	Kings School, North Parramatta
27 th August 05	Morgan CSCA Supersprint	Eastern Creek
28 th August 05	Shannons Display Day	Eastern Creek
9-11 th September 05	HSRCA Historic Racing	Eastern Creek
25 th September 05	HD – HR Holden Show & Shine Meet	Bringelly
26 th September 05	CMC General Meeting for Delegates	WSARFC – Croydon Park
1 st October 05	Mid Coast Ford Motorfest	Tuncurry
8 th -15 th October 05	TSOA National Meeting	Nepean / Lake Macquarie
12 th -13 th October 05	Golden Era Auto Racing – Air Cooled Day	Wakefield Park Goulburn
15 th -16 th October 05	Classic Rally Club – Alpine Classic	Lithgow – Orange
15 th -16 th October 05	Early Falcon Nationals	Wagga Wagga
15 th -16 th October 05	AROCA Six Hour Relay Race	Eastern Creek
23 rd October 05	Rover Owners Club – Display Day	Darvall Park Denistone
30 th October 05	Motori d Italia	Veneto Club Lansvale
30 th October 05	Australian Muscle Car Masters	Eastern Creek
4 th -6 th November 05	Classic Car Monthly Show	Royal Hall of Industry Moore Pk
6 th November 05	All Chrysler Day	Fairfield City Showground
20 th November 05	Marques in the Park	John Knight Park Belconnen
26 th November 05	Cooma Motor Fest	Cooma Showground
26 th -27 th November	HSRCA Historic Racing	Wakefield Park Goulburn
27 th November 05	Morris Minor Birthday	Penrith Showground
28 th November 05	CMC AGM & General Meeting for Delegates	WSARFC Croydon Park
6 th -7 th December 05	Golden Era Auto Racing	Wakefield Park Goulburn

This Newsletter is published by:

THE THOROUGHbred SPORTS CAR CLUB

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Disclaimer:

Any opinions published in the Newsletter should not be regarded as being the opinion of the Club, of the Committee, or of the Editor. No responsibility is accepted for the accuracy of any information in the Newsletter, which has been published in good faith as supplied to the editor.

Articles are invited and should be sent or faxed to the Editor for publication, showing the name and address of the author.

CLUB SHOP

NEW!!

**The new TSCC Caps have arrived and look really good!
Cost \$15.00 each C.O.D**

**Old Gold and Black Club Shirts with Insignia \$35.00
available for sale in sizes:-**

S (small) 1 only

M (medium) 1 only

L (large) 7 only

XL (extra large) 5 only

XXL (extra, extra large) 3 only

XXXL (Extra, Extra, Extra large) 1 only

SEE ORDER FORM FOR NEW SHIRTS ON BACK PAGE

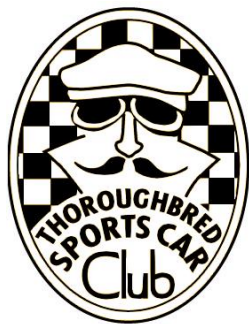
On SPECIAL this month are:

TSCC Club Polo fleece 1/2 zip jumpers for only \$30.00 each.

Sizes range from S (small) - XL (Extra Large).

**Limited stock so be quick to get these winter
woolies at this price for our cold weather events.**

Contact John & Val Dixon...Tel. 9403 6905.



Thoroughbred Sports Car Club

2005 Membership Form

Membership Year: 1 March 2005 to 28 February 2006

Mail form and cheque to the Treasurer,

Mr Vic Andrews, 45 Van Buren Circuit, Bonnet Bay, NSW 2226

<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	Surname	OFFICE USE ONLY Date Joined M'ship No. CAMS No. TSCC Plate No. Amount Paid Cash / Cheque Receipt Number
	Given Names	
Address		
Post Code		
<input type="checkbox"/> New Member	Birth Date / DAY / MONTH (Year not required)	
	Telephone (Home) (Work)	
	Fax (Home or Work)	
	Mobile Phone	
	E-Mail	
FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING IF JOINING UNDER FAMILY MEMBERSHIP		
Spouse/Partners Surname		
Given Names		
Birth Date / DAY / MONTH (Year not required)		

CAR(S)						
	MAKE	MODEL	YEAR	REGO. NO.	COLOUR	MAN./AUTO
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						

I agree to abide by the rules of the Club

MEMBER/APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE x

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	ANNUAL FEE
<input type="checkbox"/> Single	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$60

ENTITLEMENTS/CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES
(i) Eligible to attend and/or compete in all listed TSCC calendar events (ii) Receive all printed matter issued by the Club
This category covers ONE ADDITIONAL person (ie Member plus one) Spouse / partner is eligible for (i) above

NEW SUMMER WEIGHT POLO SHIRT ORDERS

The Club shop is now taking orders for a new summer weight Club Polo Shirt.

They are made from a new moisture releasing fabric with polyester covered by a cotton yarn, with a natural soft feel, breathable and wrinkle resistant. The shirts are Club colours....gold with black contrast piping and raglan style sleeves. The cost is \$30.00 per shirt.

The order will be placed with the supplier after we have received a specific size and quantity order as we do not wish to have a stock of shirts that we cannot dispose of due to unsuitable.

As we would like to place our first order by end May could you please check the size chart below, complete your order details, enclose a cheque for the total amount and forward to:-

John & Val Dixon
14 Lobelia Street
West Chatswood
NSW 2067.

Tel. 9403 6905.

Name.....

Number and Size required (eg 1 x small mens or 1x 8 womens)

..... Size (mens)

..... Size (womens)

Total Amount enclosed (at \$30.00 per shirt) \$.....

Chest/Bust and Length measurements are in centimeters.

Mens

Sizes	S	M	L	XL	XXL	XXXL:
Chest	100	106	112	118	126	132
Length	74	76	78	80	82	83

Womens

Sizes	8	10	12	14	16	18
Bust	88	93	98	103	108	113
Length	60	62.5	65	67.5	70	72.5

Thoroughbred Sports Car Club



Beechworth Bash!

May 2005



BEECHWORTH BASH

Sunday May 22nd has finally arrived and it is time to set out on our exciting journey to Beechworth. Our travellers are:

Les and Roselee Johnson
Chris and Joan Johnson
Peter and Sue Smart
Kevin and Robyn Leggett
Malcolm and Toni Ireland
John and Val Dixon
Vern and Wendy Kelly
Paul and Jan Goddard

In true democratic Thoroughbred fashion, each participant on the run was asked to draw for “The Clark Kent (Mild Manner Reporter) Award” for the privilege of recording and reporting on each day’s activities and events. The following article is a comprehensive coverage of each day as recorded by each “lucky” winner.

DAY 1

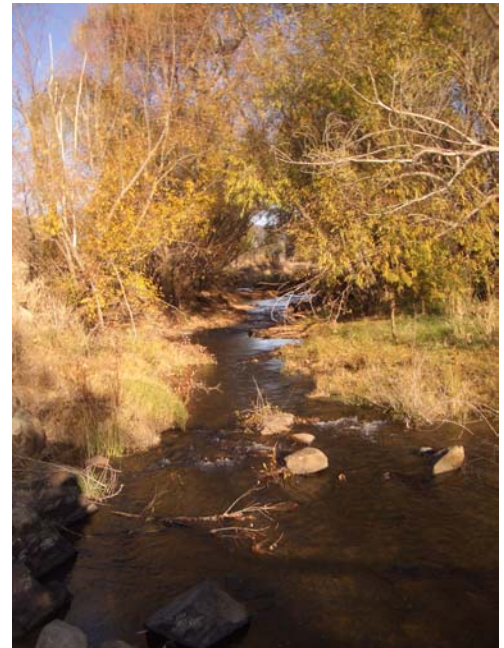
SYDNEY TO TUMUT

Joan Johnson

The first day of an exciting week with good friends and good roads to travel on. Chris and I arrived at the designated meeting place at Pheasant’s Nest to find Les, Roselee, Kevin and Robyn settling down to coffee. The other travellers drifted in with Paul and Jan second last to arrive. Apparently Jan had misplaced her club cap and the subsequent search had made them late to leave (that’s their excuse anyway).

After coffee and bacon and egg sandwiches, Paul produced his “pick a card”, we all had to take one and I was the lucky winner for the day, my prize was to write this article!

So armed with my quiz sheets, pen and paper to jot down notes for my article we headed south in lovely autumn sunshine for Adelong and our scheduled lunch stop. Lunch was arranged at Beauford House in their restaurant called Granny’s Kitchen. Jan was happy she had found her hat tucked under the Mazda hood, it was Paul’s fault for leaving it there! The table was set, the soup and damper ready and the staff were friendly and so helpful. The main course was either Fish and Chips or legs of chicken in satay sauce. The legs were so large I think they came off emus not chickens. Just in case there was not enough food on the plates large bowls of chips also arrived. I don’t think anybody left the table hungry.



The owners of the hotel suggested a short walk of only 1 kilometre, at the end of which was a large waterfall. All prepared for the short walk we set off across a swing bridge.



Some of us were not keen on the swinging but managed to get across. Les decided to drive to the falls to meet us. Well, 1 km went by and then another and still no falls but eventually we found them and they turned out to be little more than a trickle across some rocks! Roselee, Paul and I got a lift back to the hotel with Les and we were grateful for it.

We set off on the short drive to Tumut and the Country Comfort Inn, our stop for the night. When everyone got settled into their rooms we all walked across the road to the pub for pre dinner drinks.

We had dinner in the motel's dining room and the meal was fantastic, a great variety on the menu and beautifully prepared and presented. Everyone was in a great mood and John entertained us with some good jokes. By 9.30 everyone was tired so we all said our "goodnights" after an excellent evening and a lovely first day.



Day 2**TUMUT TO BEECHWORTH****Vern Kelly**

The Tumut morning broke bright & crystal clear for our second day. The cobwebs & slight head fuzziness (couldn't have been the red wine!!) cleared quickly in the brisk early morning air – the temperature of which I checked on the Mercedes' dashboard at 4 degrees at 7:30am.

After a hearty breakfast together in the dining room of our Comfort Inn motel, there was time for a quick look around town or a quick bit of shopping. The Smarts purchased toothbrushes to replace those at home which had apparently hidden while packing was taking place, while Roselee, within only 5 minutes flat, managed to purchase two tops (sorry if this is the first you have heard of this, Les!!!)

We then set off in convoy from Tumut, continuing along the Snowy Mountains Highway towards Kiandra, a distance of some 92 km's. Only our intrepid MX5-ers, Jan & Paul, braved the still-cool air by putting their top down. Our first stop of the morning was the Blowering Reservoir. It was a sad sight to see the Reservoir at only 11% of its capacity. It was a good photo opportunity for people & cars, however, & the general scenery was spectacular.



A “loo stop” prior to leaving the Reservoir produced some hilarity, however. The shrieks & screams, followed by peels of laughter, from the ladies loo had us all intrigued. It turned out that there was a frog in the toilet bowl (I note it was in the ladies, but the gender of the frog was not ascertained!!).



Our next stop was the Yarrangobilly Caves, set in spectacular mountain country.

The caves were several kms off the highway on dirt road, so the cars – still clean at this stage – became almost indistinguishable between them under layers of dust. Most people undertook a self-guided tour of the North Glory Cave which was quite spectacular – as was the amount of effort required in some places with lots of stairs & even some ladders being required to be negotiated.



From there we headed on towards Cabramurra, Australia's highest town, for our lunch stop. The town is set in isolated, wild mountain country with fantastic scenery. With people having previously set off from the caves at different times, the "convoy" was broken up from this point & we arrived at Cabramurra at various times. Lunch was at the only place in town, the general store, but they had a very good range of meals to suit all tastes.

From Cabramurra we set off essentially individually, due to the aforementioned staggered arrival times at Cabramurra, through a seemingly endless run of bends & hairpins through steep but beautiful mountain country, with large parts of the country being covered with dead trees which gave an eerie/ghostly appearance. The windy road finally opened out just before Corryong in Victoria, from whence we struck out for our final destination of Beechworth, a distance of some 200 km's from our lunch stop at Cabramurra.



It was a full day's driving in view of the long stretches of windy road, & it was great to get to Beechworth, which Wendy & I achieved right on dark. We followed the set route instructions, which our thoughtful tour arranger, Paul, had designed to avoid any possible gravel roads in order to appease the fusspots (yes, I know I'm the main one) who don't like to drive on gravel. However, some "Smart" people took a shortcut via Yackandandah & saved a few kms. **(Thoughtful Tour Arranger's note – so did Paul and Jan but only for different reasons – they were lost and it was getting close to "Cocktail Time")**

Our home for the next 4 nights, The Carriage Motor Inn, Beechworth was a welcome sight, & Paul had suggested that we have our first night's dinner in the bistro at the local pub, The Hibernian, a short stroll (& short roll/stumble back) away. The pub was great, with a good atmosphere & a great range of food. My day was made when I made the acquaintance of the pub's owner, Graeme, who turned out to own a 1969 Jaguar "E" Type roadster, exactly the same model as ours (but a different colour). I had a ride in it a couple of days later.

Malcolm & Toni joined us here, having stayed at Goulburn overnight following having just completed the Jaguar Drivers Club XK Register Run to the Hunter Valley. Nothing like back-to-back car runs!! They're great car club people, these Irelands.

After a great dinner at The Hibernian with lots of laughs & good old TSCC camaraderie, we toddled off to the cot to contemplate the next day's adventure.

Day 3

BEECHWORTH

Malcolm Ireland

On the third day we awoke to rain on a cold tin roof. This did not sound too promising. However, by the time we reported to the motel restaurant at 8.00am the weather had started to improve. After a hearty breakfast, at 5 star prices, we assembled at 9.30am to join a coach tour of Beechworth. Toni & I have had many overnight stops at Beechworth but we had never stayed long enough to do more than case the shops & visit the bakery. This tour was a real eye opener.

It was all aboard the bus with Driver Pat as our tour guide for the next 1 ½ hours. Just around the corner from the motel was the Bourke Museum (Bourke, of Bourke & Wills fame had been Superintendent of Police at Beechworth 1854/1858). Most of the group visited the museum later which contained some very interesting exhibits from the early gold mining days of the area.

We then stopped to look at the group of very well preserved granite buildings, from the 1850's that had been the Police Station & the Telegraph Station, one very few places in Australia where one can still send a telegram. There is also a very impressive Court House that starred Ned Kelly in the 1870's.

The tour continued past the prison which, until recently, housed 132 low security inmates. This was closed because the accommodation did not meet an acceptable standard. It is heritage listed which must limit its use and recently sold for \$1 ½ million. A new prison was built a few kms out of town at a cost of \$24 million.

It was then up the hill to what is now part of the campus of Latrobe University. It started life in 1865 as a Mental Hospital & is huge. It is three stories high and the ground floor verandahs ½ a mile in length. There were 1000 patients with separate male/female wings. The male wing was destroyed by fire in 1951 and remains derelict. The hospital was the main source of employment in Beechworth & closed in the 1980s. The grounds are impressive with the initial design work, to suit the building's Italian style architecture, done by one of the first inmates who was a landscape gardener.

We drove around Lake Sambell, site of a mining operation almost in the centre of town, the Chinese section of the cemetery, a length of the gorge road, passed the 1860's powder magazine, the facade of the 1852 Ovens District Hospital closed in 1940. & back to the motel. A tour enjoyed by all and highly recommended.

It was now time for a coffee/tea a walk around town & to admire the crest on the old Bank of NSW building. This being oldest, and probably the only crest left.

(Editor's note – no prizes for guessing that Malcolm is a retired Manager of Westpac (formerly Bank of NSW)).



With the weather improving it was into the cars for the short drive out to Stanley for lunch. Organiser Paul had arranged for "The Galloping Goat" restaurant to open for us. This was an inspired choice as the food, wine & service was excellent. The decision to build an up market restaurant in a village with a nominal permanent population must have taken some courage. It has worked as a booking is needed to eat there.

The wine must have had some effect as one of the ladies visited the disabled toilet while another was interrupted in the gents. The fact that the door signs had been changed by some unknown masked person only added to confusion. The usual suspects were assembled (ie anyone with the surname of Johnson) but we were unable to extract a confession from any of these culprits and the guilty party remains at large.

At the lunch the winner/s of the trivia questions, handed out on Sunday, was announced. Some of the answers generated much discussion and debate especially the inventor of the flush toilet and, despite Chris and Joan Johnson trying to produce “doctored” documentary evidence to the contrary, Thomas Crapper is still accredited with this noted achievement. And no, the winners were not Les & Rosalie on this occasion, but Chris & Joan. It was apparent that they had used the “phone a friend/rele” option on a number of occasions, and the fact that there was a strong English flavour to some the questions assisted them in achieving this keenly sought after “Brains Trust” award.

The modest winners taken shortly after winning the award



After lunch we returned to Beechworth to prepare for another assault on the Hibernian Hotel. The owner arrived with his blue E type roadster for Vern to admire. He was also taken for an unforgettable test drive. The bistro meal was up to the standard of the previous night, despite a change of cook (chef), and another enjoyable evening followed with port all round, compliments of the owner.

We did receive an SMS from Stephanie approving a round of drinks but as the hotel did not stock vintage Moët & Chandon her offer was not taken up.

And so to bed.

MOUNT BEAUTY

A beautiful clear day just made for open road motoring. Leaving Beechworth on the Buckland Gap Road, we joined The Great Alpine Road and headed for Myrtleford. This used to be an 1850's gold mining town, later transformed by the Chinese population to a tobacco and hop growing area. Old tobacco drying kilns can still be seen in the area. These days it is a large regional centre servicing the Victorian Alps



The large Gum Tree (left) is thought to be in excess of 200 years of age, and was the meeting place of both the local aborigines, and the early settlers.

Leaving Myrtleford, we travelled to our next stop Bright. This town is renowned for the autumn leaves display, and it certainly did not disappoint.

Our group split up and combed through the local shops, also taking time to partake of morning tea. The photo below gives an indication of the autumn colours.



Back in the cars and into the mountains heading for Mount Beauty, which lies in a valley in the shadows of Mount Bogong, which, at 1988 metres, is the highest mountain in Victoria, and the summer home of the Bogong moths, which regularly clog Canberra during their migration from Queensland.

The photo below shows Mount Beauty with Mount Bogong in the distance.



Lunch stop in Mount Beauty, with home made pies and sandwiches high on the favourites list. After lunch the group split up, with some adventurers returning to Beechworth via Mount Buffalo, whilst others went to Yackandandah on the return journey. Susan & I decided to make the trip to Falls Creek via Bogong, which gave us some great alpine views on a crystal clear day. The following photos are of this side trip.



Back in Beechworth, it was time for a change in dining experience. After a heart starter at the ever reliable Hibernian Hotel, we descended on the local Chinese restaurant, minus Malcolm & Toni Ireland, who sampled the delights offered by another local restaurant, The Green Shed, as Toni has an allergic reaction to some Asian foods.

This meal was of gargantuan proportions, and was washed down by a not inconsiderable quantity of wine, which put most participants in the ideal frame of mind to observe New South Wales being beaten by Queensland in the first match of the State of Origin Series. It was then off to bed, to dream of tomorrow's adventure to Milawa, the centre of the food and wine growing area.

DAY 5

Les & Roselee Johnson

BEECHWORTH TO MILAWA REGION

The day started off when Roselee mentioned how cold it was outside....so we arose from our warm and cozy bed, put the kettle on, and after a quick shower and shave (me only) I poked my head out of the motel door to see Vern very concerned about his new car which was covered in a very heavy icy frost. Vern then enlightened me, that going by his car temperature gauge that the temperature was just 2.5 degrees Celsius. Then Kevin Leggott appeared returning from his walk through the new Chinese gardens which were still being established on the site of an old gold mine on the outskirts of Beechworth. Kevin complained of a sore leg acquired by slipping over on the frosty surface on his 1 ½ klm. Early morning walk. Then, it was Peter Smart's (wearing blue polka dot P.J's) turn to put his head out of his room to see what the ruckus was all about. What a sight to behold! I then retreated back to our room for a nice warm cuppa.



Vern removes the Ice 2.5 degrees C



Chris Joan & Roselee At the Bakery

Breakfast was enjoyed in the famous Beechworth bakery at the respectful time of 8 am. Chris and Joan opted to spend the day in bed because Chris had succumbed to a very bad bout of the flu and the cold weather was just adding to his woes.

John, Val, Robyn, Wendy, Vern, Toni, Malcolm, Paul and Jan headed off for a walk around historic Beechworth. Roselee wanted to send an old fashioned telegram from the telegraph station which still used the old Morse code system. The telegram is written out then tapped out and send to a receiver in Sydney, where it is printed out and placed in an envelope and posted in the conventional way. She was assured that it would arrive quicker than ordinary surface mail, but our grandchildren, Amanda and James, did not receive it for three days.



One of the Kelly Gang {Peter Smart}

Roselee then caught up with the Smarts to explore the Burke museum, one of Victoria's undiscovered treasures. It is acknowledged as one of the best regional museums in Victoria, and one of the oldest in Australia. Its beginnings date back to 1856 with the formation of the Beechworth Young Men's Association and the consequent establishment of the Athenaeum and Public Library. In 1863 the museum was added and named to honour Robert O'Hara Burke, the explorer of Burke and Wills fame. Burke had served as superintendent of police at Beechworth from 1854 to 1858. Today the museum presents cultural and natural heritage material, which contributed to the understanding and appreciation of the customs, activities, historic episodes, the natural environment and local identities associated with the Beechworth area. Of considerable note was that the Kelly gang had a connection with Beechworth having appeared in the court house on numerous occasions. Even Ned himself spent a little time locked up in Beechworth.

Beechworth in its day was one of the wealthiest towns in Australia with millions of pounds in gold leaving Beechworth every two weeks.

EVERTON HOTEL



Meeting back at the motel at 10 am we got ourselves organised for a trip to the Milawa gourmet region which John had organized. The run took us through some beautiful country roads and historic towns like Everton and its famous country hotel full of historic memorabilia.

As Roselee and I were busy taking photos the rest of the group headed off to this lovely area and we caught up with them at the Milawa cheese company. As we pulled up we saw two steel sheep grazing near Paul and Jan's Mazda. It turns out that these sheep are very sort after because they produce steel wool. After the cheese tasting (and Bailey's ice creams) we went to the region's condiment centre which had a large selection of handicrafts, gifts and tasting of Olive Oil and mustards etc. Val Dixon was heard complaining about the coffee here, saying that it was so strong it was going to grow hairs on her chest. She called it "triple xxxpresso coffee." Kevin had another meat pie here which kept up his average of two pies per day.



A Cat on the prowl [Cheese factory]



Steel Sheep [Produce steel wool]

Leaving here we travelled a short distance to Brown Brothers winery for wine tasting and a sit-down lunch. Those not wishing to taste the wine sat out in the sun and watched three workmen work on a water tank tower fitting some electrical cable



Malcolm & Toni

As the afternoon progressed we seemed to go separate ways. Sue and Peter headed to Mount Buffalo together with Jan, Paul, Robyn and Kevin. Sue was very keen to climb 'the horn' (1743 metres above sea level). Peter, Sue and Jan all managed to conquer it whilst Paul stayed behind to keep an eye on the cars.

I'm not sure what some of the others did, but Roselee and I decided to visit the old cemetery at Beechworth which has a very interesting past. The present cemetery was opened between 1853 and 1856. Coincidentally, the motel we were staying in was actually the old cemetery and the only spooky resemblance was Peter's early morning parade in his blue P.J's.

Whilst in the cemetery we noted a grave containing the mortal remains of John Watt and were fascinated to read of his untimely demise. Apparently, he arrived in Australia in 1858, aged 25 years, and lived in Bairnsdale for some time. He assisted Mr. Alexander Black in making the Geodetic survey to determine the boundary line between Victoria and New South Wales. From Gippsland he moved to Three Mile, near Beechworth and then to Bowman's Forest. Around April 1871, he became the landlord of the Wooragee Hotel. On the night of Tuesday 15th October 1872, two armed bush rangers held up the hotel and they shot John Watt and a Mr. Kennedy of Albury. John Watt received a gaping wound in his side from a shotgun blast and died some nine days later due to complications of his shooting.



Grave of John Watt



Site of Original Cemetery

Leaving the cemetery we set off for El Dorado, and old gold mining town which during the gold rush in the 1870's, some 4000 miners sunk deep shafts to over 70 metres. In 1895 one of these was to collapse killing six miners. In 1936 the Cocks El Dorado Gold Dredging Company was commissioned, extracting 2.3 million grams of gold and 1475 tonnes of tine in its 18 years life-span. It has since proved very unfriendly to the surrounding landscape. Heading back to Beechworth along the dusty 14klms of dirt road and creek crossings, we witnessed the devastation created by the dredge to the surrounding countryside.



Devastation caused by dredging



Cocks El Dorado Gold Dredge

We all got together for the final night's dinner at the restaurant known as 'The Bank' and because the majority of the group were 'Bankers' it seemed quite apt. Chris and Joan crawled out of their sick bed to join us and we all sat around a large square table.

Of course what would a tour be without a few serious awards some of which were as follows:-

THE SLOW AND STEADY AWARD – Peter and Sue were awarded a wind up snail because nobody, even Peter, hurries Sue.

THE COMMUNICATIONS AWARD – Kevin and Robyn were awarded a lolly filled plastic mobile phone because Kevin was constantly talking on his real mobile phone.



THE DEADLY BUG AWARD – Chris and Joan were award two plastic bugs that crawl down the glass because they had the deadly flu bug.



THE LATE ARRIVAL AWARD – Toni and Malcolm were the recipients of a spare model car because they arrived later than everyone else to start the trip.



THE PREVENTION AWARD – John and Val were lucky to receive a toy fire extinguisher because their fuel gauge was not working, although a miracle did occur, and it started working once again.

THE NAVIGATION AWARD – Paul and John were the only candidates for this award because Paul got very lost and ended up in Wodonga instead of Beechworth. They received a very handy map.

Much wine and great food was consumed together with great company. I'm sure that we would all agree the base-town of Beechworth was a perfect choice to explore a very historic and pretty part of Victoria.

From all of us who attended we sincerely thank Paul and Jan for their hard work in making the trip a complete success.

Thank you Paul & Jan



Day 6

Paul Goddard

In contrast to the clear crisp mornings that we have grown used to in the past few days, today dawns overcast, gloomy with all the trimmings including fog, mist and light rain. This has put a real **dampener** on the plans of many requiring last minute changes to itineraries because of the hazardous conditions.

We learn that earlier in the morning Toni Ireland decided to make her return journey, at least part way, in an ambulance via Wodonga hospital. Not to make too light of the issue, Toni suffered acute abdominal pains in the early AM of Friday which, following a number of tests at the hospital, was diagnosed as a kidney stone. I am told that this is an extremely painful experience and we all can only sympathise with you Toni.....but then again did you really want to attend that meeting in Sydney on Saturday????????????? Last reports are that Toni is well on the way to recovery and is improving daily.

Everyone else made it back home under their own steam and in one piece.

The trip overall, apart from Toni's unfortunate experience and Chris and Joan Johnson being laid low and confined to quarters for a day, went extremely well and, from all accounts was enjoyed by all. From an organiser's point of view this is very gratifying, but it must be said that it was the group of people on the trip that really made it a success...everyone was supportive and contributed well, as can be seen by the preceding articles covering each day's activities.

It was just great to be part of a wonderful group. Thanks to all.



THE END OF A GREAT WEEK AWAY