



FLAT CHAT NEWSLETTER  
AUSTIN-HEALEY OWNERS CLUB (NSW) INC  
ABN: 87 630 303 136

COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

- 3rd Monthly Meeting
- 6th Cent Coast Gathering
- 9th Committee Meeting
- 13th Mt Annan
- 18-20th Goulburn Steam
- 19th Mid-Nth Coast Gathering

NOVEMBER

- 2nd Cent Coast Gathering
- 7th Monthly Meeting
- 10th Zig Zag Railway
- 13th Committee Meeting
- 20th Illawarra & Sth H'lands Lunch

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Central Coast Saturday Morning Workshop – September 7th.  
Wow, Wow, Wow!!!

Perfect weather for our inaugural “Gathering of the Clans” here on the Central Coast with 54 intrepid enthusiasts, 25 Austin-Healeys as well as a gaggle of other classics.

Classics like C-type Jaguar (R), Aston Martin, Porsche, Morris Cooper S, MGB, Sunbeam Alpine, Torana SLR Torana, 1930 Chrysler “66” Tourer and last but not least, Col Goldsmith’s classic “Lexus”.

Chris Hatch from Port Macquarie and attendee of the Mid North Coast chapter gave a fascinating talk on the multimeter, which was greatly appreciated. A big thank you Chris.

All AHOC (NSW) chapters were represented, the Illawarra/Southern Highlands, Central Coast, and the Mid North Coast plus members from Sydney and Newcastle.



POST: AHOC (NSW) Inc  
PO Box 3011  
Rhodes NSW 2138

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WEB: [www.austinhealeynsw.com.au](http://www.austinhealeynsw.com.au)  
FB: [www.facebook.com/groups/681723625314952/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/681723625314952/)

Our monthly meetings are held at Strathfield Golf Club, 52 Weeroona Rd, Strathfield NSW 2135 on the 1st Thursday of each month commencing at 7.30pm.

Members and guests are welcome to join us for dinner in the bistro from 5.30pm.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## Meeting Rooms

It appears that we will need to relocate to a new venue. I heard from another car club that the arrangements at Strathfield Golf Club had changed and that the caterers were now looking after the hiring of the meeting rooms.

For several weeks I have been trying to find out from the golf club what was happening, and my emails were being referred to the caterers and my phone calls were also not being responded to. Last Saturday afternoon I received an email advising that the new arrangements were to take effect from October. For the room that we are now meeting in the hire cost was going to be \$1,400. This includes a "catering package" of \$750 (which appears to be in the form of vouchers to be used in the bistro) and the remaining \$650 for room hire and the a.v. equipment.

After representation based on the fact that our efforts to get to the



bottom of what was happening the caterers agreed on Sunday to waive the charges until next year. This was a bit of relief for me as I was attempting to locate alternate premises in hurry.

It is obvious that the golf club no longer want the car clubs (I understand that there were 18 each month) so we need to find a new location. I am going to need some assistance with this and would appreciate

- any suggestions (Rydalmere bowling Club and Carnarvon

Golf Club have been suggested already and;

- members to check out the venues and report back.

I've been trying to get more specific details of what options Strathfield are offering but unfortunately this will not happen prior to this report going to Patrick, but I will bring the meeting up to date on Thursday. It would be really good if we can have a good roll up to the bistro as it may help to demonstrate that although the room hire was at no cost the bistro was the winner.

## COMMITTEE LIST - 2024

Club Patron—Ross Bond

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(Inc Conditional Registration)  
Please send all Conditional Registration documents to Patrick's postal address at left

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Non-Committee Positions  
Chapter Coordinators  
Central Coast Colin Rule 0467 563 523  
Illawarra/Sth H'lands John Thornton 0419 266 284  
Mid Nth Coast Phil Loking 0412 392 362  
Western Greg Poole (02) 5355 0079

CSCA Delegate - Colin Goldsmith

Librarian - Ronnie Strange

CMC Delegates - Ray Roberts  
Greg Strange

Welfare Officer - Pamela Ross 0408 201 226

Display Day Coordinators - Ross & Jenny Penman

Conditional Registration Inspectors -  
Neville Stirton - 0414 472 877 - Geoff Smith - 0458 777  
339 - Phil Loking - 0412 392 362

Assn of British Car Clubs Rep - Christine Lyttle

National Assn Delegates - Gordon Lynas & Jim Phillips

AHOC Life Members - Don Read (D), Alan Jones (D),  
Warwick Sell (D), Joe Armour, Christine Lyttle, Patrick  
Quinn, Terry Bancroft (D), Ray Roberts and David Mould.

If you want to send something by post, the Club's  
address is:- AHOC (NSW) Inc  
PO Box 3011  
Rhodes NSW 2138

It would be appreciated if there were no phone calls to committee members after 9:00 PM.



# EXHAUST LEAKS



Greetings and welcome to the October 2024 issue of the Flat Chat Newsletter.

Providing this issue of the Flat Chat Newsletter goes out tonight, it isn't late.

It's been a busy month with suitable Austin-Healey events held on each weekend, bar one.

The Gathering of the Clans at Chez Rule turned out to be a most enjoyable day with lots happening and plenty to eat. The following weekend, Sydney's British cars headed to Clarendon on Sydney's north-western outskirts for the All British Day and then a week after that there was the Make-A-Wish Sydney Car Show.

Within the following pages you will find reports on each of these. In addition to this many thanks to the Chapter convenors who have also penned words of the events within their areas of interest.

Thank you also to Andrew Stevenson for his description of what would have not been a pleasant experience, when a Landcruiser owner thought it would be in-

teresting to drive up the back of Andrew's BJ8. Thank you to my friend John Young who noticed a group of Austin-Healeys near his hometown in France. Also I hope you might find interesting my recollections of the world's hottest day in January 1977.

Thank you to Allan Whitehouse and Tony Ash who both responded to my question at to the vagaries of the Austin-Healey fuel gauge. I have yet to wave a spanner around, but will of course keep everyone informed.

We have travelled quite a few miles in the Quinn Austin-Healey since it's been back on the road. The Make-A-Wish Sydney Car Show, All British Day and the Gathering of the Clans in early September. I am pleased to say that the car has performed very well indeed. However I have started a To-Do list of things that that have been identified as needing attention. Remember

the power pick-up that I installed some years back? That decided to blow a fuse, and new fuses have been procured. I also haven't been 100% happy with the amount of electrical power coming forth from the generator. The regulator has been released from its shackles and sent away to be correctly calibrated. Other things that have been written down is a rattly stator tube, suspect thermostat, bootlid seal flopping in the breeze and a trip meter that will only show 000. There are other things like whether the heater is on or not. The list goes on and seems to grow on a daily basis.

I trust you enjoy this issue of the Flat Chat Newsletter, and as usual I am looking forward to receiving lots of words and photos of what you have been up to with your Austin-Healeys.



**Monthly Meetings - Zoom ID 980 9019 7648 Passcode 336164**

**We meet on the first Thursday of the month at Strathfield Golf Club  
Weeroona Rd, Strathfield. Starting at 7.30pm or enjoy dinner from 5.30pm**

## Minutes of the General Meeting

Thursday, 5 September 2024

Meeting commenced at 7:40pm.

Venue - Strahfield Golf Club

### ATTENDEES

Colin Goldsmith, Dianne Lawlor, Julie Lee (Z), Peter & Anne Luxton, Christine Lyttle, Jim Phillips, Patrick Quinn (Z), Rod Richards, Ian Richter (Z), Muriel & Ray Roberts, Colin Rule, Neville Stirton, Greg Strange, Ronnie Strange, Allan Whitehouse.

### VISITORS, NEW MEMBERS

N/A

### APOLOGIES

Patricia Bancroft, Harley Boggis, Mal French, Denis Kasza, Russell Kelly, Garry Lee, Alan Mitchell, Caroline Quinn, John & Judy Sherman, Geoff Smith, David Williamson.

### MINUTES

Resolved that the minutes of the General Meetings held 4 July 2024 and 1 August 2024, as published in the August and September 2024 issues of Flat Chat respectively, be verified as correct records of those meetings.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Jim was back from his gallivanting on safari in Africa. Sadly, he had not seen any Austin-Healeys while there.



Jim advised that Strathfield Golf Club had changed its catering arrangements and that this would potentially have a big impact on the Club continuing to meet there, but he was yet to get anything official in writing.

### VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

No report

### SECRETARY'S REPORT

Julie reported on emails received in the month prior:

- The latest issues of Hundreds & Thousands (Vic Club), Rally Directions (Classic Rally Club), Healey Torque (Qld Club), Healeys West (WA Club) and Speed Read (Motorsport Australia).
- New member Roger was keen to find out more about BJ8s, so Patrick spoke to him
- Halcyon Auctions have an auction of "interesting collectors motor cars and motorities" on 30 September.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

In Jenny's absence, Jim reported on the Club's kitty as at 31 August 2024:

Term Deposit \$110,000.00

Cash Reserve \$2,585.47

Debit Card \$303.82

Main Account \$19,762.36

Total \$132,651.65

In addition, the Charlie's Run account had a balance of \$2,486.22.

#### Income

Bank Account Interest \$00.02

Membership \$750.00

All British Day Tickets \$50.00

#### Expenses

All British Day Tickets \$100.00

### MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

There were more new members to welcome to the Club:

- Mark & Naomi Horsfield (ACT)
- Paul Nicholas (Gordon)
- Darren Freeman and George Appleby (Peninsula Sports Cars, Brookvale).

### SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Dianne provided a quick update on events. She also reminded everyone that any member could go to any Club event, regardless of which Chapter was organising the event.



## WEBMASTER'S REPORT

Jim advised that members could login and check on the status of their membership. You could also print out your membership status and keep a copy in your car if desired.



## WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT

Pamela had sent a get well card to Ken Offord following his recent surgery.

## EDITOR'S REPORT

*Flat Chat* had gone out the previous evening.

## REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Patrick advised that he continued to get asked how to renew cars on conditional registration, despite the information being in every issue of the magazine.

## HISTORIAN

No report

## LIBRARIAN

Nothing to report.

## TECHNICAL OFFICER

Greg talked about a recent car in his workshop which had tested his patience with trying to get to the bottom of the problem!

## PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

No Report.

## CMC REPORT

Nothing to report.

## ASSOC. OF BRITISH CAR CLUBS REPORT

The Sprite Club had some tickets available for the All British Day if anyone still wanted one.

## CSCA REPORT

Colin advised that there wouldn't be any more Super-Sprints for the year. He was hoping that with the MX5 Club being keen, 2025 might prove to be a bit more successful.

## REGALIA

Colin didn't have much in the way of regalia as he was saving it up for his Gathering of the Clans on 7 Sept.

## SHOW & TELL

N/A

## FOR SALE OR WANTED

Neville had some calendars looking for a home.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

For the next general meeting, Ray suggested that everyone bring along their favourite one-liner. Meeting concluded at 8:25pm.

President's Message cont'

## Annual General Meeting

In the last couple of years, we have held this in conjunction with the Christmas party but as we are planning to hold this year's party away from Strathfield on Saturday 14 December, we will be holding the AGM as part of the December General Meeting.

So now is the time to start thinking about who you think should attend to the administration issues of our club. Many of the committee members have

been serving for many years and if you want to know what is entailed in each of the positions have a look at Austin Healey Owners Club (NSW) Inc - Committee ([austinhealeynsw.com.au](http://austinhealeynsw.com.au)) It is always good to have new members on the committee so it's time to start to think about what position you can fill on the committee or what member you can put forward to fill a role.

Jim Phillips  
President



## Social Report

Dianne Lawlor 0413 873 191

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

Denis Kasza 0407 492 008

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

September was another busy month for the club, beginning with the Gathering of the Clans at Colin and Kerrie Rule's residence at South Kincumber on Saturday 7th, followed by All British Day at Hawkesbury Showgrounds on Sunday 15th. Read about these two excellent events elsewhere in this month's Flat Chat Newsletter.

The Illawarra and Southern Highlands Chapters event at Joadja was also a resounding success, as was Make-A-Wish Foundation's Sydney Car Show on Sunday 22nd September, where this year our club again participated with a solid turnout and contributed to this very worthwhile charity. The Mid-North Coast Chapter also went ahead as planned and the month's events concluded with the Car Talk Meeting at the Mortlake SLSC on Sunday 29th. Again, read about these events elsewhere in this month's Flat Chat.

October's activities begin with the Central Coast Chapter's meeting, then a visit to Mt Annan Botanic Gardens, followed by Illawarra and Southern Highlands Chapter's visit to Goulburn Steampunk Victoriana Fair.

October concludes with the Mid-North Coast Chapter's meeting.

Further ahead, we have some excellent and exciting events planned for November: a visit on the 10th to the Zig Zag Railway, followed by afternoon tea at Caroline and Patrick Quinn's home in Kurrajong Heights. Then on the 20th, the Illawarra and Southern Highlands Chapter will hold their Christmas lunch.

Hoping to see lots of people and their cars at the October and November club events.

Event: Mount Annan Botanic Gardens  
Date: Sunday 13th October 2024  
Time: Meet 10am, Plant Bank Tour 11am-12.15pm  
Venue: 362 Narellan Rd, Mt Annan 2567  
Lunch: Camden Valley Inn, 290 Remembrance Driveway, Cawdor 2570  
Contact: as above

Event: Goulburn Steam Pump House  
Frid, Sat, Sun 18th, 19th & 20th October 2024  
Contact: John Thornton 0419 266 284



Event: Zig Zag Heritage Railway  
Date: Sunday 10th November 2024  
Time: 12.30 steam train excursion, please arrive earlier.  
Parking and cafe available. Please book tickets in advance.

Venue: 840 Chifley Rd, Clarence 2790  
Meet Point: McGraths Hill Maccas, 242 Windsor Rd, Vineyard 2765. Meet 9.30am, depart 10am  
Afternoon tea: 3pm at Caroline and Patrick Quinn's home, "Wongaburra" 116 Warks Hill Rd., Kurrajong Heights 2758. (0417 673 065)  
Contact: as above

Event: Illawarra & Southern Highlands Christmas Lunch  
Date: Wednesday 20th November  
Venue: TBA  
Contact: John Thornton 0419 266 284

Event: Central Coast Workshop  
Dates: First Saturday of each month, beginning February  
Venue: 109 Humphreys Rd, South Kincumber  
Contact: Colin Rule 0467 563 523  
Please bring a contribution to morning tea

Event: Mid-North Coast Workshop  
Dates: Third Saturday of each month, beginning February  
Venue: 79 Barton St, Croki  
Time: 9.00 AM-12.00PM (Please register in advance)  
Contact: Phil Lorking 0412 392 362  
[thelorkings@outlook.com](mailto:thelorkings@outlook.com)  
Please bring a contribution to morning tea

Further information on all the above is available on the AHOC's website.

<https://www.austinhealeynsw.com.au/events/>

## Membership Report

by Christine Lyttle

[membership@austinhealeynsw.com.au](mailto:membership@austinhealeynsw.com.au)

We have a single new membership this month:

Glenn Nisbet from Nerong with a 1959 Austin-Healey Sprite, 1969 MG Midget and a 1963 Morris Cooper.

We welcome Glenn to our club and hope to meet him soon.

As mentioned last month in my report, if you do not wish to continue your membership, please send an email to me letting me know that you are not rejoining.

In addition any changes to your details please let us know to the above email.

Hope to see you soon at an event.

Happy Healeying  
Christine Lyttle







## Historic Vehicle Registration News

**If you have a car on Conditional (Historic Vehicle) Registration you should read this.**

What's the answer to the ultimate question? Why is it relevant to your car being Conditionally Registered in NSW? What is the ultimate question?

The last one is easy. The Ultimate Question of Life, The Universe, and Everything. What does it all mean? Or to quote the good professor with fuzzy hair. "Why is it so?"

What in heaven's name is he talking about? Why is it relevant to having my car inspected and being declared as a current AHOC member?

You probably won't believe that the answer is the

same for all the above. If you haven't worked it out yet, it's 42.

Yes that's the magic number. If you have your car inspected by one of our volunteer inspection officers, the certification that it's roadworthy is valid for 42 days. My declaration at the bottom of the Historic Vehicle Declaration is also valid for 42 days.


If you don't finalise the renewal within 42 days of either signature or both, the friendly person at Services NSW will tell you to go away and do it all again.

If you're wondering about a pink slip, well that's valid for six months, but the membership declaration is still 42 days. Yes, it's been known that some members sit on their forms and when told to do it all again start to wave their arms around. Them's the rules!

Once again here are the instructions on renewing the Conditional Registration of your car.

- Once you have received the renewal papers from Transport for NSW, arrange for your vehicle to be inspected for roadworthiness by either an Authorised Inspection Station or one of the volunteer AHOC inspection officers. See page 2 of this Flat Chat for their contact details. Remember all vehicles, including Historic vehicles need to be inspected and passed as roadworthy.
- Complete the left-hand side of the "Historic Vehicle Declaration" and post it to me at my home address (See page 2 of this Flat Chat for my address) along with an indication that your car is roadworthy or a copy of the pink slip. Please include a stamped self-addressed envelope. There is no need to send me the registration certificate. Do not post the documents by Registered Post as that just slows down the process as I have to go to the post office to accept a registered postal item.
- Once returned, either go to your local Services NSW office to do the renewal or post to Transport for NSW in Parkes. That address can be found on the registration papers.

Gregory Strange  
Motor Mechanic



Between Abercrombie Street & City Road

117 Cleveland Street,  
Chippendale NSW 2008  
Tel: 9319 2299  
Mobile: 0412 811 958  
MVRL 35580



## All British Day

by Patrick Quinn

My heavens, has it really been that long?

This year's All British Day held on 15 September marked the 41st anniversary of the initial event. I recall going to events at the Nurserymans Association at Rouse Hill, The Catholic Club at Liverpool, the Kings School and this year for the first time, at Hawkesbury Showground at Clarendon.

While this year's event attracted quite a few cars and probably in excess of 1,000, I would suggest that numbers were down on past years and I do wonder if the move from the King's School had something to do with it. Plus while Clarendon is just down the road for us, perhaps many wouldn't travel that far for their annual holidays.

Anyway once again the plethora of Jaguars certainly outnumbered everyone else, followed by Sprites who were next to the 10 from the AHOC.

Apart from Healeys and Austin-Healeys I only managed to find one other of my favourite British cars, the Austin A30. Yes my secret is out, and to tell another one, I would really like something like an Austin 7 Ulster in my barn.

It was a good day and it's pleasing to see that our cars created quite a bit of interest.

AHOC members present included:-

Daryl & Cheryl Dobe – 100, Greg Strange & Dianne Lawlor – Sprite Mk3a, Ron Strange – Mk2 Roadster, Richard Horwood & Mark Sullivan – Healey Silverstone (R), Peter Luxton – 100, Robert Hosking – BJ8, Patrick, Caroline & Belle Quinn – BN3/1, Mark McAllan – BJ8, Greg Denning – BJ8 and Richard Lloyd – BN2. Apologies to anyone I may have missed.





## Make-A-Wish Foundation Sydney Car Show

By Denis Kasza

Sunday 22nd September turned out to be a fine sunny day for the Make-A-Wish Foundation's Car Show at Macquarie Park in Sydney's north. While this year's event was without a major sponsor, over \$30k was raised for the charity and the organisers considered this to be an excellent result.

The Austin-Healey Owners Club NSW was there in force with the biggest club display.

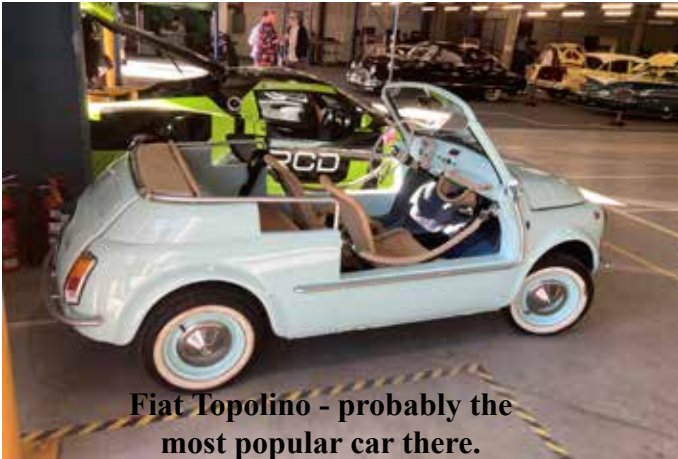
Throughout the day there was a well-received raffle, while several food trucks and stalls kept the patrons fed and watered.

A large variety of very interesting variety of classic and modern vehicles was to be seen, ranging from Ferraris, Lamborghini through to a three-wheel

Morgan. Unusual vehicles included the Batmobile and the Ghostbusters Wagon.

Congratulations and many thanks to Emma and Bryan Levy along with their volunteers for organising such a wonderful day for a very worthy cause.

AHOC members present included: Bryan Levy - BJ8, Patrick, Caroline and Belle Quinn - 100 BN3, Richard Horwood and Mark Sullivan - Healey Silverstone (R), Greg Strange and Dianne Lawlor - Sprite MK3a, Rod Richards - BJ7, Robert Hosking - BJ8, Neil Mason - BJ8, Andrew James - BN4, Susie Doctor and Denis Kasza - in Bryan Levy's BN1, Bruce Ewan - Jaguar E-type and Ray Roberts and Glenn House - Toyota Celica.



**Fiat Topolino - probably the most popular car there.**





**cont'from P1**

This was undoubtedly the biggest gathering we have had here at our workshop. Coffee, biscuits and cake were a big hit as usual. A delicious lunchtime sausage sizzle financed by the AHOC started around noon.

Regalia was on sale and very popular. We sold umbrellas, books, model cars, badges, caps and Austin-Healey hats.



Our most successful Saturday morning workshop ever. So folks watch this space! Same time same channel next year, the 1st Saturday in September 2025. The Gathering of the Clans Workshop.

Great to see Graham Healey and his 3000 MK1 from the South Coast, from the Sydney region Rod Richards BJ7, Helen Vance and Adam Lethlean 3000 Mk1 BN7, Greg Strange and Diane Lawlor Sprite Mk3, Ian Clayton BJ8 (thanks Ian for helping Roger with the BBQ). Richard Horwood and Suzanne Ellicott MGB, Caroline and Patrick Quinn 100 BN3, Amer and Nagy



Khoury BJ8, Ray and Muriel Roberts and "Guest", Alan Moore.

From the Central Coast, Julie and Garry Lee BJ8, "Guest" John Matts, Chris Jenkins MK1 3000, Mark Randall 1930 Chrysler '66', Ian and Jenni Richter Sebring 3000 tribute, Scott Parry-Jones 100/6, Roger Ramsey (thanks Roger for being chief cook for the BBQ), Richard Cardew Sunbeam Alpine, "Guest" Ian Thorn, Greg Denning BJ8 (thanks Greg, chief photographer), Reg Wade 100 BN1 and Morris Cooper S, Larry and Helen Johns BN2 100, "Guest" Scott Hunt Porsche, "Guest" Graeme Thitchener Aston Martin, Geoff Rudland BJ8 and Jaguar C-type (R), Mark and Annie McAllan BJ8, Lew McAllan MK1 Sprite, "Guest" Morgan Ayling and family Clover, Audrey, Olive and Ivy, "Guest" Sully, Renne and Eli O'Sullivan. From the Newcastle area Bryn Baverstock MK1 3000 MK1 and Rick Vincent 3000 MK1 and from the Mid North Coast we had Chris Hatch and Phil Lorking 3000 Mk1 and Tony Ash 3000 Mk2 Rdst plus Col and Kerrie Rule 100 BN2 and the Ross Bond Healey.

A very big thank you to Kerrie for a superb job handling all the catering. We had 41 for lunch.





Cont' from prev page

So folks that is another rap for the month, don't forget the October workshop. This will be held on Saturday 5th, starting time 9 o'clock at 109 Humphreys Road Kincumber South. Topic for the day will be windscreen wiper blade maintenance and refurbishing/buffing windscreen glass.

Don't forget to bring a plate to share for coffee, biscuits and cake. All very welcome.

Take care and Happy Healeyng. Col and Kerrie Rule.




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**Contact: Vince Cessario AHOC Member**  
info@platinumsash.com.au  
13 Wilham Street - Artarmon NSW 2054





Thank you to Ray Roberts for this photo.

Ray says that it was taken during a Charlie's Run during the late 1990s.

The scene is the Royal Hotel at Dungog. The publican's name was Wiper who earned the name of Lucas Wiper as nothing worked. Basil's Fautley Towers is a palace.

## Austin-Healey Windscreens



The AHOC is pleased to announce that the club has taken delivery of a new batch of Austin-Healey replacement windscreens.



There are five of each, namely 100, 100/6 – 3000 Roadster and BJ7-BJ8. They are extremely well priced at \$280 each, irrespective of the model.



If interested please contact Colin Rule on 0467 563 523.



## AHOC Chapter News

### AHOC Illawarra & Southern Highlands Chapters

JOADJA Historic Site Tour

Wednesday 18th September 2024

Our visit to Joadja was certainly a group effort of organisational skills.

David McIntyre started the ball rolling, making contact with Valero and Elisa Jimenez, owners of the Joadja Historic Estate, organising the date and attendees for the event.

David and Michelle had a pressing engagement at the beginning of September. They had to attend the Goodwood Revival from the 12th to 14th September.

After they had put in all the hard yards, it was left to me to confirm actual number of attendees for the day. Big job! That's when I stepped back!

The running of the day was left to Fran as I had another appointment on the day.

I helped Fran pack all the goodies she had prepared, packed her maps, issued her with a list of attendees and their contact details. I waved her off to meet our 26 attendees at the Surveyor General Hotel in Berri-ma for the convoy run into Joadja and our 10:30 tour start time.



Three Austin-Healeys arrived for the trip into Joadja. Rob and Annie Sassall (BT7) and Trevor Cowan (BN4) from the Illawarra and Andrew James (BN4) from Sydney's North Shore. Andrew's brother, Mark, was visiting from the UK so they both took the opportunity to join our run for the day to show Mark part of the Southern Highlands.

Valero met our group and organised the trollies for the tour of the historic buildings of the original Joadja village. Valero was generous with his time, allowing the tour to extend well past the two hours usually allocated for the history tour.



## Joadja cont'



Following on from the tour everyone adjourned to the distillery to sample Valero's products that are manufactured on site.

The day finished with a picnic lunch in the covered picnic area and plenty of socialising.

We were lucky to fit this event into our calendar as Valero announced there would only be three more tours of the site, as he and Elisa are moving on. There was no information as to what the future of the site would be.

### Attendees:

Members: Joe & Lenore Armour, John Barnett & KC Steelman, Chris & Lyn Fitzpatrick, Rob & Annie Sassall (BT7), Fran Thornton, Colin Goldsmith, Ray

& Murial Roberts, Andrew James (BN4)  
Friends: Janine Hinton, Trevor Cowan (BN4), Terry Robinson, Paula Campbell, Brian & Jackie Carnegie, Paul Strudwick, Phill & Liz Powell, Ian & Karen Hine, Mark James, Margaret (a friend of the Armours)

### John Thornton





## AHOC Mid North Coast Chapter 21st September 2024

Present:- Alan & Di Bryson, Chris & Lyndell Hatch, Glenn & Barbara Roberson (3000 Mk1), Wally Spychala (100 BN1) and Phil & Anthea Lorking.  
Apologies:- Tony Ash (was attacked by a nasty tick) and Glenn Nesbitt.

The project of the day was to check and adjust the carburettors on Glenn's 3000. It turned out that the front carburettor was lean and the rear rich.

The piston assemblies were removed, cleaned and checked so that both needles were the correct size and installed correctly in the piston. In the case one needle was set too deep and the other shoulder was proud. This did not help the mixture problem. The

carburettors were then reassembled, and mixture set as required. At this time the carburettors balanced, rechecked, and the idle speed adjusted.

The surprise of the day was Wally arriving in his latest purchase, a 100 BN1. He purchased the vehicle some months ago, but the overdrive had a bad oil leak and operation problems. He has since had this rectified, and this was his first real drive in the vehicle. It is a very nice example with great patina! However, there was one problem in that it kept blowing a fuse, which we traced to the aftermarket horn fitted to the car.

With all of the activity, morning tea ran a touch late and was most welcome.

Cheers Phil Lorking.





## Car Talk - 29 September 2024

By Denis Kasza

The Mortlake Surf Life Saving Club's premises was again the venue for the AHOC's Car Talk gathering. Richard Horwood again very generously hosted the event, with Mark Sullivan assisting.

Delicious morning tea was again provided thanks to Dianne Lawlor, plus member contributions and Richard's sausage sizzle lunch was cooked by Mark.

There were 15 people attending, with six classic cars on display, plus the many cars on view from Richard's collection.

Greg Strange was busy coil testing on the workbench, while Neville Stirton was finessing Richard's Bugeye Sprite and later advising Denis Kasza on what to do about the Westminster's fan belt.

Those present were:

Richard Horwood Bugeye Sprite and Range Rover, Neville Stirton 3000 Mk1 BT7, Ian Clayton BJ8, Mark Sullivan BJ9, Greg Strange, Dianne Lawlor and Greg Alexander BJ9, Ray Roberts BJ9, Rod Richards BJ9, Colin Goldsmith MGB, Allan Whitehouse BJ9, Harley Boggis BMW motorcycle, Shane Sullivan BJ9, Thomas and Rachel Horwood BJ9 and Denis Kasza Austin A99.



## Mirror Monsters

By Andrew Stevenson

Monsters aren't real; I stopped believing in them when I was seven.

I left work early on a Friday afternoon to enjoy a still, end-of-winter day. Meeting a friend in Mosman, I took the winding back-streets along the Sydney Harbour shore. 4pm on a sunny Friday – I was not alone on the roads. Turning into Murdoch St, Cremorne was an opportunity to practice my in-traffic hill-starts. As I sat there waiting for the lights to change far ahead, I glanced in my mirror – as you do. The Landcruiser behind was enormous, a massive bull-bar, spotlights, high ground clearance... I daydreamed a little more.

Glanced in the mirror, the Landcruiser was edging forward; making room for those behind, I thought. How kind. I glanced again, still rolling forward, getting tight now. Still coming on! An exit strategy required, but I was locked in line. It wasn't stopping. In fact it was driving up my boot. I swore, quite a bit, and leapt out of the vehicle fearing for my life.

The grinding metallic sound of his (for it was a him) bull-bar on my boot, caused a reversal, so to speak. I was incredulous – sorry mate, I don't know what happened. I was admiring your car as I followed

you..., don't know what happened, I looked down and my foot must have come off the brake.

I was reminded of the Economist article that arrived in my inbox that week: Americans love big cars, but new analysis suggests that the heaviest vehicles kill more people than they save.

<https://econ.st/4dEQyvA>

On June 3rd Nicole Louthain and her six-year-old daughter were stopped at a red light in Grand Forks, North Dakota when they were struck from behind by Travis Bell. What made this one noteworthy was that the vehicles involved were so unevenly matched. Ms Louthain was driving a Ford Focus, a compact car weighing around 3,000lb (1,360kg), whereas Mr Bell was in a 7,000lb Ram 3500 "heavy duty" pick-up. Alas, the disparity proved deadly.

Ironically, my BJ8 has high-vis, high-power LED bulbs in all lights as a result of the previous owner being rear-ended whilst stopped at a bridge crossing.

I popped this in the post as a reminder to all; keep an eye in the mirrors for monster-trucks and do not assume we can be seen in our Austin-Healeys.





## AHOC Illawarra & Southern Highlands Chapters

### STEAMPUNK FESTIVAL GOULBURN

**Option 1: Day Trip Saturday 19th October 2024 - 9:00am to 5:00pm**

**Option 2: Weekend Friday 18th October 2024 to Sunday 20th October**



#### Goulburn Historic Waterworks Museum

Set on the Wollondilly River at Marsden Weir, the museum is the site of Goulburn's early water supply. Built between 1883-1885, the steam operated pumping facility provided Goulburn's first reticulated water supply. The pump house still contains the original the Appleby Bros. beam engine of dramatic proportion and in operational condition. In an adjoining room, massive electric motors and pumps remain in place from more recent operations. The building also houses a horizontal steam engine built in 1866 by Hick, Hargreaves & Co., Bolton, UK.



The site allows visitors to experience the 1880's steam beam engine in full operation.

A vertical boiler provides steam power to operate the steam engine and pumps.

#### Option 1: Day Trip:

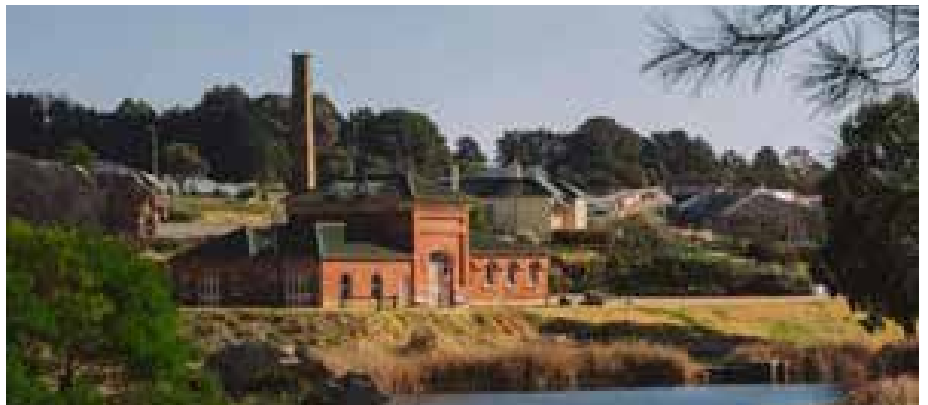
- 8:00am Meet at Sutton Forest (East) Service Centre for a 50-minute drive into Goulburn.
- Travel in convoy to Goulburn.
- Site: Marsden Weir Fitzroy Street Goulburn.
- There is no public parking at the Goulburn Historic Waterworks.
- Very Limited parking (20 spots) is available outside the main entry gate as well as street parking in Fitzroy Street.
- A shuttle bus will be running from the Goulburn Mulwaree Council car park corner Bourke & Clifford Streets to Marsden Weir/Rotary Park, (event entry gate) every 15-20 minutes.
- Entry Fee \$18.00. Seniors \$15.00 with your card. Tickets at the entry gate.

#### Option 2: Weekend Stay:

- Mecure Hotel, 2 Lockyer Street Goulburn. Self Book. (02) 4822 5445.
- Arrive Friday.
- Friday evening Dinner, TBA.
- Saturday evening Dinner at the Mecure Hotel.

#### The Steampunk Victoriana Fair

- Grand Teapot Racing - Steam Engines – Parasol Duels – Steampunk Markets – Circus – Markets – Comedy – Magic – School House Tea Room – Victorian Art Station – Pedalo Boats – Sword Fights – Vintage Wonders – Costume Parade – Horse & Carriage Rides – Mechanical Street Organ – and more!



Contact:

Please let me know if you are a one-day tripper or weekend stay over.

To date I have four couples listed as weekend stay

overs: Lynas, Goldsmith, Sherman, Thornton.

John Thornton

Mobile: 0419 266 284

Email: [john.thornton2011@outlook.com](mailto:john.thornton2011@outlook.com)



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# CLASSIC SPORTSCAR SPECIALISTS



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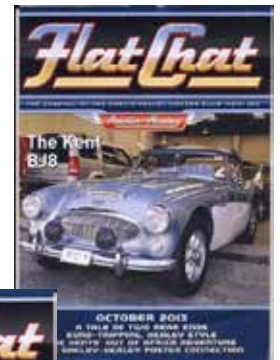
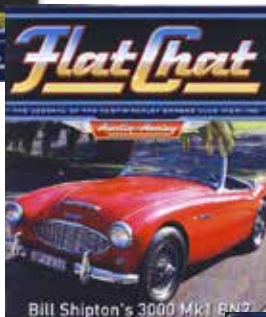
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**646 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham VIC 3132 (03) 9872 3900**

## Flat Chat Back Issues

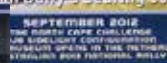
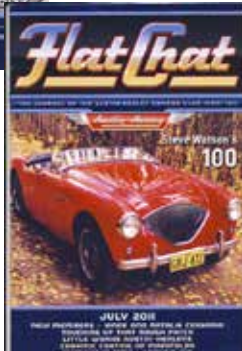
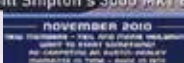
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Free and gratis to members. All you have to do is to send a 1-3GB USB (thumb) drive to me at the below address along with a stamped self-address envelope.



Patrick Quinn  
"Wongaburra"  
116 Warks Hill Road  
Kurrajong Heights  
NSW 2758

You can give me the drive (& stamp) at a meeting.







## World's Hottest Day

By Patrick Quinn

Lately there has been a bit of interest on Facebook in the All Healey Race held at Amaroo Park on Sunday 30 January 1977.

I remember it well as it was the hottest and most uncomfortable I had ever been in an Austin-Healey.

Sounds impressive, but it was a handicap race with the slowest cars at the front and fastest at the rear. The object being that all cars should reach the checkered flag at the same time. Fred Vogel was in the row in front of me in his Healey Silverstone and next to him was Chris Gray in a yellow Bugeye Sprite. At the back was hard charger Peter Hopwood in a very quick 100/6 and alongside him was Roger Wells in the MacHealey.


After two laps Peter went to overtake me, but with an audible bang, his engine expired. Half a lap later Roger went past on the straight in the MacHealey, that was painted red at the time. Roger went on to be first across the line and received the trophy from Donald. Sadly, both Peter, Roger and Fred are no longer with us. Of course Donald died in January 1988.



In an earlier race on the weekend, Fred Vogel (Silverstone), R-Roger Miller (blue 100) and yours truly (maroon 100).

Donald Healey was there as he was in Sydney for a few days after visiting Melbourne. After us, he was heading to New Zealand. To commemorate Donald's visit a special race for Healeys and Austin-Healeys was scheduled for the Sunday.

It was the world's hottest day and in the main All Healey race I was on the third row of the grid in the 100 I had at the time.

|  Mr Alex Reid |                   | <b>Event No 25</b><br><b>Healey Sports and Racing Cars</b> |                     | <b>5 laps</b>                           |                         | <b>Handicap Race</b> |                             |         |
|--|-------------------|--|---------------------|---|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Trophies donated by Mr Alex Reid   |                   |  |                     | Champagne donated by De Bortoli's Wines |                         |                      |                             |         |
| 1st.....   |                   | 2nd.....   |                     | 3rd.....                                |                         |                      |                             |         |
| Fastest lap.....   |                   |  |                     |   |                         |                      |                             |         |
| 9  | Fred Vogel        | 1949   | Healey Silverstone  | 2443 cc                                 | 101                     | Peter Hopwood        | 1960 Austin Healey 3000     | 2912 cc |
| 14   | Ian Russell       | 1959   | Austin Healey 100/6 | 2912 cc                                 | 104                     | Ben Sellers          | 1955 Austin Healey 100/S    | 2660 cc |
| 39   | Patrick Quinn     | 1953   | Austin Healey 100/4 | 2718 cc                                 | <i>Ent: Ray Roberts</i> |                      |                             |         |
| 54   | Roger Miller      | 1954   | Austin Healey 100/4 | 2660 cc                                 | 105                     | Rod Bennett          | 1955 Austin Healey 100/4    | 2660 cc |
| 79   | Bernard Bisseling | 1954   | Austin Healey 100/4 | 2660 cc                                 | 115                     | Phil Lyon            | 1955 Austin Healey 100/4    | 2690 cc |
| 82   | Adrian Hart       | 1954   | Austin Healey 100/4 | 2750 cc                                 | 121                     | Jim McConville       | 1955 Austin Healey Sprite/5 | 1098 cc |
| 84   | Wally Gates       | 1950   | Austin Healey 3000  | 2912 cc                                 | 126                     | Chris Gray           | 1955 Austin Healey 100/4    | 2906 cc |
| 99   | Ron Jackson       | 1957   | Austin Healey 100/6 | 2644 cc                                 | 130                     | Stephen Pike         | 1959 Austin Healey 3000     | 2912 cc |
| 100  | Alan Jones        | 1955   | Austin Healey 100/S | 2660 cc                                 | 142                     | Ross Kenny           | 1955 Austin Healey 100/4    | 2600 cc |
|  |                   |  |                     |   | 186                     | Joe Reneker          | 1953 Austin Healey 100/4    | 2662 cc |
|  |                   |  |                     |   | 197                     | John Gray            | 1955 Austin Healey 100/5    | 2660 cc |
|  |                   |  |                     |   | 221                     | Roger Wells          | 1956 Mac-Healey             | 2660 cc |



Hot cont'

Did I mention that it was hot? The temperature sensor bulb of the 100 was not in the radiator, but tied to the chassis with a piece of wire. The gauge still read 175°F. All the vendors at Amaroo Park sold out of cold drinks and there were long queues to fill bottles at the very few taps in the pits. Despite the heat, Donald looked comfortable wearing short sleeves, pale coloured pants and a white terry toweling hat on a parade lap in the passenger seat of Keith Bagnall's Healey Westland. Keith is also no longer with us.

We lived at Normanhurst then and had Alex Reid and Bernie Bisseling from Victoria staying with us for the weekend. On the way home from Amaroo we stopped on busy Pennant Hills Road and while crossing the road Bernie collapsed on the median strip from the heat. Luckily he wasn't injured. Alex is also not with us anymore.

It was the world's hottest day!



Roger Miller in front in his 100, the Silverstone of Fred Vogel, Ben Sellers (sadly gone) in Ray Robert's 100S and Rod Bennett in his 100. Rod is now a member of the AHOC Vic with a BJ7.



Fred Vogel and Roger Miller.



Fred, Ben and Roger. Apologies for the repetitiveness of the photos.



Thank you to Greg Strange for this:-

After its long time away while being repaired following an accident, Greg Strange and Diane Lawlor were chuffed to receive this painting from Simon, a neighbour and friend. I would say it's certainly worth a frame.



## Austin-Healeys at the Hotel de France

By John Young

A couple days ago, I was leaving our French village when an immaculate Austin-Healey passed heading in the opposite direction. I recognised the car immediately as the black BN2 of Jeanluc Serreau, who happens to be the President of Club Healey France, and lives a couple of villages from us.

I figured that he was probably heading to the Hotel de France in La Chartre-sur-le-Loir, so I thought I'd return via the village square to see if I was right. Sure enough, the BN2 was outside, along with another six Big Healeys and two Bugeyes. So Helen and I went in and met a great group of Austin-Healey enthusiasts, some of whom had just finished a seven-day rally.



However why would these classics be gathered outside this particular hotel?

It's all about history. In the '50s, Englishman John Wyer was managing the Aston Martin works team for Le Mans, which happens to be 45 minutes away. Wyer was a man who liked his food, and a deal was done whereby the hotel would be HQ, and the owner, a renowned chef, would prepare food for the team over the weekend. In 1959, the hotel had its first victory when Roy Salvadori and Carroll Shelby brought home the winners' laurels. In the bar, there's a photo of the two men sitting on the car outside the hotel after the race. Wyer went on to manage several other teams, notably the Gulf GT40s and Porsche 917s. Right up to the 1970 race, the cars were driven on the road to the circuit!





## Hotel de France cont'



Now owned by English enthusiast Martin Overington, the hotel's extraordinary motoring heritage comes to life in the famous brasserie with its specially designed wallpaper: a montage of all visiting drivers and key events over the years. Memorabilia and vintage racing photographs also adorn the walls. The hotel is also an excellent touring base: miles of famously empty roads and wide, sweeping curves beckon in all directions. The Le Mans circuit and museum are still a drawcard, while the Loire Valley offers chateaux and vineyards to the south.



In other words, the Hotel de France is exactly where you'd expect to find a gathering of Austin-Healeys. Or Astons, Porsches, Ferraris or Jaguars. After the Le Mans Classic in 2023, the entire village square was given over to vintage Bentleys. Hero drivers like Derek Bell and Jacky Ickx are still regular visitors.

It's a mecca for enthusiasts, and that, of course, is how we ended up living in the village three months a year.





**FOR SALE**

Well-known 1963 Austin-Healey 3000 MK2 BJ7 (HBJ7L/22080).

Multi-award winner at AHOC Car Display Days.

Many practical improvements make this a most enjoyable car to drive



**FOR SALE**

In excellent condition

If genuinely interested, please call Allan on 0418 477 962



**FOR SALE**

This vehicle (HBJ8L/33307) was subject to a full rotisserie restoration by Colin Rule and Peter Morgan, with mechanicals by Eric Rudd and Colin Rule. Howe leather by Denis Jameson.

Since completion it has won a number of Austin-Healey concour trophies and has completed minimal miles.

Over the last three years the car has received a clutch kit, electronic ignition, brake work, tuning etc undertaken by Superior Autos at Mona Vale.

Currently carried Conditional Registration which is not transferrable.

The vehicle is in superb condition with a price of \$130,000 firm.



All original receipts and restoration photos are with the vehicle for perusal.

David Rundle 0407 353 767  
rovingrundles@hotmail.com



Chippendale is on the edge of Sydney's CBD, notes Time Out, but it 'wasn't always a hotspot'.

The guide to the World's Best Suburbs explains: 'While many were enjoying negronis in Surry Hills, "Chippo" quietly transformed into a buzzing, community-driven neighbourhood.

'Alongside top foodie spots like Ester, there's plenty to explore: Phoenix hosts public concerts via free ballot, quirky art galleries abound, Fortress is a gamers' haven, and Asian food markets stay open around the clock.'

Thanks to Bruce Ewan

## Your Last Page



**Spot the Austin-Healey.**

**Surely the easiest yet.**

**Wouldn't mind the  
Morris J Van.**



**Left - An elegant woman with her Austin-Healey 100 while above is Mr Cool, Steve McQueen and his Mustang GT, but what's the car behind.**

**Monthly Meetings - Zoom ID 980 9019 7648 Passcode 336164**

**We meet on the first Thursday of the month at Strathfield Golf Club  
Weeroona Rd, Strathfield. Starting at 7.30pm or enjoy dinner from 5.30pm**