

IDLE TORQUE



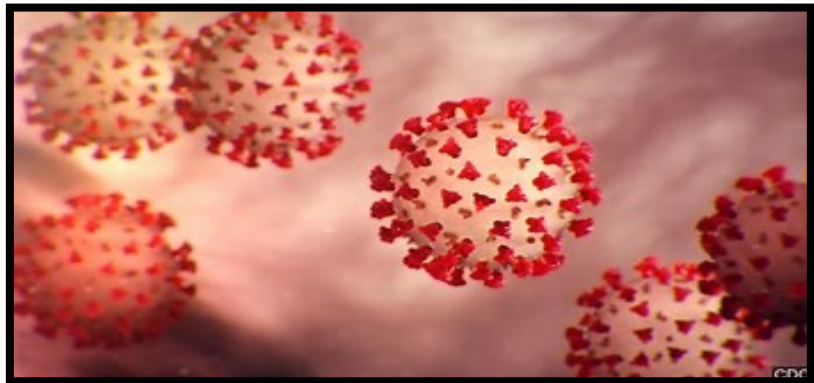
Edition No. 214 April 2020
Newsletter of the
**C.ex Coffs Sports, Touring
and Classic Car Club**

PO Box 2068 Coffs Harbour 2450

Website: www.cexcoffsstccarclub.info

Email: coffscexcarclub@hotmail.com

***ALL
MEMBERS***



Please read the important message from our Club President on the following page, regarding the steps taken by our Car Club to manage the Coronavirus outbreak.

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please call the President or Secretary.

More than just a car club

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

It is with much regret that, in consultation with my fellow Management Committee members and in accordance with government guidelines, we will be suspending **ALL** formal club activities effective immediately.

These activities are, in chronological order,

March 29th, Presidents Day

April 4th, Ladies Lunch

April 4th, Men's Geoff King Motors visit and Secret Garden luncheon.

April 6th, Monthly meeting at the Cex

April 8th, Villa Bellagio Garden

April 19th, Lawrence Hotel Lunch

April 29th, Darlington Park Brunch

Hopefully most of these activities will be able to be rescheduled at a later date.

Late in April the Management Committee will meet to determine whether we can resume normal activities or for the suspension to continue.

In the meantime we will be in frequent contact with our members by email and the April Idle Torque will be out early in the month although in a slightly abbreviated form.

We accept that members may wish to meet privately to continue their camaraderie and we would encourage them to do so.

It is indeed unfortunate that we find ourselves in this position, not only as a club but as Australians and indeed, the world in general and live in hope that an early cure will be found for this dreadful outbreak.



**BEST WISHES,
DICK WILLIS,
PRESIDENT**

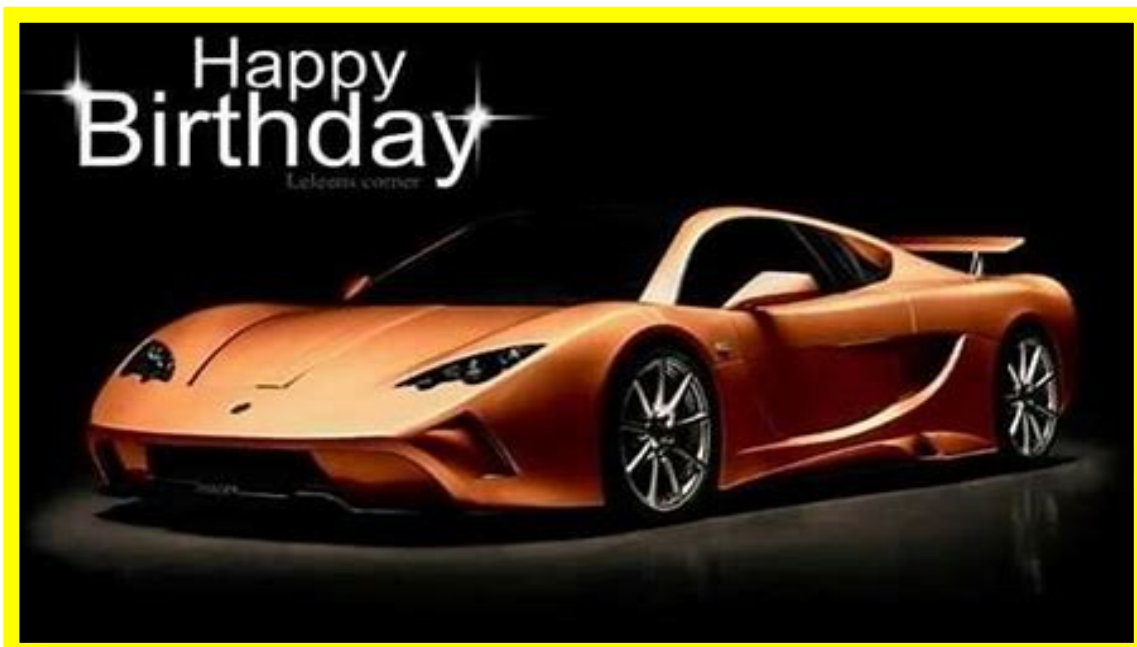


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The Club holds a General Meeting each month and the August meeting is preceded by the AGM. Ten (10) General Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at C.ex Coffs at 7.30pm, except for October when the meeting is held on the first Tuesday of the month, due to the public holiday. Two (2) other General Meetings are then held, one at Cex Urunga (usually in June) and one at C.ex Woolgoolga (usually in November). These meetings are held on a Sunday morning with a car display and followed by a luncheon.

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed within this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Coffs Harbour Sports Touring and Classic Car Club or its Committee. Whilst all care has been taken, neither the club nor its officers accept responsibility for the accuracy of information printed and the quality of any items or services advertised or mentioned in this publication. The Committee reserves the right to edit contributions for publication.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

3rd Bob Fairclough
9th Warwick Thomson
11th Phil Carmichael

SORRY, WE MISSED 2 LAST MONTH

30th March David Tierney
31st March Alan Mattinson

Special Belated Wishes to these guys

If you would like to be added to our member's birthday list, please let the Newsletter Editor know your birth date (day/month only required)

MARCH RUN REPORTS

REMEMBER WHEN MUSEUM GRAFTON 14TH MARCH 2020

What a very pleasant start to the day with 9 cars making their way to enjoy morning tea in the picturesque grounds at the Coramba Sport Grounds, under the trees with picnic rugs spread, much chatter and anticipation of what to expect at the Cottage.

The drive along the Orara Way was very enjoyable, lots of new green growth after the bushfires. The day unfolded with a delightful lunch served in a very unique house with lace tablecloths, fine bone china, candles and flowers, surrounded by a large collection of beautiful furniture, a room of vintage clothing and other retro goods for purchase. We had uncovered a little gem.

It was now time to explore and admire the 100-year-old cottage that was filled to the brim with artefacts, clothing and furniture from the past – the kitchen, master bedroom, children’s room, front veranda and of course the outside loo. What a very unique collection and an absolute top day was enjoyed by all.

JUDY PHEMISTER



RALEIGH WINERY COFFEE RUN 18TH MARCH 2020

Following a leisurely drive along Pine Creek Way, we arrived at Raleigh Winery right on time. 29 C.ex Coffs Sports, Touring & Classic Car Club members were in attendance. The location, the very generous food offerings, coffees and good company, made the morning well worthwhile. From discussion with most of the attendees, this popular restaurant, may well become a regular outing for the future.

GRAHAM PROCTOR



SAVE THE DATE

2ND JULY 2020

EVENT NAME	A NIGHT AT THE MOVIES	
When	Thursday 2 nd July	
Where	The National Cartoon Gallery @The Bunker 1 John Champion Way, Coffs Harbour	
Arrive	18:00. Movie starts at 18:30	
Expect	"The Italian Job" starring Michael Caine	
Bring	\$22.00 per head includes entry, lolly bag upon arrival plus ice cream at intermission and a ticket in the Lucky Door Prize draw. Cash bar available \$5.00 alcoholic drinks, \$2.00 non alcoholic drinks	
RSVP	Monday 22 nd June	
Contact	Grant George - 0408 493 134 or gkgeorge1@bigpond.com	
Brief Comments	Join in the fun with fellow club members and spend a memorable evening in this iconic venue watching the original and iconic version of this timeless movie.	

CAR CLUB MOVIE NIGHT!

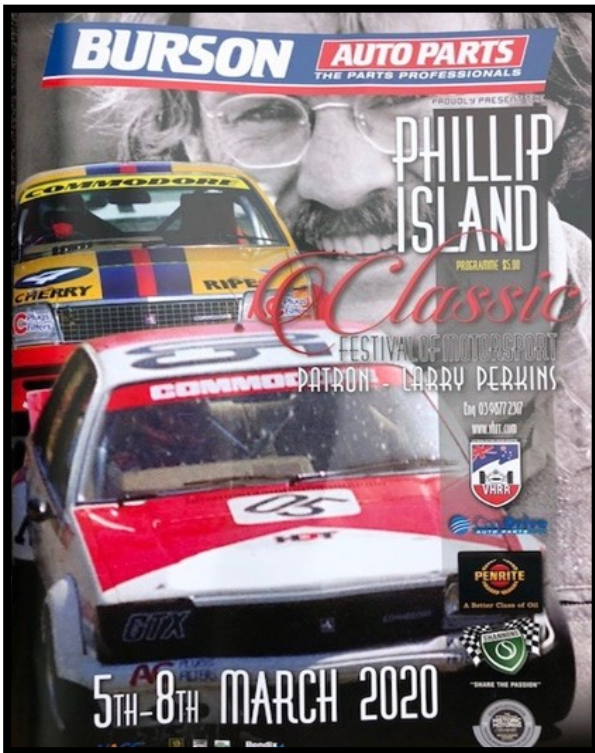
JOIN IN THE FUN WITH FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE
COXS COFFS SPORTS, TOURING AND CLASSIC CAR CLUB
BY SPENDING A MEMORABLE EVENING WATCHING ICONIC FILM
"THE ITALIAN JOB" AT THE NATIONAL CARTOON GALLERY



WHEN: THURSDAY 2ND JULY
TIME: ARRIVE 18:00 MOVIE STARTS AT 18:30
\$22.00 PER PERSON
Ticket includes: Entry, snacks (lolly bag upon arrival plus ice cream at intermission)
& ticket in the Lucky Door Prize draw
Cash bar available (\$5 alcoholic drinks, \$2 non-alcoholic drinks)

Bookings Essential. RSVP Grant on 0408 493 134 or gkgeorge1@bigpond.com
* min 30 to proceed, max capacity 40





Recognised as one of the world's largest historic motor racing events on the international calendar, by the number of entries and races held over the three days, the Phillip Island Classic promoted by the Victorian Historic Road Racing Register once again drew more than 500 entries with vehicles from around the world gridding up. Our Mid North Coast was well represented once again by our intrepid club members, Dick Willis and Mike Gosbell.

Dick driving his much travelled 1960 Nota Major (64) and Mike his unique 1957 Sabakat Lotus 12 (121) - both were entered in the fiercely contested Lb. Racing and Sports Cars 1941 – 1960 Class.

Both shared some good news and not so good news as the weekend progressed.

As Dick recounted, “Qualifying, seeded 17th out of 40, they didn’t have much faith in the Nota’s ability as it had finished in the top six at PI in the past two years. Track was half damp so I spent the first two laps trying to determine where it was safe to have a go but then it was red flagged because of an accident so we were to grid at number 13 for the first race.

Friday race, passed a few at the start and was looking good but another accident and another red flag after just two laps so it was declared a no race.



Saturday AM race, started 13th, another good start and made some progress to finish 7th but some problems were starting to show themselves, top speed seemed to be down about 10 kph to 180 compared to previous years, lap times were 3 seconds slower than my previous best.

Saturday PM race, started 7th, should have been a good start but someone chopped in front of me, got up to 6th which was about as good as it was going to get, had to pull out with a lap to go when the temp gauge got into the danger zone and it started to misfire. Trying to find the cause of the misfiring, found the distributor balance weights had come loose and it was advancing the spark too much, did a temporary fix.



Dick at full flight down Gardner Straight

Sunday AM race, rear of grid start because of previous DNF, had a bit of trouble getting past tailenders who were engaged in their own race but then it overheated again so another DNF, time to call it a day and head for home.

At home in the cool light of day and time to think, pulled the motor out to get the clutch balanced which was suspected of causing a vibration, removed the cylinder head and found a slight blow in the head gasket in the middle two cylinders which probably explains the coolant loss. Found the clutch driven plate cracked so avoided a future disaster there and we have yet to repair the distributor.”

Mike had an enjoyable weekend with plenty of track time before misfortune struck. During the last run exiting Swan Corner onto the extremely fast Gardner Straight, the gearbox started making unusual and expensive sounds. He managed to coast the length of the famous straight to find a safe exit point that would lead him back to the pits. It was then loaded onto the trailer for the long trip home. A very knowledgeable engineer and a highly experienced welder have since been engaged to reconstruct the ‘one of a kind’ gearbox – a feat in itself.

Car 121 is one of only twelve ever made with its unique history having been well documented in previous editions of our Idle Torque Magazine. It is well worth another read. A lot of jobs for both stalwarts to do prior to hitting the tracks once again, As they say, “that’s motorsport”.



Mike suited up, ready for action.

Well done Dick and Mike - keep the flag flying and those wheels turning.

For seasoned followers of Australian Motorsport, seeing such legends as Larry Perkins (Patron of the meeting), Kevin Bartlett, Alan Moffatt and Fred Gibson amongst others being surrounded by admirers throughout the weekend was amazing.

If you have never been to this event and appreciate watching some of the best classic racing cars in action, then consider heading to arguably the world’s most picturesque racetrack that is Phillip Island.

You will not be disappointed.

From enjoying the rare opportunities to talk to the drivers to hearing those engines being tuned then at ‘full song’ on the track makes the long journey to Phillip Island almost addictive.

On the next page are just some of the timeless and priceless classic racing cars that one can get ‘up close and personal’ with. **GRANT GEORGE**



An extremely rare 1939 Maserati 4CL Grand Prix car



A McLaren M8F 8 litre V8 (850hp) Can Am car



An Australian 1950s Maybach Mk 1 Grand Prix car

Many thanks to Grant George for putting this article together. It's articles like this, particularly where they involve our club members or other local content, that ensure our newsletter continues to service our membership base and also promote our car club across the wider community.

EDITOR

WELL DONE GRANT

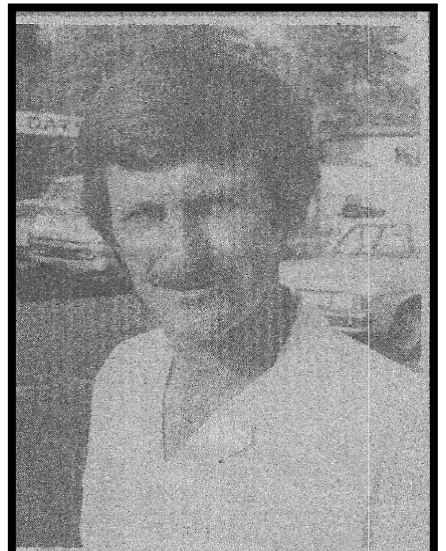




Warwick lets a few moths out of the wallet at Raleigh Winery



Typical David Lee, always "horsing around"



Bald tyres a winter hazard

Who could this be??
Circa - 1983

3 MONTHLY CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS

DATE	DAY	EVENTS	CONTACT	RSVP
APRIL 2020				
4th	Saturday		Judy Phemister	
6th	Monday			
8th	Wednesday		Judy Phemister	Sun 5th
19th	Sunday		Warwick Thomson	Sun 12th
29th	Wednesday		Leslie Sagaris	Sun 26th
MAY 2020				
				
JUNE 2020				
				

**If you attend a Club Run in a H/D plated car
it is YOUR responsibility to ensure you are entered in the Runs Book**

Members with H/D plates must attend five (5) club runs per year (August to July) in their H/D plated vehicle for the club to sanction the renewal of their H/D plates. Members with multiple H/D plated cars may attend the five (5) runs in any of their H/D plated vehicles. New members must attend four (4) club runs or club events before applications for H/D plates will be considered for approval by C.ex Coff's Sports, Touring & Classic Car Club.

Note; Club monthly meetings do not count as runs or events for this purpose

Date	Invitation Events	Contact
	<i>We are not advising on Invitation Events at present, due to the Coronavirus</i>	

Invitation Events:

NB These events are not organised through the clubs Events Committee but are recognised as official club runs. Members attending these events in H/D registered vehicles do not need their logbooks filled out **but** do require proof that they are attending an official "invitation club event". This can be done by carrying a hard copy of the event advertised in Idle Torque or an electronic copy on a device. The simpler option is to simply fill out your logbook (after all the majority of us do not use 60 days), which takes out any doubt that you are complying with the logbook trial regulations.



MAZDA MX-5 GT ND AUTO 2.0L ROADSTER

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CONTACT RIANNA 0432 282 949



An interesting comment from a motoring journalist (EDITOR)

Buying a car for fun, rather than just transport, is an unimaginable luxury for most of us. Most vehicles that are genuinely joyous - the kind that make you smile like a four-year-old in a bath full of gelato, are out of reach and that's what makes Mazda's MX-5, so special.

You'd have to consider whether you could be just as happy in a car that's almost as much fun but has five doors and a decent boot, like VW's Golf GTI, but a roof-down drive on a summer evening will soon answer that question.

On its day, the Mazda makes a compelling argument against buying a Porsche Boxster.

Which is high praise indeed.....

2003 MG TF 160

4-cylinder 1.8 Litre Petrol, 5 Speed Manual, British Racing Green, Beige Interior, Electric Windows, 193,000k's. Registered to February **2021** This MG was purchased by the present owner 3 years ago as a car club recreational vehicle. At the time of purchase, it had travelled 185,000 kilometres and has therefore only recorded 8000k's of careful motoring in the past 3 years of ownership. Paintwork, interior and folding roof are all in excellent condition. Owned by an MG enthusiast it has been well loved, always garaged and serviced regularly.

Due to a change in personal circumstances, the MG is now being offered for sale.

Price Reduction \$9,900 negotiable.

Contact Jill Bridgen 0408 440 581 or Peter Thomson (for technical details) 0418 245 913



An interesting response to a survey on the MG TF 160

EDITOR

If you want a sports car, buy one. If you want a Luxury Bus then why bother buying a sports car?

I have an MG TF-160 and I love it. If you buy a sports car like a Ferrari, what do you get? Not nearly what you would get in a BMW or MERC but then again, are BMW's and MERC's really sports cars??

NO! You would get the same thing as in the MG just with more performance. The MGTF is a true sports car and great to drive.

AMAROO CLUBMAN ROADSTER - AMR-008

Designer - Keith Tilke

First Registered - Feb 1998. Registered till August 2020

Builder - Hugh Buckle, Good condition, 26000 kms

Two volumes of construction data available

Modelled on Colin Chapman's 1955 Lotus Seven.

Includes full weather gear, full tonneau and motorcycle mudguards.

Body: Fibreglass on steel space frame, Aluminium bonnet, floor and bulkheads

Engine: Toyota 4A-GE, 1598cc EFI 100kw, standard Toyota ECU

Gearbox: Toyota T50 (ex-Toyota Sprinter), Close ratio 5 speed manual

Brakes: Hydraulic (unassisted), Front Disk (Ford Cortina), Rear Drum (Ford Escort)

Axles: Front-Ford Cortina, Rear Ford Escort, Diff ratio 4.1 to 1

Suspension: Front - Tilke upper & lower wishbones,
coil over Spax shock absorbers. Rear - Upper links, Lower A-frame

Steering: Holden Gemini (unassisted)

Weight: Front 300kgs, Rear 290kgs

Price: \$19,500

Phone - **0427 668 759**



Car Club Regalia

*Refer to the Website for images of all regalia
and where to get Club shirts*

Club Cap \$22

Window Sash \$22

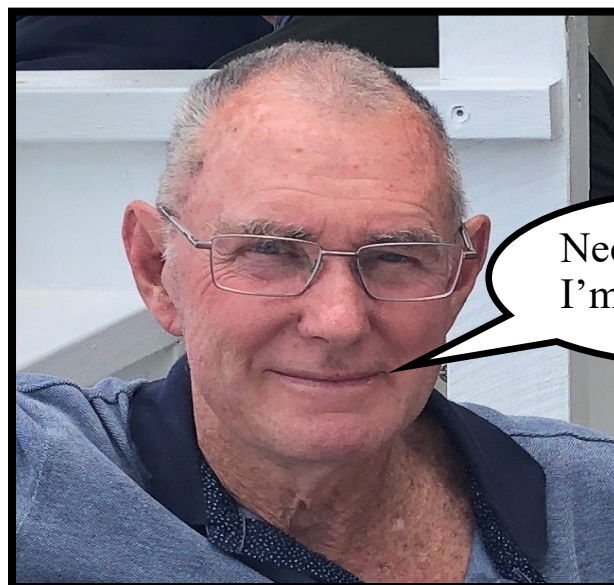
Metal Car Badge \$30

Umbrella \$25

Window stickers available on request

Winter Jacket \$75 Contact **Di Power** 65647616

For all other regalia contact
Russ Phemister 0409 525 077



Need regalia???
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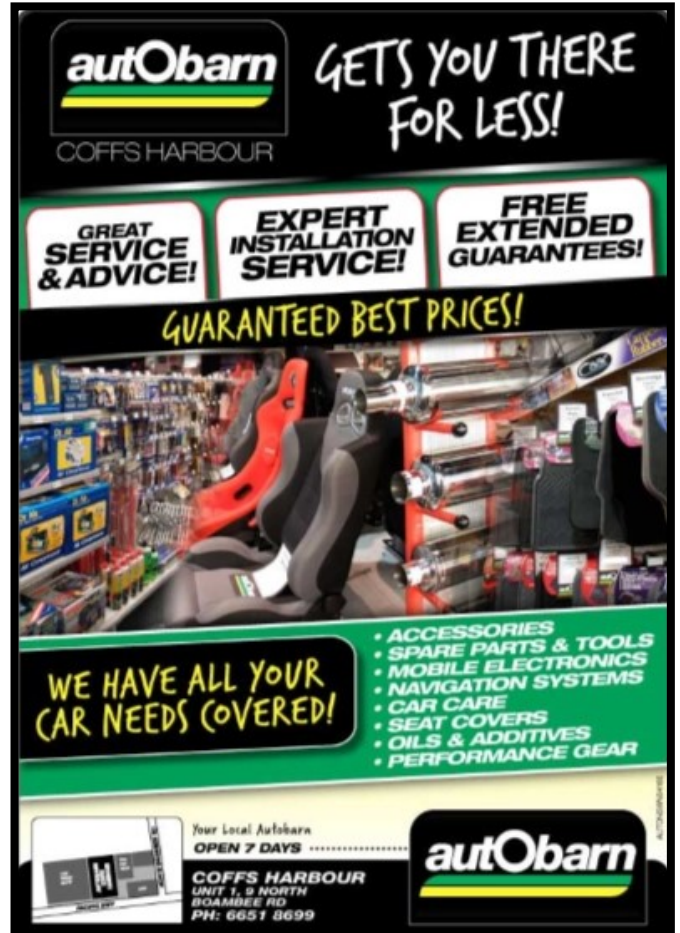
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