



SWALLOW TALES

The Official Newsletter for the Members of the
SIMCA CAR CLUB AUSTRALIA Inc.

VOLUME 26

NUMBER 4

DECEMBER 2019



Our feature car



SIMCA CAR CLUB AUSTRALIA Inc

Dedicated to the preservation and restoration of SIMCA cars for the purpose of maintaining the Simca marque as part of the motoring history of Australia.

The Club was formed to provide technical information and spare parts assistance to Simca club members.

The Club has an affiliation with Simca owners and clubs throughout the world, permitting a global update of Simca activities to our members.

The Club maintains a register of Simca owners through our specialist Registrar for both Simca and Simca Vedette.

The views or opinions offered by members in this newsletter – Swallow Tales may not necessarily represent the views or opinions of the Committee of Management.

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK – *by Iain Dyer*

Greetings all,

The State Rally has come and gone and so has the year. Leila and I were so pleased to catch up with everyone and spend the Rally time together. The Rally went smoothly, thanks to everyone contributing to make it happen. Another pleasing aspect on the Rally was how well the cars performed. Apart from our car and Luke's having some minor issues, the cars were brilliant. Luke had a fuel and exhaust problem which he soon fixed. Our car had engine mounts and oil leak issues. Apparently when we fitted the engine, the mounts were installed incorrectly and were rubbing metal to metal.

Morrie Barrett kindly brought two with him that he had cleaned up and lubed and we fitted these after the Rally. We had two oil leaks, one from the new head gasket and one from the side plate gasket. Morrie checked the side plate bolts and they needed nipping up. That fixed that one. The head gasket is still weeping out of the back corner. The moral is don't use N.O.S. head gaskets that are over 50 years old. Apparently the inner layer gets crumbly around the edges then collapses when the head is pulled down. No problem, Mr Simca, Morrie, flew out of his phone box and procured a brand new copper head gasket. He has a supplier who manufactures a new copper head gasket at a very reasonable price. It is sitting on the shelf waiting for the rest of the Wayne Yeo performance mods to come together. In the meantime, I am having too much fun driving it around and running it in.

Wayne has a pretty straight forward modification package that gives a reliable 80 bhp. Requirements? Suitable twin choke IDA Weber carb, head mods, distributor re-work and an unusual exhaust modification. All of the above has been procured and reconditioned and will be fitted after Xmas. I am really looking forward to completing the work and having a W.M.D. in the garage. However Wayne, if it doesn't pan out, expect a Cane Toad in the mail from my son in Mackay.

I must say a special thanks to Morrie Barrett, for unstinting help whilst we have been building the car. Considering it started out as a shell, it was quite daunting. Without his knowledge and contacts, I doubt we would have got it done. In the same vein, a special thanks to Geoff Rose. Thanks also to Rob Stapley, it's now got the starter he gave me in QLD fitted. Speaking of the Stapley's, I had a ride in Ina's 90A at the Rally and was

stunned at how lively and tight the car was. Rob offered me a drive, but my clutch leg is not up to it at the moment. (See mod I made on ours).



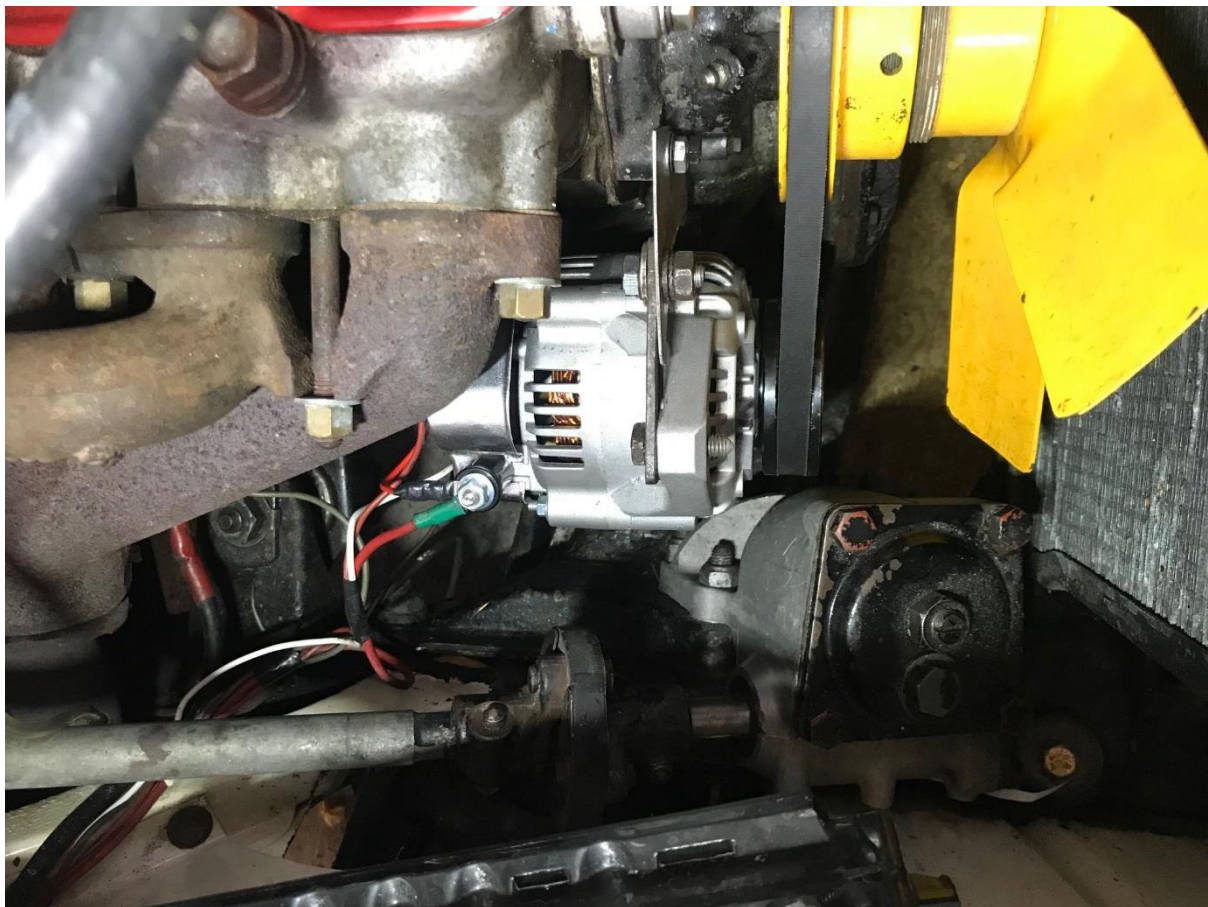
The last thing I wanted to do is buzz up his clutch. Not having had a real drive of a Simca for many years, I had forgotten what a gem of a car they are. It's amazing how much attention it gets and how many photos are taken of it. Particularly pleasing, are how many young people describe it as "cool". They are not all disciples of Mr Musk. Back to the clutch problem. The problem is there is nowhere to rest your left leg, except under the clutch pedal. I have plenty of strength in my leg to push the clutch in, but not enough to lift my

leg and find the clutch. I thought about this and came up with a plan. All my mechanic mates said it wouldn't work, and I would ruin the clutch. The plan was simple. I made a simple foot cradle out of 3mm flat, removed the pedal rubber and bolted it to the pedal. I previously had drilled two holes in the bracket. The plan was to attach two long springs from the cradle to two holes I had drilled in the base of the seat. The thought being I could permanently rest my foot on the clutch, with the springs pulling my foot back. In the shed I had several metres of tarp bungee cord, so decided to go with that. I cut four hooks off occy straps and fitted the bungee cord. After several runs up and down the drive, I got it adjusted just right. I could easily push the clutch in and the bungee cords spring the pedal and foot back without me moving a muscle. I can rest my foot on the clutch without the pedal moving. Sorry if it is all a bit boring, but it is huge for me. I recently

went out and did over 200k in city and country driving and it works a treat. Chuffed! Darn right I am. Like the pelican trying to stuff a huge fish in its beak, NEVER, EVER GIVE UP!



Another modification we have done since the Rally, is fit an alternator. This is another Morrie Barrett mod and he has details of how to make the bracketry. The perfect unit is one from a 95-97 Suzuki Swift with the V belt pulley. They are Nippondenso, so there is a bit of wiring to do. Apart from increasing from 15amp to 55amp the engine seems much smoother.



As some cretin wrote our car off just prior to the Rally, we needed a replacement. Having had a couple of drives of Morris Citroen, I must say I was very impressed. Coincidentally the week after the Rally, an 012 C5, one owner low k, full s/history came up. I purchased it and we are stunned at what great cars they are. I used to proclaim that only weirdo's and cross dressers bought Citroen's. I have had to eat my words. Mind you, I have been eyeing off a lovely little twin set in Myer's window!....



I realise most of the report has been about us down here, but apart from taking the Simca to the Westbury Car Show, that's about it. I let my youngest daughter, Estelle, drive it out and exhibit it and she was over the moon with the experience. She is in love with the car and would rather drive it as her daily drive, instead of her Corolla. It's very encouraging as she is going to end up with it, not too soon I hope.

We have been very concerned for members where the fires have created extreme conditions. The news vision is horrifying. It's incredibly sad that property and human lives are being lost, but also imagine the devastation to wild life. Hopefully conditions will abate soon and we get badly needed rain.

To one and all in our Simca family, Leila and I hope the New Year will offer comfort and support, in wherever our lives are taking us.

Kindest regards to all
Iain and Leila Dyer

PRESIDENTS REPORT - by Rob Stapley

Hi to all from President Rob,
Hope everyone had a merry Christmas and are looking forward to a happy new year. Well Christmas was cancelled in Lobethal this year because of the bushfire on the Friday, Sat before Christmas our pageant was cancelled and the lights display was also cancelled. The power was off for about 30hrs or more and internet and mobile phones were also out. How much we rely on what we take for granted. Understandably there are not many happy faces in our district. So much destruction of house and sheds, so many old cars stored in sheds or outside burnt to be unrecognizable. So many dreams unfulfilled, so many orchards and vineyards burnt and now unproductive and useless. I realize there are many communities suffering across Australia as we are through drought or bushfire. It is the friendship and camaraderie in clubs like ours which helps people get through hard times.

So cheer up everyone if you have a home to live in and an old car to restore get on with it and enjoy.

Hope the New Year brings all you want, wealth health and happiness if not all three two out of three isn't bad.

Cheers Rob



SECRETARY'S REPORT - *by Doug Murphy***Secretary/Treasurer's Report:**

This Financial Report relates to the period 1st July – 30th November 2019

The main features were:

- A decrease in the bank balance from \$8131.34 to \$4039.
- The main expenditure during this period relates to the 2019 Rally - \$3775.60 and printing/postage of Swallow Tales - \$510.49 (for March, June & Sept editions).

Memberships Report:

There have been no changes to the membership data base from 30 June to the present.

Memberships for 2020 are now due by 31st January 2020

Position Vacant.

The position of Secretary/Treasurer is available.

The current Secretary, Doug has become time poor and would like to hand over this interesting role to a willing volunteer. Bookkeeping and computer capability would be an advantage. Contact President Rob Stapely.

The 2020 AGM and Rally

This is to let you know the destination for the 2020 AGM and Mini Rally is set down at Echuca for Wednesday 30 September to Sunday 4 October. A suggested program would be along the lines of:

:

Wednesday 30/9 Arrival day

Thursday 1 A rest day, maybe a club activity such as a paddle steamer ride.

Friday 2/19 A run

Saturday 3/10, am AGM, short run or club activity, maybe a museum visit.

Could be departure for some.

Sunday 4/10 Breakfast and departure

Accommodation is being organised at a caravan park at or near Echuca. For details, contact Rob Stapely.

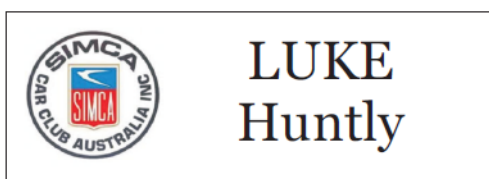
QUEENSLAND REPORT - *by Luke Huntly*

Hi Everyone, it was great to catch up with those who could make it to the rally in Tasmania and especially good to see quite a few members from Queensland attend. David drove his wagon all the way which was a good effort on his part travelling by himself. His story is below. The Huntly's trailered the Etoile to Melbourne and then took the two cars over on the ferry. Doug and Maggie and Bill Heritage also attended from Queensland. Here are a few pics of some special moments from rally.





Just before the rally we had some Simca name badges made up and there was a fair bit of interest from other members. It was decided at the AGM to place another order. If you would like to purchase a name badge and haven't already let us know please email through the following details.



Name Badge Orders

Please let us know the following details for your order:

1. Name you would like on your badge.
- 2.
3. What type of backing: ☐ Pin \$9.90 ☐ Magnetic \$11
4. Would you like your name badge: ☐ Posted ☐ Delivered to the 2020 AGM
5. Address for postage

Please contact Luke & Michelle Huntly, email beitz@hwy54.com.au or phone 07 4622 3361. We plan to place the orders in February so please let us know by the 31/01/20. Payment options can be arranged at time of order.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy Christmas and look forward to catching up in the new year.

Kind Regards,

Luke & Michelle

Alice's adventure in Wonderland (aka Tasmania) and other things.

The recent National Simca Rally provided Alice with the opportunity to drive from the Gold Coast to Melbourne, sail across Bass Strait, enjoy various drives around north and north-west Tasmania, and then return home via Central Western New South Wales. A total of 4,963km (3,102 miles in the old money) with average fuel consumption of 5.5 l/100km (40.3 mpg in the old money). She handled the drive with ease, and I am very proud that she was the only Simca that drove all the way from her home base – it was like motoring in the mid-60s, apart from the dual carriage-way motorways from the Goldie to Sydney, and from Sydney to Melbourne - and the Stratos bucket seats which Morrie had the foresight to fit during the restoration process! In fact, Alice's performance throughout the rally really was testament to Morrie Barrett's care and skill. Thank you, Morrie!

The rally itself provided the opportunity to drive the Simca around various locales in the North of Tasmania, and it was terrific to spend time in various towns of historical and cultural significance, usually involving a motor (or other) museum, a café and fascinating landmarks. It was an absolute delight to park the car and have someone call out, "Some car this Simca!" and then chat with someone who hadn't seen one for years, or that they had done their apprenticeship on them back in the early 60's, their boss had one when they started their first job, or as I found out (sadly) when I was having a break at a rest-stop at West Wyalong that many young blokes in the 70's and 80's used to buy them (they were very cheap, maybe \$10 to buy at the time) and race them around paddocks until they blew – which, I was assured, was very difficult to achieve! That may explain why the Simca Aronde, once so popular on Australian roads disappeared so quickly.

The ferry ride from Devonport to Melbourne started a little rough, but fortunately things calmed down, and the journey across the straight was uneventful. I know it was uneventful, as I did not sleep much at all! At about 1am, I looked out the porthole and saw the second Spirit of Tasmania heading towards Tassie. Well, it was the lights of the vessel in the distance, so waving was fairly pointless. At about 3:30, I saw land out the porthole, and realised that we were passing through the heads into Port Phillip Bay, and at 5:00am, I was already getting up and ready to go.

At 5:30am, it was cold and dark – the coldest I felt it had been the whole rally! The Huntlys and I had arranged to meet in the car park where we had started the rally, but as Alice drove down the ramp, it was obvious we could not drive over to the carpark, as we were being directed away. There were cars already driving on to the mustering area to head south, so I figured the Spirit of Tasmania was going to be turning around almost immediately to do a day-run to Devonport. The traffic directors were yelling at me to get going, and I could not stop and meet up with the Huntlys, the Stapleys, the Rogers and the others. There was nowhere for me to park, and going around the corner provided no options. I found my way onto the Motorway, it began raining, and I started my day's drive towards the Newell Highway, and Condobolin in central western NSW.

After driving all day, stopping for copious cups of coffees (mega-cappuccinos), I made it to Auntie Maree's about 4:30pm. I was in bed by 7 and woke up at 9:30 the next morning – yes, I was tired. The trip from Condo back to the coast took me through Gulgong, where my family lived in the 60's, so it was nice to walk up Mayne Street and see a photo of my Dad in

the window of the pharmacy. Coincidentally, Mudgee, about 30 km south, is where Alice was originally from.

I am pleased that every time I take Alice out on the road, she stirs memories in the older folk, and sparks interest in the younger folk. On the days she drives to school, the kids are fascinated by her, and think she is cool! In fact, last year, she assisted my Year 11 English class in the driver education unit. No, they did not drive her, but they got to sit in her driver's seat, and observe her blind spots, then sit in a modern car (the Monaro CV8Z) and compare them. They all loved Alice – they didn't mind the Monaro, but Alice was particularly favoured!

She hasn't been on any adventures since she got back from Tasmania, but she has been heading out regularly, at least until the last week or so when it has become quite hot. I am afraid the lack of refrigerated air conditioning is one aspect of 1960's motoring that I have not yet quite embraced, and I feel that she will have fewer trips over the next couple of months.

Alice's adventure in wonderland was great fun, highly social and well worth the time and effort to be part of, and we are both looking forward to the next Simca Rally in 2021! See you there.



WESTERN WHISPERS – WA STATE REPRESENTATIVE’S REPORT –

By John Pickles

WESTERN WHISPERS

WA State Representatives Report – By John Pickles

From the reports that have filtered back to us Sandgroppers in the West, there is little those fortunate enough to be able to attend it was an event to be remembered for years to doubt that the Simca National Rally held in Tasmania was an outstanding success. For those fortunate enough to be able to attend it was an event to be remembered for years to come. Anyone involved in the organizing a weeklong event such as the rally can tell you the amount of time and effort it takes to bring it all together, so with that we congratulate Liela, Iain and his merry helpers for providing such a full, entertaining and successful Simca Rally.

There has been very little Simca activity in the West apart from the first appearance of Ian Williams Vedette at a motor show. On invitation, Ian’s son Dale entered the Vedette in the major car show of the South West, the “Busselton Motorfest”. The word quickly got back as to the amount of attention and comments the car attracted and at the end of the day Dale was saddled with the chore of bringing home the awarded trophy for the “Best European Car”.





BUSSELTON MOTORFEST

It was interesting to hear of a Matra turning up at the Simca Rally in Launceston, a very rare car and certainly a highlight at the meet.

MATRA M530

Our article on the Matra M530 that appeared in the last issue of Swallow Tales attracted a great deal of interest and if we thought it might be beyond restoring then we might have to think again. Our good friend Jim Conrady in America sent me some photographs of a body mould for the M530 from which a complete fiberglass body can be made.



BEWARE OF THE SCAMS

Like a lot of us car buffs we are always surfing the net for a good buy and that is where I came across a low mileage Hyundai i45 at what could only be described as a bargain price. I have been around long enough to smell a rat so I thought I would sound it out, and sure enough it had to be a scam THESE ARE THE REPLY TO MY INQUIRY.

Hello John, sorry about the late reply busy with work!

Well let me just jump right into it. I just got divorced and the Hyundai was awarded to me in our divorce. I have a low price (\$4,150) because I want to sell it before December 12nd ideally. I have a deployment coming up and would prefer to have my mother who is taking care of my children, have the cash instead.

Now, a few words about this 2012 Hyundai i45 Fully optioned, comes with registration and a full RWC In perfect working condition, with nothing mechanically wrong - like new! This Hyundai has 115,598 kilometers on the clock.

Never involved in any accident. No scratch to the paint, no sign of rust.

Transmission type: Automatic.

Owned by non-smoking family with no pets, interior always clean and tidy.

If you decide to buy it, you'll receive all the papers, owner manual, keys, a buy-sell contract already signed by me and the clear title. REGO

23/02/2020

Let me know if you have any questions.

Royal Australian Air Force Hanna Bohma

Second email:

Good morning John, as I've told you in my first e-mail, I'm in the Air Force with my medical team and right now I am on a military base. We are training, getting ready for leaving the country.

Before leaving I had prearranged the deal with eBay I chose to hire them to take care of the whole selling process as I cannot leave the military base. The delivery process will be managed by me. I think I can have it there at your home address within 1-2 working days. You will have 5 days to test and inspect the Hyundai, prior to making any purchase. During that 5 days testing period I will not be getting any money. Only when you give the confirmation to eBay that you are satisfied by the Hyundai and wanna keep it, they will release the funds to me, otherwise, they will refund you the full amount of money without any question, and you can ship the Hyundai back on my expense. I need to know if you are interested so I can ask eBay to send you the details on this deal. If interested please include in your next

email your contact info for eBay (full name, shipping address and phone number), so I can notify eBay that you are selected as my possible buyer and they will contact you to explain the entire procedure.

Warmest regards,
Hanna

Before you askNo! I didn't buy the car.

To all our good friends, we wish you all the joys and happiness that comes with Christmas and may 2020 bring you good health and prosperity.



**“MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
A HAPPY NEW YEAR”**

VICTORIAN/ TASMANIA REPRESENTATIVES REPORT –

by Andy Woodson

It was great to catch up in Tassie with our group of Simca followers, but now it's back to usual proceedings in the state of Victoria. A busy time for car shows and swap meets in Vic is always between September and December. The spring weather has been kind and great events were held in Wallan, Shepparton, Bendigo and Numurkah. This year, the Bendigo event had approximately 1700 sites booked for the 2 days. To physically be able to check out all the site holders goods is nearly impossible. The full 2 days are definitely required. Numurkah in December is a much more manageable event. Lots of great cars and motorbikes on show and a small swap meet on the side. I've incorporated a few pics from each event. It's funny where you may find a deceased Simca. I recently was speaking to one of my neighbours in the district who happens to own a large bush property not far from where Ned Kelly had a shoot out with police. He told me there was a dead Simca thats been in the bush for about the last 30 years. Well, we went in there for a look. It was barely recognisable. The pics tell the story. The only possible saveable parts could be the diff and rear springs. Who knows what kind of wildlife could have made that Simca their home? I didn't get up close and personal with it, however, could be a winter challenge. Remember, if anyone is after a little camper to pull behind their Simca, I'm always making lightweight ones, similar to the one in the pic. Anyway, I'll get my act into gear and do some serious research concerning Echuca accomodation for next October. All the best and Happy New Year. Andy Woodson.





A restoration project for the seriously ambitious.
Bring your own helicopter!



SOUTH AUSTRALIA REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT - *by Robert Stapley*

Hi everyone.

This is the S A state reps report.

Not much happening Simca wise in SA from my perspective. Mel has had the Vedette out a few times, a long trip to Jamestown with the Pt Augusta club of about 30 cars. Of course this was when the weather was cooler, its now far too hot to even think about driving, let alone working in the shed. I determined that whenever we go out for lunch or coffee we will take the 90A so seems to work so far, weather permitting of course. Always attracts comments of some sort and is fun to drive.

Still life goes on, there are cars to restore and club outings to attend next one for us is Australia Day.

I'm sure there will be more stories in this issue about the Tasmanian rally. Iain and Leila and Ian and Mandy did an excellent job looking after rally attendees making sure we had a great time. The new members and old and older members all catered for. Thank you everyone for making the rally so memorable.

Meanwhile keep driving.

From Robert and Ina



President displaying correct Club headwear. His companion, on a break from his safe cracking class!

NEW SOUTH WALES REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT – *by Ian Powell*

NSW has been quiet to the best of my knowledge since the AGM Tasmania meet.

Thank you to Iain and Leila and all for the great rally.

Morrie has confirmed the NSW Sydney French car day is on Sunday 12 July 2020. Not sure of the venue yet but every other year has been at Silverwater.

Looking through the diary of events in NSW for 2020 a few that came to my attention, mainly around the Hunter included:

Motorama at Closebourne House Morpeth March 1, 2020 (TBC)

Hawks Nest Motorfest, Saturday, 14 March 2020. an event the SCCA members attended a couple of years ago. (Bagheera attending).

Tilligerry Motorama (near Lemon Tree Passage) Sunday, 17 May 2020 (Bagheera attending).

Plus
The Sydney French Car Day
Sunday, 12 July 2020

Another interesting event for 2020 may be the



TORRENS PARADE GROUNDS || VICTORIA DRIVE || ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

CONCOURS D'LEMONS DOWNUNDER

SEPT. 26, 2020

REGISTRATION COMING SOON

I've heard it's a bit of a hoot with their awards from 2019 including: Despite the best efforts of the Borders and Immigration Dept the Concours d'Lemons returned to Australia for the 3rd oil dripping year. The worst that the automotive world has to offer took to the gorgeous and historic Torrens Parade Grounds in downtown Adelaide, South Australia. Shannons' Insurance showed up with their big rig filled with racing simulators, while vendors had good food and automobilia on offer for the crowds. The owner

of the Reliant Rialto that took home "Worst of Show" honor wished to remain anonymous, lest the world know his shame of owning such a terrible car.

DER SELF-SATISFIED KRAUTTEN WAGEN (Germany) – Nick Mebberson – Volkswagen Beetle

KOBBLED TOGETHER AUSSIE KANGAROO KARTS (Australia) – Ian Wilson – Lightburn Zeta

LAST NIGHT'S LEFTOVERS (Japan) – Lynn Dawes – Honda Acty
NEEDLESSLY COMPLEX ITALIAN (Italy) – Angelo Rizzo – Lancia Delta
RUEFUL BRITANNIA (Great Britain) – Gordon Cowley – Ford Prefect Van
RUST BELT AMERICAN JUNK (USA) – Andy Miller – Chevrolet Wagon
SOUL-SUCKING JAPANESE APPLIANCE (Japan) – Dave Carey – Isuzu Bellett

SWEDISH MEATBALLS, PRE '74 (Sweden) – Symon Williamson – Volvo 240

TWO-WHEEL TERROR (Great Britain) – Rod Bailey – Humber Olympia Tandem

UNMITIGATED GAUL (France) – Wish We Knew – Citroen D21
WONDERS OF THE KOREAN PENINSULA (Korea) – Hugh Mortimer – Hyundai POS

WTF?? (USA) – Nick Macjen – Cadillac Coupe Deville
WORST OF SHOW (Great Britain) – Anonymous – Reliant Rialto

If any members are interested in any of the above events please let me know as we may get a few cars along. Hopefully the Rancho may visit Adelaide for the Concour's D'Lemons.

Mandy and I have just returned 30 Dec, from Melbourne with the Bagheera post Tasmania via the Alpine Way, hmmm brake fade even with 4 wheel discs...but a lot of fun. The Rancho is home with new parts arriving for suspension, radiator etc and also new rear box sections currently being folded, hopefully on the road in 2020





Yes, it's Yuri and his Djet again...

Any other famous Matra SIMCA owners we can share?

Take care all.

Ian



NEW ZEALAND REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT -

New Zealand Representative Report – Gerard Crombie

Since returning from our trip to Tasmania for the Simca tour & AGM I haven't even found the time to give our Simca a run. By the time this report goes to press I'll have made two trips to Brisbane and two trips to Wanganui. In between I've done the Spring clean of tree trimming and taken two large trailer loads of green waste to the local waste station!

Yvette and I thoroughly enjoyed our Tasmanian adventure, we added extra time before and after the AGM tour and were in Tasmania for three and half weeks, so safe to say we were the longest visitors of our group on this trip. We had flown into Hobart been to the Salamanca markets (bought birthday gifts there), been up Mt Wellington, been to Port Arthur and travelled up the picturesque east coast (Bicheno & Bay of Fire) before we got to Launceston for the Simca tour. After we said goodbye to the Simca group we picked up another rental car and went back to the Ulverstone area visiting Sheffield (murals), Railton (topiary) and Wynyard (Tulips) before heading to the West Coast.





At Queenstown we did the Wilderness Steam Train trip into the gorge with its unique cog and pinion incline system (see photo). From Strahan we did the Gordon River day cruise which included (since it was a calm day) being able to get through the narrow entrance into the Southern Ocean (an interesting experience). The steam train journey

and the river cruise, apart from the Simca Tour, were the highlights of our Tasmanian adventure. The hills and twisty roads in and out of Queenstown added a bit of excitement as well.



After Strahan we headed south where we stayed at an unusual hotel called "The Bears Went Over the Mountain" at Geeverston. The following morning I succumbed to the temptation of Tasmanian Scallop pies, a scrumptious flavour and full of scallops. I was still seeking out and eating scallop pies at the airport before we left Tasmania.

Our appreciation to Iain and Leila for the marvellous job they did of organising the Simca tour part of the trip and for the shared use of their Simca and MX5 during the Simca tour time.

Other news is I was recently contacted by the brother of the person who has acquired the rusty body of a 1957 Versailles which they plan to restore. This is a body that has passed through many hands over the last 10 years.

The current owners don't have the motor for it but once in the past, through an initial enquiry to me, it resulted in Colin and Ivan Smith reuniting the body shell and the original motor, at least with the same owner. The two have over the years again been separated. It's a big and challenging project.

The photo shown is of Ivan's Ariane at the petrol station filling up, having been off the road for several months awaiting the head and gasket replacement work, now completed.



Message from Colin and Lucy Smith, New Zealand.

Hi, first Lucy and I feel for you all about the fires in your country,
> hope that no members are seriously caught up in them. We have parted
> with the 1301 it's now in Dunedin I am using the p60 as a daily driver
> as the s/w has a bad cooling system, In mid Oct the north island blokart
> and teams racing was held here in the bay with over 50karts competing I
> was part of the local team we did well 1st at the wrong end still a lot
> of fun. The long weekend in Oct saw us in Gisborne for the 250year
> celebrations of captain cooks landing taking the ariane ,50yrs ago i
> navigated for my brother in law and we came 1st in our class as his car
> was not mobile the ariane went as we owned it at that time it created a
> lot of interest some asked what is it, A photo shows all the folk that's
> left from that gathering with the chev that was also there. Sept we took
> part in Havelock North's fire brigade 100yrs parade, also in Oct we
> attended the Gisborne truck show raising funds for gissy school lunches.
> In Dec xmas parade we towed two karts with show sails.It has so much
> easier to do these things as I can now get around without a walking
> stick after 25 years enableing me to do most things now like climbing
> ladders mowing lawns even tried running not good yet. Forgot little red
> was picked as 6th in the peoples choice. Please accept our
> condolences for the loss of some of your citizens in the white island
> eruption. And a merry christmas to you all Colin/Lucy



The fantastic 2014 Rally, New Zealand.

Club Members Cars

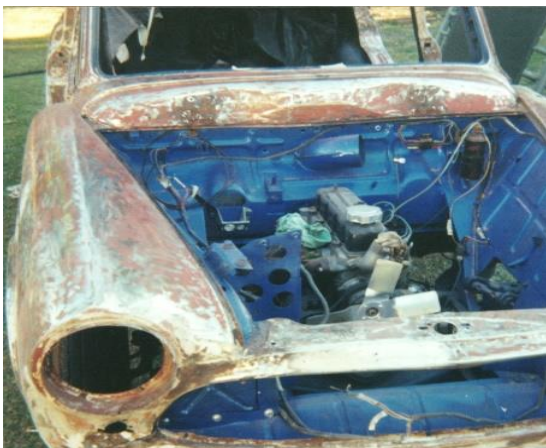
This is the first of a series of articles of Club members cars. To my mind Luke Huntlys' P60 Etoile is one of the most iconic cars in the Club: It's perky blue presence is regularly seen, at events all over Australia. It's great the way it is and represents an epic story. Editor.

G'Day, my name is Luke Huntly.

In September 1997, I purchased my 1960 Simca P60 Etoile at a clearance sale near Goovigen, Queensland. I was only 15 and in Grade 9 at the time, and I didn't have any intentions of taking on a car restoration project. All I was looking for was an engine, gearbox and diff. The car was complete and I thought that it would be a waste to throw it away. It was then that I decided that even with no knowledge of Simca's, I would take on the challenge of restoring it.

At the end of 1998, I finally started the project and stripped the car. After approximately 12 months I had completed underneath the car, by cutting out the rust, sandblasting and painting. All this was completed in between my school work.

When I started Grade 12 in 2000, I was getting ready to start the paintwork. Once I had earned enough money, I bought everything I needed to strip and paint the car. With help from my friends and family, I was able to completely strip and repaint the car in 3 months. By the time I completed Grade 12, I had the Simca looking like a car again, aside from a few small trimmings, which I finished once I started my apprenticeship. I was finally able to register my first car, and first big challenge on 14 June 2001.



All of my restoration work was completed in my parents back yard under an open single car port and jumbo garden shed. I couldn't have done this without the help and support of my friends and family.



It has been nearly 20 years since completion with a few adventures on the way. She had had a couple of big trips driving to the Dubbo rally in 2003 and the Echuca rally in 2005. The other rallies she has been trailered except for the WA rally when I was co-driver in Geoff Rose's car.

The other significant event was in 2010 when she went for a swim. I was in hospital in Brisbane and I got a phone call from my brother saying he couldn't get home because of the flood waters. That flood was unexpected and caught a lot of people by surprise. The poor little car got wet right up to the centre of the head lights, luckily the electrics in the dash didn't get wet. My brother drained the water out of the engine straight away and put fresh oil in it. I did the rest when I was well enough after about 8 months.

Since then she has been going well with just minor maintenance being carried out. She was one of the cars in our wedding and now has become more of a family car with a baby seat fitted.





Westbury Car Show

Westbury is a quaint English style village, with a magnificent village green. The early settlers had the foresight to reserve the area and plant a variety of English trees. A hundred years on, we have a wonderful selection of mature Oaks that provide shade and restful beauty. The show is put on by the Westbury Rotary Club and raises substantial amounts for their charitable work.



As mentioned, our daughter Estelle took the Simca to her first show. First show for both of them, she feels an addiction coming on. It was amazing how much interest was taken in the car. Sitting just within ear shot, it was interesting to hear the comments. Many people, mostly older, enjoyed reminiscing, whilst others, talked through..... Let's say their sandals! The Simca got a lot more photos than the late model Mustangs. A very restful show, sitting under an Oak tree, with a Rotary hamburger with the lot and a coffee. Kim Jong-Un I have a message for you. Get a life!



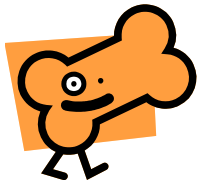


Market Place

Simca Wagon. Anyone looking for a Simca wagon project, here is one that is available. Asking price \$1000.00. If interested contact David Reeves on 0417641329



The Club also has several easily restorable cars, at very reasonable prices. Contact Morrie Barrett 0429495003.



Funny Bones

Catholic Hairdryer

Catholic school students are taught that lying is a sin. However, Instructions also advised that using a bit of imagination was OK to express the Truth differently without lying.

Below is a perfect example of those teachings:

Getting a Hairdryer Through Customs.

An attractive young woman on a flight from Ireland asked the Priest beside her, 'Father, may I ask a favour?' '

'Of course child. What may I do for you?'

'Well, I bought my mother an expensive hair dryer for her birthday. It is unopened but well over the Customs limits and I'm afraid they'll confiscate it.

Is there any way you could carry it through customs for me?
Hide it under your Robes perhaps?'

'I would love to help you, dear, but I must warn you, I will not lie.'

'With your honest face, Father, no one will question you.'

When they got to Customs, she let the priest go first. The official asked, 'Father, do you have anything to declare?'

'From the top of my head down to my waist I have nothing to declare.'

The official thought this answer strange, so asked, '**And what do you have to declare from your waist to the floor?**'

'I have a marvellous instrument designed to be used on a woman, but which is, to date, unused.'

Roaring with laughter, the official said, 'Go ahead, Father. Next please!'

First Time Sex

A girl asks her boyfriend to come over Friday night to meet, and have a dinner with her parents.

Since this is such a big event, the girl announces to her boyfriend that after dinner, she would like to go out and make love for the first time.

The boy is ecstatic, but he has never had sex before, so he takes a trip to the pharmacist to get some condoms.. He tells the pharmacist it's his first time and the pharmacist helps the boy for about an hour. He tells the boy everything there is to know about condoms and sex.

At the register, the pharmacist asks the boy how many condoms he'd like to buy, a 3-pack, 10-pack, or family pack.

The boy insists on the family pack because he thinks he will be rather busy, it being his first time and all.

That night, the boy shows up at the girl's parents house and meets his girlfriend at the door.

"Oh, I'm so excited for you to meet my parents, come on in!"

The boy goes inside and is taken to the dinner table where the girl's parents are seated.

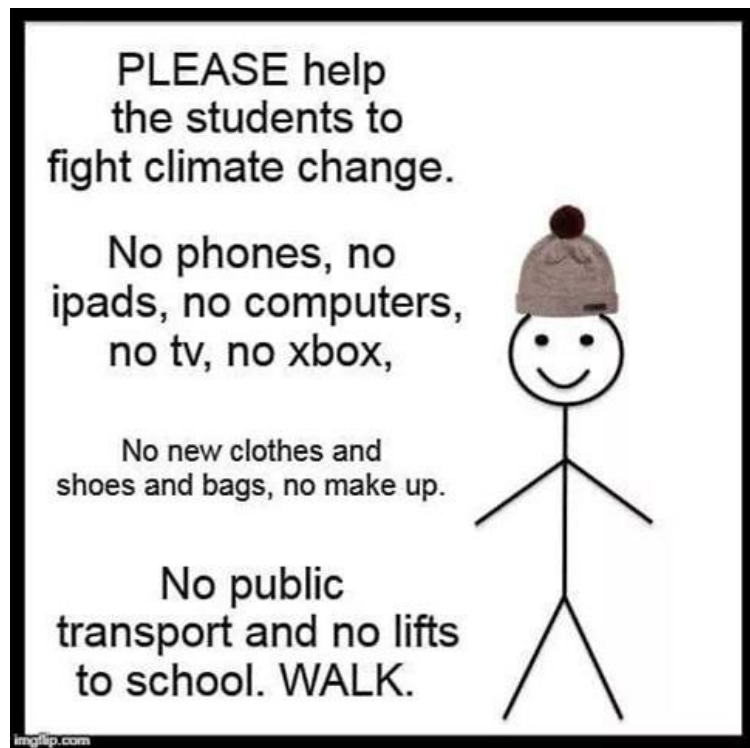
The boy quickly offers to say grace and bows his head. A minute passes, and the boy is still deep in prayer, with his head down.

10 minutes pass, and still no movement from the boy.

Finally, after 20 minutes with his head down, the girlfriend leans over and whispers to the boyfriend, 'I had no idea you were this religious..'

The boy turns, and whispers back,

'I had no idea your father was a pharmacist.'




A blonde pushes her BMW into a gas station. She tells the Mechanic it died. After he works on it for a few minutes, it is idling smoothly.

She says, 'What was the problem?'

He replies, 'Just crap in the carburettor'

She asks, 'How often do I have to do that?'



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Hidden Valley Road, Berrimah 0828

QUEENSLAND
Unit 5, 305 Montague Road, West End 4101

SOUTH AUSTRALIA
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TASMANIA
337-341 Argyle Street, North Hobart 7000

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PS - From the Editor...

Please remember any contributions welcome or suggestions.

Reminders:

The 2020 renewal of membership is due on January 1st 2020. If you are overdue, please pay now. Don't forget members can pay their subscriptions by bank transfer or to the club secretary.

Electronic Funds transfer (EFT)
BSB: 633-000 Bendigo Bank (branch at Braidwood NSW)
Account number: 135350668

Please identify who is paying and for what if possible in the reference section with name and subs amount.

Don't forget to fill out Renewal Form attached so that all your details are correct/current. Please don't copy them from the previous year.



Breaking News

Not exactly breaking news, but it's time to pay our subscriptions. If we could do it earlier than later it makes the Secretary's work much easier.



SIMCA CAR CLUB AUSTRALIA Inc. CLUB MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Jan – Dec. 2020

Surname: ----- **Given names:** -----

Membership No: ----- Please print both names for family membership

Address: Please print full postal address

Contact Details:

Home: -----

Mobile: -----

Email: -----

Please indicate (x) in the email box to receive your club newsletter via email.

Please indicate (x) in the boxes for any personal information you do not wish to be published by the Simca Car Club Australia Inc.

Any more/fewer cars than last year? If yes, then please let us know below.

Annual Membership Subscriptions

Simca Car Club Australia Inc. membership operates from:

1st January to 31st December each year.

All Membership Fees are due and payable each Year on: 1st January

Annual Subscriptions are currently:

Single \$40

Family/Joint: \$45

Signature/s: ----- **Date:** -----

(Both signatures required for Family/joint membership)

Please pay Cheque/money order to Simca Car Club Australia Inc and post to:

Secretary/Treasurer S.C.C.A. Inc.

Doug Murphy

PO Box 2151

Wellington Point

QLD 4160

Fees may also be paid by EFT to SCCA Inc.A/C:

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