



SWALLOW TALES

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

VOLUME 23

NUMBER 2

JUNE 2016



Barn find in Victoria. Available for sale.



SIMCA CAR CLUB AUSTRALIA Inc

Dedicated to the preservation and restoration of SIMCA cars for the purpose of maintaining the Simca marquee 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.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT (as elected at the 2013 AGM)

President:	Vince Parisi Ph: (03) 94013966 Mobile: 0412867386 12 Paul Crescent Epping Vic 3076 Email: vincp@optusnet.com.au
Secretary/Treasurer:	Lorraine Laney 36 Kallaroo Rd San Remo NSW 2262 Email loric2@bigpond.com
Editor:	Iain and Leila Dyer Ph: (03) 63442601 Mobile: 0419353075 121 Penquite Road Newstead Tas 7250 Email: sales@autocourt.com.au
Public Officer:	Margaret Barrett 54 Disraeli Road WINSTON HILLS NSW 2153
State Representatives:	
NEW SOUTH WALES	Morrie Barrett Ph: (02) 96869719 Mobile: 0429495003 Email: morriebarrett@optusnet.com.au
QUEENSLAND	Luke Huntly Ph: (07) 46223361 Mobile: 0439830117 Email: beitz@hwy54.com.au
SOUTH AUSTRALIA	Rob & Ina Stapley Ph: (08) 8389 6176 Email: inastapley123@hotmail.com
VICTORIA / TASMANIA	Stephen Maloney Ph (03) 9584 6180 Email: Stephen_maloney@hotmail.com
WESTERN AUSTRALIA & Life Member	John Pickles Ph: (08) 9535 5023 Email: jpickles3@bigpond.com
NEW ZEALAND	Colin Smith Ph 0011 6468 440212 Email: lucol@clear.net.nz

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

Greetings all,

As usual everything is a rush. I can well remember as a young bloke adults saying “isn't it amazing as we get older time just whizzes by. “ I can remember thinking the poor old sods were losing it. Now I am an old sod it is so true. I can't even blame my grandkids, because the least I see of the little blood suckers the better. Don't hate me Margie!

June is usually a quiet month in the Business, but this year it went off. I am up to my ears in end of month and year paper work, not my forte. The other part of the Business I love, is the important part of buying stock. It is hugely time consuming and hard work at present, I even bought one in Sydney last week.

Fantastic to see Luke and Michelle's new additions to the Simca family. The photo of Lukes 4x4 and trailer loaded to the gunnels brought back memories. How many times have we all done that? You have to be slightly mad, good isn't it, the world is full of boring people. The good wagon looks very tidy and usable. It is the same colour combination Fred had from S.A. Fred offered his wagon to me at the Mildura rally, sort of regret I didn't take him up on it. Still you can't own the world. I would like to have heard Luke's excuses, if the cops had pulled him over. Good old Cruisers, you can't beat them.

Our Simca is coming along when I find time to get to it. The hard choice in winter, is a warm Lounge and a cuppa, or getting the drum heater going in a freezing shed. If the dog won't come out of his kennel, that is good enough for me.

Cheers
Editor



PRESIDENTS REPORT - by *Vince Parisi***Presidents Report June 2016**

I hope that this newsletter finds you all well and healthy but I also hope that you have had as much interest, fun, enjoyment and reward out of our common interest (The Simca Marque) as I have had these last couple of months.... I can honestly say that not a day goes by that I don't have some sort of conversation about "Simcas" in some way, shape or form, It may be on the phone on face book via email or face to face with someone somewhere in the world, yep in the world as the Race Vedette seems to have woken a sleeping giant especially in Brazil. Not a day goes by without a conversation about someone wanting to purchase a Simca or sell a Simca, looking for parts to restore a Simca and people I don't know send me photos (3 times already) of the brick wall that has been exposed in Northcote from the Ex Northcote Chrysler site (pic in this issue), there is a Brazilian chap who is trying to arrange a event with only Vedette race cars and has FIA and Nascar links (lots more to that ongoing story.. stay tuned) the Simca Face book page now has over 300 likes and of course there is my own face book page and all the communication with 3 or 4 Brazilian Vedette enthusiasts....and of course my Vedette obsession to feed is nonstop Phew, see what I mean!!!

So, talking about my obsession/love affair with Vedettes I have now had it at 2 Historic events, Phillip Island and Winton short track next is Winton long track in August, I have never enjoyed driving a car around a race track in any event as much as the Vedette albeit slowly or as fast as I can get the old girl up to some sort of speed..... It stops, handles, sounds and sort of accelerates so gracefully that I have a permanent smile on my face when I'm circulating. And the amount of interest is truly astonishing as Peter Walker (Winton Pit crew) witnessed, it seemed that everyone there either owned, knew someone that owned, did their apprenticeship on them or wrecked them but the comments received were the same.... "Unique, Different, Beautiful, Great to see something different". I am very humbled by some comments and at the same time very excited by the interest the Vedette creates wherever it is and by the way..... Had an interview with Muscle Car Magazine, so look out for it at your local newsagent.... Apart from trying to arrange the 4 speed Gearbox located in Brazil from Alexander Fornari (the son of ex Simca Vedette racer Bruno Fornari) to get here before the Winton meet (I have been on the phone today with importer/exporter) there is nothing else to do..... So roll on Winton.

OK OK some club stuff... firstly the AGM is approaching quickly, I am looking forward to catching up with the Committee and whoever else comes along as all are welcome (more detail in this issue)...

I must mention the great work that the Q/land 2017 AGM subcommittee has already achieved (Doug, Kerry, Luke and Michelle)... Is definitely going to be the AGM not to be missed.... Sun, Surf and Simcas...

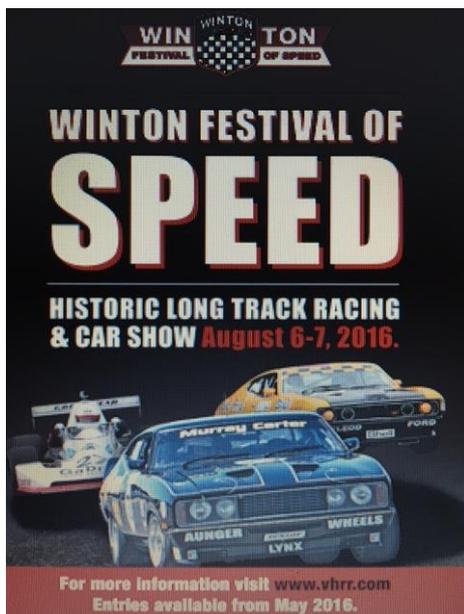
The NZ Team is back from their overseas visit to the Netherlands Simca meeting and having seen some of the photos they had a great time (more detail in Colin's report), well done Colin flying the SCCANZ Flag.

John Pickles has sold both of his Simcas (Vedette and Versailles) but promises me that he is still a Simcaite at heart, I'm sure the new caretakers will look after these vehicles as much as John did and I've been told that both will be members of our Club.

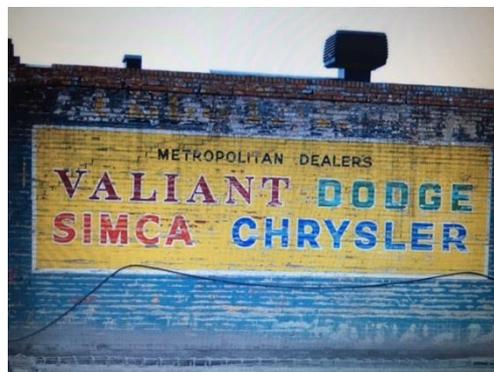
Our Club is very small in Australia/New Zealand but there is a very large following in other parts of the world, some countries are Canada, Uruguay, Argentina, USA, Brazil, Netherlands, France and more.... Maybe just maybe we could host a worldwide coming together of Simca Enthusiasts in Australia..... maybe something to mull over.

Look after yourselves and your Simca's and hope to catch up with you all soon.

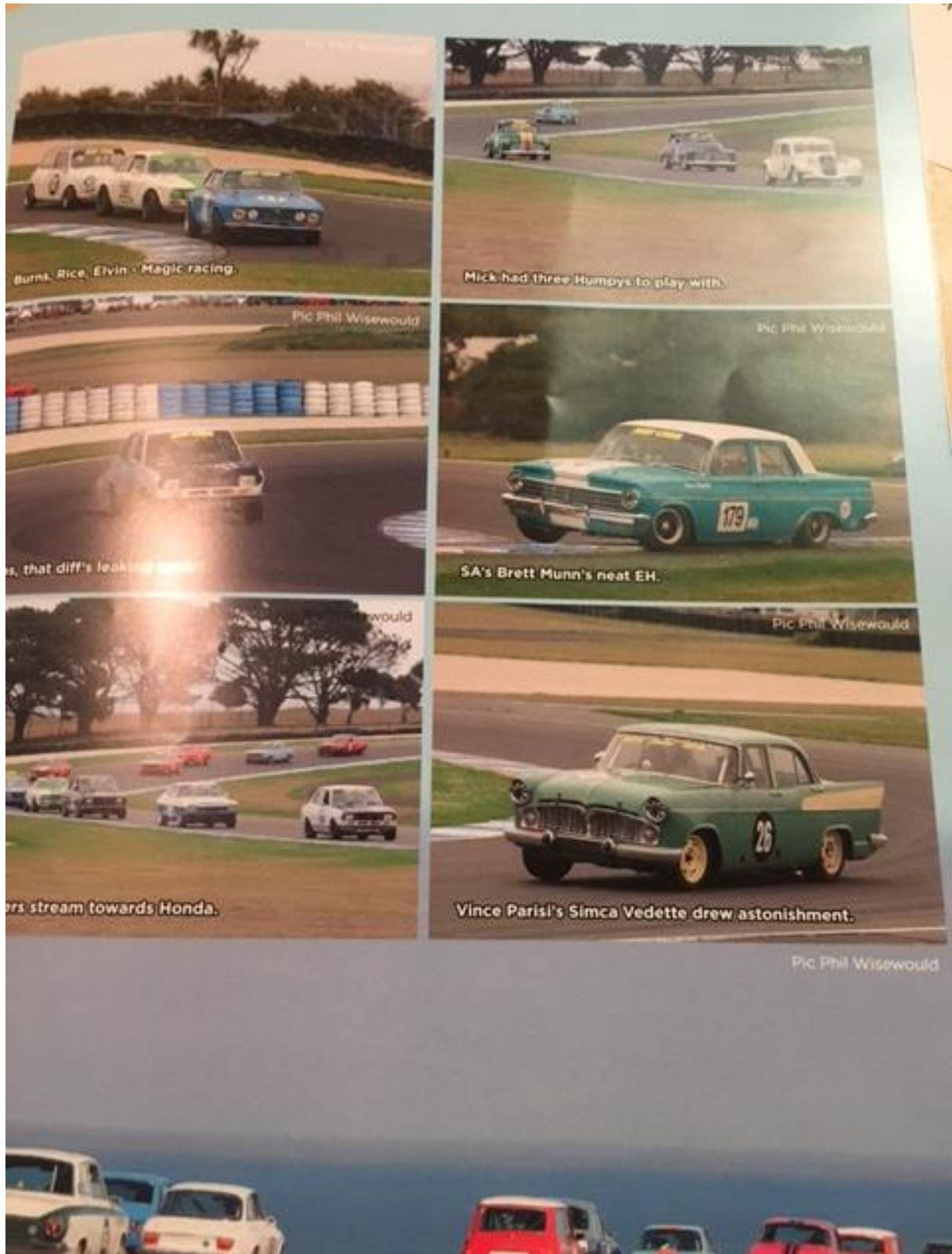
PS.... If you can, come and watch the only racing Simca Vedette racing in the world...



Exposed in High St Northcote..



the old Northcote Chrysler dealership..



Pics from the Historic Touring Car Clubs Mag with the Vedette at Calder and Phillip Island...



The Fornari Racing Vedette still exists in Brazil



The First No 26 Racing Vedette



This is where it all started.....From this.....



.....to this.

Debut at Phillip Island





Yes.....it's a 4 speed
Gearbox for a Vedette



I think I
will build
another
motor



The Old Girl at Winton Raceway



SECRETARY'S REPORT - *by Lorraine Laney*

Secretary/Treasurer Report : June 2016

It has been a fairly quiet time for the Secretary since the last issue of Swallow Tales. There has not been any club correspondence as such, apart from emails about the 2017 Meet – all of which have been dealt with as required. There have been a couple of enquiries via the club website which have been forwarded on to President Vince or to the appropriate member for follow-up.

As at the date of writing this report, some renewals of member subscription fees are still outstanding. Regretfully, reminder emails and phone calls have evoked no response from those members. As the Financial Statements close at the end of June, those members who have not paid their fees will be deemed to be unfinancial and will be advised in writing to that effect. As fees were due in January, this has been a great disappointment to the Treasurer.

Information has been received about entries for the 2016 Bay to Birdwood. Entries are now open and Entry Forms may be faxed, posted or emailed. Registrations may also be made online. An Entry Form and Route Map may be downloaded from their website: www.baytobirdwood.com.au The Motorfest programme has been sent to the Editor, for inclusion in this issue of the newsletter – space permitting.

The next major item on the club calendar is the AGM to be held in Albury on Saturday 8th October 2016 and the Notice of AGM is in this newsletter. Members are reminded that all positions become vacant at the AGM and the committee for 2016-2017 is then elected. On a personal note, as I will not be standing for a further term as Secretary/Treasurer, the club will need a member to take on this role. I would encourage all members to seriously think about taking a position of office on the committee.

In conclusion, I would like to thank members who have sent in photos and stories to be added to the club website. I am happy to continue as Website Editor and appreciate the contributions.

My best wishes to all members - stay safe and keep well, especially during the colder winter months. I look forward to meeting up again in Albury.

Lorraine R. Laney : Hon. Secretary/Treasurer

NOTICE OF 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting will be held on
8th October at The Hume Inn, Albury NSW at 4.00 p.m.
(406 Wodonga Place, Albury 2640)

BUSINESS

Confirmation of Minutes

1. **Confirmation of Minutes** of the Annual General Meeting held on 26th September 2015 at the Semaphore Surf Club, Semaphore Park, S.A.
2. **Correspondence**
3. **Financial Report** for the year ended 30th June 2016
4. **Reports :**
 - a. **President**
 - b. **Secretary**
 - c. **Editor**
 - d. **NSW State Representative**
 - e. **QLD. State Representative**
 - f. **S.A. State Representative**
 - g. **VIC. State Representative**
 - h. **W.A. State Representative**
 - i. **New Zealand Representative**
5. **Election of Club Committee:**
 - a. **President**
 - b. **Secretary**
 - c. **Editor**
 - d. **NSW State Representative**
 - e. **QLD. State Representative**
 - f. **S.A. State Representative**
 - g. **VIC. State Representative**
 - h. **W.A. State Representative**
 - i. **New Zealand Representative**
 - j. **Registrar – All Simcas**
 - k. **Registrar of Simca Aronde**
6. **General Business**
 - a. **Determination of Fees for New Members and Renewal of Membership for January-December 2017**

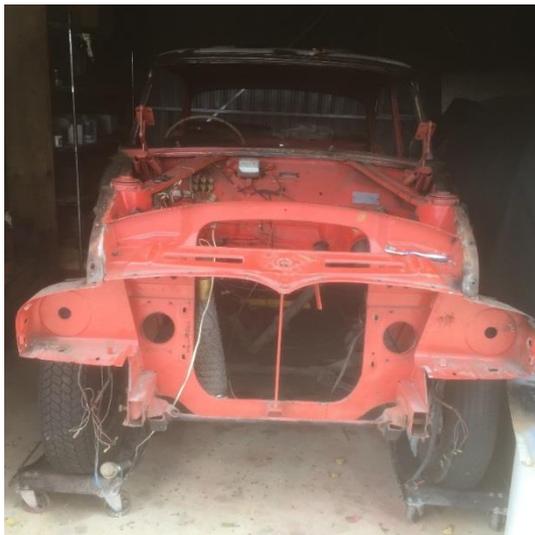
Lorraine R. Laney
Hon. Secretary/Treasurer

QUEENSLAND REPORT - *by Luke Huntly*

Hi Everyone,

The Queensland All French Day car show is fast approaching and will be held in Brisbane on 3 July. We expect about six or seven cars and some visitors, including some members from New Zealand. There is a whisper that Morrie Barrett will also join us. Kerry Ryan will bring a Club banner and Skip will bring an open sided tent. So if we bring a chair and a thermos, we'll be well set up. As a group, we'll be able to have a closer look at details for the 2017 National Meet.

Here are some photos of Doug's Vedette in a state of undress. No front guards, doors, sills and one pillar missing. This vehicle had extensive rust in the sills and elsewhere. In its older restoration, new pieces of plate were welded over rusted pieces and in a couple of places, fibreglass was put over rusted panels. Unbelievable. Doug's panel beater, Peter, would like to get his hands on the culprit.



Talking about Vedettes, readers might remember in our last report Chris Buckner was very keen to purchase one. Well it didn't take long as he has recently purchased a Beaulieu from WA member, John Pickles. Many said that he would not part with it. However, after many conversations he relented and it found its way on semi transport to Bribie Island about a fortnight ago. Chris was originally able to show John a picture of his first car way back in 1967. It was the same colour and model. As John has said many times, he has been purely the custodian of the vehicle and now he believes he has passed it on to someone who will appreciate it and maintain its originality (a new custodian). Chris is looking forward to flying over to WA in the near future to spend some time with John. So the Vedette which John fondly refers to as "Yvette" has gone from one seaside location in the west to one in the east. Also the boot was full of 'goodies' including a service manual, several boxes of parts, a windscreen and a rear window.

You might also remember in our last report that we checked out a couple of Simca Wagons in Toowoomba when we were there for the Swap Meet. Well, after much contemplation we decided to purchase them. Luke and his brother picked up the 'parts' car in Toowoomba on their way back from Brisbane after picking up machinery purchased at an auction. It was a bit touch and go but managed to squeeze all parts onto the ute to leave room for the car on the trailer. This meant the ute was quite overloaded, about a tonne and a half of materials plus the trailer, it was a very slow trip home. The good car was picked in a more civilised manner borrowing a car trailer from a local club member. It was much easier to load and hassle free trip home. Luke has had a chance to fire up the engine but some work needs to be done before it is on the road.



Kind Regards - Luke and
Michelle Huntly
Queensland Reps



WESTERN WHISPERS – WA STATE REPRESENTATIVE’S REPORT –

By John Pickles

Hard to imagine that half the year has passed us by and we have little to show for it, having said that I believe our members in Queensland have made great progress in the planning of our 2017 National Simca Rally. From what I hear it will be an event not to be missed by the Simca enthusiast.

Recently I had been given the sad news on the passing of our club member Ralph Harrison. Ralph had been a member for some years and although he was not currently in possession of a Simca he and his brother were enthusiastic of the make. On behalf of all the members we offer our belated condolences to the family, the loss of a loved one is a terrible burden but our thoughts are with the family.

Never imagined it would ever happen but John (Pickles) has parted with his beloved Simca’s, not one but both. After 28 years in the custody of John the “Beaulieu” has been sold to fellow member Chris Buckner in Queensland who is now the new keeper. The “Versailles” has gone to a Ford enthusiast in South Australia who we hope in the near future will become a member of our club.



“Yvette” as the Beaulieu was called, took revenge in me sending her to a new home by shedding the tread on the rear tyre just four kilometers from the transport depot. I had packed the boot to the hilt with spare parts and to fit the windscreen glass I had to relocate the spare to a position just behind the back seat which meant I had to unpack the boot at the side of the road to retrieve the spare. With no car I am experiencing withdrawal symptoms and no doubt will have something in the coming months to fill the void in the garage (only hope it’s not an Austin). Having mentioned the Austin, I very nearly committed myself to an MG Magnette MK111 which has a body very similar to the Austin A60, but thanks to our good friend Vince Parisi who inspected the vehicle he saved me from a disaster as the car needed so much work which was not revealed in the advertisement.

Ian Williams has been up country so I imagine little work has been done to the Vedette. Paul Evans has the Murena on the backburner until he completes other projects and Darrel Manning has been refining his Simca 1000.

In the absence of the real thing John has built a Simca "Rocker Racer" for competing in the Veteran Car Club interclub events. This all started off as a bit of a fun thing between two branches of the club but it's getting a bit serious and competitive. The first trial for the Simca will be on Sunday 12th June, from what we see the Simca is the smallest (and perhaps the lightest) racer so it will be interesting to see how it performs. To build the racer you can use the rocker cover from any make of car and configure how you want, some are prettied up with flower designs, another looking like a steam train, for me it had to be a retro Simca.



You may recognize the above face as that of our past member Rob Lewis who is now an inhabitant of Tasmania, Rob was one of the many Simca people to recently pay us a visit in Mandurah. We had the pleasure of Morrie Barrett, Ruth and Geoff Rose and their companions Luda and Rob who had a stopover with us during their organized 65 day round Australia motoring venture which began on the 14th April and to finish on the 20th June.

We have heard of people doing strange things with the Simca but this takes the cake



Built by the coachbuilder ROTROU in 1962 for BUTAGAZ, this unusual vehicle was based on the SIMCA 1000 and was one of seven built. I believe Rotrou lost a lot of money on this contract.

Happy Simca Motoring.

John Pickles

VICTORIAN/ TASMANIA REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Winton 2016

Historic Winton is always a top event. Leila and I have missed very few over the last fifteen years, having a stroke put paid to a few occasions. Since then, we have been back twice and thoroughly enjoyed it.

For us the anticipation builds as we board the ship, for the journey over to Melb. For all those that haven't made the trip, it really is a pleasant way to start a holiday. We have made over 90 trips in the last five years and you seldom get a rough crossing.

We always go with our business partners, Martin and Kaye Wilson and follow the same routine. Coffee and cake at Seymour, Benalla Caravan Park, same cabin, no 8, same Pub for meals. Usually same spot at track, for the Lyons Club to cook up the egg and bacon rolls. If you reckon it gets any better than that, you are probably a football fan, more used to munching on a pie.



I reckon half the attraction of Winton is the car park. The whole area becomes packed with classic and special interest cars and bikes. Peter Gaggioni is always there with his club and always has a magnificently restored old Motor cycle on display. Martin caught up with Peter but I missed him this trip. We plan to call at Wangaratta when we attend the AGM. Lunch is on us this time Peter, you paid last time.



Of course the racing is the main event. Our star racing driver, Vince Parisi, well only, since Geoff Rose has taken up scone sampling, was present. The Vedette looked and sounded wonderfull. We

had tea with Vince and he said the gearing was all wrong. He was only able to use second gear as the car bogged down when he grabbed top. He was pulling six grand in second gear only, each lap. I did say a little prayer for his bigends, the car that is, as they frantically belted around in the slippery stuff. A tad outside the original design paramaters. It all held together, although he did have some fuel problems. He is acutally chasing down a four speed box in South America. Now there's an opportunity to pay for some race gear. If customs

seize it, you just say, “ Honestly Officers, I thought that white powder was oxidation off the alloy casing. You can trust me, I’m in the car trade”! Oops, so am I!



The races I love are the early specials. They represent an era where a few mates got hold of a wrecked thirtys V8 sedan, used the chasis’s and mechanicals and built all sorts of body styles. Some cloned the top racers of the day, like Ferarri, Mercedes 250F ect. The ones I love are often only creations a mother could love. They used a lot of war surplus parts, like drop tanks off aircraft. The amateur skills and enthusiasm shone through in their designs and is lost in the glitzy world of today. Growing up in Sydney, Mum worked at a garage in Woollamalloo called Recknors Garage. This was when I was a lad of three-five around 1950-53. I used to fill the oil bottles and marvel at these creations. One visitor to the garage was Jack Brabham and all the crew used to attend Sydney show grounds to watch him race his midget. Then there was Mr Druit..... Ah the memories!

I guess this is part of the charm of Winton for me. It is a reminder of a great time in Australias social history. Yeah, blokes were blokes, sheila’s were Sheilas, Mum was Queen, wogs were wogs, we hated poms, a gay old time was a good night out, ice was delivered by pony and cart and the only crack on the street was Uncle Norm’s, trying to start the Victor. Oh, I seem to remember at School, Protestants, Prostestants, ring the bell, Catholics, Catholics, go to Hell! Very non p/c today.

Having been a litle bit naughty, I would on a positive note, recommend attending the next Historic Winton.

Editor.



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

Hi all from South Australia,

I think we are not alone suffering cold wet weather with hardly a day of sunshine to relieve the monotony. However the blue wagon is fixed, new bearings in water pump, replacement fan blade and different radiator, now to repaint the bonnet. John Pickles Vedette has relocated to S.A. and its new owner lives on the outskirts of Loxton. I have met him and hope he will join the club. Now there are at least 3 Vedette's on the road in S.A.

The three French car clubs in S.A. are conducting a Bastilles day dinner at Cafe Braggs restaurant on East Terrace Adelaide on 16th July to which all Simca owners are invited to.

Sunday Oct 23rd will be the French car day to be held at Wiggly reserve at Glenelg.

This year the Bay to Birdwood is for pre 1957/58 cars so the Somerset might get a run.

Looking forward to seeing some of you at the AGM in October which should be a great weekend and another chance to do some driving and get away for a couple of days.

Till then happy motoring from S.A.

Robert Stapley

NEW SOUTH WALES REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT – *by Morrie Barrett*

NSW REPORT

Hi all since my last report I have undertaken part of a road trip around Australia with 8 vehicles making up the convoy, I travelled as a co-driver in a Subaru and Geoff and Ruth Rose drove their Ford Courier.

Commencing in Sydney in a clockwise direction on arrival at Kalgoolie I left the convoy caught a plane to Perth where I was met by John Pickles and spent a number of days with John and Evelyn whilst the convoy travelled to Perth via Esperance and Albany, Ruth and Geoff also caught up with the Pickles.

Upon reaching Katherine I obtained a lift to Darwin and flew back home in all 8 weeks away and returning from the 30's to 17's was a shock to the system.

Geoff and Ruth fording a creek on the way back from Tunnel Creek



Geoff and Ruth
and Morrie
camping at Wolf
Creek Crater





Wolf Creek Crater

Northing further to report on fuel pump kits

Prior to departing on the trip I retrieved two rush motors from Gloucester along with two gear boxes one flash one rush all ok for spares.

Andy Woodson from Wangaratta is seeking to purchase a Simca P60 not requiring much work to make road register, Andy can be contacted by Email andyz@hotmail.com.

To date 10 rooms have been booked for the General Meeting 7-9th October at Albury at the Hume Motor Inn Albury, would other Members other than those listed below are planning to attend you will need to make a booking and please advise the Secretary of your intentions. Attendees are Barrett, Huntly, McCarthy, Laney, Powell, Rose, Smith, Scanes, Parisi and Dyer,

State Members are reminded that you will need to forward your report to our Secretary prior to the meeting.

The Sydney All French Car Day will be held at Silverwater Park, Silverwater on 17 July.



A VERY original Fiat 1100 Millicento sedan. A lot of our Simca mechanicals have origins in these early Fiat's. I have had a couple and they are delightful little cars.

Iain

NEW ZEALAND REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Greetings from NZ. What a busy time we have had over here and up over, one Sunday in early April we took the truck and trailer to Hamilton to gather up a few parts we were told, yea right I don't know how it all fitted on and the good news is we caught up with Alan who was the neighbour, the late Ian Bowden. Alan was restoring a 1501 as was Ian that was back in 1999 when John Pickles cam to NZ for a visit it was great to see another quality resto and Ian's grandson was there checking out the wiring so it could be used again we still keep in Touch with him. Kerry Ryan has Ian Bowden's 1501. I was at the local vintage club rooms the spares are open every tue morn there I was given a lot of simca repair manual update notes from a gentleman thad a simca garage in of all places Australia haven't seen him again to find out where. Saturday the 23rd April had a call from a young man in Auck. wanting a water pump for a Etoile he like Gerard has his grandfather's tal car.



On third 29th April Lucy and I departed on our big oe to Amsterdam having been told bring warm clothes it's cold so after a three hour stop in Hong Hong we arrived in Holland to a fine day were picked up at the airport by Peter and Kitty and taken to her house for a lovely Breakfast and then delivered to our b&b where we stayed for



next few days, we saw a couple of fields of tulips had a wee tour around and saw Peter and Kitty's old house they left behind when moved here then back



to Kitty's place for tea. Sun saw us at an old barn where Peter had to leave some of his cars, and lots of shelves of all simca stuff. this is where I was taken for a long ride in a 1,000 rallye car the first we have seen in



the flesh, great ride quite amazing very smooth. This is where all those models in the cabinets live then



down the road to meet the head of the Netherlands club he was also the organiser of the gathering. Here lives a1100 and a rancho. After drinks and

some delicious food it was back to Peters folks for tea. On Monday we went to town saw lots of very old buildings had lunch at the old railway station hence the container of chips as I was still having problems with my eating, saw the bridge lifting to allow small boat to pass also visited a





old castle with the cannon outside, then back to Peters for tea. Tues we took a train to town and did a canal boat tour lots of quaint old buildings .On the Wed. We travelled to Venray traveling 35klm along the top of a dyke and waiting while a bridge was lifted to allow a big ship to pass had lunch at burger king half way the on to a 6 lane road lot of traffic then checked in to a very nice cabin where all 6 of stayed. Thurs we met up with Dick Husband from the UK



seen from canal boat which is mine?



our cabin at the venue

nice to meet these persons that we computer talk with, looked around the camping and stall side hundreds of tents and camper vans by this time the weather had fined



the only Ariane there

up and temp reaching middle 20s little cloud, had lunch in town centre also being liberty day the town was filled with army vehicles most folk were eating outside such a lovely day. Friday watched the 1'000 rallye cars race around the track we also caught up with Kerry Ryan what a long way from home to do this, bought some parts for the 1501 and Ariane and the 1'000. Sat saw Lucy and I attend the president's meeting where we made most

welcome and the subject of a special down under meeting was brought up and well received Vinnie and Kitty are likely to be the steering committee for about 2019? With some help from NZ. We all 6 of us left Holland at midday on the Sunday for Hong Kong with a 13hr stop where we went to town for a look around and this is where we had some fun? Every time Lucy and I fly air NZ there is always a problem.



lost in HongKong

We got put in the wrong end of the airport we supposed to be picked up at 6pm but no after some toing and froing help came at 6.30 plane was leaving 7pm we were at wrong end of terminal so onto the high speed train to the right gate just in time this was last straw my ticker was working over time the airport services let us down as all these places put me in a wheelchair as there was no way I could walk those long walks. While we were away Ivan and his wonderful new partner

put on the display at the Meeanee speedway for us it got a lot comments. Well done Ivan and Sarah. Also we have made contact with a young chap in Auck with another p60 ex granddads WE in NZ hope that none of the members in the east coast have suffered to much in the recent rough weather over there. Had another crisis with my gullet had to have another op but I am eating again and put on 2kg seems all is well finally.

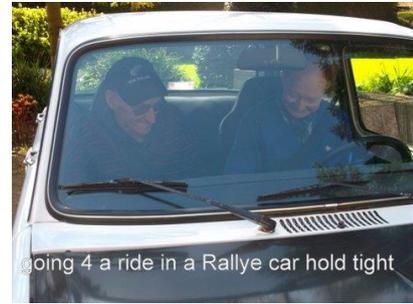
Best wishes to all Colin / Lucy Ivan / Sarah



1200 s coupes



1300's and 1500's



going 4 a ride in a Rallye car hold tight



heart of a rallye 2



heart of a rallye3



factory built buggy





This is about the 150 year parade of the Wanganui fire parade that Lucy and I took part in. I attended the 100 years as my brothers and my folks lived on the station till 1959 then I rode on an old engine in the 125 parade and finally got to drive in the 150th show I don't know about the next one Colin



Wanganui Fire Brigade 150th Anniversary Parade

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QGfHLZZytLk>

WHANGANUI'S FIRE BRIGADE 150TH JUBILEE 4.6.16 :the parade

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7fanR3juV3A>

Take the second link as it shows more of us

[Home](#) / [Classic cars](#) / Classic cars: A rare 1962 Simca Aronde

Classic cars: A rare 1962 Simca Aronde

By Jacqui Madelin • 25/04/2016



This 1962 Simca Aronde has been in the same family all its life. Yvette Crombie's father bought it new, passing it 18 years later to Yvette and her husband, Gerard.

Simca was a French car maker founded in 1934 by Fiat. For a while it was one of France's biggest vehicle manufacturers. This Aronde was its first model not based on a Fiat: later the brand had other links, it owned Ford's French activities for some years — during which it built the Vedette, powered by a V8 Ford motor — then came under Chrysler control. In 1978 it closed for good after sale to PSA Peugeot Citroen.

Simcas were built in small numbers at NZ Motor Bodies in Mt Wellington from 1960 – starting at a rate of 1.5 per day – and this was one of them, which meant it could be bought without overseas funds. Not many survive, with only six Arondes – also known as Etoile – four Vedettes and one Ariane still registered, plus a smattering of other models, including two Bagheeras.

Yvette and Gerard Crombie love their 1962 Simca Aronde. Pictures / Jacqui Madelin

This was the first new car Yvette's family owned, and her dad used it to get to work.

She was 12 at the time, and a few years later, "I wasn't allowed to get my licence in it, dad had a Ford Thames van with floor shift, and I learned to drive and got my licence in that – I was only occasionally allowed to drive it until they got another car!"

After Yvette and Gerard married, they had the one car and Yvette would take Gerard to work in it, then collect him later.

So her dad gave them the Simca to use, and when Gerard got a company car, they kept it.

"It became sort of a keepsake car, and eventually our oldest used to take the three other kids to school each day in it."



It's never been off the road for any great length of time.

"Though there were times it went for a run only because it hadn't been used for a while."

Their car has averaged only 1600 miles a year (2575km) and is very original, including a working radio – standard at a time when they were extras in many cars, though Gerard has installed an MP3 plug, and changed the crossply tyres for radial.

“That was like upgrading the whole suspension, the rubber was so hard – we should have changed it years ago.”

As for the heater, also standard, they rarely use it as the switch is under the bonnet, so they have to stop and get out to turn it on.

The original car had no engine-temperature gauge, so there’s now one discreetly tucked beneath the dash, as Gerard split the radiator hose, and inserted a collar with a temperature probe. “It’s had some rust taken out and some repainting done,” though that was confined to lower panels. The car used quite a bit of plastic – including for inside door trim – which like the rest of the cabin is original, and in great condition apart from the steering wheel collar, which has shrunk.



The writing on the speedo looks very, um, wobbly, too. Gerard thinks it came like that and assumes the French km/h was replaced with New Zealand mph at the factory.

Yvette’s dad used to do all his own maintenance.

“Back then boys grew up with the ability to do it.”

He had a big garage space, and built a pit to get beneath it, even though he was an electrician, not a mechanic.

Then Gerard took over the maintenance but he now sends it to a mechanic.

There's no problem getting parts, "It's surprising how many new-old spares there are. It needed bearings two or three years ago and we managed to source two sets, one from Christchurch via Wanganui, and the other direct from Wanganui."



The car's 1290cc in-line four-cylinder motor and four-speed transmission with column change mean it cruises comfortably at 80km/h, "We don't tend to push it very hard. If need be, we pull over."

They used to take turns driving it, but since Yvette had knee surgery she leaves the driving to Gerard,

"I used to love driving cars. An auto is just steering cars. We insisted all our kids learn to drive in a manual."

There's no club for Simca here – the couple joined the Australian one – which is why they're in the Humber car club, thanks to the 1960s Chrysler connection when that brand owned Humber and Simca.

The car is regularly used for club runs, to Raglan and Whangarei, Dargaville and Waihi,



“We do enjoy going to shows – it’s always the only Simca, except for once, at a show in Wanganui.”

Not surprisingly, given its rarity, they’ve never seen another in Auckland, but there must be folk with plenty of Simca memories.

They still recall their first trip away in the car, when it belonged to Yvette’s dad, and hit roadworks. “There was a big boulder we couldn’t avoid, the car leaped in the air, landed on all four wheels – and no damage was done!”

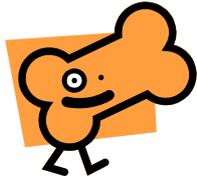
They built them solid in those days ...



When Leila and I were in N.Z. for the first National Rally we caught up with Gerard and Yvette. I can attest as to what a lovely car their Simca is. Gerard took us for a run around the local area and it is an absolute delight. I must say our Australian fascination with floor changes does not always suit. I would much prefer our Aronde to have the column change. Great to have such an example in the club.

Editor

P.S. Yvette cooks a mean scone!



Funny bones

The Koala and the Lizard

A koala was sitting in a gum tree smoking a joint (as they do!)



When a little lizard walked past, looked up and said, 'Hey Koala! What are you doing?'



The koala said, 'Smoking a joint, come up and have some.'



So the little lizard climbed up and sat next to the koala where they enjoyed a few joints. After a while the little lizard said that his mouth was 'dry' and that he was going to get a drink from the river.



The little lizard was so stoned that he leaned over too far and fell into the river.

A crocodile saw this and swam over to the little lizard and helped him to the side. Then he asked the little lizard, 'What's the matter with you?'

The little lizard explained to the crocodile that he had been sitting with the koala in the tree, smoking a joint, but got too stoned and fell into the river while taking a drink..

The crocodile said that he had to check this out and walked into the rain forest, found the tree where the koala was sitting finishing a joint. The crocodile looked up and said,



'Hey Koala!'
So the koala looked down at him and said,



'F..k me....
How much water did you drink!?!'

Thanks Colin, glad it's you being a bit naughty for a change!
Good one from Luke and Michelle next edition.



A P60 available for sale in Victoria, Melbourne area. Details and where about's of the car available through Vince Parisi. Apparently the car is a runner and as can be seen on original black and white plates. The owners are asking \$8000. Any inquiry phone Vince.



SHARE THE PASSION

SHANNONS INSURANCE FOR CAR ENTHUSIASTS

INSURANCE FOR MOTORING ENTHUSIASTS

SHANNONS BRANCHES

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
Unit 1, 74 Newcastle Street, Fyshwick 2609

NEW SOUTH WALES
Unit B, 12 Frederick Street, St Leonards 2065

NORTHERN TERRITORY
Hidden Valley Motor Sports Park,
Hidden Valley Road, Berrimah 0828

QUEENSLAND
Unit 5, 305 Montague Road, West End 4101

SOUTH AUSTRALIA
863-865 South Road, Clarence Gardens 5039

TASMANIA
337-341 Argyle Street, North Hobart 7000

VICTORIA
321 Warrigal Road, Cheltenham 3192

WESTERN AUSTRALIA
152 Burswood Road, Burswood 6100

Call 13 46 46 for the cost of a local call from anywhere in Australia.

PS - From the Editor...

Please remember any contributions welcome or suggestions.

Reminders:
The 2015 renewal of membership is due on January 1st 2015. 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: 633-108 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.



SHARE THE PASSION

National Claims Email: claims@shannons.com.au
Agent for Insurer & Authorised Representative
Shannons Limited
ABN 91 099 692 636 Authorised Representative No. 239594
Insurer & Licensee
Australian Alliance Insurance Company Ltd
ABN 11 006 471 709 Australian Financial Services Licence No. 235011
SH02984 29/04/11 A



Breaking News

You don't know what is in your own backyard. Had a phone call from Ray Hamer our newest member in Hobart. Ray came across a black P60 in Running order which he intends to Roadworthy and register. Welcome to the Club, can't wait to See your car.

Editor

