Dear Members

We have produced this Souvenir Edition of Top Gear to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of our club.

Within the issue you will find lots of stories of the wonderful weekend we shared at Peppers Manor in Sutton Forest and hopefully at least one picture of you.

We have also asked our Past Presidents to share their memories of their time in office, and in that way to help capture part of the history of the Club and its members. You will find their thoughts in this issue.

I would particularly like to thank Rob & Kay Finney for all their hard work in organising the event. The cake was a masterpiece!

On behalf of Robyn and myself, and your committee, thank you for making our 30th Anniversary such a memorable event.

Terry Daly
President
THE GENTLEMEN’S LUNCH

The Gentlemen’s Lunch was held at the Scottish Arms at East Bowral where a number of us joined the regular lunch that is hosted by Paul Samuels and held every Friday at this venue.

A few of us arranged to meet at Pepper’s and go in a couple of cars so that we could leave the ladies with some transport. So when Les Johnson arrived in the Silver Cloud saying he needed to go and swap it for the Silver Ghost, it didn’t take me long to thumb a lift. Les had lent the Cloud to Terry Daly to take down to the Rolls Royce affair in Canberra a couple of weekends previously; this included dinner under the wings of G for George in the War Memorial. The car had since developed a small leak in a power steering hose so it was dropped off at Gareth Will’s TK Motors which handily had a Pirtek outlet in the same complex.

We all piled into the Silver Ghost with Gareth behind the wheel and headed off to the pub, catching up with John Milverton’s Derby Bentley along the way. The two cars made a fine sight as they drove into the car park. Les delighted in showing off the cocktail cabinet with cut glass decanters and the wind up gramophone player in the rear compartment ... Really all the accoutrements a gentlemen could possibly require to sweep a young lady off her feet!

Lionel Walker arrived in the red BD6, Keith Reynolds in the lovely BRG XJ I hadn’t seen before and John Moody—fresh from his major Concours win at the Jaguar National Meeting—in the Corolla. We also had John Burton, Kevin Leggott, Jack Jones & Terry Daly.

It quickly became apparent that many of our people also knew a lot of the locals. We had two tables and tried to mix it up and it seemed to work very well with everybody thoroughly engrossed in conversation while our $12.95 ‘banquet’ was served. We lingered over coffee, did 6 laps of the roundabout outside the pub, and then headed off to TK Motors.

A great start to our weekend!

Jeremy Braithwaite
The crystal cocktail cabinet in the Silver Ghost. Yes it was stocked!

John Moody deep in conversation with John Young, who is a Past President of the Porsche Club, races a MGA and runs a 240Z in Classic Rallies. Both of the John's compete in GEAR events. Kevin Leggott is also in the picture.

Les Johnson and long time 'Alfisti' John Swindell. John is a great friend of Marie-Louise Howard. They caught up for tea on the Saturday.

(L to R) Paul Samuels, John Milverton, John Ratter, Lionel Walker & Mike Downey. The last three are long term Jaguar sufferers, Mike having recently acquired a lovely BRG C Type. John Ratter has a Mk2 and a yellow Lotus Elise.

David Flynn in an expansive mood!

Keith Johnson used to run Le Mans Jaguar in Mittagong before retiring a few years ago. He still has his Walkinshaw XJS. He grew up in the UK and is a friend of Brian Redman who Paul Samuels & I met at Monterey in 1995.
Paul Samuels, our host. Paul founded Wakefield Park, and has been President of a number of Car Clubs including the HSRCA and Rolls Royce. He first raced at Mt Druitt and did a number of seasons in Europe with his Lotus 15.

John Burton made the trek the whole way from Tea Gardens.

It is a bit of a stretch to call this gathering a stag party!

Lionel Walker entertains John Swindell, John Moody, Terry Daly and Jack Jones.

Keith Reynolds and Jack Jones. Keith is holding up the $12.95 menu—which includes a complimentary glass of wine. The coffee is extra.

Gareth Will shares a joke.
I think this is lap 5.....

Lap 6...

John Ratter and his Lotus Elise.

The Moody Corolla at full noise!

The Reynolds Jaguar exhibiting mild understeer.

Lionel Walker's DB6—a 20 year old restoration.
Many of the ladies went to lunch on Saturday after the shopping morning.

For some unknown reason the waiter took the orders from one half of the table then when they were about to be brought out he took the orders from the other half.

We on the first side felt so guilty eating in front of our hungry friends. The food was at least really good.

The photo’s of the two sides of the table are half an hour apart.

Eve Stefan

*Pics by Eve Stefan*
VISIT TO TK MOTORS

If there is one thing that TSCC members seem to enjoy—it’s shed tours!

Les arranged for us to visit the multiple sheds of Gareth Wills, which fortunately were on our way home from lunch.

As we swept into the forecourt of TK Motors in the Silver Ghost, there was a delightful white Aston Martin Rapide waiting patiently for us to arrive. The car had been provided by Trivett’s so Roland Clarke could show it off to all us lot ... something he did very well!

I’ll let the pictures tell the rest of the story.

The bike is a BSA with less than 10,000km on the clock.

Top right p9—Jack Jones is a real blur.
GOLF AT BOWRAL

It’s not true that this was really going to be a golf buggy race over 18 holes. A couple of the participants were in denial of the freezing Southern Highlands winter and turned up in shorts! And they were still smiling (Terry).

The players were John Moody, Keith Reynolds, Paul Goddard and Jack Jones; John Burton, Kevin Leggott, Ray Ross and Barry Farr; and Terry Daly, Lionel Walker and Jeremy Braithwaite.

All pics were taken on the iPhone.
THE COCKTAIL PARTY

The Cocktail Party was held in the Grand Hall. It was a superb location and got our evening off to a great start.
30TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER
We were spread across a number of tables in two rooms. The food was good, as was the company.
CUTTING THE CAKE

It took Kay Finney hours of work to bake & decorate the cake .... And four founding members 5 minutes to cut it!
SPEECHES & AWARDS

Life membership to Lester Gough was well deserved. Lionel Walker & Roland Clark regaled us with tales of yore. Nigel Bryan was very entertaining and extremely professional as our after dinner speaker. Terry Daly’s award to Rob & Kay Finney for organising the event recognised weeks of work by both of them.
DISPLAY ON THE LAWN

Everybody assembled after breakfast on the lawn for a group photo. Not a hangover in sight.....

Some people left immediately after the group photo—see centre spread—while others stayed for another night of fun and games.
PAST PRESIDENT: BILL MARSHAL 1981-83

There has not been much mention regarding William (Bill) Marshall. However knowing Bill since I was seventeen and knowing he was a very keen sports car minded person, I remember one day that he said “lets go for run in a Sports car,” having his mother’s brand new HD Holden.

Early one Sunday morning we drove out to John Thompson’s Sports Cars on Parramatta Road, where Bill told the salesman his father had purchased the Holden for him, and he was not happy with it and would like to trade it on a sports car.

The Salesman gave him a red MGB, so we both jumped in and we had it all day, and drove out around Camden area returning late afternoon.

The salesman was cheesed off to say the least. Bill certainly had his problems but I believe he helped the club a lot in those earlier years.

He certainly had an interesting collection of cars and a great deal of enthusiasm with motorsport over the years.

I am sure someone else may be able to add to this.

Les Johnson

Bill Marshall was the club’s first President
PAST PRESIDENT: JIM PETERS 1984 & 1992

Club formation - 1981
The first gathering was held at Frank Grech’s automotive garage in Paramatta, and then followed by a display at a Club Car show, which is where I met the group. We then met at John Scott’s home where discussion continued about forming the club, then at John Hall’s home, then at Bill Rankin’s home to finish formalising the club. That meeting voted Bill Marshall as President, myself as Secretary and Social Secretary, John Williams as Treasurer, Lionel Walker as Completion Secretary, and Geoff Belshaw as Editor, who did a great job of designing our logo. I then started listing members, with Frank Grech as member No 1.

1984
We had a sad beginning to the year as our No1 member Frank Grech was murdered during a robbery at his garage.

One of our most successful events was a weekend at Jenolan Caves. A black tie dinner followed an amazing day underground in various caves and I can personally attest to the fact that it can get very, very dark when the lights are switched off.

We enjoyed a weekend run to Canberra, which involved a hill climb and a somewhat strange dinner! The club that invited us sat completely separately on the night, hardly speaking to us at all! Nevertheless we all enjoyed thrashing up the hill.

Our year was filled with Motorkhana’s, dinners, concourse, and a wonderful games night at the Ross home, with everyone in fancy dress. I remember being a monk. I had borrowed the full equipment from a member of Her Majesty’s law enforcement agency, roulette wheels and all; I think Chris Johnson made money for the Club on that, while Val Peters lightened the pockets of players on the Blackjack table.

We competed in an Observation Run, prepared by the very tricky Larkey team - Vicki and Trevor.

A very full and enjoyable year.
In 1981, at the invitation of Lionel Walker, I joined the T.S.C.C. Club as we were both members of Jaguar Drivers Australia at the time.

From its inception to the present time, like all progressive and lasting organisations, T.S.C.C. has been an evolving story. In the early days there were many discussions regarding eligibility of membership. Some felt that to own a sports car was an essential element, while others would debate whether an XU1 Tarana or an RT Charger etc. were in fact sports cars.

During the early years the T.S.C.C. was a very serious competitor on the club racing scene, competing in lap dash’s, hill climbs, etc. with notable success. More often than not one of our members would take F.T.D. (fastest time of the day) or a class win in each and every event in which we competed. The club had some very good cars and very competitive drivers, some who are still members today (although a touch greyer around the temples).

We amended our constitution and became incorporated in 1992, which was a very important step for the protection of members assets resulting from any impending legal claim from accidents or incidents.

Around the beginning of 1993 we joined the Council of Vintage, Veteran & Thoroughbred Motor Clubs, which allowed our members access to the club plate scheme and their annual display day at Eastern Creek. Because of this move enquiries for club membership increased as many sports cars became eligible for the club plate scheme.

There was much rejoicing one year when T.S.C.C. won the best display and this was a very proud moment for our members.

Notwithstanding, some of our best memories over these years are of all the places we travelled to with our fellow members, mainly organised by Les & Roselee, and these events were always the highlight of the year.

Some years ago I coined the phrase - “T.S.C.C. Moving Forward While Looking Backward” and I am pleased to be able to say that I believe the future of our club is in good hands and the quality of membership along with the cars is still first class.
PAST PRESIDENT: ROLAND CLARK 1988

As a foundation member it is with great pride to have played a small part in the history of the Thoroughbred Sports Car Club.

The membership has been strong from the early days. However, it has evolved from a base of Aston Martin owners, very keen on both competition and social events. The club has changed today, in that lots of members are older and competition has been replaced by more social events.

The introduction of monthly Wednesday runs, with an easy drive and a relaxed lunch has become quite popular, and well attended.

I must congratulate the Committee who organized the splendid 30 year celebration at Peppers, Moss Vale, with quite a large contingent of members from the early days.

I am confident the club will continue to grow as it has a unique appeal to a wide range of prestige cars. Without doubt this club has more classic sports cars of different brands than any other club.

ROLAND CLARK
[President: 1988]

Thanks to Terry Daly for organising with Trivett’s the loan of the Aston Martin and also taking the pic.
As I recall not much happened .. A couple of things I do recall .. we organized our own Hillclimb using the AMAROO Hillclimb circuit and invited other clubs,. We applied to CAMS to get the Permit , booked the Circuit from ARDC and organized the whole thing .. and covered our costs !!

It was a great success with a very strong turnout from TSCC members – in those days many more TSCC members were very keen on sporting events and I recall Roland Clark putting in some sterling performances in his AC COBRA wheel spinning all the was up the hill; and me with my BRG 3.8 Jaguar (see photo) and many other highlights. Entries ranged from “dad” pedaling the family car up the hill, to Ray Ross with his Formula Ford Racing car. I recall members said they had a great time with a Picnic atmosphere with lots of ladies in attendance.

Around that time we organized a Display at Eastern Creek as part of the CMC (which was called something else CCVTMC I think ) . I recall it may have been the first time the CMC Day had been held, and lo and behold it BUCKETED DOWN raining !! We had 8 TSCC cars booked in .. 4 turned up .. Since then we have come a long way - WINNING the BEST CLUB award a few years later. One year we had a beautiful FERRARI F40 in our TSCC display !! (a friend of Bob Smiths). We participated in quite a few Oran Park and Amaroo Park meetings during that period and the Sporting Points score was always hotly contested, with Jim Peters and David Muir putting in quite few good performances in their Anglia Sports Sedan along with Lionel Walker Jaguar XK140 Convertible and myself in the MK2 3.8 Jaguar (now retired from racing see photo) – boy .. if I had a Dollar for every lap myself and other TSCC Members have driven on the track !! …

I recall also we used to be invited down to Canberra quite a few times for the weekend to run at the CARA circuit Hillclimb (really a flat Racing circuit). This is right next to Queenbeyan where Mark Webber grew up, and probably raced the family car there himself. We used to stay at a Hotel in Canberra nearby, play pool and have dinner while staying overnight and a lot of our ladies attended also. I well recall the monumental Gary McDonald v his father Don McDonald battles going an ALL day to see who got fastest time in their very fast Charger Sports Sedan on slick tyres !! And Lester Gough and myself fine tuning the WEBERS on that McDonald car in between runs. Gary has recently been in V8 Utes - Don sadly passed away in his car while racing at Oran Park –lots of TSCC members at the funeral .. One of our members Peter Maggs rolled his Torana there at speed - quite badly damaged .. I still have his “ TSCC Spectacular ” Trophy, which inexplicably he was never all that keen on picking up.

That’s enough from me .. A final word .. TSCC is a Great Club .. and will ALWAYS be a great Club .. because of the GREAT People who make up this Club ..

Pics supplied by Adrian Walker
PAST PRESIDENT: LESTER GOUGH 1991

It was back in ’85 at Hunters Hill Bowling Club whilst attending a meeting of the Jaguar Car Club that I was at the bar having a drink when I struck up a conversation (as you do) with a bloke called Ray Ross, during the conversation I mentioned I had sold my V12 XJC Jaguar and bought a 308 GTB Lightweight Ferrari and without taking a breath Ray said something along the lines of “you should join the Thoroughbred Sports Car Club with a car like that” and as time will tell I did just that.

During the latter part of the eighties and the nineties motor sport was very much an activity within the Club. It was a very competitive time with members competing in Lap Dashers and Supersprints at Amaroo Park and Oran Park and Supersprints at Eastern Creek. The Club also organised and conducted Hillclimbs at Amaroo Park (under a CAMS Permit) and members also competed at the Hillclimb circuit at Fairbairn Park ACT. Not to mention the Motorkhanas at Ansell Park near Richmond Air Force Base, this was more of a family fun day but between certain members still very competitive.

In remembering back I had terrific times competing against other club members and I was fortune enough to win in my GT Cortina (Superleggera) the Club Competition Championship for a number of years especially against greats like Ray Ross in his Torana Sports Sedan, Vic Andrews in his Viper, Adrian Walker in his Turbocharged MkII Jaguar and Les Johnson in his Mustang and V8 Aston Martin. Although I really never beat any of these guys on the track I did beat them with points from Class wins and places.

It has not been all Motor Sport there have been some very interesting social activities over the years, the twilight cruise sailing on a Tall Ship in Sydney Harbour, the Gambling Nights dressing up in costumes for the appropriate period, the bus trip to Palm Beach in a old Sydney Double Decker Bus, running beside it, beating it up Spit Hill and the Display Days where members all get to see each others cars some new, some old and some we have never seen before just like my 1964 Aston Martin DB5.
In '91 as Club President the 10th Anniversary was held at the Rosehill Racecourse Function Rooms with Colin Bond as guest speaker, what a night to remember. A number of cars were displayed in the foyer, I cannot remember them all however one does stand out and that was Les Johnsons Jaguar E-Type Coupe which had just finished a complete restoration and Les had some issues with the car on the night. (I believe it is now owned by Terry Daly).

It has been a privilege over a number of years to have won all of the Clubs Perpetual Trophy’s however I would like to say the most memorable are being made a Life Member of the Club at the 30th Anniversary, being President to host the 10th Anniversary and last by not lest the companionship and enjoyment that I and my family have had with past and present Club members over the past 26 years.

Lester H Gough
1992
It started out with a Super Sprint at Oran Park, and while I can’t remember all of the times, each contestant obviously had incredible speed - what else but!

We had a super weekend at a koala park resort near Lemon Tree Passage. We all stayed in cabins facing the water, with koalas in the trees very visible. The key to the weekend was a dinner at a local RSL club. Not wanting to drive, all we OLD people sat at the entrance and waited for our courtesy bus. We decided that we were getting close to being in a retirement home, and Chris Johnson proposed that we would finish up racing each other in motorised wheel chairs.

Lester Gough introduced us to Pam, the beginning of something special. Roland Clark introduced Club Plates for the first time. Roland also represented the club in the Targa Tasmania in his Cobra, which I understood at the time he found very ‘exciting’.

Of course we had all the usual events, a breakfast run, training day at Oran Park with the MG Club organised by Max Pegler a member of both clubs, motorkhanas, dinners etc.

In August I changed companies, becoming M.D. for a Swiss Multinational, which began to dominate my free time as I was often overseas. Grant Liddell wrote my President’s Report, with Lester filling in for me.

This was my last committee role with the Club, having served 9 out of the first 14 years of the Club. I continue to look back at many wonderful times with great people.

*Pic supplied by Jim Peters*
Prior to the 30th Anniversary dinner I received a phone call from Jim Peters asking if I could fill a “few holes” in his list of the club’s past presidents. Having hard copies of most, if not all, of our club magazines it took some time to fill those “few holes”, but fill them I did. The extended list of past committee members is included elsewhere. This list does not cover all committee members as on a number of occasions members filled additional roles which were in place for just a year or two.

I was introduced to the club by Simon Forster-Spinks in the early 1980s. Simon’s light blue MGB was the car to beat at early club display days. As the owner of a TVR the club’s eclectic spread of vehicle types, not to mention members, appealed to me.

In time both Penny and myself became close to the MacDonald family. Don was club president in 1990. Interestingly 6 of the 7 committee members were keen motor sport competitors. The odd one out in this instance was Stephanie Clark the social secretary. Stephanie and Roland organised one of the highlights of the year – a weekend at Penny’s mother’s lodge at Lake Eucumbeen.

Don’s interest in motor sport saw him start the year with an event at Amaroo Park in which Don and his son Gary shared the driving of Don’s Starion Turbo, and to quote Auto Action “The father/son combination driving the Starion and each recording victories, there was little doubt that the MacDonalds were declared the overall winners.” Sadly the good results were not to last as Don suffered a fatal heart attack while competing in a production car race at Oran Park.

Lester Gough stepped into the presidency in June.

Gary MacDonald’s motor sport year came to a crashing end during practice at Philip Island when he was involved in a huge 180km/h roll over. His leased VN Commodore production car was destroyed but luckily Gary escaped with only minor bruising.

During 1990 club member Chris Jackson ran his Torana at Oran Park south and I guess none of us thought back then that Chris would go on to be a multiple and current NSW sports sedan champion and be winning national races.

As can be gauged from these few words, many of our club members have, or have had, an interesting motor sport history and it would take many pages to cover the exploits of those not mentioned. Too little time and many good memories.
In 1993 I was elected President unopposed – no one else wanted the position! Does this sound familiar? The year saw the usual motor sport activities. An early highlight being a weekend at Bathurst for the flying 1/5 and hillclimb. John Burton took club honours.

Les and Roselee Johnson and the Kettelbeys took part in the March London to Sydney in their respective Ford Mustangs. Pam and Lester Gough were apparently declared, by Pam’s gynaecologist, to be “extremely fertile for an older couple”. Richard was due in September. Dooralong was visited as was Nowra’s Wings and Wheels and Medlow Bath. The 3801 took us to the Southern Highlands. The go-kart racing Grand Prix rounds 1 and 2 at Pit-Stop Raceway proved popular. I can’t see this being the case now.

All in all a good year was had. This brings me to 1998 and with my club magazines in storage, a lack of time and memory, 1998 will have to wait until another time.

I have added for the history buffs among us that:
Member #1 was Frank Grech
Member #2 is Bill Rankin
Member #3 is Chris Johnson
Member #4 was Bill Marshall
Member #5 is Jim Peters
Member #6 is Roland Clark
Member #19 is Lionel Walker

It can be gleaned from the early membership list that the membership numbers don’t reflect an order of club seniority. The list makes interesting reading as did Bill Marshall’s eulogy for Frank Grech.

History: A lot is known but so much isn’t!

Now, I must finish the DA for the proposed motor racing circuit at Balickera as we hope to lodge later this week.
During these years the emphasis was on celebrating the club’s 21st year in 2002, rallies, display days and a variety of social events. During this time Sue assisted me as Secretary of the club, sharing the workload. We had a wonderful time at the various events, and enjoyed the camaraderie, and friendship of TSCC members.

The 21st Birthday Rally was the highlight of 2002, and was a 9-day event organised by Les & Roselee Johnson, Val & John Dixon and Sue and me. The first weekend was at Barrington Guest House, followed by a few days to explore the Port Macquarie area, then on to Armidale via Walcha and return home via Scone. 28 members enjoyed driving the scenic roads of the Mid-North Coast and New England areas. This rally saw the introduction of 2 new awards courtesy of Les & Roselee – the Men’s & Ladies Feely Box Awards. Those who were present will recall these events!! Also will we ever forget the Blow Up Seat competition won by Kevin & Robyn Leggott.

Another memorable occasion was our 2002/3 New Year Celebration hosted by Roland & Stephanie Clark at Stillwell Lodge, Charlotte’s Pass. Some of our members chose to climb to the top of Mt. Kosciusko on New Year’s Eve and were caught in a blizzard during the descent. The spa was very popular afterwards!! A wonderful night with dinner, entertainment, fun & laughter was enjoyed at the lodge in typical TSCC tradition.

The first electronic edition of “Top Gear” was distributed in July 2003 by our then editor Lindsay Day, who was solely responsible for developing the technology to move away from posted paper copies to our current email distribution. Lindsay received the Don McDonald Award in 2003 for this achievement, which resulted in significant savings for the Club.

In November 2003 Sue & I organised the first Pride of Ownership Day to be held at Oatlands House, which has continued to be the preferred venue for this event and showcases the wonderful display of “Thoroughbred” vehicles entered by our members. In 2005 the Beechworth Rally was held and we explored the Snowy Mountains, Tumut, Khancoban, Yarrangobilly Caves, then on to Beechworth to tour the scenic areas of Bright, Mt. Beauty, Mt. Buffalo.

At the 2005 Shannon's Eastern Creek Classic TSCC again showed an awesome display of thoroughbred sports cars with Norm Johnson's Jaguar XKSS as the feature car. Other marques on display were Ferrari, Maserati, Aston Martin, Jaguar, BMW, Mazda, Triumph and Mercedes. The XKSS was joined on the parade lap by Les Johnson's Aston Martin DB4 - a great sight on the Eastern Creek track.
I remember the first meeting as a break-away from the politics of the Aston Martin Owners Car Club, held at John Scott’s home in Peckham Avenue Chatswood; it seemed that one make car clubs suffered from and bred jealousy and resentment about their cars. It seemed that there would be more possibility of members being friendly, because the cars would be more difficult to compare and have to be taken as is.

With the one marque problem solved it is left up to the members to get on socialise, which in most cases has worked well attest ing that the TSCC has become a successful car club.

As far as TSCC is concerned Roselee and I have gained more out of the club than we could possibly have put in. We have especially enjoyed getting away and escaping the rat race on those long road touring trips organised by the club, it has been adventures in classic cars, sometimes with problems which were solved along the way.

Members have always been so friendly, and always willing to give a helping hand when needed. We have witnessed members come and go, due to different reasons, but for us this has been a very exciting part of our motoring lives. Earlier in the club I was to enjoy those motoring super sprints at Oran Park, Amaroo Park, Hill Climbs and The Flying Fifth at Bathurst.

But now, Roselee and I are very content to enjoy the relaxed friendly social atmosphere of the club.

Pic supplied by Les Johnson
PAST PRESIDENT: VERN KELLY 2006-08

I have so many, many good memories of my three years as President of the Club during 2006/7/8 that one could not recount them all here. However, a couple of milestone events during this time—our change of Dinner/Meeting venue & our 25th Anniversary Celebration (how could that possibly be five years ago !!!) – plus some standout social events, are worthy of mention.

After 20 years of dining & meeting at the Ryde Ex-Services Club for our monthly Club Meetings, events there prompted us to seek another venue. First, the Bowling Clubhouse annex (venue for our Meeting) burnt down & we were provided with sub-standard & indifferent service when our meeting was moved into the main club building. Also, we could never all dine together as a group (like now) & simply sat at various locations within the club’s main dining room. Myself & the Committee conducted research including the seeking of Club members’ views, after which a group of 10 of us “road-tested” the Carlingford Bowling Club for dinner & a check of meeting facilities. We found that the venue met our needs of a single private room for both dinner & the Meeting, with good bistro food of wide choice & good value. We’ve been there since the first Meeting for 2007, & everybody still seems happy with the venue.

Our 25th Anniversary Dinner was held at The Hills Lodge in May 2006, with 53 people attending & many staying overnight (& staying up too late !!!). The vast majority of the effort in organising the event was done by John & Val Dixon, who went to superhuman effort to contact as many of the past members - who had since drifted away for various reasons – as possible to attend the event. Many of these past members attended & made it a very special & memorable night with lots of old stories & memories. I asked Roland Clark & Chris Johnson to speak on the early days in the Club, & arranged for Terry Thompson, President of the Council of Motor Clubs, to be our guest speaker. Chris Johnson was presented with a Life Membership Award. It was a memorable night.

As to social events over these three years there are, of course, far too many to individually recount here. However, some standout events deserve mention:

Feb 2006 – the 14 day Tasmania Rally wonderfully organised by Vic Andrews to celebrate our 25th Anniversary Year
May 2007 – the Back to Bingara Bash organised by Terry & Robyn Daly, with co-ordination at the Bingara end by Robyn’s mother, Audrey Carey
July 2007 – the inaugural Arts/Crafts/ Hobbies Night, the brainchild of Val Dixon, & under the organisation of Val & John, which significantly aided the Club’s previously-meagre financial coffers
Sept 2007 – the extremely popular Temora Airshow Weekend, organised by the late Graham Olliffe, & Marilyn Olliffe
Apr 2008 – the Orange Rally, also organised by Terry & Robyn Daly
Sept 2008 – the Thoroughbreds & Fillies Weekend, also excellently arranged by the late Graham Olliffe, & Marilyn Olliffe

Add to such events the many major rallies conducted before & after this time by Les & Roselee Johnson, the “umpteen” Brass Monkey Runs also conducted by Les & Roselee, the also “umpteen” Eastern Creek Display Days organised by Adrian Walker, the annual Pride of Ownership Days, Christmas in July, Restaurant Nights, various Display Days, plus the monthly Wednesday Runs & it’s easy to see why I have such good memories of not only my time as President, but before & after.
I was very lucky to be elected President in the 28th year of the TSCC. When I assumed the Presidency all the hard work had been done by the previous Presidents. All the Procedures and Processes for running a successful Club were in place. Regular monthly meetings with a fixed Agenda were now part of the Culture. The Venue provided good meals for those who wished to come early and the Club had negotiated a room flexible enough to hold a large number of people if so needed. A raffle system was in place and the proceeds we used to pay our monthly rental cost. Overall a mature club with, if I may, mature people.

Under my watch, I have managed to have a few external speakers come in and talk on various subjects e.g. The Rolls Royce “Spirit of Ecstacy” mascot and encouraged members to talk about themselves and their exploits, focussing on the cars / bikes.

The Club has had two major rallies: the rally North organised by Les and Roselee Johnson and the Club’s first overseas venture, a ten day trip to the South Island of New Zealand.

And we are just about to embark on another 10 day event, this being the Great South Rally being organised by a relatively new member Barry Farr and partner Dot Forrestor.

The Calendar for each year continues to be set early in the year with many members offering to organise events. Wednesday runs are still a big hit and continue to be very well supported. The Pride of Ownership / Display day has attracted approx 60 people each year at Oatlands House. In 2011 we will be trying a new location with a different dining arrangement and we will see how that goes.

The Christmas party has changed to a new location at Ryde which seemed to suit most people and we have booked the same venue for 2011. On the other side of the ledger, events such as the Christmas in July have been dropped from the calendar through lack of interest and this is one of the challenges facing most car clubs: How do we come up with new ideas to not only continue to satisfy current members but to attract and retain new members?

I couldn’t conclude this article without mentioning the 30th Anniversary weekend that the Club held in Bowral in May. Several founding members and most of the Past Presidents were in attendance in what was a really great weekend resulting in Jeremy Braithwaite suggesting we have a special 30th Anniversary edition of Top Gear and here you have.

A special thanks to Jeremy and Ian for putting this Edition together.
# TSCC Past Committee's


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Plus 2011 Committee members: Colin Watts (Club Shop), Les Johnson (Club Plates), Lester Gough (CAMS) and Greg Ball (Public Officer)
BARRY & DOTT FARR’S VIEW

Apart from stating the obvious, that is that Dott & I thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of the anniversary weekend, for which we are very grateful to Terry, Kay & the Committee for their superb organisation, I would like to add the following couple of comments.

Firstly, it was a pleasure to partner Ray Ross at golf during which Ray was heard to say after a hook shot: 'I've probably ended up in that trough just short of the (out of bounds) fence'. Well his ball just failed to fall into the trough but he still had a particularly tough shot of some 30-40m to the pin & he holed it for an Eagle 3 & a whopping 5 Stableford points! Ray won the day with 41 points.

Secondly, Terry indicated at the dinner that some confusion prevails as to who were the founding members of the Club & how many there were. Dott & I recently had John & Sue Hall over the lunch & I asked John what was his recollection. He indicated that there were 6 founding members, namely Roland Clark, Chris Johnson, Lionel Walker, Bill Marshall, himself & the guy who owned the North Parramatta Service Station at which the first meeting was held (John couldn't remember his name). He also indicated the 2nd meeting was at his (John Hall's) Baulkham Hills home & the 3rd meeting at the 'Scotsman's house' at Strathfield. This may jog a few memories but then again it may even add to the confusion.

regards
Barry

MARIE-LOUISE HOWARDS VIEW

We had a great few days. What cars did we like..............all of them. Met numerous folk we had not met prior, made us feel like the 'new kids on the block'. Thought is was a great idea that the club subsidised some of the out goings. Loved the whole experience!

Regards M-L & her Dick
Members memories of the weekend

I have 2 short tales to tell. The first is the Ladies Lunch—see Page 8.

The second story involves Margaret and John Moody. John is such a sweetheart and he was getting a cup of tea for Margaret at breakfast time when he saw these foil wrapped goodies and thought he would bring some for Margaret to have with her cuppa.

Unfortunately they were actually the coffee inserts for the coffee machine, not chocolates as he thought, and the different pretty foil wrappers were the different types of coffee. Many people had made the same mistake unfortunately for John he got caught badly as you will see in the photo's.

The other photos:
• Breakfast on Sunday morning John Moody trying to hide “the chocolates”
• The “Gatherer” but who is that man behind the hedge
• The E Type’s view of things
• Dancing after the speeches and dinner with our own personal DJ

Eve Stefan
All pics by Eve
TOP GEAR EDITOR’S VIEW

Saturday was a fine and sunny autumn day, perfect for tootling down to the Southern Highlands in a classic car to meet up with lots of other car enthusiasts.

Bowral was buzzing with people and Lisbeth was in the mood for shopping. After some success we had a delicious pie at one of the cafes recommended in the briefing notes.

Onto Peppers Manor House, a snooze and a relaxing read of the paper. Lisbeth spent some time getting ready as it’s not every day a gal gets to dress up. Sydney is so casual these days.

It was cocktails in the Great hall at 6.30pm, everyone looked so classy. Lisbeth especially liked the satin detail on the men’s tuxedos. Jeremy was doing a great job of taking our photos. Lisbeth’s smile couldn’t have been wider.

At 7.30pm we all moved into the dining room for the dinner and celebration of the TSCC. Our President, Terry Daly, did a great job of MC for the evening. The most important event was the presentation of Life Membership to Lester Gough. There were a few reminiscences of the Club’s past and the guest speaker, Nigel Bryan, gave a talk on his experiences of motorbike racing at Bathurst.

In between we had a delicious three course meal with the occasional wine plus lots of conversation with our fellow club members. Richard Gough and his juke box got us dancing. Ian was able to rock ‘n roll even though he’d had a hernia operation the week before. He must have been well oiled but paid for it the next day.

The Manor House was the perfect setting to display club members’ cars on the lawn on the Sunday morning.

Our thanks to the organising committee for a great venue and weekend.

Lisbeth Allen and Ian Norman
AN ORGANISERS PERSPECTIVE

Helping with the organisation of this special event has been a bit like the birth of a child:-
First off it seems like a good idea. Then the fun part . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . (I’ll leave that up
to your own imagination) Then success - the idea has become a reality and it’s a time for
planning, growing and waiting. About 2 months before the BIG day you start to wonder why
you ever started this 2 weeks before you just want it to arrive and get it over with. The day
arrives, there are a few minor problems, then suddenly it’s all worthwhile.

Well that almost says it all. Both Rob and I thoroughly appreciated the opportunity to be on
the inside looking out for a change. It’s hard to believe the planning all began back in May
2010 when the Club were looking for suggestions on where to hold the event. Having just
arrived in the beautiful Southern Highlands we thought it the ideal location and after a recon-
noitre of half a dozen venues threw our suggestions into the ring. After that it just happened
with 82 members attending the function and it is now part of TSCC history.

What is important is that whilst many hours went into the organising by Terry and ourselves it
was a team effort by many people, not only by Club members such as Jeremy Braithwaite
but also by the staff at Peppers, the additional dining venues and especially the weatherman
to name a few.

In closing we would like to thank everyone in the TSCC for our surprise gifts and especially
for the way the 30th Anniversary weekend was received. Whilst Rob and I enjoyed helping
to organise this weekend it is ultimately the Committee who repeatedly give of their free time,
and the members who attend these functions, that make this such a great Club and conse-
quently all the effort worthwhile. We look forward to catching up with you all again in the not
too distant future.

Kay & Rob Finney
THE GHOST AT THE MANOR
Well ... every decent Manor House deserves to have a Ghost or two rattling around the place!
Thanks to Les Johnson for the car and Terry Daly for the pic.