

The CRANKHANDLE

**JUNE
2023**

Newsletter of the Southern Peninsula Classic and Historic Car Club Inc. A00011676Y
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The Crankhandle is sponsored by the Bendigo Bank

Postal Address: S.P.C. & H.C.C. Inc., P.O. BOX 12, DROMANA, VIC., 3936
Website: www.crankhandle.com.au Email: admin@crankhandle.com.au

The aim of the Club is to cater for people who have an interest in restoring, touring and displaying all types of Veteran, Vintage and Classic cars, motorcycles, trucks and stationary engines, etc. or any piece of machinery of historical interest.

The views and/or opinions expressed in CRANKHANDLE are not necessarily those held by the Committee of the SPC&HCC.



Mark Hillen with his Sporty Jaguars from Different Eras

read more p6

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inside*

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Bendigo Bank

Community Bank
Southern Peninsula

The Editor appreciates articles and advertisements for the next edition of The Crankhandle by 15th of the Month. Items received after then may be held over till the next edition. 11 issues monthly, February–December. Please email copy or information to: crankeyeditor@gmail.com

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liam@hutchinsonautomotive.com.au

CLUB MEETINGS

General meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at Dromana Community Hall, cnr of Hodgkinson St and Verdon St, Dromana at 7.30 pm. Melway Ref 159 G7

COMMITTEE OFFICERS

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LIFE MEMBERS

Geoff Anderson

Ray Beagley

Greg Cripps

Mick Daddo

Ray Gardini

Tony Howard

Noel Meates

Lawrie Turner**

Don Robinson

John Watson

Max Caddy

Bill Glover

Charlie Cassar

Brian Niblock

Steve Lloyd **

Eric Evans **

Peter Bradbury **

** Deceased

COMMITTEE MEETINGS are held at "The Library"
Morningson Gardens, 98 Bungower Rd, Morningson.
2nd Monday each month at 1:15pm
Tel 0420 927 073 (Paul Lucas) .

All's Soap box

Hi everyone.

It has been a long time coming but we now have the ability to sign CPS renewals at club meetings.

We have a Deputy CPS Officer Terry Conroy. To simplify things Terry and David are the two nominated Vehicle Eligibility and Standards Declaration Signatories. Terry has a long history in the automotive trade and holds an "A" grade certificate. As required, they are club office bearers.

This arrangement should reduce the number of times we have to notify Vic roads of a change of office bearers.

Christine and I have returned home from New Zealand where we were visiting our new Granddaughter.

I know it's nice to hand them back if they start to cry (Ha Ha) but having your children living overseas is not ideal.

While there we took the opportunity to visit a few of the attractions.

The one that I had not been to in the past is the aviation museum which is a part of MOTAT. These two attractions are a few kilometres apart and have trams running between them.



We took the St Kilda Beach tram to the aviation museum. They have a number of Melbourne's W class trams running the route.

However, it was the aircraft that impressed us.



A huge "hanger" housed Two Catilina flying boats, A

Lancaster bomber and a lot more historic aircraft. If you are in Auckland, make sure you visit MOTAT. It is well worth the visit.



Meanwhile back here on the Peninsula we have had some enjoyable outings to attend. The picnic at the Mornington rose garden was a very enjoyable way to spend the day.



Our BBQ for Autopro's 1st birthday was another event to promote the club and help them celebrate the day. There were plenty of admirers and lots of enjoyable conversations. Don't forget to show your club membership for generous discounts. (*Peoples Choice awards went to Allan with his pink Studebaker and Greg Collins blue GT40.ed*)



Have a look at the events calendar as there are more outings coming up.

To anyone who has a birthday coming up, "Happy birthday"

And anyone who is not feeling well "Get well soon"

I hope to catch up at the next meeting.

Allan Tyler



FUTURE EVENTS



JUNE

- Tues 6th General Meeting LADIES NIGHT, Bring your Wife, Partner, Girlfriend along for a Special Night.
Guest Speaker will be our Secretary, Rosemarie Theile, a very well versed person on all things equestrian, horses, coaches carriages etc., particularly before our beloved Automobiles.
- Tues 13th Committee meeting
- Thur 15th Picnic Balcombe Estuary Reserve, Mirang Ave, Mount Martha
BYO everything 11.30 onwards
- Tues 20th CARS'N'COFFEE Mornington Golf Club 9.30 onwards, all welcome, come and have a chat with your club mates
- Tues 20th LADIES COFFEE CLUB Kirks Hotel Mornington Esplanade 10.am onward
- Thur 22nd Visit to Montsalvat Gallery 7 Hillcrest Ave Eltham, Leave Bunnings Mornington Carpark 9.30 am (possible car pooling)
\$10 (con) entrance fee, Lunch available in restaurant.
I need numbers for this event, can you PLEASE LET ME KNOW EARLY.
This is a very interesting venue and worth the trip.
johnbecker@westnet.com.au 0411 202 911

JULY

- Tues 4th Monthly General meeting ,Guest Speaker Shirley Howard, Shirley's experiences in Papua New Guinea.
- Tues 11th Committee meeting
- Sat 15th CHRISTMAS IN JULY 12.30 PM BEING HELD AT THE PICTURESQUE MORNINGTON GOLF CLUB.
\$40 PER HEAD, 2 COURSE CHRISTMAS MEAL. COME ALONG AND CELEBRATE CHISTMAS IN JULY,
MAYBE ORGANISE A TABLE OF 10.
ESSENTIAL TO BOOK EARLY
johnbecker@westnet.com.au 0411 202 911
- Tues 18th Cars'n'Coffee 9.30 onwards Mornington Golf Club
- Tues 18th Ladies Coffee Club , By the Fire, Kirks Hotel, Esplanade Mornington



Mark Hillen is a very interesting person to engage with. He is bright eyed, intelligent, enthusiastic with a strong work ethic. Mark was born in Wellington New Zealand in 1953 his parents having settled there from the Netherlands.

"My childhood memories are of Timaru and later Napier, of canoeing in the creek behind our home, spearing eels, shooting rats and fossicking in the dump of the timber mill for old ball races, retrieving the large roller balls, some 1" in diameter for treasure. Sailing, swimming and surfing were always part of my young life, riding our bikes everywhere including to School.

I loved to collect various volcanic rocks, skulls of animals, and lots of insects, then I would pin them to a board for display in my bedroom. I also enjoyed making things, like a basic gun using a spent .303 shell as the barrel and cutting a small slot in the shell before inserting a penny bung with the fuse exposed through the slot, then light the fuse."

"In 1970 all the family left NZ for Australia as my father was to take up a position with Melbourne Water to improve potable water quality for Metropolitan Melbourne. His orange GT Holden Monaro with its twin stripes and orange/black houndstooth fabric seats was sadly sold. I have a brother and two sisters, all born in New Zealand. Arriving in Melbourne, the family settled in Rosanna. Having completed secondary school I followed my love of science to Latrobe University then later to Melbourne University to study and take a double major in Botany and Zoology. It was during a lecture that I suffered extreme pain to one side of my chest and I drove at great speed to Heidelberg Hospital in my VW beetle, I was desperate for a cop to pull me over to assist me to hospital. I had a collapsed lung or Spontaneous Pneumothorax as it is known. Although the lung repairs in time after medical intervention, it prevented me from having a flying career with the RAAF. I had passed the interview stage for entry and was then rejected due to my medical history. I looked at other career paths and ended up at Australia Post, firstly as a clerk then operating the Telex machine and later to Australia Post headquarters in Rathdown Street paying accounts and becoming purchasing officer in the marketing and merchandising department."

"I sold my VW beetles having driven a 1963, a 1964 and a 1969 model, they were cheap to buy.

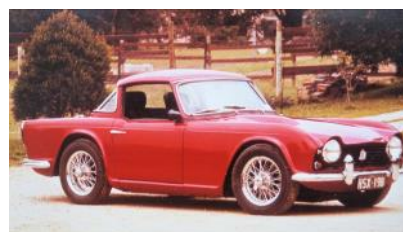


Then with some part time work while still at University I purchased a 1967 MGB that came recommended to me due to having a recent engine rebuild. It was a great car, extremely reliable as it had to be, it was my only means of transport.

After some time working with Australia Post I purchased a



red 1966 2+2 E Type Jaguar but did not like the high roof line of this E type, I sold it and bought a Triumph TR4 Surrey Top, Dad had a Triumph TR7.



I then went off roading in a Nissan Patrol short wheel base 3.3 Diesel. High lift long travel suspension was fitted with big wheels and tested on fire tracks around Walhalla including beach and sand dunes around Robe in South Australia.



I had a bad experience while climbing a crazy steep rocky track at Walhalla, my legs turned to jelly and had to have

a mate drive my Nissan Patrol out of the track. I had previously noticed a rolled 4WD off this track that did not end well for the driver. I began to question why I was doing this crazy stuff.

"In 1984 Dad took a retirement package from Melbourne Water and together we discussed purchasing a business of some kind. We looked at Hotels, Motels, Dry Cleaners, Newsagents and Chicken Farming for the poultry industry. I knew a little about chicken farming by visiting a farm in the worst conditions of heat and cold to access the down side of the industry.

The first farm we looked at was in Truemans Rd and was the one we purchased a year later. We moved from the 5 acres in Lower Plenty where we were then living to the 15 acres in Truemans Rd Rosebud. The poultry farm could carry 78,000 birds in the existing 5 sheds that were constructed in the 1960's of timber and asbestos. These were replaced in time with 3 large sheds having concrete floors and clear span insulated walls. I had tractors and a Toyota Landcruiser tipper truck to remove spent litter from the sheds that I then sold on to backyard gardeners and landscapers. I worked the sheds myself and could only have time off when the sheds were free of birds, the farm was sold in the 2000."

"I was offered a job to operate another chicken farm but preferred to do my own thing. I set about offering my services to other growers to clean out spent litter from their shed floors as is required between batches of birds, usually at 35 to 50 day intervals. The Mornington Peninsula is sand based and there is a real need for manure to enhance soils for market gardens and landscapers. I owned the necessary machines with their custom made scrapers and buckets to clean the sheds. I stock piled and delivered the manure by tip truck to various market gardens including bagging for private purchase. Some years later I purchased a chicken farm in Moorooduc. I had a mate help me rebuild the old steel framed sheds, in all taking 3+ years to transform by taking each shed out of production while removing Asbestos cladding and rebuilding each as modern shed tunnels with evaporative cooling pads. Each shed took over a year to rebuild. I lived at the farm and operated it for 12 years before I sold it in March 2022."

While Mark was busy with work, his car interest continued with the purchase in 1985 of his current 1967 E type Jaguar convertible. [with removable hardtop.] The E type was based on the D type that won Le Mans in three consecutive years. The E type had for that time a novel design in that the subframe carrying the engine



and front suspension was bolted directly to the body tub. The early cars weighed only 1,315 kg and had a top speed of 150 mph. E types have good access to the mechanicals and Mark removed the engine and gear box for rebuilding only to have to remove the engine and gearbox again to correct some rather poor work within the gearbox by others at some past point in time. His current collection includes a Holden HSV GTS VP built in 1992, and a 2008 4.2 litre `supercharged 420 bhp Jaguar XKR that is beautiful and built by Ford at the same time as the DB7 Aston Martin that shared the same floor pan and other components, they are very pretty and well built cars. His shed also houses his tractors, everyday cars and a Trimaran Yacht that he enjoys to sail when time permits.

Since secondary school Mark has had an interest in radio controlled powered model aircraft that he still flies today at the local aero club. He has numerous models powered by a variety of engine designs running on methanol fuel mixtures. In this photo below is an aerobatic Pitts Special with Mark holding a radial engine so beautifully made like a clock movement.



He is currently into gliders and throws them from cliff tops here on the Southern Peninsula, they glide in the thermals like a bird and stay aloft, until signaled back using radio control.

Mark's love of the sciences continues with a large collection of telescopes through which he can see the gas flows around Jupiter and comets travelling through the galaxies. In the shadows of the half moon the topography of mountains and craters is one of his favorite viewings. In his collection is a reflector scope having a lens of 12.5 inches diam. He searches the internet to purchase these scopes and carries out any repairs or modifications as required to return them to good working order. He has a top end manufactured microscope that he uses to see a collection of insects [and splinters] in great detail and satisfying his continued interest in Botany and Zoology. It will be interesting to hear of Mark's next project, he has a very strong work ethic and a busy mind, well done to you Mark.

On Saturday night the 22nd of April the Dromana Drive In held a special event with lots of chrome bumper classic and hot rod cars filling all the parking spaces,

A hot rod movie called "Deuce of Spades" was shown and the atmosphere was great.

Then to top off a great car weekend on the Peninsula, next morning at the Drive In there was a very well organised car show and shine plus a fantastic auto traders market.

Once again this was an exclusive event for chrome bumper and hot rod vehicles.

I took my TD2000 Roadster to both events and really enjoyed every minute of it.

There were a few other Southern Peninsula club cars in attendance which was great, but when or if they hold this event it would be a good one for the club to encourage any members with suitable cars to get along to what is a great local car event.

The management at the Drive In suggested the next event like this may be in August.



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The Latest Bentley Continental

One does not normally associate the name Bentley with sheer performance but the latest top of the range model tops out at 208 MPH from its 650 brake horsepower engine reaching 60 mph in 3.5 seconds, faster than a late model Ferrari. Now made by BMW, a crowd who know something about sheer performance so consider that before you take one on out in the sticks cos its got four wheel drive as well. Weighing in at 2270 kgs only makes its performance even more remarkable.

The latest sales figures reveal some interesting trends, Last year sales of Bentley reveal that China topped the world with 761 cars purchased, followed by 645 cars to Europe, 351 to UK, 336 to USA and 278 sales to Middle East, note that Australia does not get a mention.

Bill Glover

208 MPH
Max Speed

3.5 s
0-60 mph

650 BHP
Max Power

900 NM
Max Torque



Something Different



The Genius of Steven Wright:

- 1 - I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize.
- 2 - Borrow money from pessimists -- they don't expect it back.
- 3 - Half the people you know are below average.
- 4 - 99% of lawyers give the rest a bad name.
- 5 - 82.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot.
- 6 - A conscience is what hurts when all your other parts feel so good.
- 7 - A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
- 8 - If you want the rainbow, you got to put up with the rain.
- 9 - All those who believe in psycho kinesis, raise my hand.
- 10 - The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.
- 11 - I almost had a psychic girlfriend, But she left me before we met.
- 12 - OK, so what's the speed of dark?
- 13 - How do you tell when you're out of invisible ink?
- 14 - If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.
- 15 - Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.
- 16 - When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- 17 - Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy.
- 18 - Hard work pays off in the future; laziness pays off now.
- 19 - I intend to live forever ... So far, so good.



DARREN McGRATH

Proprietor (and a good bloke!)

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Minutes Summary SPC&HCC General Meeting Tuesday 2nd May 2023

MEETING OPENED: Geoff Bartlet Opened in Allan's absence at 7:32pm and the emergency OH&S notice was read out.

Geoff welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

VISITORS: There were no new members or visitors in attendance

ATTENDANCE: as per Attendance Book – Attendance 43 and apologies 11.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Accepted as read by John Watson/CharlieCassar,.

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE

IN: A letter from the Council inviting Members to the next community Council Meeting.

Applications for renewal of CPS will be delivered to David by Paul.

OUT: A letter from Allan Tyler to Vic Roads regarding CPS.

Accepted by Charlie Cassar/Greg Cripps.

REPORTS:

TREASURER: Details available from the Treasurer Accepted Paul Lucas/Charlie Cassar

MEMBERSHIP: Currently 240

REGALIA: Rob showed the display sash which will be offered to Members for car shows at a cost of approx \$20 each

WEBSITE: Nothing to report.

PAST EVENTS: John Becker commented on the 3 car shows held over Easter and that entry fees for these days are increasing. The Peninsula Run was a great success, with 21 cars and 34 attendees.

FUTURE EVENTS: As per The Crankhandle

GENERAL BUSINESS: Ray mentioned that Chris Higgins' fleet of vehicles will be sold and Bru Jones will be handling the sale

FEDERTATION: The date of the meeting was changed from the 13th to the 6th May and Geoff is unable to attend.

CLOSE: The meeting closed at 8:00pm.

Guest Speaker: Brad Fitzsimmons provided some display items from his Battery World business and spoke on his life in the car industry and car batteries.

Both generated a great deal of interest.



The Committee understands that some of our members may not be well. We wish them a speedy recovery. Our unwritten policy is that we don't include their names or details in the magazine.

Friends will know them. If you live nearby and can help, (visits, cards, phone texts/calls, lawn mowing, taxi to appointments, shopping, etc.), please do. Such kindness would be much appreciated.

CLUB MERCHANDISE For Sale

POLO T SHIRT	\$30
RUGBY TOP	\$40
JACKET (Sleeveless)	\$45
CAP	\$20
BEANIE	\$15
GRILLE BADGE (Metal)	\$30
CAR STICKERS	\$1



All these items may be purchased at monthly meetings or ring Rob Lloyd on: 0407 833 878 to Arrange purchase at McCrae

HALF PRICE SALE!! WHILE STOCK LAST

Small, Medium and Large sizes only

POLO T SHIRTS.	\$15
RUGBY TOPS.	\$20
JACKETS (sleeveless vest).	\$25

IMPORTANT NOTICES

CLUB PERMIT SCHEME MANAGEMENT INFO

David Doubtfire is the Club Permit Officer and the Deputy officer is: *Terry Conroy*

DRIVER RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of the driver of a club red plated vehicle being driven to ensure the vehicle is in a current roadworthy condition.

CLUB PERMIT HOLDER'S RESPONSIBILITY

It is the club permit holder's responsibility to:

- Remain a financial member of the club:
AND
- Contact the club permit officer after disposal of a red plate vehicle

CPS RENEWAL REMINDER

JUNE

B CROCKER	M GALLICHIO	S GILLARD
D KISBY	G GRIERSON	J JONES
C JORDAN	S KNIGHTLEY	J MASON
J MASON	D MASON	B NIBLOCK
T OPIE	F PYE	I PYE
P CHAPMAN	C SCHWERKOLT	J SMITH
R NEWMAN	L STAMPTON	J KLEIN
R NASH		

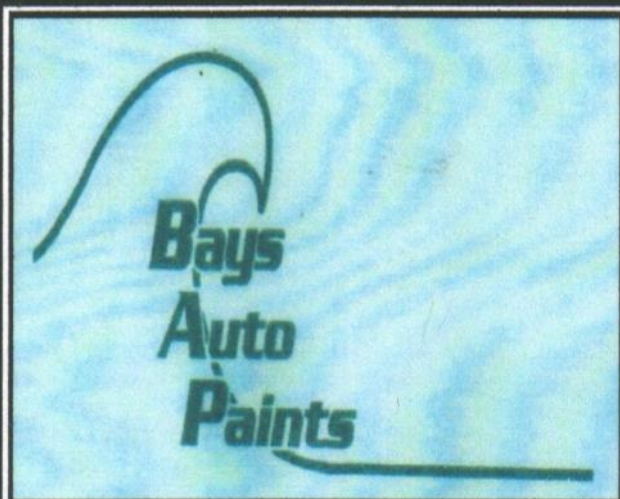
JULY

R CONNELL	D SMILLIE	C DICKIN
B JONES	P LUCAS	S ROSE
J ROLLINGS	C WATKINS	C WILTON
P WARREN	S WOOLLEY	R WOOD
V LATHAM		

AUGUST

D ASKER	H COUCH	L BRASHER
C BEAGLEY	G LOTT	A BUCKLAND
C CASSAR	P KRUEGER	I WILLIAMS
E McPHERSON	S HOPPER	J WATSON
A SODERLUND	R HUGHES	G BARTON
M JAGEURS	B LANGTON	D BRIGGS

NOTE: If sending renewal notices by mail please send them direct to David Doubtfire. Contact him for the address: Ph 0409 603 749



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BUY, SWAP OR SELL

Members may submit notices of items they wish to *BUY, SWAP or SELL* at no charge (2 issues only). Non Members (not commercial) shall be charged \$10.00 for seven lines, max. two issues only. Club Permit eligible vehicles only.

Commercial advertising enquiries should be addressed to: The Treasurer, S.P.C. & H.C.C., PO Box 12, Dromana, Vic., 3936. *Government regulations require that the registration, engine or chassis number of the vehicle MUST be included in all "FOR SALE" advertisements.*

NOTIFY THE EDITOR ONCE YOUR ARTICLE HAS BEEN SOLD OR THE ADVERT. IS NO LONGER REQUIRED.

For Sale 1972 Australian Prod. MGB MK2 Roadster with O/Drive.

Previously owned by club member the late Gary Brasher the MGB has only travelled 104,900 miles (1,800 miles since last RWC inspection)

Body is unrestored in its original Cadiz orange paint with black interior. In excellent condition

Lots of mechanical documented work done since purchase in 2006. \$27,000

The car is located in Mornington and for further details or an inspection please contact Graeme Urch: Ph 0491 707 474 or Email graemeurch@gmail.com



For Sale

I have been asked to help sell a 1963 Morris Mini 850 deluxe for a friend in Kinglake. They have decided to down size. The asking price is \$25,000. If anyone is interested and wants to know more they can ring:

Stuart West on
0409 700 904



For Sale

Two 1996 Nissan Pathfinder V6 petrol automatic. Bought by mother and son new back then, and neither can now drive them. One is registered, both substantial kilometres, and not too untidy, 1 maroon 1 white. The unregistered one needs a battery to be driveable. Registered one used daily up until the present. Wouldn't take too many thousands of dollars to get both cars.

Seeking expressions of interest, sale favouring a trust which looks after the affairs of the surviving son, my cousin.

Geoff Bartlett, helen-geoff@bigpond.com 0419 547 823.

For Sale Morris Minor

Original condition, 2 owner car. New carpet, tyres, windscreen and rubbers. Engine overhaul 2 yrs ago. Regularly driven and always garaged. \$17500 ONO

Ross and Chris Connell: 0409 532 793
rossconnell@hotmail.com



For Sale

15 x 5 inch 48 spoke wheels, they have been repainted with truck wheel silver paint. There are seven of them in total. They will fit any splined hub, MGA and B, triumph, Morgan and Austin Healy to name a few. I am asking \$50 each.

Contact Stuart West: 0409700904
Email: swest3934@gmail.com



Wanted

I am collecting "Survivor Car" magazine and require Issue #2 and #3 to complete the set.

I would consider other issue numbers as well.

John Watson: Ph 0404 341 218



SALES TABLE at Club Meeting Nights

Bring along any car related items you wish to sell or give away.

Please supply a written description of items including price, sellers name and phone number. For large or heavy items a photograph will do. **Please note** that the items will be the owners responsibility and all unsold items must be taken away at the end of the evening. Good luck, SPC&HCC Committee.

More Buy, Swap or Sell.

For Sale

For sale on behalf of the family of the Late Chris Higgins, Two Alvis' cars a Rolls Royce and an Austin 7
The cars and are on the Mornington Peninsula 3940, for inspection, photos and any more information, please contact me

Bru Jones: 2bruJones@gmail.com 0415 533 938

"1938 Alvis Silver Crest": Chris bought this car from a member in NSW a few years ago. The car is in good condition inside and out. Most of the work had been done by the previous owner and the car runs and drives very well. Chris's input was having the carburetors professionally rebuilt and new tyres all round. The car was on club plates but I do not think anything much will need to be done to get a road worthy. The family are looking for offers in the region of \$36,000.



"1936 Alvis Firebird" Chris bought this car in 2017 from Peter Flemming with its genuine patena. Whilst he had it, the head was stitched, new pistons, new tyres and tubes, rewired with a proper loom. It has a modern fuel pump and the front seats were retrimmed.

The engine starts and runs. I have never driven the car, and since his passing the car, not having been moved, the clutch has seized. There appears little rust but the body is tired. Steering, springs, brakes and bearings will need attention. The car comes with lots of spares including brake pads, a new clutch and many other bits. The family are looking for offers in the region of \$17,000



1975 Rolls Royce "Silver Shadow" 99,000 k on the clock, a nice looking car from a distance. The car starts and drives but is in poor condition the radiator leaks, the interior is in poor condition. The family are asking for offers around \$6,000 for further info please contact Bru Jones: 2bruJones@gmail.com 0415 533 938



For Sale "JONQUIL"

1931 Austin 7 RN One of only 2 in the country. The RN was an interim model, the first of the long wheel based cars with a pressed steel body. This car has been in my family for 45 years. The engine has been rebuilt. It has a new fuel tank, the carburettor was rebuilt by Wilson's having been changed to a Zenith and the speedo by Howards.

The interior is in good nick, the car was resprayed 20 years ago (not such a good job). The car is on club plates. Brakes are still Austin 7 ones!

Car comes with loads of spares inc engine gear box, radiator starter motors, brakes, too much to list. Looking for an enthusiastic person to bring her back to life with an offer in the region of \$17,500.



For more details, photos, questions or to view in Rosebud 3939.

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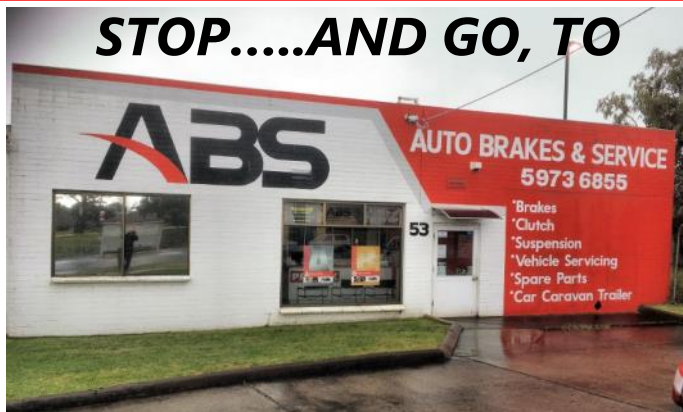
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