

No. 280

NOVEMBER 2006

A30 MINUTES

A NEWSLETTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN AUSTIN A30 CAR CLUB INC.



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- Club Minutes, News, Photos and More



From the Front Seat

A message from Club President, Don Jones

Welcome to November

Having put my first meeting behind me since my heart bypass surgery I once again thank those who have helped me through the last few months. At the meeting discussion took place about new merchandise. If any members out there have any ideas about new merchandise please contact Bob Talbot .

On the 22nd of October the club motored up to Warragul to the Old Wares Truck and Car show. This event is one that the club will be attending again in two years time. It was good to see Dianne Davie in her 2 door, this is the first long run she has done in her car.

Don't forget to ring Fred Brauneis or Bob Talbot to book for the Christmas outing as they would like to finalise the numbers. More to follow in the newsletter.

I had the chance to inspect and drive our editors new restoration, an A30 van. What a wonderful job he has done and I am sure he will have many good years of driving the van ahead of him.

With the summer months fast approaching let's hope that you have your cars out to all those coming events.

Note from the Editor

I will not be attending the next club meeting as I will be taking the week off work to go Kayaking down part of the Murray River. (Wodonga to Yarrawonga about 220km.) This issue of the 30 Minutes has several articles contributed by members, each with plenty of photos. This makes my job much more interesting and I hope for the readers as well. It would be good to get more articles and photos of more members activities. "Have a go". At the next meeting could we have two more volunteers to write articles about their A30's.

Graeme McIntosh

Membership Report:

72 Membership forms completed. 2 more expected to rejoin, with 9 letters sent thanking others for being members in the past and to jog memory.

1 query from W.A. / Form sent.

Down 8 on last year.

Club Captain:

Past Events: In Freds absence Dot reported on the visit to Joe Reilly.

Euroa: Pam & Warren / 2nd best Austin (Girty)

Mary Jones / 2nd best in show (A35 Pickup)

Coming Events:

22nd Oct. / Old Wares Expo.

5th / 8th Nov. / With A40 Car Club to Swan Hill.

3rd December / Christmas Party / Austrian Club (Final numbers next meeting)

Regalia:

Bob Talbot:

On hand:	8	mugs	(order 4 dozen)
	17	folders	
	56	key rings	
	18	lapel badges	
	4	grille badges	(price 25/50)
	1	50 year badge	(sold)
	10	cloth badges	
	50	50 year stickers	

We need to think about revamping regalia. Get some different items, update.

General Business:

Don Jones moved that we pay Jardine Lloyd Insurance \$632-00.

Seconded: Pam Barry.

Carried.

Letter to be sent to Euroa thanking them for a fantastic day, but also to complain about loud speakers.

Members Reports:

Tom Bacon: Debbie went to Beechworth / Photos on internet.

Ted Jones: Ron Short (A40 Club) asked if they could have BBQ at Mansfield. Ted will look into for joint club outing.

Ro: Photos from Beechworth?

Harvey: Back from Canada, had a great time.

John Freeman: Back from U.K. / No classic cars on the road.

Don Jones: Bendigo Swap / 18-19-20 November.

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as

WEDNESDAY THE 15th November 2006

At the Camberwell Uniting Church, 314 Camberwell Road,
Camberwell **at 8-00pm**

The meeting was closed at 9-30pm

Bob Dickson

Hon. Secretary



Graeme McIntosh's A30 Van



Rest Area Dom Dom Saddle

24th October 2006 at 1:00pm at the Vicroads South Oakleigh was the big day for the registration of my A30 van. After my stressful experience getting the roadworthy certificate I was expecting trouble. (The young bloke at the garage had difficulty with the refined technology of the A30. He knew all about the latest 'Plastic, computer managed, Clone cars' but had trouble determining whether my radial tyres were the correct size or what type of seat belts were require for the A30.) Approaching the counter I was relieved to see I was going to be served by an old bloke, (mature aged person). No problems, once he seen it was an A30 the paperwork

was done in five minutes flat, another twenty minutes reminiscing about his aunties A30 then we went out to check the engine and body numbers. On first sight he did make the comment, 'where is the other half', the vans do look a little narrow from the rear. Once the crowd dispersed I bolted on the registration plates and was off.

A few spins around the block and a sprint down the freeway at speed to get the mechanicals up to temperature. Back home, oil changes, a grease and off to Done Jones to borrow a tail shaft (vibration over 80 kph). With tailshaft fitted and a final check over and MYA30 was ready for its first trip.

Loaded up with my camping gear the A30 pulled out of the driveway and headed north. The first stage of the trip was to travel to Glenrowan along the Maroondah Hwy, all was going well, I was starting to appreciate the fine points of A30 motoring compared to my truck, (80kph cruising speed, engine buzzing along at 3500rpm and the interesting handling) when all of a sudden my bliss was shattered. Pulling north out of Alexandra this Range Rover with trailer roared past, lights flashing, arms waving out of windows weaving all over the road. Cresting the hill they were still there, I thought what could a little A30 van do to bring out such behavior in another motorist. Pulling in I was relieved to see Mary and Ted Jones getting out or the Range Rover. Mary later told me they



Lookout near Alexandra

could not believe their eyes, an A30 van motoring through Alexandra, and they were going to stop it at all costs. My trip plans were instantly altered to go back to the Jones for afternoon tea, then a tour of the new shed with the vehicle collection, work, and trimming equipment. Naturally tea time came and went along with the rest of the evening.

Next morning I headed north again finally making Glenrowan.

The following day I made the final destination for the trip, a truck display at the Cobram show organized by the Historic Commercial Vehicle Club of Victoria. The van, believe it or not is a 'truck', although when listening to the comments from the passing spectators you have to have an imagination. General remarks were 'its beautiful, so cute, what a lovely little van, etc, I pretended it was not mine. Next show I may have to fit a bull bar and a couple of road train spot lights and replace the 'Flying A' on the bonnet with a 'Flying Swan' to fit in with the other trucks.



Cobram Truck Show



Lake Nillahcootie

The return trip was via the Melba Hwy to finish a 950km very enjoyable four days.

Graeme McIntosh



Club Christmas Function at the Austrian Club 3 December 2006 (Sunday)

76-90 Sheehan Road, Heidelberg West (Melway Ref. Map 19 F9)

Time: 12 noon onwards for a two course luncheon
approximate cost \$25 per head



It is a special day, the first Sunday of Advent, with music and entertainment. St Nicholas and Co. will attend and bring presents for the good children and surprises for others. Bring your children/grand children for a fun afternoon.

For more information contact
Bob Talbot 9546 1347
Dot Bacon 9318 1846
Fred Brauneis 9457 4038



Book early to avoid disappointment.

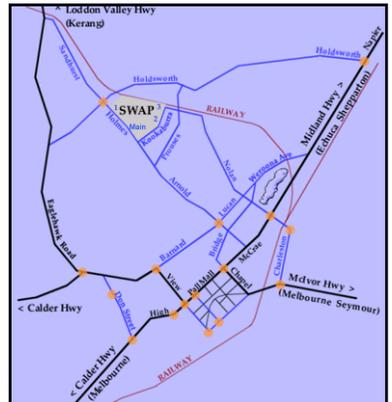
The Bendigo National Swap

Australia's Premier Swap Meeting Prince of Wales Showgrounds
Holmes Road, BENDIGO November 18 - 19, 2006

Highlights:

- Over 1500 reserved sites - indoor and outdoor. Show and Shine Display Cars are BACK! Eligible Club and Special Vehicles will be on show.
- Large number of Trade and Club Stands.
- Steam and Oil Engines displayed by the Bendigo Steam and Oil Engine Preservation Group inc.
- Motor Bike Display presented by the Bendigo Historic Motor Cycle Club.
- Full 'On Site' Catering by non profit volunteer groups.
-

Extensive Toy and Model Car show - many new Table Holders and Products will be on show.



For those that are going please call into Don Jones's site 2213, which is located 6 sites down on the left as you enter the main gate, come on down and rest your body and have a chat.



Austin A30 - Judged 2nd Best in Euroa Show "N" Shine 2006 - owner Mary Jones

Don Jones's Canary Yellow Austin A30



It all started when I was walking the streets of Hasting Town when I saw an Austin A30 2 Door parked outside the camping store. On inspection I saw this as a new classic I could do up, the owners were Warren and Pam Barry. On speaking to them about the car they said they were members of the A30 club and if I was interested they could put me in contact with Bob Talbot. When I spoke to Bob he said he had the ideal car for me at his place of work, so within a week I was the proud owner of an AS4 A30, but the catch was I had to join the A30 Club. The rest is history.



With the car at home the work started on bringing the car up to standard. The A30 shared the garage with my 1940 Chevrolet. I pulled out the motor but it was in need of repair, so a replacement was found. While it was out the engine bay and body was prepared ready for painting. With the 50th Year rally in Echuca coming up the Chev was sold to finance the completion of the Austin. Bought and installed carpet while the doors were off. Sprayed the car in the garage at home the same colour as my

work truck which just happened to be Canary Yellow. This was the first car that I had ever sprayed. I made a few mistakes, but being acrylic that was no problem.

The 50 year rally was fast approaching so a big effort was put in to have the car finished for the run to Echuca. Bumpers, Grille chromed and all finishing touches done. Car registered and ready to go, about 1 month before with time to iron out all bugs.



It has been over 5 years now since it has been on the road; over that time changes have been made to improve the car. The A30 is such fun to drive and rally in. Over the years A30s have come and gone, as spares are required, with different parts going to other club members. One being a 2 door, which was garaged for 30 years and then being sold to our treasurer Dianne which she has on the road now.



The A30 will never be sold off as I enjoy the company of all the members in the club and I just love my A30. The A30 now shares the garage with an Austin A40 Farina. If my wife would let me I am sure I would have more.



Don Jones

Otway Gypsy Wagons! **Dianne Davies Weekend with a Difference**



If the thought of a weekend away in your A30 is way too fast for you then how about doing what a friend and I did go on a gypsy caravan!

Mel and I decided to have a "girls only weekend" and headed on down to the Otway Gypsy Wagons, just east of Colac. Graham and Penny Nowell have four "gypsy" wagons ranging from the honeymooner, two family wagons and the "deluxe" family wagon. They are basic but all you need (as long as you don't mind a bush toilet and no shower).

The only males allowed on our weekend were the two Clydesdales pulling the caravan - Mighty (a massive bay standing 18 hands tall) and Billy (a roan who measured in at 15 hands - he had a habit of resting his head on top of mine).

Graham showed us how to harness up and then we off we set with Penny sitting up front with us giving directions on how to "drive". This involved sitting with your foot raised and knee bent so that you could reach the brake of the caravan and operating the reins and calling instructions to Billy and Mighty to "walk up", "steady" or "whoa".

Penny then left us with a mud-map on where we were to stop for lunch. We soon discovered that Billy was just like a kid. As soon as a slight incline came in sight he would fasten his pace, but because they were only to travel at walking pace, you'd rein them in and slow them down. This was okay for a little while, but then Billy would look around to see what you were doing and then attempt to take off again! We soon had him worked out.

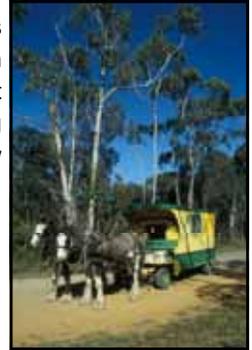


The weather was perfect and the countryside just beautiful with all the wattle and wild flowers out. So peaceful and relaxing with the only sound being the clattering of hooves and then Mighty and Billy "breaking wind" practically in our faces with us doubled up with laughter.

At around 4.30 we stopped to make camp for the night in the Barongarook State Forest. Graeme and Penny arrive and we unharness the horses, put them on a night line, feed them and then they head off till the morning leaving us by the camp fire for the night. Fantastic! We're supplied with a hot plate, tripod, billy and gas light and a beautiful moonlit night.

The next morning we set off again with Graeme helping us harness up our "horsepower" all ready for another day of plodding through the beautiful countryside. Our weekend finished at 4.30 back at Graeme and Penny's after following the mud-maps and wandering through the State Forest. All in all we probably only covered a few kilometres the entire weekend, but what a way to go.

Dianne Davie



My first Big Trip in my A30.

Although my car has been registered and on the road for 12 months I've never taken it on a long trip and a club event - mainly because I work most Sundays in summer and also I was a bit hesitant to tackle long distances in case anything went wrong.

But when my son had an accident and needed my car for three weeks I drove my A30 every day and realized just how good it ran. This gave me the confidence to "go bush".

So off I set to join everyone at McDonald's in Pakenham to go to the Vintage and Old Wares Expo at Lardner Park in Warragul. At 9.20am I rang Don Jones just to let him know that I was not far away, mind you by time I got there my knuckles were white from clutching the steering wheel I was so stressed - much to everyone's amusement.

I followed Don Jones and had Laraine and Ron Maddocks behind me. We 'hurled' along and the only time I had a few worries was when we came to the hills leading to Lardner Park, but steady does it and I got up no worries.

The Expo was well worth traveling to and it was a very pleasant day. By now I was full of confidence and I set off on my own to go home. We purred all the way home and I was just so excited I can't wait to do it again.

Dianne Davie

It All Started with an Austin

Given that Brocks first car ever, was an Austin Seven purchased for five pounds, it was perhaps not surprising that his first race car should also be an Austin.

On his release from National Service in 1967, Brock planned his first racing weapon.

Money was tight, however Brock and his friend Ken Mitchell had planned to share the driving duties in the A30. They worked hard weekends putting this car together. A 179 Holden engine was sourced from a wreck, an A30 body purchased from Wagga, and parts begged and borrowed from friends.



This ungainly beast was entered for a race meeting at Winton on November 26 1967, however persistent throttle problems prevented the car from racing. The car was then entered at Hume Weir on Boxing Day but again it did not finish the races.

Between 1967 to 1970, Brock developed the A30 into a very competitive racecar.

It's shape and degree of sophistication (I am using this term extremely liberally) evolved with the advent of wild spoilers, flares, and air cooling ducts.

Peter Brock

"I built the car as I did because I knew a 179 would fix up everything after watching Brian Muir and Norm Beechey in their S4's.

It was a good teacher, being a basically of an evil nature and we were able to keep it going on the prize money we pickled up.

"It still had to be treated carefully, though because there wasn't any money to spare and I couldn't afford to risk a motor or anything.

Still it taught me a lot, even about tyres in those early days.

The A30's last meeting was at Oran Park witnessed by a large nighttime crowd.

Many fans were unaware that they would never see old 179 again in Brocks hands.



The A30 was put up for sale (Ken Mitchell's share in the car was bought by Brock reasonably early in it's racing career).

Apparently, the car was sold and driven for several meetings before it was written off at Surfers Paradise. Its parts were salvaged and sold off.

(Reference www.brock05 ---The Ultimate Resource)



On the Road

with Bob Laughton

'G Day', Well I guess 'If there is smoke' there is fire, and so it is with Mitsubishi and Ford. The Mitsubishi Magna 380 just cannot get off and running and Ford is cutting back on production of the Falcon. I hope not too many people on the floor get the push. Toyota has come on board with their Ozy Aurion, I believe like it's predecessor the Avalon, it's a non event. Mind you like the Mitsubishi 380 it's probably well built and now has the most Ozy content but big front wheel drives are not popular in Australia.

The Big Dry just rolls on, with a lot of Australia in the grip. Around the Goulburn Valley after about ten years of below average rain fall it's taking it's toll. Lots of crops that were average have been cut and made into hay and that includes canola.

The dairy farmers are being hit hard with irrigation water supply and lots of cows sold off or moved to other parts of Australia. The worst hit are the dairy farm Share farmers, and I personally know of some on exceptional circumstance hand outs. Now these people are good workers, good husbandry within the industry, and all with small children, it's not going to be a Happy Xmas for a lot of families here in the Goulburn Valley.

Had the chance to meet probably the newest 'member', Andrew Greenham the other day while I was in Kyabram. Andrew runs the 'Best kept secret' in Kyabram, the 'Clara-Bow Cafe'. With sidewalk dining, cafe, and a garden lounge at the rear where you can partake in a 'Sherbert' if you so desire I had to give Andrew 99% for the establishment. Yep I took 1% off because I could not see his A30 parked out the front, there was only a dusty old Ford Taurus with sticky finger marks on the side rear windows.

I have to hightail it quick, Locky is in the Grand Final and it's starting right this time. The Jr Gators were up against the Phillip Island Rips. The Rips were head and shoulders above any of our team, it looked one sided. At the end it was a draw, so an overtime - still a draw, another overtime, and with 20 seconds to go Locky got an easy lay up (it bought the roof down). It was all over, Jr Gators a 'Job well done'.

The team are heading to Bulleen early 07.!

Enjoy Ya Austins

(Bobs views into the auto industry are looking very real. Today he informed me that Ford is about to reduce it's workforce be more than 600.)

Ed



AUSTIN

-that's my car!

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

29th October (Sunday)

The Golden City Pipe Band (Bendigo) are having an open day with the band playing, stalls, wineries and a BBQ at Andrew Greens home garden. (Tom Bacon can give contact number)

4th November - 7th November 2006 (Saturday to Tuesday)

Weekend away to Swan Hill. The event is sponsored by the Austin A40 Car Club and members of the Austin A30 Car Club and the Austin Vintage Register have been invited to participate. Contact Adam Francis 9512 4586 AH

15th November 2006 (Wednesday)

Club Meeting at the Camberwell Uniting Church at 8.00 pm.

18th and 19th November (Saturday & Sunday)

Bendigo Swap Meet

26th November (Sunday)

Historic Commercial Vehicle Club display day at Sandown Racecourse

3rd December Christmas Party (Sunday)

Austrian Club

January 2007 (Sunday)

RACV Great Australian Rally - Melbourne to Mornington.
Australia Day Historic Vehicle Display in the King's Domain,

February 2007 (Sunday)

Picnic at Hanging Rock

Fred Brauneis - Club Captain. Tel: (03) 9457 4038

CLUB PERMIT VEHICLES ARE AUTHORISED TO ATTEND THESE EVENTS.

Note: Owners of vehicles operating with Club Permits should carry a current copy of this Newsletter & a copy of the AOMC Club Permit Handbook in their car at all times.

ARCHIVE BINDERS FOR YOUR 'A30 MINUTES'



complete with
25 plastic pockets

Each Binder will provide you with a
handy reference of over 2 years of
Austin A30 and Club information.

PRICE

\$10.00 EACH

plus postage, if applicable

Buy, Swap & Sell

FOR SALE

Four rechromed bumper over riders (as new) \$125 the lot
One grill in good condition (no rust and no dents) \$100
Eltham

CONTACT: John Shaw 94397667 0409 465837 (2/2)

FOR SALE

1955? AS4 sedan, some rust, Free to good home.

Contact: Valerie, Phone 5987-3339 Dromana. (1/2)

FOR SALE

1956 AS4 sedan, sound condition, sun visor but will need total restoration. Has been in shed for last 25 years.

Contact: Trevor, Phone 5968-9219 Best Offer, Emerald. (1/2)

FOR SALE

New A30 windscreens. Cost \$60 each.

New Hinge Pivot Balls (These are the small brass balls that fit into the door hinges.)

Two balls are required per door). Cost \$20 per set of two balls.

(A percentage from the sales of these items is donated to the club.)

Contact: Dianne Davies Phone 0421 666203 for more details

An item in the May Newsletter had an error.

Austin A30/A35 Grille Badges

(May Newsletter - page 17)

Correct Telephone Number and Fax

02 380873478

Mobile

07931102367

Prefix for UK required

Advertisements in this section will be inserted, free of charge, in two issues unless I am advised otherwise. The notation at the end of the advertisement indicates how many times it has been displayed. ie: (1/2) - first insertion , (2/2) - second insertion. Ed.



November 2006

Road train, Western Queensland

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1 Copy Deadline	2	3	4 <u>Swan Hill Weekend</u>	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 <u>Club Meeting</u>	16	17	18 <u>Bendigo Swap Meet</u>	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 <u>HCVC Sandown</u>
27	28	29	30			

December 2006

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1	2	3 <u>Christmas Party</u>
4	5	6 Copy Deadline	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

AUSTRALIAN AUSTIN A30 CAR CLUB INC.

CLUB MEETINGS

Club meetings are held on the **3rd Wednesday** of each month from **February to December**. Commencing at **8.00 pm**.

VENUE

CAMBERWELL UNITING CHURCH
314 Camberwell Road, CAMBERWELL. VICTORIA.
(Near Camberwell Junction)
Melways 45 J1

Parking available at front and rear of the building.

CLUB MERCHANDISE

Club Lapel badge	\$ 5.50
Club Cloth Badge	\$ 5.00
Club Window Sticker Badge (internal)	\$ 3.00
Club Key Ring	\$ 8.00
Club Grill Badge (Members)	\$20.00
Club Grill Badge (Non Members)	\$25.00
Tea & Coffee Mug with Club Badge	\$ 6.50
A30 50th Year Rally Grill Badge	\$20.00
A30 50th Year Rally Cloth Badge	\$ 9.00
Club Umbrella (Dark Green with Flying 'A' logo)	\$30.00
A5 Binder for copies of 'A30 Minutes' inc. 25 pockets	\$10.00

All items are plus postage, if applicable

**All Club Merchandise enquiries to Bob Talbot
Telephone: (03) 9546 1347**

CLUB CONTACTS

Please direct information & enquiries as follows:

Correspondence to the Secretary – Bob Dickson

Newsletter articles to the Editor – Graeme McIntosh

Membership enquiries to Membership Secretary – Tom Bacon

(Contact details are shown inside front cover)

SPARE PARTS

Contact Thorpe at

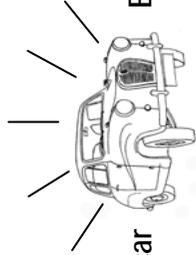
Morris Minor Australia, 56 Alex Avenue, Moorabbin. Victoria. 3189

Telephone: (03) 9555 1793 Fax: (03) 9532 2241

Note: The current membership card is now laminated and has the Club stamp on the reverse side. Members wishing to purchase items from Thorpe of Morris Minor Australia, Moorabbin, Vic. should present the card to obtain a discount. Country & Interstate members must quote their name and membership number. Thorpe has been provided with a current membership list to identify members.



IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO:
THE SECRETARY, AUSTRALIAN AUSTIN A30 CAR CLUB, 6A DUMOSSA AVE, BULLEEN, VIC. 3105.



Austin A30 - small car

BIG personality!