



## NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 37

ISSUE N° 7

AUGUST 1998

CLUB ROOMS:- Rear of "ALVISTA", 21 EDGAR ST., GLEN IRIS. Melway p59 F 8.  
MEETINGS:- THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH EXCEPT DEC./JAN.) AT 8 pm.

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## COMING EVENTS

**NOTE IT HAS BEEN NECESSARY TO CHANGE THE DATES OF SOME EVENTS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS YEAR. THIS IS THE FINAL & CORRECT LIST.**

- AUGUST Friday 21<sup>st</sup>** Club General Meeting and RR (Rough Red) & Pie night. For \$3 per head, enjoy a selection of fine gourmet pies, some rough, but drinkable, red wine and there will be supper a usual.
- SEPT Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>** "ALMA DOEPEL" GST (Great Sailing Trip)  
See inside for details.
- Friday 18<sup>th</sup>** Club General meeting. More Video Evidence of the Executive European Extravaganza.
- OCT Friday 16<sup>th</sup>** Annual General Meeting. Come along and kick out the president (please!)
- Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>** Lunch run to Simon and Aileen Ramsay's at Castlemaine. Details in September Alvic.
- Nov Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>** Annual Luncheon & trophy presentation at Ian and Pat Parkinson's "Camelot" at Yellingbo
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup>** Club General meeting
- Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>** Geelong Sprints. Not just for the petrol heads & boy racers, but a great spectacle. This year we want to make it a real club event
- Dec Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>** Annual Barbeque at John and Margaret Lang's home at Gisborne.

**CALENDAR PHOTO'S CLOSE ON 31st AUGUST SO IF YOU WANT TO BE IN SO GET YOUR PHOTO'S TO JOHN LANG.**

P.O. Box 129 Gisborne 3437

# TORQUE OF TONKIN

Greetings. I am pleased to be able to advise Members that the ACCV Executive Grand European Tour has come and gone and that your **President and Vice-President and the First and Second Ladies** have returned safely to our shores, having spread charm and goodwill throughout the European Alvis fraternity.

Readers will recall that the purpose of (or excuse for) the trip was to attend the International Alvis Day at Brooklands, south west of London. **John and Kay Ball**, your (strictly for this month only) Editor and Navigator **Pauline Tonkin** arrived at the Hilton Hotel at Cobham, in Surrey, on the morning of Saturday, 13th June, to be greeted by the spectacle of numerous Alvises and their owners filling up the car park. Not your average Aussie Alvis either, but cars that we had never seen before.

We were welcomed by **Charles Mackonichie**, one of the organisers of the weekend for the Alvis Owner Club, and **Alan Firth**, who attended our National Rally last year. With Alan at the wheel of his modern (his Alvis was "laid up", as the Brits say), and with we four as navigators (a driver's nightmare - 4 navigators), we set off on a picturesque drive through lanes and hedgerows to a pub at Reading, in Berkshire, stopping for a photo opportunity at a ford across a stream, where various Alvi made a big splash for our cameras.

The rain started as we arrived at the pub for lunch (it was, after all, summer in England), and your faithful photographer's stirring efforts to video every Alvis in the car park were cut short, not by the freezing water trickling down his back, but by the burning smell coming from his camera, as the rain ran through it's innards. However, after sitting on the mantelpiece at the pub, above a roaring fire, it (the camera, not myself), recovered. My views on British eating habits were confirmed at the lunch when Alan ordered (and downed) a plate of ham, eggs and chips. OK for breakfast, Alan, but lunch ?

After lunch, we meandered back to Cobham, via a circuitous route which required the answering of a series of "simple" questions. Simple for the Brits, a bit harder for the Antipodeans. Actually, we did quite well (we did have 4 navigators), missing out only on the question of where the 1996 TA14 50th anniversary celebrations were held. A bit tough, unless you were there, or owned a TA14. Anyway, in spite of protests from the Balls, who felt it wasn't quite "cricket" (it wasn't !), your Prez. negotiated the answer with an English Alvis lady back at the hotel, who needed the solution to question 23, which we had. A fair swap ? We thought so, except that we subsequently won (with two other teams) and she lost. Them's the breaks.

(This diatribe will be concluded in September ALVIC, if the real editor lets me).

Richard Tonkin.

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## WHEN IS A NEWSLETTER NOT A NEWSLETTER ?

**John Ball** reports that a lady from the State Library rang him on receipt of the July Newsletter to report that the word **NEWSLETTER** was missing from the masthead of that issue. Acting Editor **Dale** ("don't blame me. I edited 3 newsletters that month") **Parsell** had apparently pushed the wrong button on his vastly complicated computer. Anyway, it's back this month. Hi to the State Library Lady - it's good to know that somebody actually reads it (by the way, she thinks ALVIC is great). -R.T.

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## ANDY HANNAM TROPHY

- June Club Meeting** - Bob Graham, Ian Parkinson, John White.  
**July Club Meeting** - Bob Graham, Richard Tonkin, John White.  
**Progressive Total** - Bob Graham (11), Richard Tonkin (10), John White (9). Sorry, the others are out of it.

## ANTIQUE TYRES

This is an open letter from Ron Wilson, which also appears in the VSCC Newsletter and other car club publications. The Committee of the ACCV thoroughly endorses Ron's request.

Antique tyres, through Alan McKinnon, has for many years provided a service essential to the Old Car Movement in supplying specialist tyres for our cars. But a recent disastrous fire destroyed the premises, the entire stock and the business.

**IT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT TO EVERY MEMBER OF EVERY CLUB THAT ANTIQUE TYRES STARTS UP AGAIN, BUT THIS WILL REQUIRE HEAPS OF INCENTIVE.**

You can help right now by assessing your tyre and tube requirements for the next two years and sending the details to me, **Ron Wilson, at 22 Park Close, Vermont, 3133**, and I will forward them on to Alan. This will in no way infer an obligation but the information will greatly assist in locating and ordering the size of rubber for your machine, so that it's there when you want it.

NOTE : I have no commercial interest in Antique Tyres, only a sincere appreciation of the prompt and pleasant service given by Alan McKinnon over many years.

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## **THE G>S>T> (GREAT SAILING TREAT)**

**SUNDAY, 13th SEPTEMBER.**

This is a leisurely, 2 hour cruise around the Hobson's Bay area aboard the historic sailing ship, "Alma Doepel". Gather at Gem Pier, Williamstown (Melway Map 56, E9), at about 10.45am for an 11.00am departure. Adults \$20, Senior Citz/Pensioners (and those of us who just look old ?) \$15, Young People under 16, \$10. Light refreshments will be served from the galley while sailing.

On return to shore, Members may wish to avail themselves of a social get-together at a nearby Williamstown restaurant before departing homewards. There are also a number of interesting museums, historic ships and other attractions in the Williamstown area.

This is a people, not a car day, so leave your most treasured possession at home and just enjoy the good company.

The "Alma Doepel" people need to know numbers, so please contact Alister Cannon on 9755 1997 (great number, Alister, but you didn't get the last digit changed this year), or Club Captain John White on 9890 7066 by Friday, 3rd September.

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## **SUMMARY OF GENERAL MEETING - FRIDAY, 17th JULY, 1998.**

There were 22 present. The meeting welcomed the President's daughter, Karen, visiting from Brisbane. Apologies from Geoff Hood, Eric Nichol and Ron Wilson. Correspondence was received from Mark Burns, requesting membership forms. Australian Mille entry forms and the NZ Club Newsletter.

Several coming events were discussed, including the sailing trip organised by Alister Cannon on the "Alma Doepel" on 13/9. The AGM is fixed for 16/10. David Caldwell has imported bearings for his TA14 and it was agreed we order some spares.

Some problems were reported by the owners of "Alvista." It is important we remember we are guests and respect the property. The library has 3 litre handbooks for sale.

Richard Tonkin ran the first part of his video of International Alvis Day at Brooklands, and showed a cutting from the London Sunday Times on the murder of Peter Black.

## CARS & PARTS FOR SALE AND WANTED

THE CLUB CARRIES A LARGE SELECTION OF SPARE PARTS WHICH ARE AVAILABLE TO FINANCIAL MEMBERS OF THE CLUB AND TO MEMBERS OF THE ALVIS CAR CLUB OF NEW SOUTH WALES. ONLY REPRODUCTION PARTS CAN BE SUPPLIED TO NON MEMBERS AND A SURCHARGE WILL BE APPLIED. MEMBERS CONTEMPLATING THE MANUFACTURE OF SPARES ARE ASKED TO CONTACT THE CLUB TO SEE IF OTHERS NEED SUCH A PART OR IF IT IS FEASIBLE TO ORDER SOME FOR CLUB SPARES.

*Enquire about spares to the appropriate SPAREPERSON listed on p. 1.*



SEPTEMBER ALVIC

COPY DEADLINE

WEDNESDAY  
26th AUGUST 1998

COPY TO JOHN  
HETHERINGTON  
PLEASE

### CLUB.

Handbooks, technical data etc. TA 21 Specification sheets. \$5.00 each plus p&p.  
"Motor Trader" technical data sheets. Speed 25, 3½ Litre, 12/70 and TD 21. \$5.00 each plus p&p.  
Spares catalogues. Silver Eagle 1930 -1933. TD 16.95, TB-TC 19.82 and 12/70 SB 13.22. Price on application.  
Owners Handbooks for several vintage, PVT and post-war models. Availability and prices on application.  
All reproduced expertly by the world famous "ROYBOOKS" Press.

Tel: Roy Henderson 03 9704 7549

RADIATOR CAPS FOR PVT CARS. Unmachined Castings with machining instructions provided. \$30.00 each.  
Contact Dale Parsell.

HALOGEN GLOBES for your old headlamps, stop and tail lamps.. No rewiring needed. Dale Parsell says that they  
Are very good. "Classic & Vintage Bulbs" Tel/Fax 08 8278 4393.

### PRIVATEERS.

WANTED For 12/50. Hand throttle 'swash' plate, the twisted T piece located at the bottom (engine bay) end of the steering column control rods and which operates the throttle linkages of the carburettor. Frank Corbett, PO Box 218 Kenmore, Qld 4069. Tel 07 3378 7280 (a.h.)

WANTED CAV Bell-shaped headlights "e" pattern. Geoff Hood. Tel 03 9842 2181.

WANTED Vintage Instruments: Jaeger Oil Pressure Guage to 60 psi. White on black face. 2 3/8"  
English Clock. White on black face. 2 3/8".  
John Lang. Tel/Fax 03 5426 2256. Email: jdmelang@netcon.net.au

WANTED Urgently. Valve spring top (the cap that retains the spring)for Firefly. Probably a Speed 20 one is the same. Also, information concerning differentials. 12/50 (non sub frame) crankcase & gearbox top. Contact Derek Dixon, New Zealand, 0011 64 9 6315957.

## STOP PRESS

Puffing Billy returns to Gembrook on October 4 1998.

In the week prior to this momentous event a week of motoring will be happening. This will include a motoring tour, on the weekend prior, starting at the Polly Woodside and finishing at Gembrook. October 24-25 1998 Contact Back to Brook PO Box 92 East Caulfield ph 9571 7444 Fax 9571 1059

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