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NEWSLETTER

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APRIL 2000

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CLUB ROOMS:- Rear of "ALVISTA", 21 Edgar Street, GLEN IRIS. [Melway p 59 F 8]
MEETINGS:- THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH [EXCEPT DEC/JAN] AT 8.00pm

SPARES

REGISTRAR & 3 LITRE SPARES

John Ball
As above

TA 14 SPARES

John White
30 Lyndhurst Cres
Box Hill
Vic 3129
Tel 03 9890 7066

PVT SPARES

Austin Tope
8 Wimba Avenue
Kew
Vic 3101
Tel 03 9817 5163

VINTAGE SPARES

Geoff Hood
37 Thomas Street
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Tel 03 9842 2181

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Position vacant

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424 Wellington Street
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COMING SOON TO AN ALVIS NEAR YOU

APRIL Saturday 1st
Sunday 2nd
Friday 28th

ACC NSW Jubilee Jamboree at Jamberoo

Club General Meeting.
(Note this is the 4th Friday; Good Friday falls on the 3rd one.)

** Bob Graham will talk about the restoration of the "Green Machine" and he will have the car there, under lights, to demonstrate as he goes.**

The Pres will show videos of Kalorama & Jamberoo

MAY Sunday 7th

Friday 19th

Saturday 27th
Sunday 28th

Day Trip. River Cruise & Wineries.
Full details were in AL.VIC, March
Enquiries to John Ball
Monthly General Meeting.

Winton Historic Race Meeting

280 Historic Racing Cars.
Hundreds of interesting cars
in the Car Parks.
Hundreds of interesting
people to talk to.
\$5.00 on Sat. \$10.00 on Sun

JUNE Friday 16th

Rough Red & Pie Night.
Monthly General Meeting.



MAY NEWSLETTER.

The Ed. will be away so John Lang has kindly agreed to do a locum. Please be kind to him and send copy in early. Thanks, John. ED



TORQUE OF TONKIN

Greetings. I have just (literally, this afternoon), got back from the Kalorama Vintage Car Rally, the one-day event held at the Kalorama Reserve each March. The Club has been a supporter of the event for years – in fact, I think we were one of the foundation organisers. Anyway, this year, the Kalorama committee decided to begin a rolling, 50 year age limit (for cars, not entrants), whereas the event had previously been confined to pre-war cars. That decision was no doubt prompted by declining numbers of attendees over recent years, and a feeling that there were many interesting post-war cars that were being excluded from the event.

While the purists no doubt argued that a vintage event should be for vintage (and PVT) vehicles, I, for one, have in the past felt somewhat peeved that I had to park our TA 21 outside the white fence (until we acquired the eligible Crested Eagle), while our friends with eligible cars were inside that boundary and could, of course, compete in the various events.

Whatever the merits of the arguments on both sides – to admit or exclude post-war cars, the fact is that they are now part of the Kalorama event, and I will probably take our TA 21 Drophead next year. There were 69 entrants on this year's program, although I think there would have been another 15 or 20 cars that were not listed. Of the 69 listed, there were only 6 post-war cars, but I also saw several RM Rileys, 3 Bristols, a 1951 Ferrari (a lovely car), and others. I must say, they seemed to blend in well with the pre-war cars and I noticed that **David and Lyne Vaughan's** 12/50 (ex **John and Kay Ball**), was up against an RM Riley in one of the events (and beat it!). I also saw an RM Riley in the Slow Race and I am now testing the TA 21 Drophead, with 2 sacks of oats in the boot, to see if he might be persuaded to travel at walking pace next year.

Seen at Kalorama, apart from the Vaughans, were **Barry and Verna Gough** (Speed 20), **Peter McAuley** (Crested Eagle – yes, there are one or two other ones about), **Ray Newell** (12/50), **Peter Fleming** and **John White**. Many of the Club "regulars" at Kalorama were absent, no doubt because of fettling for the NSW Rally and the VSCC Alpine to Tassie. Anyway, it was a good day and let's get some more Alvisi along next year, including the TA (and B) 14s and TA 21s.

We had a successful debut of **John Link's** idea of "Car of the Month" at the March Club Meeting, with **Geoff Hood** bringing along his 12/50 Special racing car. Geoff explained, in a way that even I could understand, how he built the car, how it runs and handles. Many thanks for your time and effort, Geoff. In April, **Bob Graham** will be explaining the mysteries of the restoration of his Speed 20.

Well, I had better get back to polishing the Drophead for the NSW Rally – can't have those Original Alvis folk outshining us. I am taking the video camera, so there will be a Picture Show at the April Club Meeting (also featuring the Vaughan's 12/50 eventing at Kalorama), so make a point of being there. Don't forget it's on Friday, 28th April, not the third Friday of the month, because of Easter.

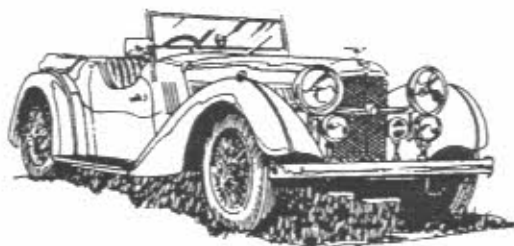
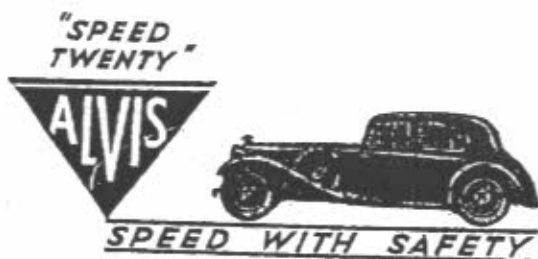
Cheers

RICHARD TONKIN, PRESIDENT.



JUBILEE JAMBOREE AT JAMBEROO.

There was a good turn out of Victorian Alvises at the NSW Alvis Club's 50th Anniversary Celebrations held over the week end 30th March – 2nd April. **John & K Ball** TA 21 DHC. **Andre & Dorothy Chaley** 3½ Litre. **Murray & Claire Fitch** Silver Eagle. **Bob Graham** Speed 20 SB. **David & Carol Head** Silver Eagle. **John & Margaret Ed** Speed 20 SC. **John & Margaret Lang** Modern. **John & Annie Link** TA 21 Special. **Alan & Noeline McKinnon** MG A. **Ian & Pat Parkinson** TA 21. **Richard & Pauline Prez.** TA 21 DHC. **John White** Yamaha Motor Cycle. I hope that there will be a full write up of the event in the May Newsletter. There will be colour pictures in the June's "ALVIC". For the moment, being entirely parochial, I will report only that, at the Concours, **John & Kay Ball** won "Best Postwar Classic" and **Murray & Claire Fitch** won "Best PVT". The editorial Speed 20 did 1,100 miles of the most splendid motoring imaginable, including many steeply upward miles. It used 1 pint of oil and returned 17.4 mpg. Watch this space for full details of a great week end.



ALVIS AGNITIONS

OVERSEAS

David & Margaret Caldwell are in the USA. So is Eric Nicholl. Colin White has also deserted our shores temporarily. These absences partly explain the low turn-out to the March General Meeting. There were twelve members (plus Bill Jones, a guest of John Link) and a dog present. The dog, Stephanie is part of the Link family and is in the habit of barking whenever there is applause – which all adds to the noise of an ACCV meeting. Our Prez was outdone. There was total disobedience of orders to “keep quiet”.

QUEENSLAND RALLY 2001

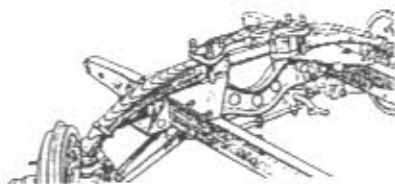
The preliminary information was enthusiastically received at the ACCV. Many people have already made diary entries and others are wondering how they can get enough time off for the trip. Watch this space for more info as it becomes available. The venues chosen should be good.

REGISTER OF AUSTRALIAN ALVISES

Eric Cunningham has compiled a Register of Alvis cars in Australia and is trying to keep with changes of ownership, which he finds is a constant battle. Eric would like to know to whom, in Victoria Alan Shepherd sold his Supercharged 12/60 and he would like to know the chassis number of Paul Velacott's Ducksback (pictured on p 6 of “ALVIC”).

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

At the last General Meeting Parky reported 62 financial members. Not bad for this time of year – but for those who have not yet paid, please accept this as a reminder. With the payment, of course, have come the data sheets which you were asked to complete. White a mine of information that collection proves to be. When it is all in and collated it will be a very interesting data base. It will be made available in the library. But already it is obvious that much of the information we thought we had about members' cars is incorrect. Thanks for your efforts



DAVID MUIRDEN, Life Member and
DAVID FLETCHER,
Honorary Member

each kindly returned their Membership Data Forms with a donation. The Club is very appreciative.

DAVID WISCHER, ex Member

Has donated to the Club a TA 14 Headlamp in good order but with no glass. Thank-you, David.

GREMLINS AGAIN

In ALVIC last month a set of British Stamps was attributed to Australia Post. Sorry about that. Eric Cunningham wonders why Alvis was not included, though.

RON FOGGO

was journey-man boiler maker who spent most of his working life erecting power stations in the Hunter and Latrobe Valleys. A real Alvis enthusiast and he sent me this story.

In N.S.W. one is obliged to present your car to a licensed tester once a year for examination. I think this is a good idea but when you have a car that has lost its first bloom of youth and it is not a common make, the tester pays more attention to it than usual.

I once owned a Silver Eagle Alvis that had been originally equipped with a mechanical device to dip the headlamps, this gadget had been removed before I owned the car. Previous testers had paid no attention to my lack of headlamp dipping. To avoid dazzling oncoming cars I would switch from main lamps to parking lamps.

However, this particular tester insisted that I had to have another system and would not issue a roadworthy certificate with the present set-up.

To overcome this problem I arranged the wiring in such a way that when the lights required dipping, a switch was closed passing the current through a resistor from an old half charge unit from a motor cycle. When I presented the car again, it was passed.

This re-wiring had been completed in a hurry and the resistance unit had been left hanging down from behind the instrument panel just ahead of the passenger's front seat. When driving at night with a front seat passenger, he or she would sometimes become alarmed when on dipping the lamps, they would observe an object just in front of their right knee glowing steadily brighter until the oncoming car had passed, then the incandescent glowing coil would fade.

No one complained about these minor inconveniences then

BOB GRAHAM

SEE TOP CENTRE:

Is David another name for generosity?

AS THIS IS WRITTEN

many Victorians are preparing their cars for the trip to Jamberoo. Almost as soon as that is over the VSCC is taking its members to Tasmania for the Alpine Rally. That voyage of the “Spirit of Tasmania” should be a fun trip; the Ed knows of two other car clubs going at the same time. You could drive old cars full time....

COSTS

are rising. There has been a 30% increase in the price of “Xerox” consumables. That is why ALVIC last month had only two pages of digitally reproduced photos..... We have to pay for what we use.

CARS & PARTS FOR SALE AND WANTED

THE CLUB CARRIES A 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.

MAY NEWSLETTER
COPY DEADLINE

WEDNESDAY
26th APRIL 2000

(Please note - TO
JOHN LANG. The ED
will be away.)

PRIVATEERS

*(Ads. for cars For Sale must include
the price and Reg. or Engine No.)*

FOR SALE

19 inch bolt-on wire wheels. 5 off. From a Riley but modified to suit 12/50 Alvis hubs. Some with tyres. Some without. \$300.00 the lot.

WANTED

Pair of Alvis CAV Headlights (slant mounted). Have various 12/50 bits. Happy to trade.
Des Donnan 07-5445 9981 or email donnan@m140.aone.net.au

WANTED

TA 14. Various bits to complete a rolling chassis. Brake pedal, levers & linkages. Clutch pedal, levers and linkages. Petrol tank & supporting straps. Propellor shaft tunnel & its associated sheet metal cover for the gearbox. Throttle pedal & its cross shaft etc. Air silencer (early type). Rear dampers. Dynamo - Lucas special - nickel plated. Does anyone have a scuttle or a whole body being scrapped? Buyer will collect in Vic or SA.
John Murray, 2 Twin St., Stirling. SA 5152. Tel 08 8339 4746

WANTED

to complete a front wheel drive generator. The dust cover band that covers the brushes. This is the same one as used on "flange frame" 12/50's. It has flat rolled steel "hooks" on each end that snap onto corresponding "hooks" on the generator body.

FOR SALE:

Original Silver Eagle voltage control cut-out two-bobbin type, complete with covers (original finish, no dents). needs one by-pass resistor replaced on the back otherwise appears to be working. \$100.
7630 AH Paul Bamford (03) 9886

FOR SALE

TA 14 Clutch Pedal. Preslite 12v Windscreen wiper motor in good condition. Lucas 12v diecast solenoid c/w rubber cap over armature; brand new, TA 14 Distributor; Lucas DKY 4A c/w cap; 2nd hand, TA 14 Dome Light in good condition, accelerator pedal. No reasonable offer refused
Rob Graham. 03 9571 3886

FOR SALE

Lights. 1 pair Lucas 7" Spotlights, marked SF 10 700 S, Brand New \$300.00. 1 pair Lucas 4" Spotlights, marked 4LR on the glass, Brand new \$250.00
David Wischer. 6 Albert Cres., Balnarring 3926. Tel 03 5983 2175. (Note new address)

WANTED

Distributor Cap for BTH CE 4 Magneto (or complete magneto!)
Greg Berkman Tel 07 3379 2447

GIVE AWAY

Three litre body panels. Bonnet, boot lid and front mudguard. May be useful as patterns or possibly for repair.

Ross Aitken 03 9578 5449

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