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NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT

Richard Tonkin
P. O. Box 280
Greensborough
Vic 3088
Tel 03 9710 1465
rtonkin@eisa.net.au

V/PRESIDENT

John Hetherington
102 Balaclava Rd
Shepparton
Vic 3630
Tel 03 58216422
jfh@mcmedia.com.au

SECRETARY

Dale Parsell
14 Symons Rd,
Avonsleigh
Vic 3762
Tel 03 5968 5170
dparsell@ozemail.com.au

TREASURER & PUBLIC OFFICER

Ian Parkinson
"Camelot"
Yellingbo
Vic 3139
Tel/Fax 03 5964 8307
camcast@cyberspace.net.au

CLUB CAPTAIN

John Link,
82 The Strand,
Newport,
Vic 3015
Tel 03 9391 2970
Fax 03 9391 3691

NEWSLETTER EDITOR & DISTRIBUTION

John Lang
P. O. Box 129
Gisborne
Vic 3437
Tel/Fax 03 5426 2256
jdmclang@netcon.net.au

CLUB ROOMS:- Rear of "ALVISTA", 21 Edgar Street, GLEN IRIS. [MELWAY p59 F 8]
MEETINGS:- THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH [EXCEPT DEC/JAN] AT 8.00 pm

SPARES REGISTRAR & 3 LITRE SPARES

John Ball
P.O. Box 26
Murchison
Vic 3610
Tel/Fax 03 5826 2518
balljk@mcmedia.com.au

*****NEWSFLASH*****

**Rare Alvis sighted in outback Australia,
see page 3 for photograph**

TA 14 SPARES

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

COMING EVENTS

November	Friday 17th	Club General Meeting
	Sunday 19th	ANNUAL LUNCH & TROPHY PRESENTATION Camelot Castle, Healesville /Koo Wee Rup Rd., Yellingo. [Melway p 410 R3]. Arrive at 12.00 noon to sit down at 12.30 pm to a three course meal for \$30.00 with drinks at bar prices. Those who enjoy Pauline Tonkin's treasure hunts & limerick competitions should meet at LILYDALE at 11.00 am [service road on Healesville side of railway line, Melway p 38 D4.] RSVP Ian & Pat Parkinson by 14th November as they need to know numbers.
December	Sunday 3rd	Christmas Barbeque at David & Carol Head's property at 9 Dog Rocks Rd. Batesford—see insert page.

PVT SPARES

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

VINTAGE SPARES

Geoff Hood
37 Thomas Street
E. Doncaster
Vic 3109
Tel 03 9842 2181

LIBRARIAN

Frances McDougall

COMMITTEE

Frances McDougall
424 Wellington Street
Clifton Hill
Vic 3068
Tel 03 9486 4221
macily@tenex.com.au

Eric Nicholl
17 Ternes Road
Upwey
Vic 3158
Tel 03 9754 5412

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

CALENDAR 2001

NOW AVAILABLE

\$22 (including postage)

12 pages each depicting an Alvis scene

Orders by phone to Marg or John Lang

(03) 5426 2256

T O R Q U E

Greetings! On the weekend of 27th October, a fine collection of Alvises and their even finer owners, partners and friends from NSW and Victoria assembled at the Arlberg Resort at Merrigig, between Mansfield and Mount Buller, for some comradeship, merriment and motoring.

Assembled were no fewer than 19 examples of Holyhead Road's finest engineering and 49 members of the two Clubs and their friends. From Victoria came **John & Kay Ball** (TA 21 DHC), **Andre & Dorothy Chaley** (3 ½ Litre), **Murray & Claire Fitch** (Silver Eagle), **Bob & Bev Graham** (Speed 20), **David & Carol Head** (Silver Eagle), **John & Margaret Hetherington** (12/50), **Geoff & Helen Hood** (Silver Eagle), **John & Margaret Lang** (modern), **John & Annie Link** (TA 21 Special), **Alan & Nolene McKinnon** (12/50) and their friends, **Russell & Bev Miller** (MG B), **Ian & Pat Parkinson** (TA 21), **Dale & Maritta Parsell** (Firefly), **Simon & Aileen Ramsay** (Speed 25), **David & Jan Seath** (modern), **Richard & Pauline Tonkin** (Crested Eagle), **John & Lois White** (modern) and **Ron & Gwen Wilson** (modern).

New South Wales was well represented by **Kevin & Helen Cass** (12/50), **Roland & Juliet Comfort** (Speed 20), **Brian & Joan Hemmings** (Speed 25), **Kendall & Joyce McSkimming** (TA 14), **Robert Purves** (TC 21), **Alan & Margaret Russell** (TA 21) and **Norm & Lyn Webster** (Derby Bentley).

The weekend commenced with a gathering of the eagles (and hares), at Arlberg on the Friday afternoon. The resort is situated on the banks of the Delatite River, a swift-flowing mountain stream, which provided a delightful background for the venue. Dinner on Friday night featured **Robert Purves** entertaining us with a whimsical discourse on how he went up to Oxford University as a graduate student, presumably to further his studies in the law, but somehow ended up writing a learned treatise on "The Mating Habits of the Mongolian Trotting Duck."

Saturday saw us travel to Delatite Station, an historic farm property, with beautiful gardens and a pedestrian suspension bridge over the river, which challenged the more cautious of the participants. After morning tea on the lawns, we proceeded to Jamieson, where we enjoyed lunch at the local pub, in front of a roaring log fire. Some then travelled the 10 or so picturesque kilometres along the Howqua River to Kevington, before returning to Merrigig.

After dinner, the merriment began. The rally organisers, **Ian and Pat Parkinson** and **John and Margaret Lang**, put on what could only be described as an unconventional version of "Sale of the Century, which **Nolene McKinnon** eventually won, despite **Dale Parsell's** protests to the judges that he had been beaten up by **Brian Hemmings**. Then came a bizarre Bingo game, which had us all on tenderhooks as to who was going to win a balloon flight. When everybody got the winning number at the same time, **Ian Parkinson** announced that it would have been even funnier if the prize had been a car (yeah, Ian - you would have been lynched!). The evening then degenerated into singing from The Alvis Songbook, Mrs. Parkinson's Chicken Dance and other matters that have not yet been classified for General Exhibition.

Sunday saw us motor into Mansfield for morning tea, before saying goodbye and heading home, with some staying until Monday morning, to further savour the mountain greenery.

Thank you, **Ian, Pat, John and Margaret** for all the work you put in, and to **Kay Ball** for creating the Alvis song for the Friday night. Thank you to the NSW members who undertook the journey south and who helped to make it a great weekend. I hope that these get-togethers, such as Metung, Jambaroo and Merrigig can continue, and that we will see more of our friends from north of the border in the future.

Richard Tonkin.

ORDER YOUR CALENDAR 2001 NOW!

Ring (03)5426 2256

YOUR NEW(ISH) COMMITTEE FOR 2001.

At the Annual General Meeting on Friday, 20th October, the following were elected to the Committee:-

President	- Richard Tonkin	Newsletter Editor	
Vice President	- John Hetherington	& Distribution	- John Lang
Secretary	- Dale Parsell	Librarian	- Frances McDougall
Treasurer	- Ian Parkinson	Committee	- John Ball
Club Captain	- John Link		- Eric Nicholl
			- John White

Thank you again to **John Hetherington** for your 12 years of service to the Club as Newsletter Editor. Congratulations to **John Lang** as the new Editor and for also taking on the job of newsletter distribution. Thanks to **John Ball**, ably assisted by **Kay**, for their years of doing the distribution. We welcome **John Link** as the new Club Captain, and thank you **John White** for a job well done. The Spares Registrar and the four Sparespersons will be appointed at the first committee meeting. I am sure that the Committee will map out a varied and interesting program for the next 12 months.

Richard Tonkin.

CARS & PARTS FOR SALE & 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 SPARESPERSON LISTED ON PAGE 1

December Newsletter Deadline
Sunday 3 December 2000



Parkies on their way home from Merrijig

WANTED

Alvis 12/50 Cylinder Block, timing gear cover and rocker cover. Patricia Bren, "Woodhurst" 29 Poraiti Rd, RD2 Napier, Hawkes Bay N.Z. Tel 64 6 844 2971 Fax 64 6 844 4265

FOR SALE

Grey Lady Saloon. 1954. No 25483. All original numbers. Recent gearbox overhaul. Wire wheels re-spoked where necessary. Drives beautifully. New Tyres. I have owned this car for 20 years and have driven it to National Rallies at the Blue Mountains, Echuca, Mudgee and Noosa. It has proven to be fast and reliable. Offers by expression of interest. Dean Prangley. Tel BH 07 3277 6211 AH 07 3378 6893. Mob. 0413 435 735 Fax 07 3378 6896.

FOR SALE

TC 21/100 1955. Four door sedan with wire wheels and twin air scoops on the bonnet. Good body with only slight rust. Fitted with four good radials. Pistons and rings renewed but needs on conrod and a crankshaft re-grind. Complete except for door trims. Interior woodwork professionally re-polished. New chrome trims for sills. New mounts for fog lights. Car a Woodend. \$2300.0

LIBRARY

Frances now has the contents of the library on a computer data base. This should make it easier to keep track of what we own and who has it. There are some really interesting and/or entertaining books in the library, so don't forget to use it when you visit the club rooms.

A PLEA FROM YOUR NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR

I need your assistance!

The newsletter is only as good as your contributions!

We have been spoilt having had John Hetherington as our editor for many years, in that his networking, wealth of experience in both the club and the old car scene have helped him through any lean times.

I do not carry such credentials!

I need your contribution of photographs, articles and nonsense, for inclusion.

JL

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Alvis Car Club of Victoria (Inc), its officers or its Editor. Whilst all care has been taken, neither the club nor its officers accept responsibility for the availability or quality or fitness for use of any services, goods or vehicles notified for sale or hire or the genuineness of the advertiser or author. Other car clubs may reprint by articles originating from our members. Acknowledgement will be appreciated.

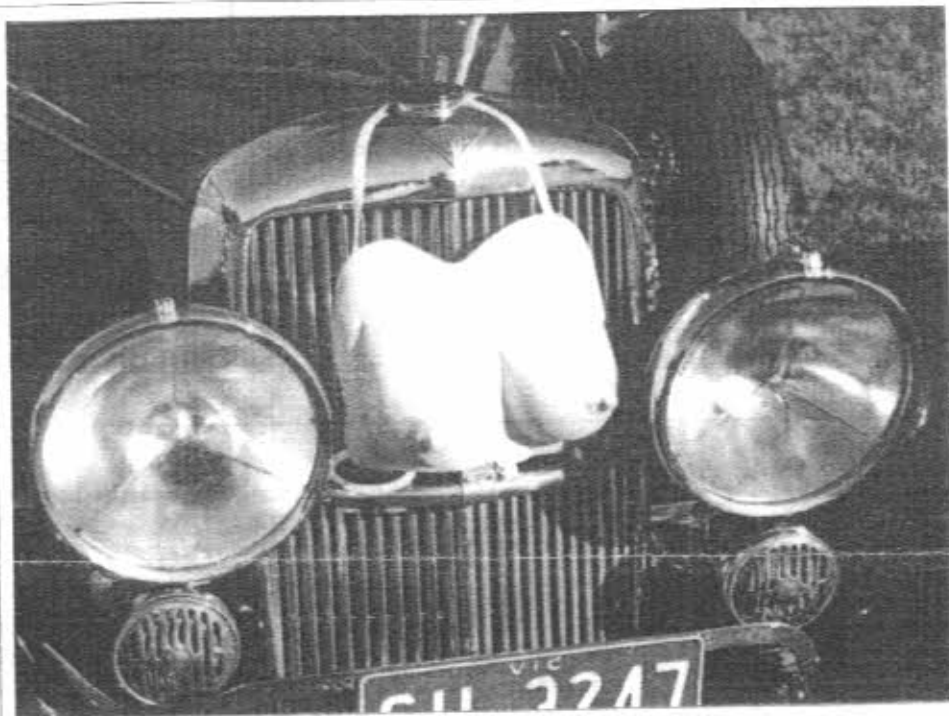
1936 ALVIS BARE BREASTED EAGLE

Our roving reporter, recently spotted this extremely rare 1936 Alvis Bare Breasted Eagle parked outside a rather doubtful establishment at Merrijig in far South Eastern outback Australia.

The elderly owner, thought to be a Mr Richard Tonkin of Rob Roy, was reluctant to talk about its distinctive radiator which identifies it from the more common Crested Eagle.

Mr Tonkin's only comment was to indicate that it was definitely a "both hands on" experience to drive the car at speed.

The owner was last sighted warming his hands in front of an open fire prior to departure.



M E R R I J I G 2 0 0 0

Two of the great things about Alvis Weekends away and National rallies are spending time with like minded friends and the possibility of being privileged to drive another members pride and joy.

At Merrijig, David Head had his recently restored Silver Eagle (the first event I have been on with this machine as Maritta and I missed Jambaroo) and when David asked if I would mind driving the car whilst he listened for a new squeak which had developed, he certainly didn't have to ask twice (for future rally's please note I am always available as a test driver).

From external appearances David's Eagle is very similar (much cleaner of course) to our Firefly, the bonnet is 4 inches longer to accommodate two extra cylinders. So I was quite keen to try it out. First impressions. Getting in isn't any easier than the Firefly. I thought the Firefly's pedals were close together, but in the Eagle you can heel and toe without the heel and press the clutch at the same time. We move off and the incredible torque from the six cylinder engine leaves me quite envious. With only 1496cc the performance from the Firefly is quite impressive, but the extra capacity in the Eagle provides effortless acceleration.

I didn't have the opportunity to drive the car at highway speeds, but following both David and Murray Fitch's similar car at various time on the weekend, provided ample evidence of the Eagles' flexibility. I look forward to a longer sample at some time.

Later in the weekend I went from one end of the scale to the other when Richard Tonkin suggested I drive the Crested Eagle six light saloon.

When first approaching this vehicle, one is quite apprehensive as its perceived size is overwhelming. Manoeuvring from the Merrijig carpark did nothing to dispel the uneasiness. Once on the highway, however, you discover that the size fades from the conscious as once again the flexibility and performance of a six cylinder Alvis manifests itself. This car also has impressive performance, especially when you remember the mass of timber and metal you have around you and the plush fittings.

Cruising along at 50-60 mph the Crested Eagle took all terrain in its stride and I was pleasantly surprised to discover that it handled the curves and road bumps with ease.. not at all what I expected from a very large, almost limousine, from the Pre-War period.

Yet another move in the multi coloured Alvis tapestry found me driving John Link's TA21 Special.

When you get into this car it 'feels' and looks similar into a Pre-War car rather than its 1950's saloon origins. Its performance is awesome (amazing what shedding all that weight can do) and its power assisted brakes bring everything to a halt very quickly when necessary. The next surprise comes when you get to the first corner when the taut feel of the car is replaced by the typical cornering of a mid fifties luxury saloon.

I would like to close by once again thanking the owners of these machines for allowing me to go out (without them in two cases) in there precious vehicles.

I would also like to thank the organisers for an excellent weekend away which was enhanced by the attendance of several of the NSW members.

Dale Parsell



Carol and David Head
 9 (72) Dog Rocks Road, BATESFORD. Tel: 52 761223

Map references are Melways 430 - 432 and 440. Actual address is ref 440 - 1B house is under the dotted arrow.

From Melbourne, Princes freeway:

- Take PURNELL Rd (RHS filter, third set of traffic lights as you come off the freeway. You should get in the RH lane after the lights at the Harvey Norman store)
- Go along Purnell road (Be careful at the top of the hill at the cross road) until you reach cross road on the Anakie road and turn left
- Proceed to MIDLAND HIGHWAY and at Tee junction turn right (at white church)
- Continue along the highway, past the garage and down the hill into BATESFORD. Watch the 80kph limit, sometimes the police wait in the village
- Go past the DERWENT pub on LHS and over the bridge
- Take the next left hand turn (only 100 meters after the bridge) into DOG ROCKS Rd.
- Follow road on sealed section until you reach the sharp RH bend, the road is now unmade
- First entrance on RHS is #9 (also #72 ie 720 meters along Dog Rocks road)

