

DECEMBER 1972

BRISBANE
SPORTING
CAR CLUB

PRICE 15 cents

Affiliated with C.A.M.S.

MONTHLY
NEWS LETTER

ESTABLISHED 1954

Registered for posting as a periodical Category B.

CLUB POSTAL ADDRESS:

P.O. Box 601,
FORTITUDE VALLEY 4006

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CLUBROOMS:

B.S.C.C. Clubrooms are situated in the 15th. Battalion Memorial Hall, Vulture Street, Woolloongabba (behind the Fire Station).

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CLUB EVENINGS:

Club evenings are held each Wednesday at the Clubrooms commencing at approximately 8:00 p.m. See Coming Events for details.

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MEMBERSHIP FEES:

The Membership Fee for one year is now \$8.00. Associate Members pay \$4.00.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Please notify the Secretary of any change of address, so that we may continue to supply you with your copy of the Newsletter.

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CLUBROOMS ROSTER:

- Wednesday 22-11-72 Les Barron & Ray Luckhurst
- Wednesday 29-11-72 Peter Hillman & Greg Smith
- Wednesday 6-12-72 Keith Tapsall & Joe Deamicis

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EDITORIAL

I'll probably be whinging at you all year, there are certainly enough problems in the rally business to keep me going for a year. However, to start off on a happy note I won't seek to hurl thunderbolts at the establishment (this time), I would rather tender this abstract personal statement about what rallying means to me. The thunderbolts will come later.

The Halda looks like a photograph where the camera has been severely jolted. The map becomes unreadable, a juddering blurr in a flickering pool of yellow light. The car plunges over a crest, stomachs are momentarily left suspended.

The road plunges downwards, the car follows with a banging, lurching motion, like a rollercoaster with square wheels. Incredible vibration sets in, punctuated by hammer blows as wheels leap from rut to rut.

Lights are vibrated into a flickering strobe effect, trees shudder and dance like revels in some weird discotheque. The sound rises in this Hell-au-go-go until all speech is lost. One particular sound seeps into the mind gradually establishing recognition. Its meaning suddenly crystallises! the car is still accelerating. The homicidal maniac at the wheel still has his right foot welded to the floor.

Stones hammer the underbody, like frenzied gremlins intent on beating their way through the metal. It has become apparent that at the bottom of this hill the road disappears into a wall of trees. Whether it breaks left or right is pure conjecture, but there is no slackening of speed. We are now out of control, hurtling into oblivion, too late to worry now, it's all over.

The corner goes right; breaks bite, wheels lock, revs rise, hands move in a blurr, the face behind the wheel looks unconcerned. The car lurches sideways, wheels scrabble for grip, trees loom up, and slide towards the side of the car. Suddenly it's all over, with a burst of sound you are accelerating away to the next corner. In that moment you are Gunnar Palm and he is Hannu Mikkola.

That's what it's all about.

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COMING EVENTSWednesday 29th. NovemberTOURING ASSEMBLY.

Fred Van Tuinen is setting this one but is being very tight lipped about it all. It will be interesting to see what a driver thinks a Touring Assembly should be. I'd expect to see some of Capalaba by moonlight.

2/3rd DecemberSTONES CORNER MOTORS MAZDA RALLY.

The Rally starts at 4.00 p.m. from Stones Corner Motors. Control officials are still needed, interested parties contact Wally McGreal, phone 87 76931. Navigators, don't forget your geometric compass and 18" ruler, that sounds interesting, doesn't it?

Wednesday 6th. DecemberBREAK UP NIGHT.

This will be the last time the Club will get together in 1972. Bring your own plate of food, bring all your tall stories and be ready for a congenial night of good company, fellowship and the right type of refreshment. There is no Xmas Party this year because of the B.P. Rally but read on for alternative arrangements.

Sunday 10th. DecemberCHILDRENS CHRISTMAS TREE.

The childrens Christmas tree will be held at McLeans Bridge starting at 1.00 p.m. Santa will arrive in a fully works prepared Alpine Renault 1600 and hand out Gordinis to all the good little boys. (That should get all the single blokes there and they can hand out lollies and ice cream. etc.). Seriously though, this is a day for the kids, with all the traditional Christmas fare. If you would like to help please come along, it will be a rewarding day. There is the traditional Test Match where the Blake XI takes on all comers. So don't stay away, be there. If you would like to nominate your children, please contact the Secretary, Mrs. Jan Sked (yesterday!) it's as urgent as that.

Wednesday 13th. DecemberCOMMITTEE MEETING.

At Stones Corner Motors.

15/16/17th. DecemberB.P. RALLY OF S.E. QUEENSLAND.

COMING EVENTS

Saturday 3rd. February, 1973.

COMING TOGETHER PARTY.

This is going to be a big one, a real mind-bender. John Hall and the Social crew have been given a brief to produce an extravaganza that will be remembered for years to come. So keep this date free, it will be the Saturday night of the Tasman Meeting and all competing drivers will have been invited. It looks like a case of leaving the party in time to drive to Surfers to watch the races.

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TAPPET CHATTER

Charlie Blake is having a birthday on Monday 27th. I'm not supposed to tell how old Charlie is, but if you take 100 and divide by four, then multiply by two, you'll be pretty close.

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Brian Gemmell's is now the proud father of a bouncing baby boy who has evened the score at the Gemmell household. Mrs. G. is reported to be doing fine and the baby has now learned how to zero a halda, read a route chart and plot grid references.

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Dave Lather has joined the long list of good guys who are no longer eligible. He was married on Saturday, congratulation to Dave and Mrs. Dave, the Club wishes you every happiness.

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By the time you read this, Hank Kabel/Greg Sked and Bryan Evans/John Suominen will be back with tall stories about the Alpine Rally in Victoria. They have been upholding Queensland's and Mazda's honour in the south yet again. We're hoping for good results and we can bet there will be good stories at least.

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Sorry to hear that Ken Quinn has done it all wrong in the shoulder department which will keep him out of competition for a good while. Very distressing because Ken is always a keen competitor. Consequently Bob Lean will be looking for a ride next year. Anyone interested can contact Bob at the Club on Wednesday nights.

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Strong but unconfirmed rumour has it that Brian Michelmore will be driving another continental car next year. Anyone ever seen a Rally Dino Ferrari, but I'll bet on a 504 injection.

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TAPPET CHATTER

It looks like John Shera and Julie Meadows may have something to announce in the near future. John returns from the north in three weeks time.

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MARK'S JOKE OF THE MONTH

The year is 2001 and heart transplants have paved the way for all sorts of transplants including Brain Transplants.

A wealthy lady was negotiating at the Brain Bank for a replacement brain for her senile husband.

"What types of brains do you have and what do they cost?"

"Well lady, they start with workers brains at \$1.00 per lb., then you got architects brains at \$1.50 a lb., dentists brains at \$2.00 a lb., doctors brains at \$3.00 a lb.," said the attendant.

"What are the most expensive brains?" asked the lady.

"Rally drivers brains, ma'am, at \$1.00 an ounce."

"\$1.00 an ounce, good heavens, why are they so dear?" she exclaimed.

"Well lady, do you know how many rally drivers it takes before you get an ounce of brain!"

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TRADING POST

FOR SALE - Five 175x13 Firestone Town and Country Rally radials, never been used, brand spankers!
Anyone wishing to purchase same at a reasonable price, please contact Ian Kenny, phone 576938 after hours.

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"BOGGED IN THE BULLS--T"

At this time of year speculation on the probability of who will be driving what and with whom becomes the favourite topic of conversation.

Already mentioned in Tappet Chatter, Brian Michelmore has been rumoured to be running in a 504 or perhaps a Saab or maybe an Alfa.

"BOGGED IN THE BULLS--T"

Ray Luckhurst has mentioned a new car, Japanese and competitive.

John Shera will be back but not in the Fiat 128, he hopes to be driving something more potent. With the right car he could be brilliant, he has the ability, and who will be his navigator (Trevor Garbett?)

John Elmore has a new Colt Galant 1500 which will be running under the Nev Duce Motors banner. The car has been carefully marked in the factory "THIS WAY UP" to ensure flipper doesn't do it again.

Fred Van Tuinen probably won't be campaigning the Cortina next year and this means a double dissolution of the battle of the Cortina because Paul Trevethan looks like being transferred, which means that Brian McCloy could be after a ride.

Joe Deamicis has mentioned another car on a few occasions, "something with more sting!"

Probably the biggest news on the new arrival scene will be the appearance of a Lotus Cortina (very hot) in the hands of Ian Kenny fugitive racing driver. There's a fast ride for someone.

The F111, sorry, I mean Fiat 128 of Dom Roberts nears completion and has almost past sound barrier tests, another potentially fast ride for someone.

On the sad side, Nev Goodrich has retired, which means Foaming Finn John Superman will probably be resident in a Mazda.

Also unfortunate, Greg Nickel is out for an unspecified period, I hope it's not long, he's talking about a new car in the meantime which could be interesting.

What will happen to Adrian Taylor, can he really stay out of competition.

So much for speculation about who's who, but I'll stick my neck out and predict who may go well next year.

In the Juniors the rising stars have got to be Frank Gallagher and Henry Marszalek, with John Shera a potential winner. Ann Thompson and Ross Moir should have the Marina sorted out soon, then there's Flipper Elmore in his new beastie, but the guy who's got to have the inside leg is Bryan Evans, with Joe Deamicis hot on his heels.

For the Seniors, I think that Mike Chapman must be knocking on the door with an axe, He's long overdue. The man with the Mazda won't let him off easily, nor will Messrs. Smith and Browning nor Mr. Robinson (Lloyd is also overdue). It's going to be an interesting year, especially remembering the Michelmore/Dancer secret weapon.

In fact it's wide open next year, my only hope is that every rally is held on schedule and that the weather and industrial problems declare an armistice, the sport needs a trouble free year.