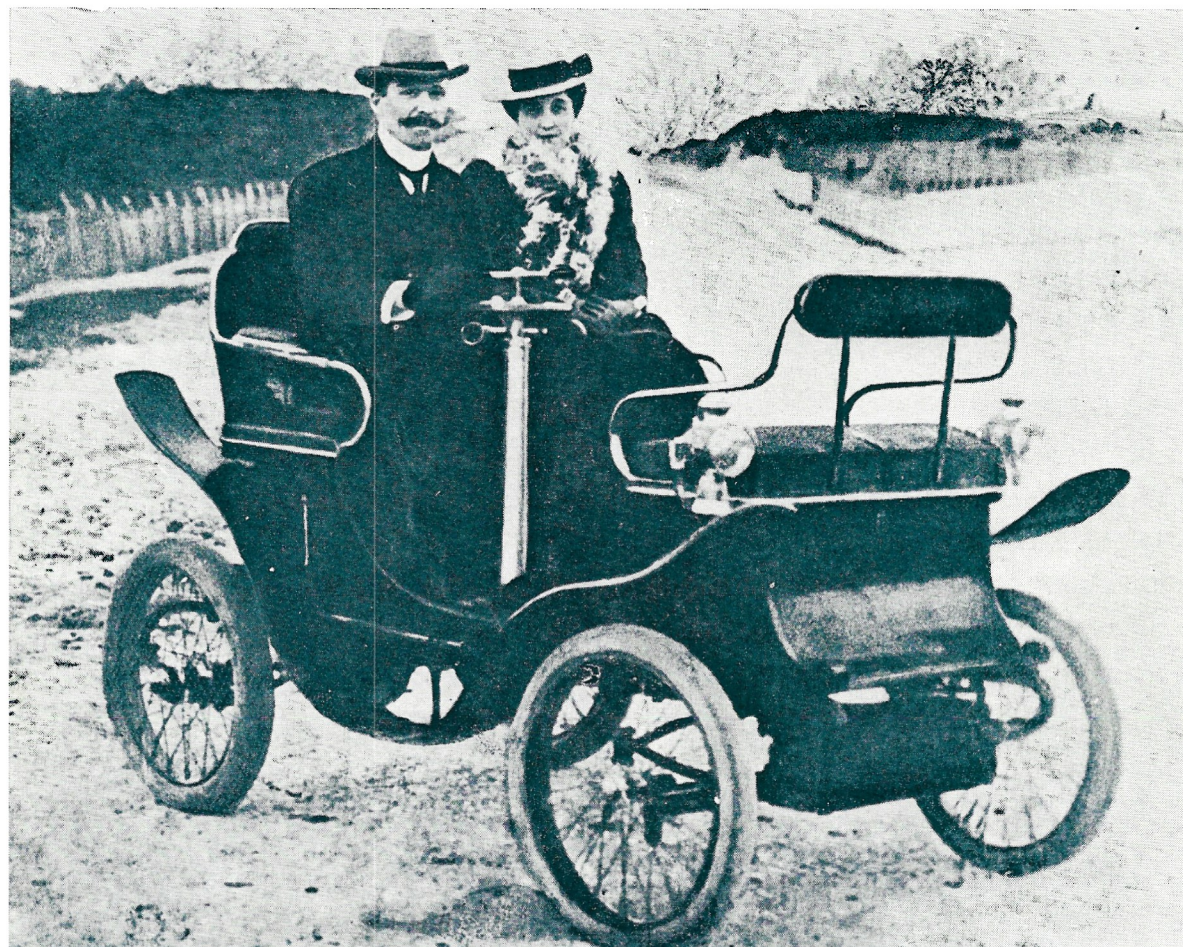


NEWSLETTER OF THE VETERAN CAR CLUB OF AUSTRALIA (N.S.W.)
Registered at the G.P.O., Sydney for transmission by post as a periodical—Category B.

SPIT AND POLISH

● SEPTEMBER, 1975, VOL. XVII, No. 3

● PRICE 40 CENTS



This is the very first motor car to have run on the roads of Australia, a 3½ H.P. De-Dion Bouton Voiturette purchased in Paris in 1899 by Mr. W.J.C. Elliott and landed in Sydney off the M.M. "Ville de la Ciotat" on April 27th, 1900. In the car, Mr. and Mrs. W.J.C. Elliott.

VETERAN CAR CLUB OF AUSTRALIA (N.S.W.)

134 QUEENS ROAD, FIVE DOCK 2046

1974-75

OFFICE-BEARERS

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HON. TREASURER: W. McCarthy, Ph. 798 6941 (Home)

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SOCIAL SECRETARY: Mrs. G. King, Ph. 522 7108 (Home) MEETING ENTERTAINMENT: D. Berthon

LEGAL OFFICER: E. L. S. Hall

"SPIT AND POLISH" PANEL: R. C. Baxter (Chairman), Ph. 522 9661 (Home); E. Lang, Ph. 579 5790 (Home);

J. and F. McGowen, Ph. 50 8536

CLUB HISTORIANS: A. Rose-Bray, R. A. Foy, G. A. Roberts

RESEARCH HISTORIAN: G. A. Roberts

PHOTOGRAPHER: J. Thorpe

MINUTES SECRETARY AND LIBRARIAN:

R. Petersen, Ph. 639 8233 (Home)

AUDITORS: W. V. King & Associates

PUBLIC RELATIONS: R. A. Foy

1974-75

CLUB MEETING DATES

1974

SEPTEMBER Thursday 26th

OCTOBER " 24th

NOVEMBER " 28th

1975

JANUARY Thursday 23rd

FEBRUARY " 27th

MARCH " 27th

APRIL

Thursday 24th

MAY

" 22nd

JUNE

" 26th

JULY

" 24th

AUGUST

" 28th

SEPTEMBER

" 25th

OCTOBER

" 23rd

SPIT & POLISH



PATRON:

His Excellency,
The Governor of NSW
Sir Roden Cutler,
VC, KCMG, KCVO, CBE.

NEWSLETTER OF THE VETERAN CAR CLUB OF AUSTRALIA. (N.S.W.)

Vol. XVII, No. 3

September 1975

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The next General Meeting of V.C.C.A. (N.S.W.) will be held at 8 p.m. on THURSDAY, 25TH SEPTEMBER, 1975 at our Clubrooms, 134 Queens Road, Five Dock.

NOTE: The Cover Caption is reprinted as typed on the photograph that was from the Elliott family album. It is far from being the first car in Australia.

COPY REQUIRED BY FIRST THURSDAY OF MONTH.

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

SPIT AND POLISH, 134 QUEENS RD, FIVE DOCK. 2046.



Fanfare of six brass bulb-horns and a first prize certificate to David Berthon for his enterprise and effort in organising our display stand at the Sydney Motor Show. It was a well-planned display that was an outstanding crowd "pleaser".

David tells me that this could be the leader to a grand display of veteran cars to raise money for the club and if his initial efforts are any indication then a proper display under the "baton" of David would be an outstanding success.

Some months SPIT AND POLISH is relatively easy to compile because of correspondence and articles by members, but this month the cupboard is bare and since most members are in hibernation or Queensland, support for your magazine has been sadly lacking.

I could say this much, that "Steering Column's" author was true to form and instead of following the swallows to Queensland, he followed the mutton birds to Tasmania and apparently was caught on an ice-flow or was too Yiddish to spend 18¢ on a letter to maintain his column. He always puts things back-to-front - always blowing his trumpet about T Fords - goes crook at our Committee and Committee members for ineptitude - but can't keep his T Ford on the road without it falling apart.

Come on Eric, grab those bootlaces and pull yourself up from depths of despair in Hobart and get your Ford into action and your column back into line.

R.B.

Minutes of the meeting of the Veteran Car Club of Australia (N.S.W.) held at the Clubrooms, 134 Queens Road, Five Dock on THURSDAY, AUGUST 28TH, 1975, commencing at 8.15 p.m.

Chairman R.A. Foy.

Apologies L. Sheen, H. Sheen, V. Cross, N. Martin, A. Garthon, J. Cooper, W. Spraggon, B. Garth, J. Eisenhower, D. Berthon, J. Wilson, J. Gorton, P. Wards, V. Jacobs, R. Petersen, B. Bronk, E. Lang, R. Baxter, J. Lewis, R. McCarthy.

Minutes of the meeting of July 24th as circulated were confirmed on the motion of W. Irish, seconded B. Thew.

Treasurer W. McCarthy submitted the Treasurer's Report (attached) which was accepted on the resolution of J. Butcher, seconded J. Corby.

Correspondence. Letter from Ron Ferguson, "Vintage & Veteran Restorations", notifying change of address. Letter of thanks from Miss Cowell for use of car for wedding. Moved A. Blevins, seconded J. Wards the correspondence as read be received.

Investigation & Dating

Moved J. Pickup, seconded G. King, that the application of Barry Seward, Wolseley Siddley, to be transferred from Associate to Full Member, be accepted.

Events

18 cars attended the Navigators Rally. C.V.V.T.M.C. Rally Warwick Farm Sept. 14th.
October 4th, 5th, 6th Camping Weekend.
October 19th, Australian Village.
September 13th, Orange Blossom Festival.
September 20th, Concord Council Festival.
September 28th, "Manly Daily" Outing.
November 1st, Parramatta and Campbelltown Processions.
August 29th to September 6th, Motor Show.

Moved G. Green, seconded W. McCarthy, that a special vote of thanks be passed to David Berthon for the work he has put into the organising of our exhibit at the Show.

Cairns Historic Vehicle Club had sought assistance in organising their Centenary Rally next year. G. Roberts had attended and given advice.

Magazine No report.

Social Secretary

Christmas Party, November 22nd, to be held in the Progress Hall, Carss Park.

Registrar

Still awaiting Victorian Branch entries, upon receipt the Roster will go to press.

Minutes of Meeting 28/8/75 Cont'd.

Club Rooms Some repairs necessary to the fence, guttering and downpipe, which will be attended to.

Librarian No report.

C.V.V.T.M.C. At the Annual General Meeting the following were elected to office: President, A. Foy; Vice-President, Bruce Ross; Treasurer, L.K. Sheen; Secretary, Mrs. Beryl Wilson. Hopefully the Minister for Transport will be Guest of Honour at Warwick Farm. The Federation of Vintage Car Clubs and the Bush Council will meet on Saturday, September 13th. The Council is still maintaining interest in the tyre position. Judging Pool, V.C.C.A. volunteers had not been notified of a meeting at which 12 people had attended. Our members will participate at Warwick Farm.

Photographer Photos had been taken at the Navigators Rally, but more particulars of cars were necessary for the Records.

Insurance No report.

General Business

Re purchase of property 136 Queens Road, Five Dock.

Letters were read from Hall and Hall to Drummoyne Council and the Council's reply to Hall and Hall. After reading the original motion passed at a previous meeting, it was suggested that another application be made to the Council, pointing out the activities of the club.

It was then moved G. Roberts, seconded W. Maunsell, that we proceed to purchase the property. The motion was carried with 4 dissenting.

G. Green suggested that a combined Club Exhibition be organised to raise funds to assist the financial position of the purchase.

Moved R. Jones, seconded J. Weir, that our Delegates to the A.G.M. of the V.C.C.A. request that funds be made available for the 1978 International.

C.V.V.T.M.C. to enquire into the availability of waterpump grease.

The plates for printing the cover of SPIT AND POLISH will be returned to the Library.

1976 International Rally will be held in England and they will be accepting cars up to 1940.

Meeting closed 10.23 p.m.



Isn't it great to read a bit of club history in Jack Garwood's series of articles? Although Jack apologises for this month's effort on his part, he omitted to tell you that the Lucas pump has not been pumping too well in the last couple of weeks and it forced him to slow down - but a nice breem, hooked in Botany Bay, increased the adrenalin and gave him a mighty lift during the weekend and he says he will be back in action next month.

#####

First prize of a flight to Tullarmarine any August Sunday morning if you can guess who won the veteran class concourse at Lismore. Second prize will be two flights on any consecutive August Sunday mornings to Tullarmarine Airport. Since the question is so hard and the prizes tempting, I will give you a tip. It was Georgie W'ns with Madame Melba de Renault. All entries to Eric Lang C/- Kitchen, Wrest Point, Hobart.

#####

Hear that C.V.V.T.M.C. has an entry application from another One Brand Club - the famous or notorious "Force 7" Leyland cars that were just auctioned and the only way the new owners can get rego is to join the group! Of course that is only sour grapes - I wouldn't mind getting my grease-stained fingers on one myself.

#####

All the campers and caravaners will be joining the camp-out at Colo on the long weekend. What is evident is the refusal of members to rough it! All the poor ones seem to be rigged out with the top gear - no tomahawks and rubbing sticks together or sleeping on bare earth. Can't understand it! When I listened to the conversation of two of our most prominent business owners over dinner as they cried on each other's shoulders of the serious lack of money due to heavy taxes on "this and that", it sounded like they were candidates for sleeping in grey blankets on bare earth at the camp-out. Those two new Mercedes looked great outside the restaurant under the street lights.

#####

COPIED FROM "AUSTRALASIAN POST": Below (photo of Jack Dance's Talbot outside an antique shop was reproduced). When in Ararat recently, this sight stopped me in my tracks. The question was: What is being bought - and what is being sold? This ancient Talbot surely ranked as an antique. The solution was that the owner of the Talbot, who took part in the National Veteran and Vintage Car Rally through Victoria recently, had gone into the shop to fossick for antiques. It appears that people who like old things do really like antiques. These old cars really had distinction and character, I think, and people who restore them are in a class of their own.

#

Eileen Sykes wishes to thank everyone for their kind thoughts during the last month or so while she has been in hospital. There is no keeping Eileen down - even after her recent setback she is bright as a button, looking good and reckons that she is now back in business.

#

"SNOW WEEKEND"

As a wife of one of the Events Committee, I would like to put forward a suggestion and get an idea as to how many people would be interested. We would need 45.

One weekend in early July next year, if the club hired a coach that does organized coach tours to the Snowy and back, leaving Friday night and returning Sunday night. All accommodation in a lodge at Perisher Valley (right in the snow) with all linen etc. provided, return fare in the coach, all meals (except for lunch) and hire of skis, stocks and boots are included in the price. The price is \$40.00 per person. Ski lessons can be arranged at a small charge.

Could you please let Peter Wards know at the next meeting, or ring Robyn on 629.2121 or 637.7097, anyone who might be interested in a weekend like this. We do not have to book the coach until January but would like an indication as to how many people would like a skiing and fun weekend away.

* * * * *

S O C I A L

Was it school holidays? I was the only lady at the August meeting.

Had a call from Merryl Godfrey, who had enjoyed a bus trip to Camden, visiting all the local historical buildings and a winery; a very pleasant day. If any ladies are interested in a similar day to this I will be pleased to arrange it for you.

Contrary to your remarks, E.J.L., many members have become "WILD" since reading Steering Column, but not with me. (Cont'd, on Page 7.....)

Social (Cont'd.)

I have had some requests for this kind of evening, so here it is:

Christmas Night Out.

Saturday, 22nd November, 1975, 7.30 p.m. A Dinner Dance at Kogarah Bay Progress Hall, Ramsgate Road, Kogarah Bay.

Smorgasbord. Wine and Punch included. \$7.00 per head.

I would like numbers by October Meeting.

GLAD KING

* * * * *

C O R R E S P O N D E N C E

"Dear Sirs:

A quick note you may wish to publish. I note with interest the latest article about the Gardiner Serpollet, as I have a complete rear half of one, chassis to ground including original wheels and hubcaps. Also an unknown veteran of about 1908-10, the engine has an oil box cast into the bottom of the crankcase on the (our) passenger side, exposed multi-plate clutch, progressive gear change in a cast iron gear-box (unlike the engine which is well made in pairs of 2) fullelliptics on rear. Guesses have ranged from early Buick, Flanders, E.M.F. etc. Any clues? Also a brass on gun metal gear box like a large sausage roll, i.e. round and a bit flat on top and bottom, maybe a Benz about 1905?

Anyone ever hear of a King V8 there must be some parts about somewhere here in Australia? I've imported a generator \$45 landed - not bad. Who has a Wand Leonard on Bijun starter kicking about under the bench? Also 8-cylinder distributor setup. Should be an Atwater-Kent, though a veteran or early vintage that could be adapted would do. Also a few good 25" Buffalo wire wheels off an early Hudson; should be dozens about - how many cars do you see with 25" wheels on them with tyres at \$98.00 each. Also, are there any Roamen bits about? I have an engine and gear box 6 cyl. Continental good for 106 m.p.h. in stock trim, so we're told. Last, but not least, that bleeding Star chassis (4 cyl.) 1907-8. Have gold, trade though no virgins available.

Regards from the bush,

JOHN C. RYDER"

(John: Doubt if any member has all these bits because I reckon you have all the goodies in N.S.W. stacked in your back yard. R.B.)

"The Editor, Dear Sir:

Thought the following might be of interest for an item in your magazine.

On our recent trip to Queensland, in our Holden, we called into Nambour to enquire about our two friends Joe and Sylvia Webster. After going through all the local rolls, found there was only one Joe Webster listed. Sure enough it was them.

Joe now has a thriving business in the town, having sold out his farm. He is also President of the newly-formed "Sunshine Coast Veteran and Vintage Club." Only about 10 cars, including 3 veterans. Asked if I would ascertain if he could become a country member, or failing this, if he could have the SPIT AND POLISH mailed monthly, which of course he would be prepared to pay for.

They have had an addition to the family since coming to Queensland. They both wish to be remembered to all their friends. Am enclosing their address in Nambour.

BILL AND RETA EAST"

Joe Webster, 51 Price Street, Nambour. 4560

* * * * *

"The Secretary,

The V.C.C.A. (A.C.T.) intends to hold a Veteran Car Easter Tour in Canberra from 16th to 19th April, 1976 and extend a warm welcome to your members especially those with veteran vehicles.

Entry forms will be available shortly and entries will close on 31st December, 1975.

The programme as we see it will be as follows:

Friday	Arrive Canberra
Friday night	Get Together - Wine and Cheese Night
Saturday	Tour of Canberra
Saturday night	Free night
Sunday	Tour
Sunday night	Dinner Dance
Monday	Farewells, after - we hope - an enjoyable weekend

EVENTS COMMITTEE
V.C.C.A. (A.C.T.)"

* * * * *

SUMMERLAND 5-DAY SCENIC HUB RALLY

We arrived in Lismore at 2.00 Monday afternoon where we were welcomed by the Northern Rivers Veteran and Vintage Car Club and given our rally packs. We then went up to Bob Trevan's house to prepare the T Ford (which he very kindly lent to us) for the rally. Monday night was a get-together to meet the other entrants.

We left the showground at 8.30 on Tuesday morning for a picturesque run to Rocky Creek Dam where we had lunch. We then proceeded to the village of Nimbin, where the Nimbin hippies had an open market day of their paintings and leather goods etc. I'm sure everyone took some interesting photographs there.

Wednesday saw us leaving the showground and heading for Byron Bay. Here a chartered coach was waiting for us to take those interested to the Byron Bay Lighthouse, the most easterly point of Australia. On returning back to our car we were welcomed with the sight of our first flat tyre. The tyre changed, we were off to Ocean Shores Golf Club at Brunswick Heads for a delicious buffet luncheon which was put on free of charge. After this refreshing break we then went on to Mullumbimby to Cedar House which is a folk lore museum. Then back to Lismore through beautiful rich undulating countryside.

Wednesday night was the judging of the period dress costume and a real country barbecue with a pig and a lamb done over a spit.

Thursday was a free day which we spent lying on the beach in the sun.

All fifty cars left Lismore again on the Friday for a lovely drive to Kyogle, then south to Casino on the Richmond River for lunch. Friday night was the Gala Dinner and presentation of trophies, with George Williams' "Melba" receiving the prize for Best Veteran and Neil Martin's 1918 T Ford receiving second.

On Saturday we all headed off to Ballina via Lennox Head. After lunch Neil Martin asked us to take a movie of his car and others coming up the longest, steepest hill on the rally which was via Wardell and Marom Creek. After waiting for 1½ hours we returned to the showground to find Neil had taken the wrong turn going via Alstonville. Both Lyn and Neil blamed each other. That night was a hill-billy sing-a-long and barbecue.

We arrived home on Sunday night after a very long drive and a very enjoyable rally. I'm sure that everyone who went will agree with me that the organisation and company was excellent (plus the weather) and will be looking forward to the next Summerland Hub Rally.

PETER & ROBYN WARDS

* * * * *

THE OCTOBER AUCTION

Your Committee will be organising an Auction of "Veteranalia" at the October Meeting - club's share, 10¢ in each dollar.

We will accept all bits and pieces for auction - on the night of the meeting - which should have a tag with your name or initials clearly visible - your description of the part for ease of identification - and a reserve if so desired.

Possibly you may have quite a few parts to auction and I would appreciate it if you could give me a list before 7th October so that it can be publicised in SPIT AND POLISH.

BOB BAXTER

* * * * *

EXTRACT FROM "A CATECHISM OF THE MOTOR CAR", LONDON, 1908:

- q. What are the chief requirements of a car driver?
- a. First of all, sobriety. He is in charge of a machine of great power and of considerable value, and if he is not sober, he may not only cause great damage to property and the car, but also to life and limb. He must be courteous and civil to anyone he may meet on the road, giving as much space as he can to other traffic, especially to ladies riding bicycles or driving pony carts. He must have some knowledge of the construction of the car, not afraid of hard work, or grudging working late to get car ready for the morning. If he sees a strange car he should inspect its machinery, and get all information he can about it from the man in charge, for it may be his lot at some time to drive a similar car. He must have some knowledge of the law and regulations respecting cars. He must ascertain what towns in his neighbourhood have a reduced speed limit, and look out for the notice boards on reaching those towns.

* * * * *

COMING EVENTS

CAMPING WEEKEND - COLO RIVER -

October 4, 5 and 6

Our hosts for the weekend are Thelma and Des Anderson,

Upper Color Road, Colo.

J. WARDS, P. WARDS, B. GARTH

Events Committee

EXTRACT FROM "THE NORTHERN STAR" DATED 26/8/75:

"BIG GATHERING OF AGED CARS

Cars of a bygone era began to arrive at the Lismore Showground yesterday in readiness for the six-day Summerland Scenic Hub Rally.

The veteran, vintage and classic vehicles will be based at the showground during the rally, which starts this morning.

It is the Northern Rivers' biggest gathering of such cars.

Fifty vehicles will take part in the first four days of the rally, but as many as 100 cars are expected to take part in outings arranged for Saturday and Sunday.

The Northern Rivers Vintage Car Club has organised the rally. It is the club's first attempt to sponsor such a major event.

Today's scenic tour will take the drivers and their cars to Rocky Creek Dam for lunch, then on to Nimbin and back to Lismore.

Open market

The Major of Lismore, Ald. Blair, will flag the cars away from the showground at 8.30 a.m.

At Nimbin, rally drivers and passengers will attend an arts and craft open market where members of the "alternate society" will have their goods on sale.

The cars will return to Lismore this afternoon.

A film night has been arranged for tonight.

Tomorrow's drive will be the highlight of the rally.

The cars will be flagged away at 8.30 a.m. and driven to Byron Bay.

The vehicles will be parked at the Esplanade at Byron Bay while a chartered bus will take car enthusiasts to the lighthouse at Cape Byron.

The next stop will be Ocean Shores where Princess Properties Ltd. will entertain drivers and passengers to a smorgasbord luncheon at the golf club.

The cars will return to Lismore, stopping off at Mullumbimby where competitors will inspect the Cedar House.

Period Costume

A barbecue will be held at the showground tomorrow night, followed by the judging of period costume.

There will be no tour on Thursday. Officials will judge cars, and at 9.30 the Mayoress, Mrs. Blair, will select her "favourite" car for a special prize.

About 25 selected cars will go on display on the ground floor of the A.M.P. Building on Thursday night. Night shoppers can view the cars between 5.30 and 9.30.

Friday's tour will take the cars to Bentley, Kyogle and back to Casino for lunch.

The veteran cars will return to Lismore following the Bruxner Highway, but later model vehicles will take another route.

There will be a gala dinner at the Lismore City Hall Cedar Room on Thursday night, followed by the presentation of trophies.

The "field" will grow for Saturday's tour to Lennox Head, Ballina and back to Lismore.

There will be a barbecue at the showground at night.

A mystery navigational run will be held on Sunday.

Of the 50 cars taking part in the first four days of the rally, about 14 will be in the veteran class. The oldest car will be a 1905 Rio roadster.

Other veterans are a 1907 chain-driven Star roadster belonging to a Toowoomba enthusiast, a 1909 Renault formerly owned by Dame Nellie Melba, and a 1909 Cadillac roadster.

Albury couple, Mr. and Mrs. George Edwards, towed a caravan to Lismore behind a 1926 Rolls Royce. They averaged 9 mpg for the 900-mile trip.

The latest model vehicle to arrive at the showground yesterday was a 1939 Dodge tow truck."

Footnote:

The above story was handed to me by a friend who returned from Lismore before festivities got under way so it has been passed on to SPIT AND POLISH. I have since learned that Geo. Williams took out first prize with his 1909 Renault for the best Veteran, plus also a prize for the car which trailered the greatest distance plus also a hard luck prize resulting from clutch troubles.

A fair clutch of prizes for one car! However, the grapevine has it that a full coverage in fuller detail on this rally could appear in October's issue by an "on the spot" participant who would have first-hand info.

J. GARWOOD (H)

* * * * *

VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB

SWAP MEETING - PICTON SHOWGROUND, Menangle Street, Picton

SATURDAY 18TH OCTOBER, 1975

at 10 a.m.

Everyone in the family come along and take part in swapping their own items of interest.

* * * * *

A D V E R T I S E M E N T S

Windscreen, brass frame, 4 ft. $3\frac{3}{4}$ " wide x 16 $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Reasonably offer.

E. PIKE,
92 Bellevue Parade,
Hurstville. 2220

546.4449

1918 T Ford engine block and crank shaft. Been out in weather but restorable; axle beam and stubs with the rods included. Reasonable offer.

BOB ARTHUR-SMITH

498.3188

.....

Jack Thorp, our official photographer, wishes to obtain full information about members' vehicles for the Photographic Record Book.

Please cut out and send to Secretary, or - J. Thorp,
5 Holland Ave.,
Rockdale. 2216

MAKE: Year Model

H.P.: Bore X Stroke

OWNER: ADDRESS:

.....

