



**ISSUE NO. 726  
MARCH 2022**



**20-GHOST RROCA VIC PRE-WAR RUN**  
**MORE INFORMATION INSIDE**

# ROLLS-ROYCE

**OWNERS' CLUB OF AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA BRANCH)  
FOR ROLLS-ROYCE AND BENTLEY ENTHUSIASTS**



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The views expressed in this publication are those of each author and not necessarily those of the Rolls-Royce Owners' Club of Australia (Victoria Branch) Inc. **ABN:** 44 933 097 802 **Incorporation Number:** AOO18166L **Print Post Approved:** PP319062/006  
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# OUR DIARY

## MARCH 2022

**Thursday 3rd to Monday 7th** – Federal Rally (Canberra)

**Thursday 10th** - General Meeting: Growing Up with Classic Cars (BAH)

**Sunday 20th** - Kalorama Vintage Car and Bike Rally (Kalorama Oval, Kalorama) & Springthorpe Classic Car Show (Village Common, MacLeod)

**Wednesday 23rd** - Mortimer's Magnificent Mid-Week Run

## APRIL 2022

**Thursday 14th** – General Meeting: (BAH)

**Saturday 16th** - Drive-In Movie Night (Dromana Drive-In Movie Theatre)

**Sunday 17th** – Flinders Motoring Heritage (Flinders, Mornington Peninsula)

## MAY 2022

**Sunday 1st** – Technical Section: Pre-war Cars (LGS)

**Thursday 12th** – General Meeting (BAH)

**Sunday 22nd** – Macedon Ranges Run

## JUNE 2022

**Sunday 5th** – Technical Section (LGS)

**Thursday 9th** – General Meeting (BAH)

**Sunday 19th** - Moorabbin Airport Event

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## EDITOR'S REPORT



As we move forward into March and many prepare for the Federal Rally, we reflect on re-entry to normality. For most of us the past months and years fade quickly as we immerse ourselves back into life, for some this will be a painful memory whilst others will move on quickly and find returning to a busy schedule diminishes the painful memories. For the positive aspect, our club schedule of events, outings and meetings has provided ample opportunity to experience a new normal.

The next few months will provide many events to continue the new normal. I want to make a comment on some historical activities of the club. I went back into the archives of the website and found some really interesting articles aptly called "Crewe'd Jottings" I spent an afternoon and evening last weekend reading many of these articles, the camaraderie and knowledge that exists in our club is phenomenal.

I was especially inspired by family involvement in projects, many of these members are still very active in the club, I will be tapping some of these folks for sharing their knowledge through articles in ensuing newsletters.

The new style newsletter has received much praise and we will continue to evolve content and move forward, please also review the website as this is transitioning as well. We have received feedback on what they want to see in format and content and we will endeavour to move forward in accommodating most of these ideas.

Happy motoring and safe travels.

*Wayne Spittle*

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It's March already and by the time the President's Report is published in the newsletter we will be heading back from the 64th Federal Rally hosted by the ACT Branch in Canberra. It seems like only yesterday we hosted the 63rd Federal Rally in Geelong! February allowed us to enjoy a number of successful events - the joint pre-war car run held in collaboration with the 20-Ghost Club around the Mornington Peninsula as well as a wonderful evening of entertainment provided by our Club Member of the Year, guitarist extraordinaire John Crowley-Clough, with vocalist Katherine Davis at the general meeting. Then a charming drive through the Macedon ranges to Daylesford for a classic high tea at the Convent Gallery on Sunday 13th and the ever-popular AOMC British and European Motoring show on Sunday 20th.

We were deeply saddened to learn the news of the passing of Keith Wherry on February 7th. Keith was a very well known and loved member of the RROCA. A 50+ year member of the NSW Branch, Keith was awarded an Honorary Life Membership for his contributions to the club and his generosity, friendship, enthusiasm and love of Silver Ghosts and Phantom IIIs were legendary. He will be greatly missed. Our condolences go to Marie and his family.

This month also saw the announcement that Rolls-Royce has redesigned the Spirit of Ecstasy for an electric future giving the mascot a more aerodynamic stance after 830 hours of modelling and wind tunnel testing. Like the brand, she has always moved with the times while staying true to her nature and character. In her new form she is more streamlined and graceful than ever before - the perfect emblem for gracing the prow of the new Rolls-Royce models in its bold aerodynamic future.

In keeping with the spirit of change, you will have noticed the new layout and format for our newsletter. We have received much positive feedback on the look and feel for the newsletter in its new format and I would like to congratulate Wayne Spittle our new editor on the fine work he is doing. The newsletter plays a very important part in the communication and function of the club and of course recording the history of our club. We welcome members to make contributions. If you would like to contribute interesting articles, news items, photos etc. you are more than welcome to forward any items to 'editor@rrocavictoria.org.au'

*Howard Wraight*





## UPCOMING EVENTS

### General Meeting

**Thursday 10th March at 8.00 pm:**

**Growing Up With Classic Cars**

**Speaker:** Vicky Jones

Club member Vicky Jones is coming along to tell us about her personal reflections and memories of growing up with the wonderful classic cars that graced her father David Jones collection. She will be bringing along her lovely 20hp Barker limousine as the car of the month. We are inviting as many members who have a car that previously was owned by David to bring their cars along to the March general meeting to see if we can assemble a great display in honour of David and his wonderful passion for fabulous cars.

### 64th Kalorama Vintage Car and Bike Rally

**Sunday 20th of March 2022**

RROC (VIC) has been an enthusiastic supporter/participant at the Kalorama Vintage Rally since 1958. Originally a stand-alone event with motoring activities, it is now a static event under the auspices of the Vintage Drivers Club, in support of Kalorama CFA. Our cars, whatever their vintage are all welcome. Arrive from 1000, park on the oval as directed (and plan not to leave before 2 pm - 2-30 pm). \$10 entry is payable on arrival. Some on-site catering or BYO. A pleasant drive in the Dandenongs and an interesting display of cars not to be missed. RROC (VIC) contact: John Reis 0428105529.

### International Events of Note 2022

**This year there are two noteworthy events of interest, providing information to any member who wishes to travel.**

USA - RROC Inc. Annual Meet, San Diego, California, 21 - 24 Jun 2022:  
<https://rroc-sandiego.org>

UK - RREC Annual Rally & Burghley House; Stamford, 1 - 3 Jul 2022:  
<https://rrec.org.uk/events/annual-rally-concours>

### Flinders Motoring Heritage

**Sunday 17th of April 2022**

RROC (VIC) has again been invited to participate in the Flinders Motoring Heritage event at Flinders on Easter Sunday, 17 April 2022. Google FMH and enter and pay (\$20/car), via Trybooking to aid Peninsula Health - a fundraising event, donations appreciated. Arrival time from 9:30 am. Optional provision on the entry form for Concours and various judging categories. This is a very pleasant motoring day to Flinders, via Mornington Peninsula Fwy and should appeal to any/all of our members. Living South of the city, no trek over the Westgate Bridge, just point the wheels south and enjoy the journey. Lots of on-site/local catering and coffee outlets or BYO. Always an interesting and eclectic collection of cars entered, some of which we rarely see. Contact: John Reis 0428105529.



# 64TH KALORAMA VINTAGE CAR AND BIKE RALLY

**Sunday 20th of March 2022**



**Kalorama Memorial Reserve. Open at 10am.**

**Entry: \$10.00 per person. Children under 16 - free.**

**Mt Dandenong Tourist Road, Kalorama, 3766.**

- One of Melbourne's pioneering motoring events, running since 1956.
- Vehicles prior to 1990 are eligible for a Mystery Tour and display on the oval.
- Mystery Tour commencing at the Manhattan Hotel, 9.00 am for 9.30 start.
- Vintage and Post Vintage Motor Cycle Clubs Displays, Vehicle Awards.
- Display of Vintage Fire pumps and Agricultural Machinery.
- Drivers under 25 in an eligible car are admitted free.
- Kalorama Trophy is awarded to the club with the best display.

**RROC (VIC) Contact: John Reis 0428105529**

## ROLLS-ROYCE TECHNICAL

As always mechanical maintenance of our cars is so important for reliability and long-lasting that the cars are known for.

Many of us are attending the Federal Rally in Canberra in March and in April there is a Twenty Ghost event. Both of these events will clash with our normal Technical Session date, the 1st Sunday of each month or as otherwise advised.

During the on and off again times of last year many events are happening this year. We are like dogs off the chain and able to enjoy cars and company again.

Keep your eye on the club calendar. I am planning to have an old model Technical Day on Sunday the 1st of May. This will combine with the 20 Ghost Club to learn about maintenance and driving these cars. Hopefully, we will have a number of excellent vehicles to drive and be driven. This has come about because of requests from members showing interest in the older models, they often come up for sale as their owners decide to pass them on to future generations. We will explain what it is like to own and drive these cars they certainly will improve your driving skills and patience.

Motoring on together.  
Noel.



## NEW MEMBERS

**Mark Ashby**

**Toby Baker** (the youngest ever member of the club!)

**Paul Banks and Nick Perkins**, Prahran. 1969 Rolls-Royce MPW Drophead Coupe, CRH7457

**Sachi Fernando**, Moonee Ponds.



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# FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of a General Meeting of Members held at Bill Allsep House,  
3/18 Laser Drive, Rowville VIC 3178 on Thursday 10th February 2022, at 8.00 pm

## MEETING OPENED: 8:03 pm

**1. WELCOME:** President Howard Wraight assumed the chair and welcomed all to the general meeting especially visitor Glen McAlistair. Howard noted that John Crowley-Clough and Catherine Davis would be providing entertainment later in the evening and thanked Geoff Shepherd who had brought his 1990 Rolls-Royce Silver Spur II as the car of the night. Before proceeding with the meeting Howard presented Toby Baker with his badge as the newest and youngest member of the Club (at 7 months).

It was with great sadness that Howard relayed to members the passing of Keith Wherry from the NSW Branch. Keith had been a prominent member of the NSW Branch for more than 53 years, had held the positions of Federal and NSW state President and was an Honorary Life Member. He had been a member of the RREC, RROC BDC, 20Ghost Club and the Silver Ghost Association. He had been a major influence in the Silver Ghost movement and had campaigned his cars within Australia and internationally. The Club had extended its condolences to Keith's wife and family.

**PRESENT** As per the sign-in book.

**APOLOGIES** Geoffrey and Xavier May, Robin & Gita Hickman, Neil & Louise Matthews, Gilbert & Nanette Ralph, Mark Herbstreit, Janice Baker, Helen Reis, Greg Blanche and Peter Langman.

**2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** Geoff Shepherd moved and Geordie Russell seconded the resolution "that the minutes of the general meeting held on 9th December 2021, be accepted as a true and correct record of that meeting". **CARRIED**

**3. CORRESPONDENCE:** Correspondence received since the last general meeting comprised:

10/12	IN	Email December edition of the Northern Spirit
10/12	IN/OUT	Membership enquiry from Rod Hanson (1923 Rolls-Royce 20HP) via Ian Berg (referred to membership officer)
12/12	IN	Email Christmas edition of 'The Royce Voice'
13/12	IN/OUT	Membership enquiry from Henry Rzechta (referred to membership officer)
14/12	IN	Email from Golden Country Motel advertising accommodation for motoring tours
15/12	IN	Email from AutoPro advertising annual car show in Wonthaggi 23 January 2022
15/12	IN	Email from AOMC forwarding advice from Penrite Oil as to closure of the Bayswater Motofluid retail outlet
19/12	IN	Email advertising the 2022 Torquay Motor Show for 13 February 2022
22/12	IN	Email Christmas wishes from AOMC plus December newsletter
23/12	IN/OUT	Email enquiry from Murray Roberts seeking advice on purchasing 2000s Bentley (referred on)
24/12	IN	Email Christmas wishes from Shannons auction team
29/12	IN	Email December edition of the Austin Seven Club newsletter
30/12	IN/OUT	Email from Michael Flather seeking history of 1926 Rolls-Royce 20HP GUK21 (referred to the archivist)
30/12	IN	Email from AOMC passing on AGM news from Automotive Historians Australia Inc
05/01	IN	Email from AOMC forwarding December edition of Country Motor Australia
06/01	IN	Email from Trafalgar Holden Museum re salute to Australian built cars to be held on 26 January 2022
06/01	IN	Email from Australian Surfing Museum seeking details of any Silver Ghost owned by Louis Whyte (Geelong)
07/01	IN/OUT	Email from James Chong (visiting from Singapore) seeking entry to the Club Concours (positive response)
08/01	IN/OUT	Membership enquiry from Rhys Maunder (passed on by Brian Carson QLD)( referred to membership officer)
10/01	IN/OUT	Email change of address for David Sheppard (referred to membership officer)

## 4. TREASURER'S REPORT:

4.1 Treasurer Tony Wood reported that the Club's bank account balances stood at \$75,614.90 at the end of the last calendar month, taking into account payment of the invoices listed below:

Term Deposit Account	<b>\$50,022.24</b>
Statement Account	<b>\$25,592.66</b>

4.2 Payments made since the last general meeting were:

DATE	PAYEE	DETAIL	AMOUNT
10/12/21	RVMYC	Christmas lunch	\$6,300.00
14/12/21	Rob Craig	Catering	\$118.28
14/12/21	S Young	Catering	\$62.19
14/12/21	National Boys Choir	Christmas GM	\$200.00
16/12/21	BDC	Joint club event	\$3,848.75
30/12/21	Lucid IT	Internet	\$347.09
1/1/22	Bendigo Bank	Bank charges	\$4.00
2/1/22	Bendigo Bank	Merchant fees	\$76.93
7/1/22	B Williams	Annual return fee	\$25.60
10/1/22	Aust Post	Dec newsletter	\$316.52
10/1/22	SHRF	Donations - members	\$540.00
3/12/21	Aust Post	Postage	\$259.11
16/12/21	Eclipse Services	Security - BAH	\$195.00
30/12/21	Eclipse Services	Security - LGS	\$147.00
1/1/22	C&D Trophies	Name badges	\$38.00
2/1/22	Lucid IT	Internet fitout	\$1,714.01
7/1/22	Energy Australia	Electricity - BAH	\$209.90
10/1/22	Energy Australia	Electricity - LGS	\$244.46
10/1/22	Safety Beach SC	Catering - 20 Ghost	\$350.00
3/12/21	BCSP 36655	Body Corp fees - LGS	\$225.00

**\$15,221.84**

4.3 Tony advised that the Club's Honorary Auditor of many years standing (Gerry Howell) had had to resign from the role due to ill health and the Committee would be discussing the go forward position at its meeting in the next week. Tony Wood moved and Keith Mortimer seconded "That the Treasurer's monthly report be received and the payments be ratified." CARRIED

## **5. EVENTS:**

### **Past Events:**

#### **5th December 2021 – Bentley Drivers' Club Picnic:**

Kevin Hindle took the opportunity to confirm to members that all attendees had enjoyed the picnic organized by the Bentley Drivers Club which had been held at Brian Meredith's property in Seymour on the Golburn River. Although his Rolls-Royce Dawn had failed to proceed, it had been a memorable day and he looked forward to many more joint events with the BDC.

#### **12th December 2021 – Christmas Party and**

**Presentation Luncheon** – Keith Mortimer reported that the Christmas party held at the Royal Victorian Motor Yacht Club had been an outstanding event and much enjoyed by all who attended.

**IAN DODD AWARDS:** Eric Henderson noted for the members that presentations had been made at the Christmas event of two Ian Dodd Awards. One had been made to Neil Matthews and the other to Jeff Knott and both had been well deserved. While Neil was an apology for the meeting, Jeff was present and thanked the Club for the award, remarking that he had been humbled and moved by the award and looked forward to many more years of active involvement in Club activities.

**13th January 2022 – General Meeting** – David Ord reported that the picnic held at Iron Bark Station had been a great night in a beautiful setting with exceptional weather and a relaxed atmosphere. Darren and Angie had been outstanding hosts and the members had enjoyed being able to wander around the replica wild west town with horses, carriages, wagons and buildings.

#### **15th/16th January 2022 – Annual Club Concours –**

Ralph Plarre reported on the annual Concours event noting that after a couple of false starts due to COVID, the judging and display days had benefitted from sensational weather and a stunning turnout of members and their cars.

He extended congratulations to Larry Picker as the overall winner of the Concours and relayed that the lineup of 13 Rolls-Royce Phantom vehicles had been a record (5 x New Phantoms, 1 x Phantom VI, 6 x Phantom VIIs and 1 x Phantom VIII). Geoff Shepherd added that it had been splendid to see former President Frances Costa attend the event. Russell Rolls gave an extensive background regarding the 1910 Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost (1425 - which was the oldest Rolls-Royce in Victoria and the third oldest in Australia) that he had driven to the event (including a stretch on the Monash Freeway).

#### **4th February 2022 – 20 Ghost/Club joint run –**

Greg Wayman thanked Noel Baker for the brilliant weather the event had enjoyed reporting that 17 cars had joined the tour down to and around the Mornington Peninsula. The best part had been the challenging drive from Cape Schanck to Flinders.

### **Future events:**

- **13th February 2022 – Sunday drive to Daylesford Convent Gallery.** Greg Wayman advised that this event was now closed as fully booked.
- **20th February 2022 – AOMC British & European Motoring Show at the Yarra Glen Racecourse** (featuring the annual MG Concours). Keith Mortimer advised that no registrations were required for this event, the gates would open at 10.00 am and QR Coding would be required upon entry. Parking had been arranged with the BDC and he encouraged members to attend and lunch at Yarra Glen.
- **3rd - 7th March 2022 – Federal Rally at Canberra** – Howard Wraight reported that most members would make their way to the Rally in overlanders or drive/fly direct. Tony La Posta added that anyone going to the Canberra Rally should visit the exhibition of ancient Greek art on tour from the British Museum.
- **10th March 2022 – General Meeting** – Howard advised that Vicky Jones would be the guest speaker relaying her recollections of growing up with classic cars.
- **20th March 2022 – Kalorama Vintage Car and Bike Rally** – John Reis encouraged members to attend the day.
- **20th March 2022 – Springthorpe's 9th Annual Classic Carshow** – Gareth Bryant spruiked the event to be held in McLeod in the North Eastern suburbs and would feature cars from all eras (he mentioned that a massive organ would be a central attraction).



**6. MEMBERSHIP** – Stephen Peoples advised that all was going well in the membership area and he had 8 prospective members in sight.

**7. PUBLICITY / SPONSORSHIP:** By email, Robin Hickman reported that there were no Club events that required publicity at present. Ralph Plarre had nothing to report regarding sponsorship.

**8. CARS for SALE/CONFESSIONS:** To encouragement from Keith Mortimer, David Ord confessed that he had purchased the shell of a 1970 Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow. Garteh Bryant reported that Rolls-Royce Motorcars Melbourne had not sold one new vehicle during the month of January. Ralph Plarre advised that he had seen a new Rolls-Royce Ghost III with black badge at Zagames which he described as spectacular; it would be the last of the internal combustion engine cars that Rolls-Royce would produce before going all electric.

In terms of online auction activity at Shannons, the following marque cars would be available at the Summer Timed Online Auction being held between 23 Feb - 1 Mar 2022.

Lot 141	1988 Bentley Turbo R	Chassis No: SCRZRO3A7KCH25183	(MELB)
Lot 145	1993 Bentley Turbo R	Chassis No: SBZRO3D1NCH44021	(SYD)
Lot 158	1922 Silver Ghost	Chassis No: 51TG	(MELB)
Lot 184	1974 Silver Shadow	Chassis No: SRH18896	(MELB)

**Members intending to bid should carry out their own due diligence on the vehicles.**

**9. AOMC:** There was no report.

**10. LIBRARY:** Russell Rolls pointed to the library cupboards that were open and encouraged members to make use of the materials available (outlining the process to borrow and return).

**11. SIR HENRY ROYCE FOUNDATION:** Russell Rolls advised that the Foundation had received a donation of another vehicle from an elderly gentleman on the Goldcoast. The Bentley Turbo R was on display at the Foundation's Coolum venue. There would be a meeting of the Foundation Trustees 12th February at which representatives from the Bentley Drivers Club, the New Zealand Rolls-Royce and Bentley Club and the Rolls-Royce Owners' Club (USA) would attend.

**12. FEDERAL MATTERS:** There was nothing to report.

### **13. GENERAL BUSINESS:**

13.1. John Reis reported that his brother had taken a video of the cars that had participated in the joint run with the 20Ghost Club and it had taken 1 minute and 20 seconds for the cars to pass his vantage point. The video would be posted to the Club's website for viewing by members.

13.2 Troy Sartori proposed that the Club develops a programme to teach interested members how to fettle and drive older cars as these unique skills were disappearing from the membership and the knowledge should be maintained in the Club. There needed to be a register of qualified/experienced members kept by the Club. Kevin Hindle offered to assist with setting up some structure to pursue the concept.

13.3 Noel Baker advised that the next Technical Section event would be held on 1st May 2022 and would focus on pre-war cars. It was proposed to assemble as many prewar cars as possible for a drive and be driven segment to the event.

13.4 Howard Wraight advised members that Rolls-Royce now held the record for the highest speed for an all-electric vehicle. In November 2021, an aircraft named 'The Spirit of Innovation' hit an average of 555.9 km/h (345.4 mph) over 3 km, and 532.1km/h (330 mph) over 15 km. The aircraft uses a 400kW electric powertrain - the equivalent of a 535 BHP supercar.

13.5 Geoff Shepherd addressed the members regarding his 1990 Rolls-Royce Silver Spirit II. Of interest, he had had a 'westabo' sunroof (which he had purchased from Brazil) fitted to the car which made it the only Silver Spirit with a westabo sunroof.

**NEXT MEETING:** 10th March 2022 at 8.00 pm.



# 20-GHOST RROCA VIC PRE-WAR RUN

MORNINGTON PENINSULA

BY STEPHEN PEOPLES

I've said it before, and I'm saying it again, if like me and you don't own a Pre-war motor car, please do not let you be denied the automotive pleasure of being driven in these remarkable Rolls-Royce and Bentley motor cars.

Members of the 20-Ghost Club, and our own Club who are custodians of such esteemed motor cars, will be more than happy to host you for the day. In a similar vein to the 2021 Pre-war Run, Ian Berg and Greg Wayman curated a glorious day of touring through pretty peninsula hamlets such as Boneo, Gunamatta, Flinders, Port Leo and Red Hill. The sight of 20 venerable and spectacular motor cars received many a wave and a "thumbs-up" by those who witnessed the motorcade.

A note of thanks to Bruce Walker, the official photographer for the day, who managed to capture some great memories.

Our luncheon was held at the Safety Beach Sailing Club where we indulged in excellent food accompanied by a rich and smooth Shiraz made by our very own Club Member, David Phillips.

After luncheon, we motored on to Bittern to the home of Ian and Judy Barton, who along with daughter Amber, gave us an extensive and informative tour of the garage of all garages, filled with beautiful motor cars and impressive auto memorabilia. Did you know that Texaco was the first, and arguably, the most successful company to market to motorists through their children.

It was heart-warming to meet Annie Dillon who has taken over the custodianship of her father's 1920 Silver Ghost 64PE and who relishes the opportunity to drive the car. Similarly, George Blenkhorn is handing over Silver Ghost 70SG to his daughter Ruth and son-in-law, Tim Roberts. Tim was behind the wheel of 70SG on the day, albeit complete with three back-seat drivers! A Pre-war Run is an event not to be missed!

**Photos by [Bruce Walker]**







## 20-GHOST RUN ATTENDEES

Anne and Des Dillon

Ian Berg

Ruth and Tim Roberts, George and Sue Blenkhorn

Rod and Bambi Hanson

Neil and Louise Matthews

George Forbes

John and Helen Reis

Noel and Janis Baker

Greg Wayman and Bruce Walker

Richard and Annie Burke

Kevin and James Kane

David Phillips and Fenella Stibbard

Ralph and Marg Plarre

Peter and Barbara McBeth

John and Carol McQuay

Mark Herbstreit and Peter Jordan-Hill

Bruce and Mary Humphries

Howard Wraight, Stephen Peoples,

Anthony Wood and Sheriff Usuf

1920 Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost, 64PE

1921 Rolls Royce Silver Ghost, 62JG

1922 Rolls Royce Silver Ghost, 70SG

1922 Bentley 3L

1924 Rolls-Royce 20hp, GRK81

1926 Rolls-Royce 20hp, GOK74

1927 Rolls-Royce Phantom I, 44EF

1927 Rolls-Royce Phantom I, 85RF

1928 Rolls-Royce 20hp, GYL74

1928 Rolls Royce 20hp, GBM32

1932 Rolls-Royce 20/25, GHW8

1933 Rolls-Royce Phantom II, 26MY

1935 Bentley 31/2L

1935 Rolls-Royce 20/25, GPG23

1937 Rolls-Royce 25/30, GMP12

1938 Rolls Royce Wraith, WRB60

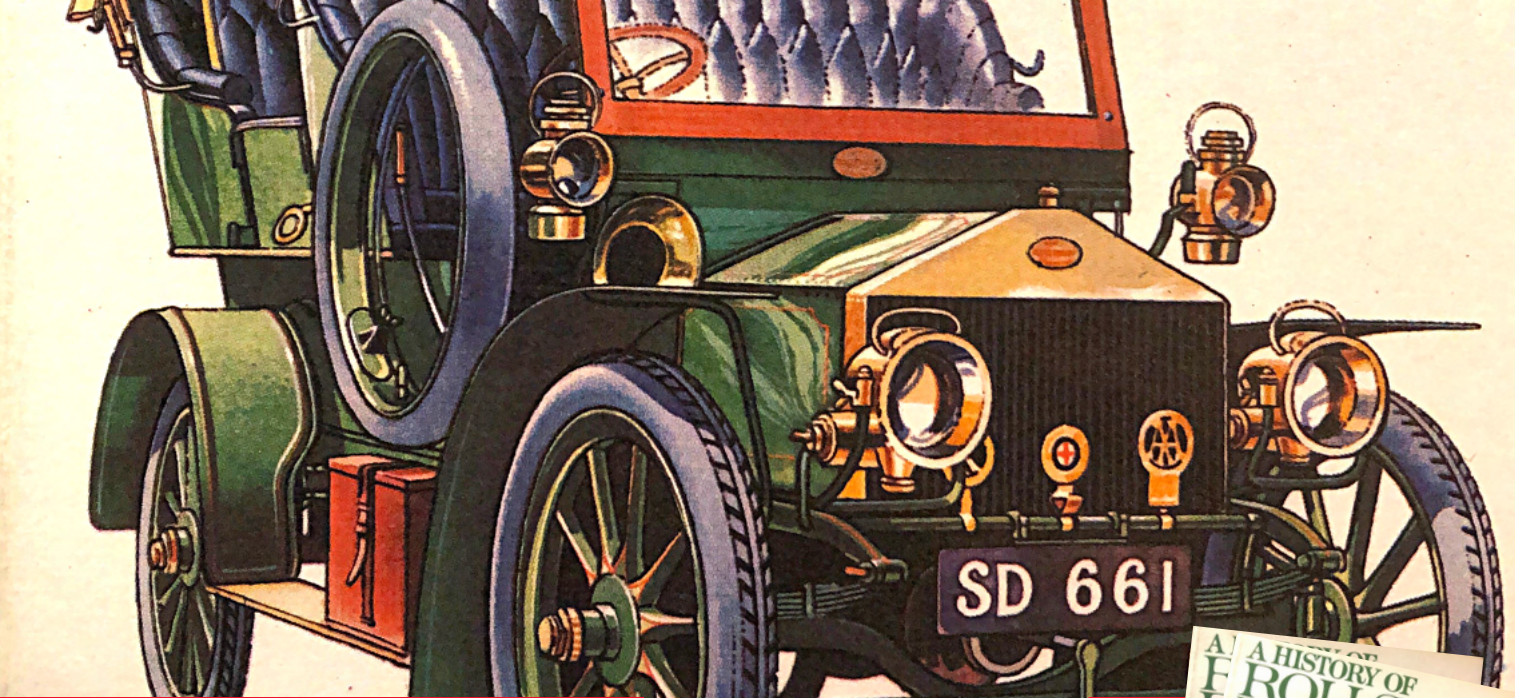
1939 Rolls-Royce Wraith, WHC36

1938 Rolls-Royce Wraith, WXA50

**Photos by [Bruce Walker]**







## FROM THE LIBRARY

The Victoria Branch is fortunate in having a significant Library as part of its operations. There is a range of books covering individual Rolls-Royce and Bentley models, technical matters and marque history, for example. All books and electronic media in the Library are available for borrowing by members. The Library is open during all meetings at BAH. As a general rule, books are to be returned at the subsequent Branch meeting, i.e. are on loan for a month.

Last month I mentioned the publication in 1964 of the first edition of "Bird & Hallows" ("The Rolls-Royce Motor Car - and the Bentley since 1931"), a milestone in documenting the history of the company and the cars it had produced.

As a follow-on to "Bird & Hallows" I would recommend C. W Morton's book - "A History of Rolls-Royce Motor Cars", also published in 1964.

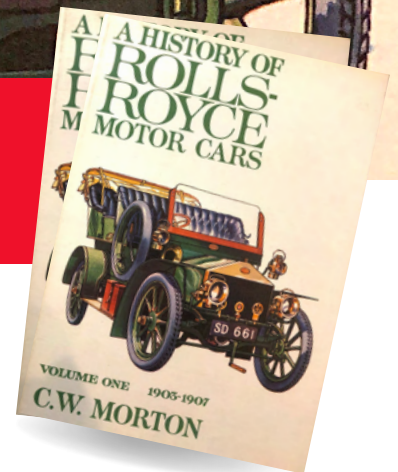
"C.W.M" as he was known throughout the Company joined Rolls-Royce in Derby in June 1924. At that time, many of the original employees from the early days of Royce & Co. and Rolls-Royce Ltd in Cooke Street, Manchester were still employed in the Derby plant. So, in 1964 "C.W.M." was one of the few who had absorbed an intimate knowledge of the Company in its formative years and counted amongst his friend's men who had worked directly under Sir Henry Royce building the three "Royce" cars and the 104 "Rolls-Royce" cars built prior to the introduction of the "Silver Ghost" in 1906/1907.

Morton's book is profusely illustrated and covers topics such as - Sir Henry Royce and the early days, The Hon C S Rolls, the "Royce" and early "Rolls-Royce" cars. For the social historian, there are many anecdotes about the key personnel associated with the Company. For the technical minded there are detailed discussions on many of the design parameters (and defects) of the early cars.

Morton subtitled his book "Volume One - 1903-1907". It was his intention to publish two further volumes. The second was to deal with the "Silver Ghost" era, the third with the models from 1925 to 1939. Unfortunately, age and the workload associated with researching such detailed histories caught up with "C.W.M" and volumes two and three did not eventuate.

"The History of Rolls-Royce Motor Cars" is the "book of the month". The book will be available for borrowing at the November Meeting. It is well worth reading.

Russell Rolls  
Librarian







# SUNDAY RUN TO THE CONVENT GALLERY

**SUNDAY 13TH FEBRUARY**

Forty members and guests enjoyed a very relaxing Sunday outing on a delightful summers' day. After meeting at the BP Outbound at Rockbank to grab a coffee and refuel, most of us headed off (pretty much) in convoy. We meandered, via the scenic route, through Greenbank and Trentham to arrive in Daylesford just before 12 noon.

While nominally a lunchtime event we were spoilt with a fabulous high tea. Sparkling wine, hot and cold savoury items and of course the obligatory scones and sweet delicacies – not a meal for the faint-hearted! In fact, despite the lusciousness of the spread, the generosity of servings meant that most tables still had a few items remaining.

After lunch, and a brief outline of the Convent's history, we were free to visit the gallery proper. Spread over three floors, the variety of art was as eclectic as the building itself. Artworks of all styles and ranging from those with modest to purchases which would represent a considered investment. Notwithstanding the diversity of the artwork, all the works were of a high standard and with considerable artistic merit.

The Convent is an eclectic property, with an equally eclectic history. A true regional gem for Victoria and definitely well worth a visit.

**Photos by [Kaye Farrow]**







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## LADIES NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT SPECTACULAR

BY KEITH MORTIMER

Our February club meeting on Thursday 17th of February was our traditional Ladies night event – probably because it fell a few days after Valentine's Day. I am told that the world's problems can be solved with chocolates and all partners in attendance were gifted an appropriate sweet treat and a glass of bubbles.

But the real treat of the night was not one to be enjoyed by the tastebuds but rather musical treats from our own 2021 Club Member of the Year, John Crowley-Clough. John captivated us all with the story of his lifelong love of music and in particular the guitar. John's open and honest recollections of his early years in the UK credited his love of the guitar with saving him from some less attractive choices, this is a passion that has been with him all the years of his life.

John had a lovely selection of guitars on display, telling a part of his story with and playing a different one for each song.

Apparently, this is only a small part of his collection and John notes that they take up far less room than his other passion of collecting PMC's.

Joining John in entertaining us was Katherine Davis, a friend of John's who is a classically trained opera singer, successfully completing her studies at the Victorian College of the Arts. Katherine chose not to pursue an operatic career however her love of music was to evolve in the enjoyment of performing in more contemporary settings. John and Katherine entertained us with a variety of numbers showcasing John's array of guitars and his amazing talent combining beautifully with Katherine's vocal prowess. My favourites number was the last one they performed Big Yellow Taxi which I think was also an audience hit

Our club is truly fortunate to have such talent in our membership and we all enjoyed a very entertaining Ladies night. Our sincere thanks to John and Katherine.

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# 'B' SERIES CAR AND ENGINE DIFFERENCES

**AUTHOR NORMAN W. GEESON**

**Crewe Classic Six was acquired by Flying Spares on the retirement of Norman W. Geeson in 2017, their specialty is in axle rebuilding of early post-war Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars.**

The B series of engines have little in common with the post-war motorcar engines except for the bore and stroke dimensions. It is not surprising that these dimensions are the same since the same block and head transfer machines could be used. However very few of the parts will interchange between the B series and car engine, not only are the external dress accessories different but the major units also. The cylinder head, block and crankshaft are different and not interchangeable. Pistons, liners, con rods and some valve gear parts are interchangeable with some care.

The B Series engines were designed towards the end of WW II and although some WW II trucks were fitted experimentally with the units, major production of the receiving vehicles did not occur until around 1950. It was announced at the press launch of the B Series engines in 1948 that they would NOT be used in motor cars. Rolls-Royce did not refer to B series engines in the context of motor cars.

B series were produced as:

- B40 4 cylinder 2838, cc about 19000 units produced, some 15000 of these by Austin Motor Company.
- B60/B61/B61SV 6 cylinder 4256cc/4887cc, at least 14000 units being B60 types. Production may have exceeded 20000 for both types.
- B80/B81/B81SV 8 cylinder 5675cc/6516cc at least 8500 units produced. It was normal for B80/B81 types to be fitted with twin plate clutches.
- Engine code "O" indicates 3.50 inch bore e.g B60,B80
- Engine code "I" indicates 3.75 inch bore e.g B61,B81
- N.B There was no B series engines, except experimental, equivalent to the 3.625-inch bore of the later Bentley MK VI and R type cars or their opposite number R-R chassis.

Major construction differences were indicated by Mark numbers from Mk1 to Mk8, simplified below:

- Mk1 Prototype engine using car crankcases.
- Mk2 Alloy cylinder head, cast-iron block, wet sump.
- Mk3 As Mk2 but dry sump.
- Mk4 Alloy cylinder head, cast alloy block, wet-sump, experimental only.
- Mk5 U.N.F screw threads, cast iron head and block, some parts not fettled and simplified. Wet sump.
- Mk6 as Mk5 but dry sump.
- Mk7 Generally as Mk5 but high compression 7.25:1, wet-sump in B81 guise only
- Mk8 As Mk7 but dry sump.

Most common were MK5 and Mk6 units. All U.N.F engines had their valve covers stamped or cast with the letters U.N.F in the place where the car engines bear the words "Bentley" or "Rolls Royce".

Many experimental engines were tried including the use of short strokes, supercharging, diesel versions, triple S.U installations, direct running in the alloy block without liners, special B40 version to B41. Most on a one-off basis.

Normal engine dress included waterproof ignition for wading on military units, along with high output dynamo and starter units. Mechanical fuel pumps were also fitted. Applications initially included B Category Type British forces vehicles not directly involved in fighting and some C Category types which were cranes or plant usually with a B type chassis underneath. Later other categories were added.



Vehicles being produced by Austin, Leyland, Thornycroft, Douglas, Alvis, Humber to name a few.

Civilian versions included B61/B61SV and B81SV that were not used for military purposes. Civil applications included many fire engines by Dennis Bros, and even retro fitting a rear engine double deck bus with a B81G, (G= Gas powered) engine.

A few enthusiasts have fitted B series engines into cars especially Phantom III's, but the B series is not just a drop in conversion for any Crewe made post war six cylinder car. The engines were not as refined or finished as the car engine and the external accessories differ. Enthusiasts also need to bear in mind that these ranges of engines were designed for commercial and military applications.

Assuming will catch you out. For example these engines all have sump (oil pan) adaptors and car sumps will not interchange. The adaptors are fitted between the block and sump pan. All except the B40 have external Harmonic type balancers on the end of the crankshaft, not slipper drive dampers fitted internally within the timing gear cover as on the car engines. The crankshaft gear is machined as part of the shaft, unlike the car where the gear is separate. The shaft assemblies are longer which should send out warning signals to those contemplating a "weekend" swap over.

The B series engines can normally be identified from the car engine by the fact that they have sump adaptors and the thermostat housing is positioned on the side of the cylinder head. That is on the opposite side to no 1 plug.

Perhaps surprisingly, a B series engine in some guises can be difficult to identify as a R-R engine even by those that know the R-R six cylinder, such is the engine dress of components.

The above information is not intended to be exhaustive, but would I hope provide enough information to suggest that the B series is NOT a car engine. With the exception of the bore and stroke, only a few of the components interchange, and even then except for pistons and rods no major parts will swap. Note here that "interchanging" in this context does NOT mean that the parts are identical, merely that they will interchange. To my knowledge ALMOST NONE of the parts are identical. These engines were without doubt an extension of the post war R-R rationalised range. They were however no different than similar engines produced in Europe by Austin, Morris, Ford or GM in that they encompassed the same bore and stroke as their motor car counter parts, albeit designed for commercial or military purposes.

It is interesting to note that "B" series engines were produced in the large bore version much earlier than those eventually fitted to the S series cars.





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## VICTORIA BRANCH SPARE PARTS

For a number of years, the Victoria Branch has purchased stock of high turnover items such as oil filters, air filters etc for Members to purchase when servicing their cars.

This has proved very successful as the Club has been able to buy volumes of these products from the specialist dealers overseas at reduced prices to the benefit of the members. However, the majority of members may be unaware that we can also provide indent orders, that is, if a member has a certain project that requires a number of items such as an exhaust system or suspension components, these too can be added to the regular orders that the Club places, therefore, reducing freight and also receive the discount that the Club has negotiated with the specialist dealer. It is worth noting that freight can be a very large component of cost when obtaining spare parts from overseas.

Neil Matthews provides this service through Bespoke Spares. He can be contacted on 0408 995 720 or [neil@bespokespares.com.au](mailto:neil@bespokespares.com.au) for any queries you may have in relation to spare parts.

## BUYING AND SELLING

A friendly call for anyone who has bought or sold a proper motorcar in our club to contact our Membership officer Stephen Peoples with the details. It is extremely important to keep the club database up to date, so it is possible to keep track of the motorcar's past. Wouldn't you like to know where, when and who bought your car 30 years ago? **Please contact Stephen Peoples on 0408 672 222 or [cm1@rrocavictoria.org.au](mailto:cm1@rrocavictoria.org.au)**

Please contact Wayne Spittle for a free advertisement in the Newsletter. A short description and details are all that's needed along with a photo. **[editor@rrocavictoria.org.au](mailto:editor@rrocavictoria.org.au)**

## BOOKINGS POLICY

Members who book to attend events are obliged to honour their acceptance by turning up to the event, especially where the RROCA Victoria Branch engages an outside caterer or books a venue where the Club is duly bound to pay for the number of people given to that caterer or venue. Booking cancellations can be accepted up to three (3) business days prior to an event for which a caterer has been engaged or a venue has been booked for the Club's exclusive use.

No refund will be given to any Member or guest who fails to turn up to an event for which prepayment has been made with no prior contact with the Club's organiser.

Further, the Club exercises the right to seek full payment from a Member who fails to turn up for an event for which pre-payment might not be necessary yet would be required on the day whereby the outside caterer had factored that person into the booking for which the Club will be billed.

## A FRIENDLY REMINDER

From time to time our members, or others from the general community, open their properties to host an event for the Victoria Branch. We request that our members kindly refrain from bringing pets (other than service animals) onto other people's property – as we can't be sure if they are welcome, or if they could cause a territorial problem for our host's animals.

Also, please respect our host's privacy and personal facilities which may not be available to members, e.g. parts of their home, pool, tennis court etc. that they may not wish to make available to members. Unless the use of such facilities is mentioned as part of the event they are deemed as not available, as they may not be covered by our liability insurance.

So please do not cause embarrassment for yourself or our hosts by asking to use any facilities which should be regarded as "out of bounds".



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Advertisers should immediately notify the Newsletter Editor if the Vehicle is Sold or there are changes required to the details listed and /or a price change is made.

Advertisements of vehicles for private sale in the Club Newsletter are required under the current Motor Traders Act to show:

1. The cash price of the motor car, and
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### Committee Member / Property Officer

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## COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

### Newsletter Editor and Website

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**Kaye Farrow**

### Trophy Master

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### Honorary Archivist

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www.rrocavictoria.org.au

### AOMC Delegates

**Gerry Howell and Steve Young**  
www.aomc.asn.au

## NEWSLETTER PHOTOS

Photos supplied by Richard Bowen, Lewis and Rodd Levy, David A Lissauer, Mark Herbstreit, Rohan Garnet, Rod Cuthbertson and Eric Henderson.

Apologies to those who have kindly provided articles, these will be held over for February 2022.

Apologies for any errors and omissions.

# CULLINAN

ONE LIFE, MANY LIFESTYLES.



Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Melbourne  
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