



# NEWSLETTER



The stuff of dreams! A pleasant jaunt in a Bentley.

## *Opening Rally 2012*

The Opening Rally will be on Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> February at the Botany Bay National Park at Kurnell. The entrance is off Captain Cook Drive, Kurnell (UBD map 136). You will need \$7 in correct change for the automatic toll gate.

We'll be using a large grassed area with trees by the harbour. You should bring your own food and

drinks; coin-operated barbecues are available for those who feel like cooking.

The gates open at 7.30. As we can't reserve the area, we suggest that you arrive early, say around 9.30, to secure a place and to be able to park near the area we'll be using.

THE VINTAGE SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AUSTRALIA

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AHOY THERE, MATES!

18<sup>th</sup> March

Dust off those sea-legs and practise shivering your timbers (whatever that is) because the VSCCA is running away to sea - well, around the harbour anyway - led by Rollicking Rob Everett and his crew of merry matelots. Don't delay in booking your passage, because berths are limited at \$36 each. Late-comers will be marooned on shore. BYO grub and grog, me hearties! Come aboard from 1030 hrs (10.30am) at the shipyard at James Craig Rd, Rozelle Bay. We weigh anchor at 1100 hrs (11am), returning to port at 1500 hrs (3pm to landlubbers).

Call Dave on 9618 2788 or 0428 282 369 for bookings.

**PLEASE NOTE: THIS EVENT IS NOW FULLY BOOKED. WE'LL TRY TO ARRANGE ANOTHER TRIP LATER.**

- A Few Quaint Nautical Terms  
which could be useful to know on the day.
- Launch = a mid-day meal
  - Cast off = someone's old clothes
  - Full astern = large buttocks
  - Companionway = a place to stop for a chat
  - Avast haulin'! = a huge profit, say, from the souvenir shop
  - Slow ahead = not very intelligent
  - Port = a calming drink, hence the saying, "Any port?" in a storm.
  - Port hole = mouth
  - Lubberly = a term of approval
  - Plimsol Line = a black mark on the deck made by sandshoes (British)
  - Broadside = the area reserved for ladies on American gangster ships
  - Galley = what the ship becomes if the engine breaks down
  - Scupper = a NZ captain

Oberon Steam & Vintage Fair

There will be lots to see in and around Oberon at this event. There is no plan to meet or drive together, but for those who would like to take a car on conditional registration, the dates of the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of February are in the calendar, allowing you travelling time as well as time to enjoy the fair.

Remember that the date for the Alpine Rally with the VSCC Vic. has been changed to a time when we can enjoy the autumn weather and scenery. It will now be on the weekend of the 21 & 22 April. Let Tim know if you are interested and watch for more details in the magazine.

*There is no Club meeting in January. The next meeting is our February meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> at the Veteran Car Club's rooms, 134 Queens Rd, Five Dock, at 8pm. Books from our Club library are available for browsing or borrowing, and magazines from other clubs are there for you to look through or to take home. If you would like to take magazines, please mark them with your name and leave them until the end of the meeting for others to look at them.*

**Please note:**  
Thank you to all those members who have paid their annual Subs by the due date. For those who haven't yet paid, this is a reminder that annual subscriptions (\$70) for 2012 were due by the end of December. Could you please either send a cheque or pay directly into the Club's account (BSB 082-207 acc.no. 16667-0215) as soon as possible. Delaying this payment just makes extra work for the Committee.

Calendar for January

- 18<sup>th</sup> Mid-Week Lunch, Terrey Hills
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Loaded Dog Run to Tarago
- 29<sup>th</sup> Breakfast Runs

Calendar for February

- 5<sup>th</sup> Opening Rally, Kurnell
- 11, 12<sup>th</sup> Oberon Steam Fair
- 14<sup>th</sup> Club Meeting, Five Dock
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Mid-Week Lunch, Terrey Hills
- 26<sup>th</sup> Breakfast Runs

Calendar for March

- 13<sup>th</sup> Club Meeting, Five Dock
- 18<sup>th</sup> Steam Harbour Cruise
- 21<sup>st</sup> Mid-Week Lunch, Terrey Hills
- 25<sup>th</sup> Breakfast Runs

At the Closing Rally in December, we again enjoyed the excellent food and service at Miramare Gardens.

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We were pleased to have new members Max and James Stephenson from Queensland with us. They are about to set off with the Vauxhall to drive from London to Cape Town. (See next page)

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Joining us again this year too were Mary and Helen Lewthwaite. Mary presented the John Lewthwaite Trophy (for the points score).

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The door-prize hampers were won by Robert and Sheila Peel, Richard Lamrock, and Brian Blacker.

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**More on the Dudgeon**

The piece in the November Newsletter about the Dudgeon steam road wagon has inspired some correspondence from readers.

One pointed out that it was rather ironic that if one owned a car called a Conspicuous, one would be inconspicuous when driving it. Similarly, he says, if one owned a car called a Significant, it would mean that its driver would be insignificant.

Another correspondent suggested that any Chinese car should be called the Scrutable to make it appropriate for its inscrutable driver.

Father and son, Max and James Stephenson have entered a rally which will take them from London to Cape Town. The rally entrants are mostly 1970s and 1980s cars, but the Stephensons are going in the 1923 Vauxhall 30/98. They expect to arrive in Cape Town on the 29<sup>th</sup> January after some long and tough days at the wheel.

Max and James, who live in Queensland, both joined the VSCCA in October last year. In undertaking this trip they are following the tradition of other Club members such as Noel McIntosh and Rob Gunnell who have made vast overland trips in their vintage cars.

Sadly, James was involved in a motor-cycle accident some time ago, and as a result lost a leg. He has shown tremendous fortitude in re-learning to drive the Vauxhall, and will be sharing the driving on this rally with Max.

Max says that we can follow their progress on their web site, which they will update when they get to

places where they have internet facilities, and between sleeping and servicing the car.

[www.pennytocapetown.com](http://www.pennytocapetown.com)

There is also an official rally website with daily results and a link to yellow brick tracking so that we can watch their progress and see if Max and James are "keeping up or broken down in the middle of nowhere".

[www.londoncapetownrally.com](http://www.londoncapetownrally.com)



### *At our February Meeting*

In June 2011, David MacDonald participated in the Inaugural Tour of Britain with the Bentley Drivers' Club, an event which was held to mark the club's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The event began with a black tie Ball at the Savoy Hotel and finished a month later at Leeds Castle after a tour of England, Scotland and Wales. Participants came from all around the world, with twenty cars from Australia taking part. David says the tour had been 2½ years in the planning and was organised down to the smallest detail.

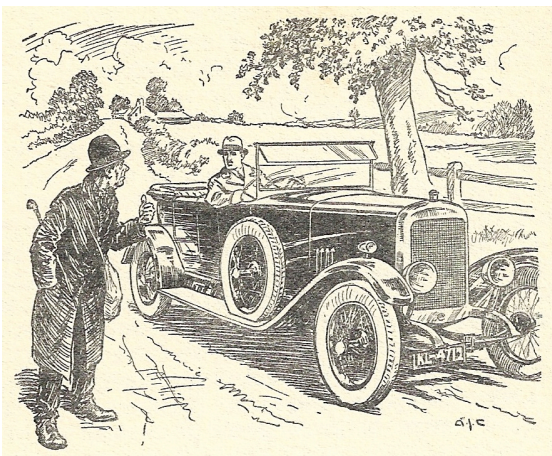
At our meeting, David will tell us about this trip, and show us pictures and other mementos, so this promises to be an interesting and enjoyable talk.

### "LOADED DOG RUN" TO TARAGO, 22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY

This is an event which the RROC has just squeezed into the calendar, and again has kindly invited us to join. Meet at the Pheasants Nest Service Station on the Hume Highway at 10am for a 10.30 start. Following requests from members, this is a run where the emphasis is on the drive and driving. The run finishes at Tarago with lunch at the Loaded Dog Hotel. (see [www.loadeddoghotel.com](http://www.loadeddoghotel.com)). RSVP to Brian Crump by the 15<sup>th</sup> January on 0419 417 813 or [president@nsw.rroc.org.au](mailto:president@nsw.rroc.org.au) to be sure that you get a meal, rather than having to boil the billy by side of the road.

(S.H. and A.C.T. members could ask Brian about joining the run on the way or at Tarago.)

The RROC has also invited us to a Navigation Run & Picnic Day at Avon Dam on 26<sup>th</sup> Feb. Details will be in the next magazine.



**First VSCCA member:** I say, old chap, surely you aren't walking to the Opening Rally! What's happened? You look as if you've fallen on hard times!

**Second VSCCA member:** Yes, I'm afraid I've lost everything. I made the mistake of leaving my car with a professional restorer and telling him to go ahead and do whatever was necessary.