

No. 295

April 2008

A30 MINUTES

A NEWSLETTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN AUSTIN A30 CAR CLUB INC.



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From the Front Seat

A message from Club President, Don Jones

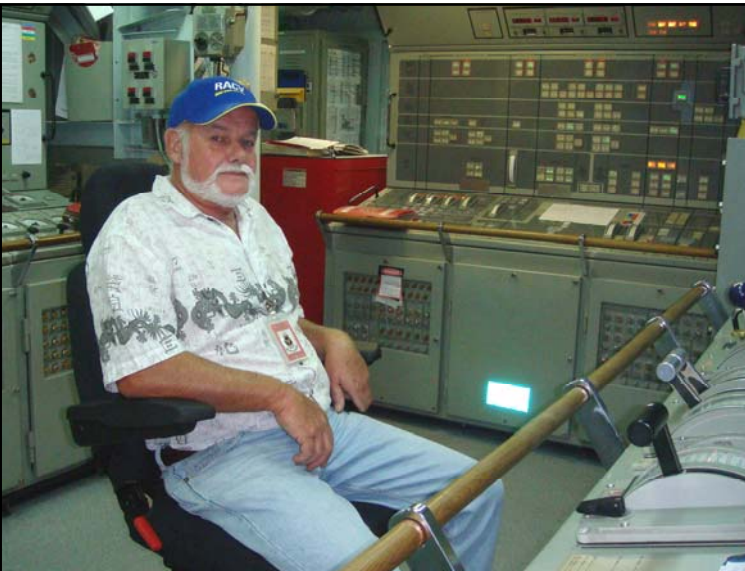
Welcome to April 2008

At the last meeting the Easter Bunny was a kind bunny to all those who attended. Thanks to those members who supplied the eggs.

Last month a few members had the luck to have a guided tour over HMAS Darwin, which was in Melbourne for a few days. Our guide for the day was Graham Bacon who is a member of the club; Graham is the son of Tom and Dot Bacon. Thank you Graham for the Tour over your ship.

Sunday 6th April a few members attended the Gisborne Steam Rally with other members taking the Boat to Geelong and returning by train to Melbourne.

During the last week we had terrible storms down our way with power blackouts and wind to match. I thought a large gum tree was going to crash down on the garage and crush my 2 cars, but they survived. With the power gone for over 12 hours it just goes to show how much we rely on it to make life easy.



Don Jones trying out the Marine Engineer's seat on HMAS Darwin

**Australian Austin A30 Car Club Inc.
(Ass. Inc. No A8084W)**

Minutes of the meeting held on the 20 March 08
at the Camberwell Uniting Church Hall 314 Camberwell Road Camberwell.

Meeting opened at 8.10 pm.

Attendance. The President thanked all those present for their attendance.

Apologies. Angela, David & June Napoleone, Bronwyn & David Taylor, Ron & Laraine Maddocks

Minutes of previous meeting 20 February 08.

Moved. David Linke Seconded Tom Bacon

Correspondence.

Bradford Badges new premises. Reported that they have sign that shows the Brock car.
Depender. March 08
The Light Shaft January, February & March 08
Austin News W. A. April
Traditional Car Club U.K. January 08
Austin & Club S. A. January 08
A 40 Newsflash January February 08.

Treasurers Report.

Bank balance end of February \$547. Hall hire paid to February 09
Moved Dianne Davie. Seconded Mario Napoleone

Membership

Tom Bacon reported that our membership remains at 87.

Editors Report.

The Newsletter was out on time. Emails should be sent to him through the web site button.
Another web site recommended was Austin Memories .com

Club Captain.

The British & European car day at Flemington was good again. There was more space
provide this year. There was an even number of A30 and A40s.
6 April. Rail & Sail over 30 bookings at the moment.
13 April. Pakenham Picnic. Free entry.
Vintage Day is called for 18 May when it is called for all cars to be seen on the road.
A trip to HMAS Darwin courtesy of Commander Graeme Bacon was impressive.

Merchandise.

Merchandise is available by contacting Brian Brooks on 03 9386 9385
Fire extinguisher bracket to fit under the passenger seat without having to drill any holes
\$13 plus postage.
Aluminium vice jaws to fit 3",4" & 6" \$3 pair.
The Club now has an extendable tool to check the toe in of front wheels without have to

crawl under the car, for hire. \$5 per month. It folds up to fit in your boot.

General Business.

A presentation was made to Mario Napoleone to celebrate the completion and first outing of his Countryman after such a long period of restoration.

Next meeting to be on the 16 April at 8 P M

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

GISBOURNE STEAM RALLY



Club members enjoying the perfect weather.



Ian Lee's Diamond T



RAIL & SAIL IN THE BAY IN A DAY

Sunday 6th April 2008

26 A30 members and friends enjoyed a fantastic day out. The weather was perfect as we set sail at 9:30 on the Victoria Star. We sailed under the Bolte and Westgate bridges, past the busy Melbourne docks, Williamstown ship yard, then out onto Port Phillip Bay leaving the Melbourne skyline behind. Sailing past Point Cook with the You Yongs on our right and Pt Arlington on the left.

The water was mirror smooth with even a seal soaking up the sun. People enjoyed devenshire tea and others enjoyed the view on offer. We arrived in Corio Bay and docked at Steampacket Quay on Geelong's waterfront where there was a vast choice of places to have lunch.

After a short walk to the railway station we returned to Melbourne on a fully restored T395 diesel locomotive in elegant carriages of a time gone by.



13 members attending were Dianne Davie, David Linke, Graeme McIntosh, Colin & Mary Ingram, Robyn & Bill Simons, Jeanette & Graeme Allen/Blair, Russell & Judy Clough and Fred & Annette Brauneis.

Annette Brauneis





SANDAKAN DEATH MARCH *Dianne Davie*

(Continued from March edition)

The horrors of Sandakan and the Death March still defy description. Prisoners were beaten and tortured, even castrated and crucified, but in Paginatan something more unimaginable occurred. Local people described how hungry Japanese soldiers culled prisoners from the group, cut off their arms and legs and brought the torsos to their camp for consumption.

No-one has ever built on the site of the Japanese camp.

We spent the next two nights at the Sabah Tea Plantation – the scenery is breathtaking and the plantation is just beautiful. Mind you I was a bit “tea-ed” out by the end of it (being a devoted coffee drinker!) That afternoon we all piled into the back of the plantation tip truck and headed off down to a fast flowing river for a much deserved and refreshing swim until a snake decides to fall out of a tree and swim downstream with us!



We're driven to Nabutan to walk to Nalapak. This section takes about 5 hours and we're led by one of the guides who shows us all the local bush food and small traps used for catching food. It's an easy walk and we arrive back at the plantation for lunch. There's a beautiful plaque that's been erected by the Sabah Tea Plantation and it's now known as Quailey's Hill (after the death of POW Quailey). We hold yet another service here and go to lunch feeling sad.

We set off from the plantation walking through the rows and rows of tea bushes. It's overcast, which is great for a change – but this soon turns into torrential rain that soaks us



to the skin, fills our boots with water that squelch with every step and is almost impossible to see through it's so heavy – this we do for one and a half hours – arriving back at the Tea plantation decidedly drowned and wrinkled!

It's our last day - up and down hills and across Marakau Hill on the actual track through the jungle. It's on this section that I really feel close the POW's (it was the exact track, no diversion, no road built on it) and quite emotional. We emerge from the jungle onto a plateau that looks down the Ranau Plain. It's a long, long, hot, hot walk along the road into Ranau and just seems to go on forever. Once there we meet at the cairn that was built with river pebbles –

one for each POW. It is here I read my dedication to Private James Stewart Smith and there are quite a few more read – everyone with tears in their eyes but also extremely proud.

From here we are bussed to the Perkasa Hotel perched high in the mountains to shower and then go to the beautifully restored Kundasang War Memorial Gardens. There are gardens representing Borneo, England and Australia. We view a video and then hold a very moving and emotional service, lowering of the flags and burning of incense and eucalyptus leaves. Each one of us then places a red rose in the pool of reflection saying the name of our POW. Not a dry eye (even now as I'm writing this).

We left the memorial gardens to go and drink a toast to the lost POW's.

I proudly walked for Private James Stewart Smith. These were the details I was given about him.

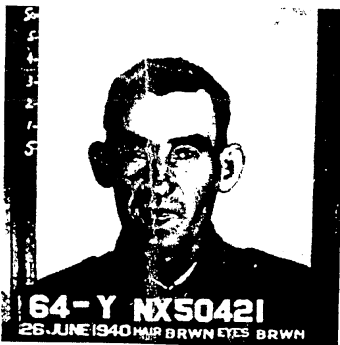
Number: NX50421 POW 1285

UNIT: 2/26 and 2/30 Infantry Battalions

BORN: Forbes, NSW 2 August 1899

ENLISTED: 26 June 1940 at Paddington while living in the Sydney suburb of Mascot. Fought in Malaya and Singapore.

ARRIVED SANDAKAN: 18 July 1942 with E Force



Private James Smith, one of 2434 prisoners held at the Sandakan Camp, was not only one of the “old blokes” he was also a well-known renegade who, while on active service, had spent more time in detention than out of it. Nothing, not even hefty fines or long periods of confinement had made the slightest bit of difference. Being arrested for forging leave passes and taking himself off on extended periods of unauthorised leave were, for Jim Smith, simply part and parcel of everyday life. He had even tried to do a bunk before the surrender by hitching a ride in a “borrowed” Bren gun carrier, which had managed to travel all the way from Mandai Road to Singapore Harbour without any awkward questions being asked. There, however, the escape attempt had faltered. Smith, on learning that the Japanese navy was lying in wait to blast all vessels fleeing Singapore out of the water, realised that the chances of getting to Sumatra by motor launch were practically nil and had given himself up.

James left Sandakan Camp with the first death march early in February 1945. He managed to reach Ranau after a trek which took about 15 days. James Smith died of dysentery on 13 March and was buried in the POW Cemetery beside the POW hut. He was 45 years old.

Post war the bodies of those who had died at Ranau were recovered and reburied in Labuan War Cemetery. Jim’s remains were not identifiable. They lie in a grave marked “Known Unto God”. His name is commemorated on Panel 15.

I have since tried to contact any descendant or family member of Jim Smith – but, unfortunately, I have drawn a blank. But I will remember him for the rest of my life.

Lest We Forget

Dianne Davie

BBQ at Westerfolds Park



The day looked as though it could get quite hot but a check with the CFA verified that no fire bans were in place. A good day for a BBQ, so off to Westerfolds Park in Templestowe.

No problem finding the park as it is in Melways along with the entry from Fitzsimons Lane as Fred described. I had the spot marked in my GPS just incase I missed the turn. No problems around the turn and off along the park road, down to the river area car park, no A30 club members, I must be too early so go for a bit of an exploration around the park



roads, around this car park, up that hill, down another and around a bit until I ended up where I started from. About time to give Fred the emergency mobile phone call to find out where everybody is. No answer, turns out Fred has not got his phone turned on and this is a big park. Just before panic set in I remembered putting Annette's mobile number in the last newsletter and it was the first time I actually had the newsletter in the car. One more phone call and with Fred with one mobile and me on another he was eventually able to describe a mud map back up the road, past the sign that he left for us to follow, (I still did not see it) but kept on the right road

up the biggest hill, around behind a big building and there they were in the best spot in the park.

Ten minutes later Annette's phone rang again, this time it was Don Jones, he was going through the same procedure as I did to find the place.

After Don arrived and we had a couple of drinks the BBQ was lit, the food was cooked and a good lunch was had by all.

The others finished as usual with large plates of cake and cappuccino coffees.

Bob and Saichon came in their A30 van, Don Jones came in his new Mini, Paul and Nina came in their A40, Fred and Annette were in their A30 and I came in MYA30 van.

With ideal BBQ weather, and not too far to travel in the heat it was a good day missed by all of those that did not come.

Graeme McIntosh



HMAS DARWIN *a tour by Graeme Bacon*



Some A30 club members got a rare opportunity to have a very close look over one of our naval frigates that was docked in Melbourne recently. Graeme Bacon, son of Dot and Tom Bacon is the Marine Engineer for HMAS Darwin, a guided missile frigate. Graeme gave us a special tour of the ship showing us the various components, jet engines, gear boxes, generators, refrigeration units, armaments, control panels and the hundreds of kilometers of wires and pipes that connect and control all these units to bring them all together as one large fighting machine. Graeme's expert knowledge of the ship gave us a much better understanding of how it all works.

Thank you

Graeme McIntosh







On the Road

with Bob Laughton

G Day, well my veggie garden was just no good over the summer period, corn useless, tomatoes worse than bloody useless, the pumpkins started off great, nice and strong growth, plenty of M&F flowers, but only six small pumpkins. The egg plants were only average but probably the best of a bad season.

Talking with other home gardener's in Tatura, everybody was the same. I don't know why, but we did have stinking hot weather from Christmas Day to New Years Day, I am sure that had something to do with it.

Well some good news, for a good read, and in your library, is "Diamonds and Dust", by Sheryl McCorry, a very inspiring story, one hears stories of women living and surviving in the outback. Sheryl grew up in Arnhem Land and at eighteen took off to Broome and married to a fast talking Yank, read on it is great.

Lucky went to Bendigo for two days basketball tryout for County Victoria Selection. There were 125 boys, but within five seconds of being there it was all over, ie, tall bays to the right, not so tall, to the left. But we had a good time, meals were great and he knew some boys from Shepparton, all taller than him, they did not make it. He is playing great basketball in Tatura all be it "B" grade.

I thought our A30 was the worlds best "Green Car", (it's Spruce Green), Ha, Ha, but a diesel powered BMW Series has been voted "World Green Car of the Year". It's 2.0 litre four cylinder engine develops 105kw. Average fuel consumption in the EU test cycle is just 4.5 litres per 100 kilometers, and the CO2 rating is a mere 119 grams per kilometer.

Just glad I am not on terminal five in London, over fifteen thousand lost bags and the terminal has only been open three days, British Airways has a big headache.

The Olympic Games in Beijing is in the news for all the wrong or right reasons. At the moment China's human rights is starting to "Bite" now for all people, I hope something amicable will come to the fore. For me it is not a good look at the moment.

Lucky has taken a new direction in his young life, less basketball, and he has joined SQN 419, Air Force Cadets Shepparton with Commanding Officer being Peter Dealy, DLTOFF (AAFC). Lucky is off on his first bivouac on the 11th April and marching 25th April (ANZAC Day) in Shepparton.

Enjoy ya Austin's, keep the diesel and LPG bowsers ticking over.



G'Day Bob

NATIONAL MOTORING HERITAGE DAY

*“A tribute to Australia’s
Motoring Heritage”*



Promoted by the Australian
Historic Motoring Federation
and Local Motoring Clubs

Sun 18th May 2008

For more information www.motoring.org.au



LOCAL EVENTS

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

13 April 2008 (Sunday)

Pakenham Picnic

(Event Contact: Don Jones 0427 392 219)

Hosted by The Dandenong Valley Historic Car Club Inc.

Pakenham Racecourse, Racecourse Rd, Pakenham. Melway Map 317 G8

BYO picnic lunch, light BBQ lunch available, tea & coffee supplied

Meet at McDonald's car park Melway Map 317 D6 at 9.15am for 9.30am departure
so we can all park together

16 April 2008 (Wednesday)

Club Meeting at the Camberwell Uniting Church at 8.00pm

27 April 2008 (Sunday)

A40 Club has invited the A30 Club to the Steam Festival at Scoresby

(More details next meeting)

25-27 April 2008

9th Annual Lockington and District Vintage Rally. Large display of Cars, trucks, tractors, engines and farm machinery.

4 May 2008 (Sunday)

'Woop Woop' A sculpture garden/gallery/tea room based on Aussie lingo

Keep this date free for a fun day out. We plan to use back roads to Harcourt should be fun for our little cars too.

Admission \$5 including guided tour

Contact Fred Brauneis 9457 4038 or 0412 100 144.

21 May 2008 (Wednesday)

Club Meeting at the Camberwell Uniting Church at 8.00pm

Fred Brauneis - Club Captain. Tel: (03) 9457 4038 (ah)

CLUB PERMIT VEHICLES ARE AUTHORISED TO ATTEND THESE EVENTS.

Note: Owners of vehicles operating with Club Permits should carry a current copy of this Newsletter & a copy of the AOMC Club Permit Handbook in their car at all times.



"Rankin" one of our Collins Class submarines approaching Station Pier, Port Phillip Bay.

Buy, Swap & Sell

FOR SALE

1952 four door sedan, Grey with mahogany dash. New tires, carpet and upholstery. 803cc engine and gearbox reconditioned. Telescopic shockers. Unregistered but with RWC. Number plates available GAP764 and OSTN30.

\$5500

2/2

Contact Ray Barnes - 53382378 or 0423 946256

FOR SALE

Austin A30 parts and components for sale, brakes, suspension etc.

2/2

For further information contact Graham Brewster 07 32635352

FOR SALE

Three 803cc engines, two complete, one was going, other is not known, the third in bits, offer. The other item is a 1950's style Picnic Set complete in case, excellent order, \$75 ono. Parts located in Mitcham.

2/2

Contact Graham 0418352198

Advertisements in this section will be inserted, free of charge, in two issues unless I am advised otherwise. The notation at the end of the advertisement indicates how many times it has been displayed. ie: (1/2) - first insertion , (2/2) - second insertion. Ed.

We have RELOCATED to

7A BOUNDARY ROAD, MORDIALLOC, VIC 3195

Ph - 03 9588 0279

fax - 03 9580 9023



www.bradfordbadges.com



April

2008

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Pakenham Picnic
14	15	16 Club Meeting	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Steam Festival
28	29	30				

MAY 2008

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4 'Woop Woop'
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Heritage Day
19	20	21 Club Meeting	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUSTRALIAN AUSTIN A30 CAR CLUB INC.

CLUB MEETINGS

Club meetings are held on the **3rd Wednesday** of each month from **February to December**. Commencing at **8.00 pm**.

VENUE

CAMBERWELL UNITING CHURCH
314 Camberwell Road, CAMBERWELL. VICTORIA.
(Near Camberwell Junction)
Melways 45 J1

Parking available at front and rear of the building.

CLUB MERCHANDISE

Club Lapel badge	\$ 5.50
Club Window Sticker Badge (internal)	\$ 3.00
Club Key Ring	\$ 5.00
Club Grill Badge (Members)	\$20.00
Club Grill Badge (Non Members)	\$25.00
Tea & Coffee Mug with Club Badge	\$ 8.00
A30 50th Year Rally Cloth Badge	\$ 9.00
Barbecue aprons Heavy black cotton with Club emblem and pocket	\$20.00
A5 Binder for copies of 'A30 Minutes' inc. 25 pockets	\$10.00

All items are plus postage, if applicable

**All Club Merchandise enquiries to Brian Brooks
Telephone: (03) 9386 9385**

CLUB CONTACTS

Please direct information & enquiries as follows:

Correspondence to the Secretary – David Linke

Newsletter articles to the Editor – Graeme McIntosh

Membership enquiries to Membership Secretary – Tom Bacon

(Contact details are shown inside front cover)

SPARE PARTS

Contact Thorpe at

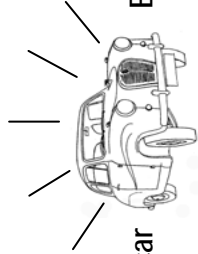
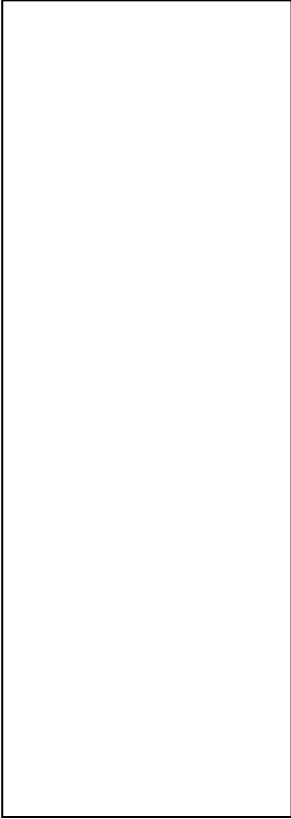
Morris Minor Australia, 56 Alex Avenue, Moorabbin. Victoria. 3189

Telephone: (03) 9555 1793 Fax: (03) 9532 2241

Note: The current membership card is now laminated and has the Club stamp on the reverse side. Members wishing to purchase items from Thorpe of Morris Minor Australia, Moorabbin, Vic. should present the card to obtain a discount. Country & Interstate members must quote their name and membership number. Thorpe has been provided with a current membership list to identify members.



IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO: THE SECRETARY, AUSTRALIAN AUSTIN A30 CAR CLUB,
Unit 2 12 Catherine Ave MT WAVERLEY VIC 3149



Austin A30 - small car

BIG personality!