British & European Automobile Club
(Southern Highlands NSW) Inc.
PO Box 1020, Bowral NSW 2576
Website | **http://beac.org.au/**
Email | info@beac.org.au

BEACon May 2021

President: Geoff Wood, email: president@beac.org.au
Secretary: Anne Wood, email: secretary@beac.org.au
Treasurer: Fred Edney, email: treasurer@beac.org.au
Membership Registrar: Rob Stenvert, email: registrar@beac.org.au
Historic Plates Registrar: Rob Stenvert, email: registrar@beac.org.au
Webmaster: Rob Turner, email: webmaster@beac.org.au
BEACon Editor: Phil O'Regan, email: editor@beac.org.au
Runs Co-ordinator & Information: Roslyn Bell, email: events@beac.org.au

Moss Vale Services Club 7/4/2021

BEAC is back at full strength!

It was obvious as soon as I arrived at Burradoo that this run was definitely bigger than the three that preceded it since the club recommenced operations. Some cars that had not been seen since COVID started were in the line-up again. Unfortunately, I arrived without my phone, which I could not find after an earlier morning outing, but I was lucky enough to borrow Ken Woodward's smartphone and take photos of the assembly on it. (Thanks Ken).

It certainly must have gladdened Ros and Kevin Bell's hearts to see the turnout (They has organised all the runs since our re-start, and we owe them a big vote of thanks for that).

Sitting in the back row of the assembly was a car new to me – a black Morris Ten. I had no time to find its owner and it only much later that that I found out it belonged to the Woods. They bought it about a year ago from a deceased estate auction and it became Geoff's COVID project to get it going again, which he did without too much fuss.

The E-type and the MGA – best of british.

The Woods' Morris Ten – nice one!

At the briefing before departing, President Geoff repeated the call for members to organise future runs for the club, though of course the number of venues available to us is still much reduced until spacing restrictions are further eased.

The Healey certainly portrays the classic image well!

So we set off, with me in my usual position at the end of the convoy, behind Geoff and Ella in the TD2000. Getting through the Moss Vale area was a challenge due to traffic and roadworks (as it turned out every road south out of Mossie had roadworks in progress).

View from one end of the car park. Photo: Ella

The Minis in their usual place – lurking in the bushes.

As we barrelled down the Expressway with the Mini doing 5,000rpm, I put the mockers on myself, by wondering if the car might experience a problem when we turned off. And so it did, immediately having the chronic misfire that prevented it going on the last run. I pulled over and within seconds, Geoff and Ella came back to see how they could help. Subsequently Geoff battled for over two hours with the electrics (mainly the distributor), which isn't easy on a Mini where the distributor is right behind the grill, and to see its

internals you have to take the grill off or peer through the small gap at the top of the grill. We called the NRMA, but in the knowledge that they would probably only do what Geoff was already doing. It turned out that the NRMA arrived just as it seemed the problem had been solved. The Mini seemed to rev up cleanly, so it was decided that I would try to get it home.

I don't quite know why I'm smiling here – perhaps I'm relieved to have such great support. Photo: Ella

But as soon as I set off, the problem was right there again. So we left it at Wingello, and Ella volunteered to stay while Geoff drove me to Colo Vale to get their car trailer. It was over two hours later when we got back, loaded the Mini up and took it direct to AJ in Bowral, who waited for our arrival at 5.15pm.

Needless to say, I'm very grateful for the total support given me by Geoff and Ella. They missed out on lunch, and put in 6 hours of time and effort to get me and the car home safely. I know Geoff says you don't abandon people in need, but I think their commitment goes above and beyond the call of duty. There is a little irony in the fact that four weeks ago Jenny and I and the Blaneys stopped to help the Woods when their MGB went kaput, and we got it to safety on the Blaneys trailer, and now the same scenario was taking place with me as the subject.

Anyway, I can't give you any personal summary of the experience at Moss Vale Services Club, but from the few opinions conveyed to me, the food, atmosphere and reception there were all very good, and it really marked a return to the best days of BEAC before the virus hit.

Phil O'

Postscript: My missing phone was located just before I got home. I had last seen it on the roof of my car before I returned home in the morning, and I feared it had fallen off the car when I drove off. It was found wedged into the small gap between the front of the boot lid and the rear window. It had slid there off the roof when the car moved. So not all my luck on the day was bad!

Postscript 2: I have listened to the mounting chorus of advice and the Mini is now getting electronic ignition!

HISTORIC VEHICLE SCHEME

• For members with BEAC Primary Historic Vehicle Registration, on a club run you must keep either a Club BEACon Newsletter or BEAC Events Web Page print-out in the car to justify the use.

HISTORIC CONDITIONAL REGISTRATION - 60 DAY LOG BOOK SCHEME
A reminder that it is a condition of the 60 Day Log Book Scheme to sign off on your RMS Log Sheet **BEFORE** making a non-club run journey. Severe penalties apply.
Members with cars registered under the Historic Vehicle Scheme are expected to attend a minimum of **four** Runs / Events per year.

Additional information covering the Historic Vehicle Registration 60 Day Log Book Scheme can be found on the BEAC website https://www.beac.org.au/historic-vehicle-scheme/historic-vehicle-scheme-60-day-log-book-scheme/

Please note: if you sell a car that is noted on the BEAC Member's Register, please inform our Membership (and Historic Plates) Registrar of the sale. If in doubt whether the car is on the Register, tell him anyway at registrar@beac.org.au (he won't be offended)!

CLUB CALENDAR – May and June 2021

- **Runs start at 10 am at Cnr. Osborne Road & Moss Vale Road, Burradoo unless otherwise noted.**
- **Please Note: all PDF files and links are available on the club's Events Web Page**

May 2021
Wednesday 5 May 2021 | Berrima Lunch Run
• Venue | Schmokin, 1 Market Pl, Berrima
• Meet | 10am, corner of Osborne Road & Moss Vale Road, Burradoo.
• Download Run Sheet | BEAC Berrima Run 5-5-2021 PDF
• To comply with Covid 19 Safety Requirements, members must sign the Attendance Register and observe social distancing rules.
• Contact |Ros & Kevin Bell | Mobile | 0421 029 900
Email | events@beac.org.au

June 2021

Wednesday 16 June 2021 | BEAC Annual General Meeting

• Venue | Colo Vale Community Hall, 28 Railway Ave, Colo Vale
• Lunch provided, cost $10 per person
• Bookings essential, bookings contact: Fred Edney
Mobile | 0400 040 088 | Email | treasurer@beac.org.au
• Payments via EFT please:
Name of Account: British & European Automobile Club (Southern Highlands NSW) Inc.
BDCU, Mittagong,
BSB: 802-101 Account Number: 100073721
Payment Reference: Please use your surname as a reference
• Cut-off date for bookings: 2 June 2021
• To comply with Covid 19 Safety Requirements, members must sign the Attendance Register and observe social distancing rules.
• Download | BEAC 2021 AGM Statutory Notices PDF

Most Popular Movie Cars

At the run to Berrima Reserve last month, member Doug Mackinlay brought along his 1978 Mercedes 280SE.

A stylish saloon, one of Mercedes' most successful models.

Doug told me that the model had a very successful career appearing in the movies. Probably the best known instance was the James Bond movie 'For Your Eyes Only', starring Roger Moore as Bond. (I have never seen the movie, as I gave up watching the franchise when Sean Connery ceased to perform the role). Anyway, at the end of the movie, the arch villain crashes his 280SE through a wall, and is left hanging over the edge of a cliff. Bond goes over and kicks the car, sending it and the villain to their doom.

(Incidentally, Roger Moore was reluctant to film this scene, as he said it was too violent for 'his type of James Bond', but the studio insisted.)

Now thinking about the 280SE's career in films made me wonder what cars have been the most popular ones used in the movies. We can all think of films where a car or cars have become synonymous with the picture itself, such as Mustangs in 'Gone in 60 Seconds' and 'Bullitt', the Volkswagen Beetle in the 'Herbie' movies, the Mini Coopers in 'The Italian Job', Aston Martin DB5 in Bond movies, etc, etc. But I was interested in the most popular by number of appearances. Now there are a number of websites that will give you this information, but their results reported can vary depending on when they were compiled. I chose one that is reasonably recent https://www.motoringresearch.com/car-news/most-popular-movie-cars/ . Now in reading the list of the top ten car types, you must remember the majority of the movies surveyed are American, and in many cases it's not so much the 'star' car, but the more mundane cars driven by the bad guys or the police that accumulate the references. I'll let you look up the site for yourself, but it is probably no surprise to find that the number one car for appearances is the Ford Mustang, which has been seen in no less than 809 movies!

(And as you can see above, the most popular Mustang to present in a photograph is 'Eleanor' from 'Gone in Sixty Seconds').

Immediately after the 'most popular movie cars' list, the website lists the top 10 marques (not make and model) used, and this presents a different list again. All very interesting.

Now the lists above have been compiled from the data available on one of the most mind-boggling websites that I have seen in a long time – the Internet Movie Cars Database http://www.imcdb.org/ . To quote the site's intro, 'Welcome to the Internet Movie Cars Database. You will find here the most complete list on the web about cars, bikes, trucks and other vehicles seen in movies and TV series, image captures and information about them.'

The amount of time and effort that went into making this site is just amazing. to use it, select a marque from the comprehensive list, then select a model from the resulting drop down list, and it will produce a list (with photos) of each movie or TV series in which the car appeared. As a test case I looked for the Lamborghini Miura which is in the opening of 'The Italian Job'. And, after selecting Muira P400 (not P400 S or SV or Roadster) from the list of 121 Lamborghini models/variants listed, I found it on page 2 of the 3 pages (89 results) returned. Try it yourself – it can become rather addictive, for a while anyway. By the way, the Mercedes Benz 280SE (all years) has a total of 415 references!

Phil O'

Bargo Hotel 21/4/2021

After throwing everything, including the kitchen sink at us recently, the weather gods seem to be apologising to us by putting on a succession of good autumn days – ideal weather for BEAC runs, in this case to long-time favourite venue Bargo Pub. (Yes I know it is officially Bargo Hotel, but the place has always epitomised to me the character of the great aussie pub, so that's what I call it).

So, in time honoured fashion, a goodly selection of members and cars assembled at Burradoo for the occasion. It was good to see the 'yin' and 'yang' Healeys parked side by side – they do make quite a picture together. Also good to see Richard Holmes' E-Type, Len Parker's Rover and the Bob Thomas Jag, representing the British side of BEAC well. One British car that wasn't there was my Mini Cooper S. After the debacle of the last run, I told AJ Automotive that I was bowing to a host of good advice to put electronic ignition in the car. But so far the kit hasn't turned up, so I had to grab Jenny's BMW to make the outing.

Yin and Yang.

Slick white shapes – British and Swedish.

At the run briefing conducted over the fence in the park proper, Geoff informed us that after many years of service, Fred Edney is retiring from the position of Treasurer at the next AGM in June. So if you would like to nominate to perform this important role for the club, you can fill out the nomination form located on the BEAC website, (or in the last edition of BEACon), and lodge it with our secretary Anne.

German and British classics.

Always nice to see a Rover in the mix.

Some years back, it was common practice for the run organiser to drive the route of the run the day before the event, to check on any late road closures or the like. We haven't done that for quite a while now, so I, as today's run organiser was grateful when Fred Edney reminded us that the roadworks on the expressway overpass at Alpine were still active. As it happened, we managed to get through the roadworks (and later ones on Wilson Drive) without much trouble at all.

Part of the line-up opposite the pub.

So off we went on a drive through some pleasant Highlands and Wollondilly countryside to reach the Pub. Once there I had the opportunity to catch up with a car I had noticed in the line-up at Burradoo. It is a Triumph 2500 saloon owned by a young man called Connor, who was coming on a run with us for the first time today. He seemed to enjoy the day, and I hope that, subject to his work roster, he will come along on our future outings.

Anyway, into the pub, order from their very extensive menu, and sit back and socialise. The food was good and plentiful, and a friendly atmosphere makes for a very relaxing occasion.

Phil O'

MOTORING MIRTH

Thank you to all contributors to this edition.