British & European Automobile Club
(Southern Highlands NSW) Inc.
PO Box 1020, Bowral NSW 2576
Website | **http://beac.org.au/**
Email | info@beac.org.au
Bank Account | British & European Automobile Club
802-101 100073721

BEACon January 2023

President: Geoff Wood, email: president@beac.org.au
Secretary: email: secretary@beac.org.au
Treasurer: Peggy Pollock, 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: Anne Wood, email: webmaster@beac.org.au
BEACon Editor: Phil O'Regan, email: editor@beac.org.au
Events Co-ordinator & Information: Ross Pollock, email: events@beac.org.au

Christmas at Robertson Hotel **14/12/2022**

The morning started in quite bleak weather conditions at the Bowral Botanic Gardens - if it wasn't early summer then one would be forgiven that it was mid-winter. It really did feel like sleet; either staying put inside the cars or donning the thickest of coats and venturing outside were the only options. Well, almost the only options: one driver felt the weather was too inclement and drove his classic car home.

Gloomy at first……..

66989 H

23188 H

……but the rain didn't last too long.

Pleasantries were exchanged, Mr President gave a run-down of the route, and we were off. The drive consisted of a very pleasant run through Moss Vale and Sutton Forest, doubling back via Exeter, then the back roads (read "the scenic drive") to Fitzroy Falls and onto Robertson.

The Robertson Hotel, aka Ranelagh House to those who have lived in the Highlands for a while, is a majestic multi-storied mansion, set on acres of land, with an interesting past well worth looking into. High ceilings, open fireplaces, huge lounge rooms, wonderful dining room… it was the sort of place fit for a celebration - like the BEAC Christmas Luncheon!

Two old English classics outside the hotel

The two course meals was very good, the company was better, and the whole occasion enjoyed by all. After dessert, most adjourned to the lounge area for coffee, with pleasant conversation and good wishes for the upcoming season.

Lucky door prize

Coffee in the lounge

Pre-luncheon drinks

Thank you to the organisers. Functions like this just don't happen, a considerable amount of planning is needed, and we very much appreciate the time and effort put in.

Merry Christmas everyone, and all the very best for a happy and healthy year in 2023.

Owen Sinden

(Photos inside Robertson Hotel: Anne Wood)

CLUB CALENDAR – February and March 2023

- **Runs start at 10 am from the Botanical Gardens Car Park on the corner of Old South Road and Kangaloon Road, unless otherwise noted.**

● **Please Note: all PDF files and links are available on the club's Events Web Page**

FEBRUARY 2023

Wednesday 8 February |
• Meet | 10am, Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens car park,
1 Old Road South Bowral – at the roundabout Cnr Kangaloon and Eridge Park Roads
•Contact | Ross Pollock | m | 0412 734 825,
e | events@beac.org.au

Tasmania Tour

•The duration of this trip for the purpose of the HVS is Saturday 25th February to Sunday 12th March,2023
•Download Tasmania run sheet Tasmania tour
•Organiser| Fred Edney |m| 0400040088

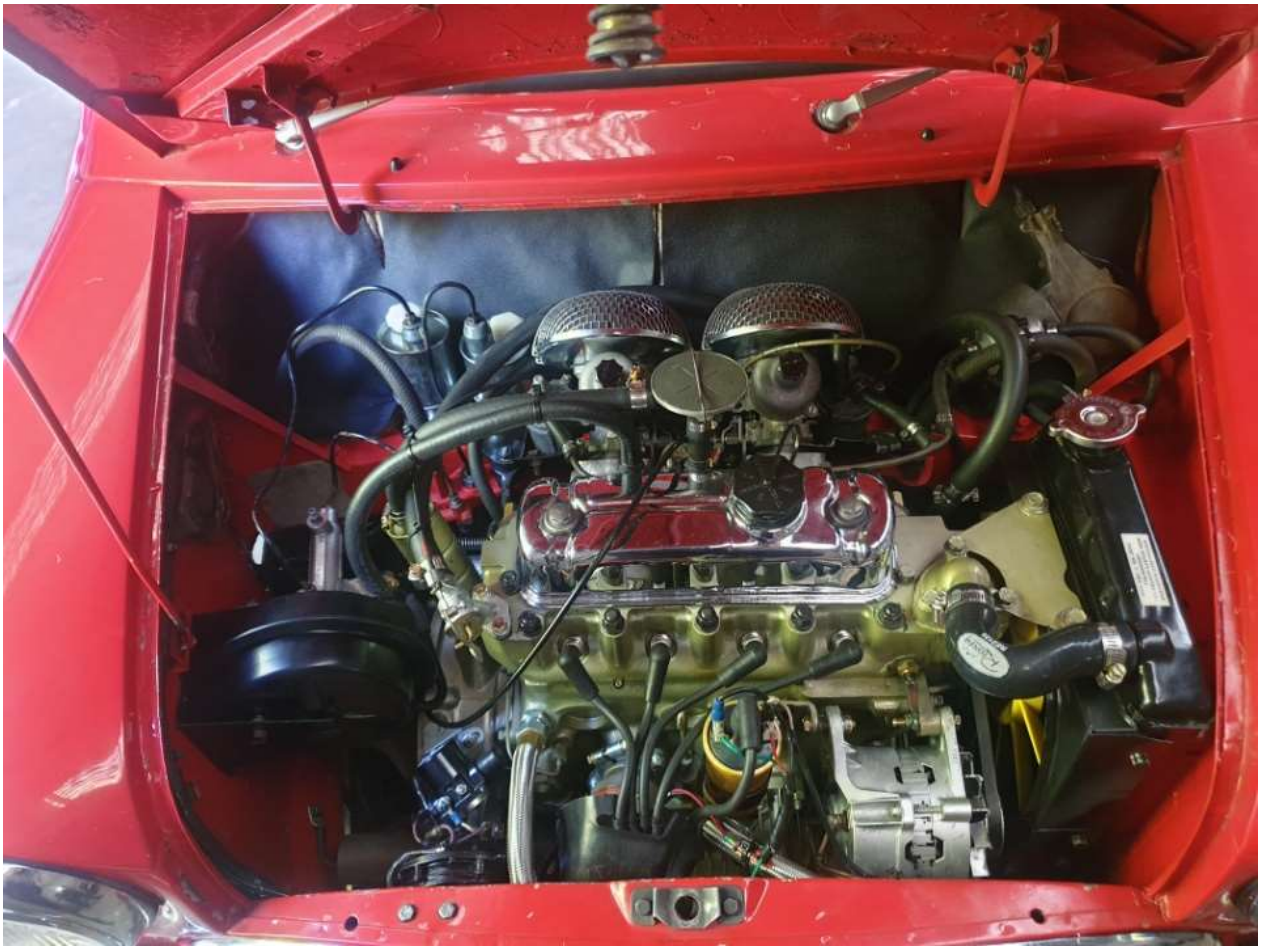
MARCH 2023

Triumph Centenary Celebration 17-19th March, 2023
•Venue| Bathurst
•Download flyer 100 year flyer

Hey La, Hey La my Mini's Back

Friday 16th December I walked over to AJs and collected my Mini – 16 months and 5 days since I put it in there (or 493 days which sounds even more impressive).

The engine bay looks much more impressive than it used to, especially with the sports air cleaners replacing the big airbox which sat over the top of the carbs before. You just about need sunglasses to look at it now.



The word from the experts is that it now drives 'like a new car' (which, engine wise, it pretty well is). Now that all the mods have been done to it which should have been done when it was taken out to 1,310cc (before I got it), it should have even more power than before. The short drive home from AJs didn't allow me time to explore the driving characteristics, but I think that some things are very much the same as before, but other things seem different. Time will tell. But perhaps it may turn out that the 493 day wait was worth it!

Phil O'

BEAC Central West Tour 10-14 October 2022

Let's start with the obvious: tours like this take months to organise. I am absolutely certain that Brian and Marilyn Cox's motto is "Leave no stone unturned". Nothing was left to chance (OK, maybe not the weather), every detail was planned with military precision.

This was in 2021. Then COVID-19 raised its ugly head, again, and the tour was cancelled - or rather postponed to an unknown post-COVID time. Not-so-fast-forward to 2022 and Brian and Marilyn were at it again, trying to get the tour up and running.

Several changes had to be made, destinations changed, bookings cancelled and re-booked, accommodation, outings, meals, etc, etc - the bare bones from the 2021 tour were there but it was almost a total reorganisation.

In early September 2022, Brian and Marilyn were not willing to leave anything to chance. In Brian's words: "The big day approaches! Marilyn and I are off to Young on Tuesday for a preview of the run. We plan to sort out a few minor details (and check on the condition of some of the roads we will travel) so as to make the tour as smooth as possible." No stone unturned? The tour notes even had cautionary warnings of particular road conditions (eg BEWARE the railway crossing is a bit rough) and suggestions of what to eat. Oh, and 'Happy Hour' every afternoon from 5.00pm in the park across from the motel - all bases covered, no stone unturned.

In a further email from Brian and Marilyn: "On Monday 10th I propose we meet at Sallys Corner service area for a 9am departure. Show bags will be distributed with all the details for the week, plus some other goodies." Show bags with goodies? Maps, brochures, even temporary membership of the Young Services Club across the road from our accommodation at Young Federation Motor Inn.

Then, true to his word, and before 9:01 had ticked over, Brian and Marilyn led the convoy from Sallys Corner south west for our week of adventure.

A Brief Itinerary:

Day 1 Mon 10 Oct
Depart Sallys Corner 9am. Morning tea at Terracotta Cafe, Harden. Lunch at Young Historical Society and Museum Green Ivy Cafe.

At Harden. Photos: Chris Brangwin

Lunch at Young

At Young Federation Motor Inn

Photos: Chris Brangwin

Day 2 Tue 11 Oct

First stop Grenfell at the Henry Lawson monument, then to some painted silos. Continue to Forbes and McFeeters Motor Museum. Next is a visit to Eugowra to see the Mural Trail.

Morning Briefing Day 2

Mid Western Highway Grenfell

Henry Lawson memorial

Silo art

Chrysler Museum Grenfell

Photos: Ross Pollock

Bad Roads

Flooded road on way to Forbes

McFeeters Motor Museum Photo: Marilyn Cox

McFeeters Motor Museum Photo: Marilyn Cox

Day 1 dinner at Young Services Club

Day 3 Wed 12 Oct

This day is quite unique. Beautiful countryside eventually leads us to Iandra Castle. After the tour head towards Cowra for the Japanese Gardens and cafe (our lunch stop) and visit the site of the Japanese POW camp.

Iandra Castle

Indra in Iandra (no relation).

Entry Foyer

Dining Room

Japanese Garden Cowra

These two photos: Ailleen Bleus

Party bus to dinner

Day 4 Thur 14 Oct

Today we split into two groups: a) travel to Cootamundra to visit Don Bradman's birthplace, then to Junee rail museum, the chocolate factory and Monte Cristo historic home. b) travel to Temora to visit the air museum.

Day 4 briefing

Outside and inside Bradman's birthplace

Photos: Ailleen Bleus

Photo: Marilyn Cox

Peggy at Junee Roundhouse

Photo: Ross Pollock

Junee Railway Station

Photos: Ailleen Bleus

Red cars at Temora Photo: Ailleen Bleus

Thursday Chinese dinner

At which Peggy officially thanks

Brian and Marilyn Cox

Day 5 Fri 15 Oct

Heading home via Harden and Yass to Goulburn. Lunch/coffee and cake at the new Rose Cafe. Take your time for an easy drive home.

Final Gathering Friday morning

A picture tells a thousand words, so it is said. This article will be very photo-oriented; you will have to wait for the tour booklet for a much more in-depth story of the tour. For now, though, here are just a few emails that are worthy of reproduction…

To Brian and Marilyn,
We just wanted to say thank you again for all your hard work in organising such a successful trip, even down to the great weather! It was obvious that you had thought of everything and managed to tick all the boxes, including the potholes which were enjoyed by all, we can't wait for our next journey together.
To all the other BEAC friends/ participants, thank you for the laughter, stories and friendship extended to everyone through out the tour and we look forward to catching up with you all in the near future,
Ann and Stuart MacDonald

Dear Brian & Marilyn,
Thank you again for organising such a wonderful extended run for BEAC. We thoroughly enjoyed our time touring and the company of fellow members.
We were very sorry and terribly disappointed we had to bail early.
Regards
Gary& Mary-Ann

Dear Brian, Marilyn and fellow travellers all,
Thank you so much for your wonderful company and friendship over the past few days in Young and The Central West.
It was a great tour and so well organised.
As is usually the case, it was the friendly people who made it an outstanding success.
Jenelle and I are most grateful, we look forward to our next BEAC run.
Chris Brangwin

Owen Sinden

MOTORING MIRTH

Herewith, I have the temerity to repeat a 'Motoring Mirth' photo published in June 2016, soon after I took over as BEACon editor. I titled it 'Pug 404 Twin Cam Ute', and thought I was being quite clever. But my younger son, at that time an avid Land Rover man, said 'I can top that' and gave me the photo below, which I had to publish next edition titled 'Quad Cam Land Rover'. This was another example of what I already knew – I have no chance of stealing a march on either of my two sons when it comes to matters automotive!

Thank you to all contributors to this edition, particularly Owen Sinden who has stood in for me twice and provided most of the text and photos of this newsletter.

My apologies in advance if I have not credited or mis-credited any photos in this edition. I also regret that you can't see all of the 81 photos (a record) in this edition full size, but space will not permit.

Phil O'

All that remains for 2022 is for me, on behalf of the BEAC committee, to wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year with those who love you.

We look forward to seeing you all again on club runs in 2023!

Phil O'