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BEACon December 2023

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Mittagong Hotel 1/11/2023

Now that's a classic car lineup!

As I drove into the SHBG car park for the start of the Mittagong Hotel run, I was struck by just how good the line-up of vehicles looked. Shiny, colourful classic cars in an (almost) unbroken line perfectly illustrated what I have often prattled on about – the wonderful variety of BEAC members' cars. Just walking around them taking photos is a constant delight for me. I'll let those photos speak for themselves.

At the briefing it was revealed that the run route had to be completely changed at the last moment, due to roadworks closing part of Range Road. The new route took us through Kangaloon, Moss Vale, Berrima and out onto Wombeyan Caves Road, heading back into Mittagong. The route subsequently received praise for the beauty and variety of its scenery.

There’s not many clubs that could boast of a variety of classic cars like this. .

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At the run briefing.

Off we all went, with Jenny beside me valiantly trying to take photos of our progress - not easy when you are bouncing around on the less than ideal road surface of Tourist Road or Kangaloon Road! She did manage to get some good images though – see following.

A perfect setting for us to pass through. Photos: Jenny O'

Through Moss Vale.

Heading into Berrima. Photos: Jenny O'

At the pub we ordered our food and drink and got down to the serious business of socialising. Mittagong Hotel promotes itself as an upmarket pub, and while the food was nice (particularly my Pappardelle pasta), some members felt you didn't get much for the money. The company was certainly good though – see below.

Anne and Geoff Wood deserve a big thank you for organizing (and quickly reorganizing) this enjoyable run.

Phil O'

CLUB CALENDAR – December 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**

December

Wednesday 13th December
Christmas Lunch Bundanoon Hotel
Meet | 10am, Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens car park,
1 Old South Road Bowral – at the roundabout Cnr Kangaloon and Eridge Park Roads
• Contact | Ross Pollock | m | 0412 734 825.

OLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING

QUALITY
SERVICE THAT
DOESN'T CUT
CORNERS

Authors in Our Midst

Photo: Peggy Pollock

Two of our members, Jenelle Brangwin and Ross Pollock at the Senior Stories book launch held at NSW Parliament House on 17th November, as authors of short stories in the 2023 book.

I was already aware of Jenelle's writing skills, and it's great to see Ross also getting recognition in this well regarded publication.

Phil O'

Surveyor General Inn Berrima 15/11/2023

I'm going to let the photos tell the story of this very interesting run to the Surveyor General Inn and the Berrima District Historical Museum. It was great to see Fred Edney bring the MGA Coupe to the run, and also good to see Phil Davies' Daimler 250 back in the pack.

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The club's first electric vehicle!

At the pub everyone quickly turned their minds to the serious business of enjoying themselves. The food was pretty good (in my case one of the best bangers and mash I've had for quite a while). The only drawback was that the noise level inside the Inn was quite high. We didn't quite make the deadline of finishing eating by 1pm, so we could go to the museum, but I don't think that was a problem in the end.

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Reserved

BDHS Museum

At the Museum, the first thing before you got in the door was a sale of car books, which did spark a deal of interest (and a few sales) from our members.

Inside the museum (which opened specially for us) was a very interesting display of items from days gone by (especially personal effects and home life). There were numerous presentations and slide shows detailing aspects of Berrima history such as the WW1 internee camps along the river. For me the most attractive display item was the magnificent model of the Fitzroy Iron Works, the first commercial iron smelting works, which operated at Mittagong from 1848 (Wikipedia has a huge article covering its history). Sadly, I didn't have time to cover all of the wealth of information and history on display – I'll have to go back when I have more time. But I think that everyone who went there really enjoyed the experience.

We certainly owe Ross and Peggy Pollock a big thank you for putting together this run – one where there is an attraction to see as well as a luncheon experience. That certainly adds to the enjoyment overall.

Phil O'

Bolwell

Back in the late 1970s a friend of a friend of mine had a Bolwell Nagari coupe. Although I never actually got to ride in it, I was very impressed by it. For its time it was a very quick machine. I had cause to remember the car recently, and I decided to check with Wikipedia to see if the company was still going. Here is Mr Wiki's answer:

'Bolwell is an Australian company that originally produced sports cars between 1962 and 1979. A new company of the same name began production of new cars in 2009 after several years of concept and show cars.

Bolwell Cars began as a manufacturer of fiberglass car bodies for other car companies in Australia, but quickly moved on to designing and producing their own cars. Over the years, Bolwell produced a number of different models, but none were as iconic as the Mk VIII Nagari.

Bolwell Cars created five commercial models and producing a total of 800 cars. Founder Campbell Bolwell remains active in designing and building cars, including the recent release of the Nagari 500 in 2019. The Nagari 500 features a carbon/Kevlar Tub, mid-mounted Chev LS3 V8 engine, and an Audi 6-speed transaxle. Bolwell, which is still a family company, has advanced manufacturing technologies and designs that have created opportunities both domestically and internationally, managed by Vaughan Bolwell.

Models

Mk IV

The Mk IV was a kit car, offered as a coupe with gull wing doors and as an open sports car. Over 200 were produced between 1962 and 1964.

Mk V

75 Mk V coupes were produced between 1964 and 1966, using mostly Holden components.

Mk VI

The Mk VI, also known as the SR6, was a one off mid-engined sports racing car built in 1968.

Mk VII

Bolwell Mk VII

400 examples of the MK VII coupe were produced between 1967 and 1971, mostly as kits but also in fully built form. Later kits from around 1969 onwards were built by Kadala Cars for Bolwell. Last version cars had Nagari Dash and gauges, Nagari Seats, Nagari pedal box and Nagari style rear suspension linkages.

Mk VIII Nagari

Bolwell Mk VIII Nagari

The Mk VIII, better known as the Bolwell Nagari, was a Ford V8 powered model, offered from 1970. Fully built in the Bolwell factory, it was initially offered in coupe form only, a convertible being available from 1972. Production ceased in 1974 with 100 coupes and 18 convertibles having been produced.

The Nagari was a popular choice of production sports car in the early '70s, competing in the Australian Sports Car Championship (ASCC). Peter Warren won the 1975 Australian Tourist Trophy for Production Sports Cars driving a Bolwell Nagari.

Mk IX Ikara

Bolwell Mk IX Ikara

The Mk IX Ikara, conceived in 1979, was a kit mid-engined sports car powered by a 1600cc Volkswagen Golf 4-cylinder engine. It utilized a space frame chassis and fiberglass body panels without doors. There were only 12 examples ever produced. Eleven of the vehicles survive, with one in need of restoration. Car #9 is missing.

Mk X Nagari

Bolwell Mk X Nagari.

A new Bolwell Nagari, the Mk X, was launched at the Melbourne Motor Show in March 2008. Production commenced in 2009. It is a mid-engined two-seater coupé with a carbon-fibre tub, front and rear subframes and a carbon-reinforced composite body. Power comes from a fettled *2GR-FE* 3.5L V6 engine sourced from

the Toyota Aurion, which is available either as naturally aspirated or fitted with an optional Sprintex supercharger.'

Nagari 500

The Nagari Mk X helped the Bolwell team realize how to build a new model. It turned out that a V8 engine could be installed instead of the V6 in the Mk X model body. With small modifications in terms of engineering and design, the Bolwell Nagari 500 arrived refreshed and more powerful. It could put out 500 bhp (hence the name) and gained an aggressive styling worthy of modern preferences.

Finally, the Bolwell Nagari 500 appeared at MotorClassica in Melbourne in 2019. It marked the return of Bolwell to the sports car field, bearing the same benefits as its predecessors. The Nagari 500 weighs only about 1000 kg, has a Chevrolet LS3 V8 engine, and allegedly can go from 0 to 62 mph in less than 3 seconds. The top speed should also go above 186 mph.

It's nice to know that the Aussie sports car is still alive and well.

Phil O'

Lakeside Country Club Camden **29/11/2023**

I think that this run deserved better luck than it got. Run day followed a night of heavy, continuous rain that went on until just before we were scheduled to gather at the Gardens before setting off. The rain put off some members from attending at all, and those that did come mostly opted for their modern vehicles as the safest option. As it turned out, the weather wasn't a problem throughout most of the day. We set off on a longish, but well planned and documented route by organiser Richard Holmes. Upon arrival, it was evident that much planning and forethought had gone into the buildings and the landscaping around them.

Attractive grounds on the approach to the club.

The bistro with its large picture windows to take in the view.

The Lakeside Country Club was established in 1993, and has a reputation as one of Sydney's top Resort Golf Courses and Function Centre facility. The bistro certainly supports that objective, with high ceilings and windows to maximise the view. It is also a quiet environment in which to eat and socialise, though to be fair, there were few other people there on the day. We ordered our meals and drinks, and got on with the job of being good friends.

Meals were well received (at least by those immediately around me), and I think we left the club thinking that it is a worthy addition to our venue list. Hopefully next time we visit the weather will allow more members to attend, and enjoy what the club has to offer.

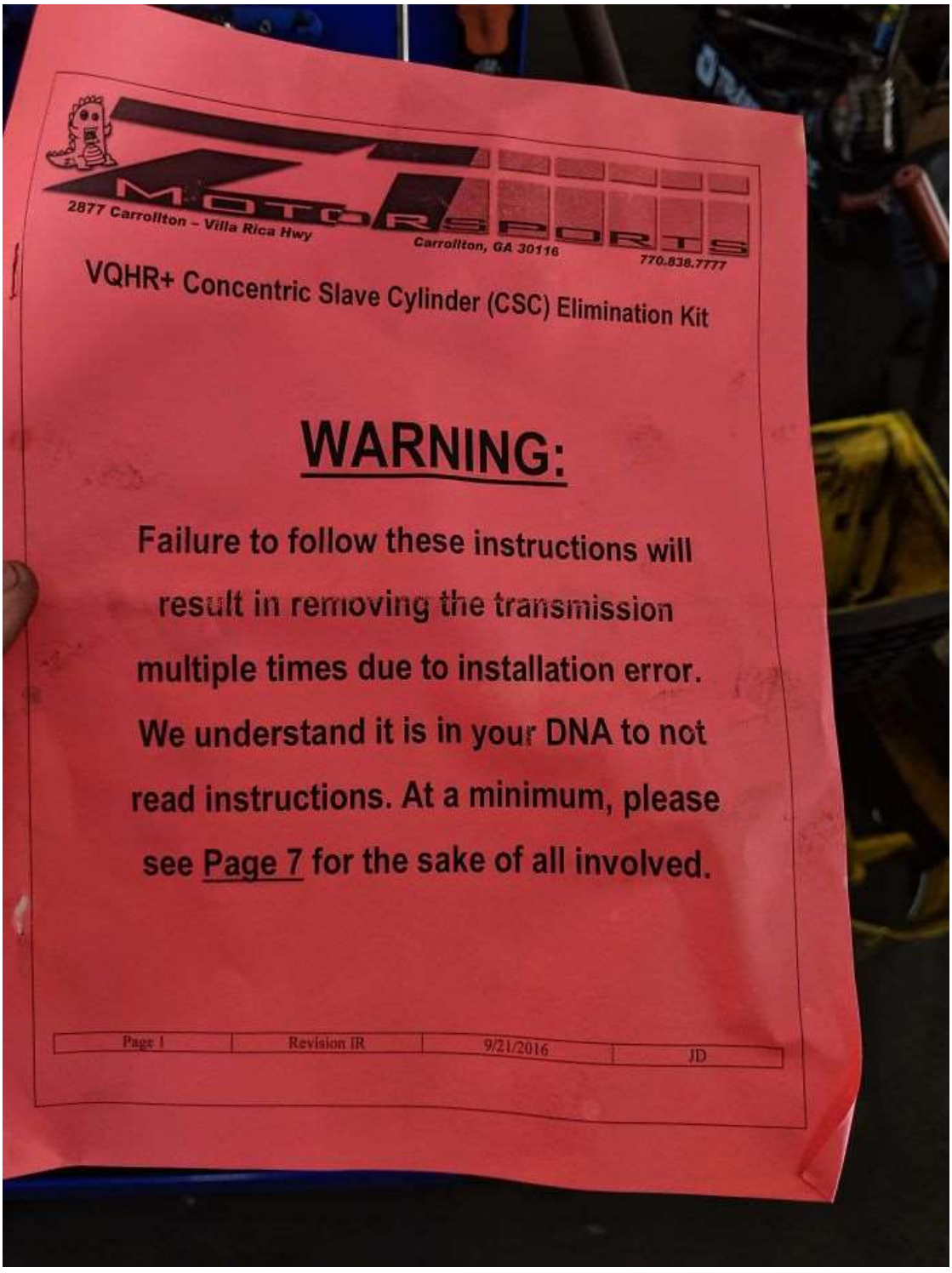
Jenny's pumpkin salad with grilled prawns dish.

My (and other people's) Chicken Supreme dish.

On behalf of everyone who came on the run, I thank Richard Holmes for the care he took in organising it.

Phil O'

MOTORING MIRTH



Thank you to all contributors to this edition. **Phil O'**