



Torque Talk

The Journal of the Milton Ulladulla Vintage & Classic Car Club

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Our Cover

Garry King's stunningly restored 1970 Ford Mustang "Barney" with Suzi Wilson

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Should you have any questions, please contact Tom Taylor (VP & Merchandise Officer) who will be happy to assist you.



The Aust Motorlife Museum Dapto is worth a visit



Wheel Nuts always attracts some stunning vehicles

For Sale

**2000 Alfa Romeo Spider
2.0 Litre Twin Spark**

Price: \$5,250 ono



Vehicle Reg: AJA 74E

Mileage: 181,600km

Features: Radio, airbags, ABS

Drive: Front wheel drive, 5 speed

DURING 2 YEAR OWNERSHIP the car has been well maintained and garaged

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The maintenance work ensures the Alfa runs as a Classic car in everyday use.

This Alfa Romeo Spider has been well maintained since I bought the vehicle. Parting with the Alfa is a regretful decision after surgery on my right hand in August 2025

Contact: Nick Granville-Smith Mobile 0458 006 470 or 02 4455 6304

SOLD!!!

Puzzle Solution:

1. Front Bumper – Bracket missing
2. NRMA Badge on radiator missing
3. Vehicle left side indicator missing
4. Rear Door Step Mat Missing
5. Front Door – Hinge missing
6. Vehicle's Left Side Fog light (near windscreen) missing
7. Front wheel hub cover missing
8. Blue pipe on building at left of photo missing



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi there folks,

I hope this reaches you all well & happy for the Christmas & New Year season.

I have been in the wars a little with a visit to the hospital for a few days & receiving 2 stents at Wollongong Hospital. So, I have been a little under the weather, but pleased to report that I am recovering well. Since the last issue I have acquired another MG-TC (totalling two), so that has been keeping me busy.

Suzi has been a big help keeping me up to date with everything Car Club related. We had a great turn-out for the Christmas Party at Tomakin & a great attendance at Wheel Nuts the following Sunday (the weather was very accommodating).

Our events have not been as jam packed as the last few months with many of us getting ready to host family over the next few weeks.

So I would just like to wish everyone a safe & happy New Year. I look forward to another year of events to show off our enthusiasm for our cars & the wonderful support that we get from being members of this wonderful community.

Warm Regards from my family to yours.

Bob

President – MUVCCC



2026
Happy New Year



There was a great deal of expectation with the MUVCCC taking the opportunity to try out a new venue for our annual Christmas Party. The Tomakin Sports & Social Club provided a dedicated room allowing 58 members to enjoy a delightful lunch alongside great conversation. For some fun, all attendees were given a number with a "scratchie", although a "big prize" eluded us all.

Our President, Bob Wilson welcomed members and we soon were enjoying a chicken or pork roast lunch, with 2 types(!) of chocolate cake to follow. After lunch, Treasurer Vicki led proceedings in the distribution of gifts supplied by some of our advertisers. DJ assumed the role of Santa's Helper – luckily, he was not required to wear an "elf" outfit.

A big thank you to Dave & Kathy Chapman for arranging the venue and to Vicki Weir who worked with the Tomakin Sports Club to ensure all was ready and arranged some decorations and "scratchies". Thanks also to Joe Bowdler who has been overseeing events and to Yvonne Joice who prepared the gifts that were so nicely wrapped.

In addition, thank you to our advertisers who contributed to some of our gifts. **Club Member Steve Burgess (Regional Solar), Fiona Kain (Artomobile) and Adam Logie (Repco Ulladulla).**

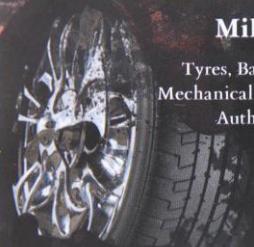


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Rear Vision – Looking back with Club Member Nick Granville-Smith

CAR OF THE MONTH - October 2007

First Published Oct 2007 – Author & Photo: Nick Granville-Smith

French Flair and “Traction Avant”

Milton Tyre Service is a local landmark, as are Dot and Barry Solomon who own and run the business with some of their family. Many from the local car club are used to seeing Barry driving their Light 15 pearlescent blue 1951 Citroen with brown upholstery. MUVCCC decided to find out more details of this rare car.

For many years Andre Citroen has been recognised as one of the great innovators of the automotive world. After making fairly conventional cars in the 1920s and 30s, he amazed the motoring salons of Europe and America by introducing a completely new design and concept. With a radical Gallic view of what he wanted done he made the first of the “Light” series cars in 1934. Named the Light 12 it was entirely new from end to end. It had front wheel drive, a first for series production car, also it had no chassis. No chassis!! Yes. This was the first ever full monocoque constructed car anywhere in the world. It provided an extremely strong hull from which the running gear was attached, both front and rear. The saloon body would allow up to six, albeit small adults to sit inside the unusually long wheel base. The design of the monocoque has never been superseded and Citroen’s design is as modern as the latest offerings from Japan, Europe and USA. Even in 1934 critics came bounding forward to condemn the whole concept, exactly the same doomsayers we hear today whenever fresh idea threatens their status quo. In spite of the dire predictions of gloom, Citroen flourished and the Light series took off selling in thousands all over the world. Today Citroen is still providing customers with excellent cars to suit their tastes.

The Light 12 became the Light 15 with 55 bhp engine at 4250 rpm. The 12 and 15 refer to the nominal HP of the motor, calculated from an obscure RAC formula which was intended to reduce the then pre WW2 government yearly tax on cars by reducing the rated horsepower. Good idea at the time but it would not work today with our hungry RTA.

Barry’s Citroen has special reason for being in Australia. Citroen used to build RHD cars in Slough, near London and exported them to the colonies and dominions including us Down Under. In those days union strike action was rife and a shipment bound for Australia was delayed indefinitely. However the French Citroen Factory also built RHD cars, but only for the Swedish market who still drove on the proper side

of the road. So the French sent Barry’s car to the Sydney dealer Bill Buckle at Brookvale sometime in 1951. There are some detail differences between the English build cars and the French. Only a true Citroen expert such as David de Saxe of the English Citroen Club would be able to identify them, as he did on a visit to Barry’s workshop in 2003 and thereafter wrote a highly appreciative article for his club magazine.

Dot and Barry bought the Light 15 in 1977 from Continental Motors in Punchbowl with no known ownership history, service records or even knowing quite what the car was, except that “Dot always liked the look of a Citroen.” Enough said. Barry found there was work to do on it including rebuilding the engine with Holden EK pistons after he had bored out the cylinder liners to allow them to fit! Surprisingly it does not use oil. The brakes were overhauled and still work today at a very high standard. For the last 29 years Barry and Dot have been in Milton and owned Milton Tyre Service for 21 of them. Before that Barry served his apprenticeship in 1951 at Woolloomooloo in the workshop of Ray Revell, the former speedway champion. For many years after that Barry operated the Steering Shop at Mortdale, before moving to Milton with their two children Kim and Darren.

Barry’s Citroen has the 55 bhp 4-cylinder engine and drives a three-speed cable clutch operated gearbox. An unusual feature is the gear change lever protruding from the dashboard facia. However in operation it is easy to use and selects gears positively. The ride is excellent and the body is almost rattle free even on rough gravel roads thanks to the immensely rigid monocoque construction. When new the 15 would top 118 kph, but having respect for the age, Barry seldom exceeds 85 to 90 kph. On a recent MUVCCC four-day visit to Young, the Citroen ran faultlessly, leaving Barry with little to do in the way of mechanical activity except for some “adjustments” to other club cars. It is really pleasing to see a genuine historical car in regular use, giving such pleasure to its owners.



Dot & her late husband Barry with their Citroen in 2007

My thanks to Nick Granville-Smith for sharing his wonderful archive of articles and photos. DJ

Community: Bunnings Static Display

Bunnings approached the MUVCCC & The RFS to provide a pre-Christmas display on 4 December. We had great participation with 17 stunning vehicles on display for shoppers to admire.

Gary King's 1970 Mustang (called Barney...wait for it...Rumble) attracted the attention of many and Club Secretary, Suzi Wilson channeled her modelling skills together with Darren to create a memorable photo! Thanks to all members who shared their time for this event!



Vicki's USS Enterprise does dwarf most sedans



Mike's brilliant 70's VW set off by Darren's "Gumby" impersonation. (He's a natural!)



Members get comfortable for the Garry King floor show



Bunnings events do seem to attract the men in the club!



Darren strikes again!!



What a beautiful example of the Corvette!



A perfect summer's day to display our vehicles

Member Story: Morrie finds a modern solution for old distributors

Story & Photos courtesy of Morrie Morgan

The never-ending story of the MKV Jaguar. Is this nostalgia or do some of us still live in the past? Whichever, the real issue I was recently faced with is that distributor points are getting extremely hard to find for the old Jag.

With this in mind, I decided to resurrect something that had served me well in the distant past. Way back in the last century, (1970s and 80s) Dick Smith and a few others marketed transistor assisted ignition kits. They all featured a large power transistor, usually a Darlington, (like two transistors combined in one package where a small transistor drives a large one) to handle the high coil switching current. With the transistor now doing the switching the ignition points only have to carry a few hundred milli amperes and should have a more or less infinite life. Some kits also incorporated a Motorola chip originally designed for Delco distributors in the US and it is still available from Jaycar and other suppliers. This little chip is magic!! It internally adjusts the coil dwell to suit the engine revs thus keeping the coil close to magnetic saturation so that it produces maximum spark throughout the rev range.

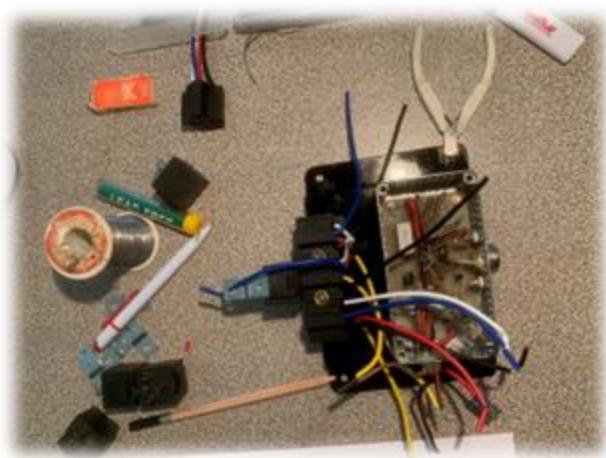
I hooked the old unit up with jumper leads just to prove it still worked. I left the cover off the electronics box to watch the anticipated smoke issue therefrom. Happily, that didn't happen! Note the two changeover switches were from the good old days.



I had the original unit set up with two mechanical switches. One for power on-off and the other switched the coil either through the electronic unit or alternatively direct to the points. Why? This was a safety idea. If the electronic unit failed a simple flick of both switches changed back to points ignition and I could keep on motoring.

Before going any further, I went online and ordered a new transistor and the Motorola chip, to replace the old ones.

Both readily obtainable locally at minimal cost, but with postage equalling the cost of the items!



It is not really clear in this picture but I decided to operate the unit and changeover electrically instead of by mechanical switches. I made up a sheetmetal mounting plate for the electronic unit and fitted three relays across the top. Relay 1 controls power and is activated by a dashboard switch. All relays are either on or off at the same time.

Fail safe: - With no power to the relays the distributor points connect direct to the coil through the N/C relay terminals. Normal ignition.

Electronic unit: - Powered on. Relay 1, when switched from the dash activates Relay 2 on, connecting the points to the electronic unit while relay 3 connects the electronics output to the coil.

The whole unit is mounted low on the inner guard close to the distributor and coil, keeping leads short. An air duct slips onto the aluminium housing in the background covering the view from above while the engine side cover hides everything. Even the purists won't know!



With a bit of luck I won't ever have to chase up another set of points.

My thanks to Morrie for taking the time to share his story and knowledge!! - DJ

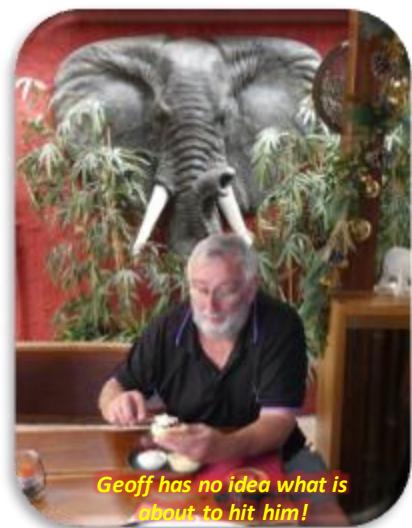
Club Event: Emersons on Main 17 Nov 2025

With careful planning, Joe Bowdler (Fill-in Events Director, Registrar, Webmaster, Mr. Fixit etc) arranged for members to meet outside Lynns Removals. 13 members dutifully arrived, with fuel tanks filled to the brim for the journey to Emersons On Main – ehh...a distance of 1.1km. All arrived without incident.

Emerson's is a delightful location which has a great coffee shop, gift store and many garden ornaments for sale. Members had a great time catching up and enjoying coffee, scones and the many other treats that were available. The journey may have been brief, but the rewards were wonderful!



Members enjoy their coffee and cakes!



Geoff has no idea what is about to hit him!

Club Event: Luci's Café - 26 Nov 2025

Most club members gathered at Lynns to make the tour to Luci's Café at the appointed time of 10.30am for lunch. As we neared our destination, a grey jaguar was spotted travelling in the opposite direction. It turns out Morrie had arrived at Luci's at 10am expecting a morning tea. However, after completing his tour to Ulladulla, he rejoined the touring party. (We also missed Cec Skwarko, who was a bit early as well.) It was great to see Mark Armstrong and his amazing TR6,

Upon arrival, 15 members made themselves comfortable to enjoy a tasty meal at Luci's Café and discuss the benefits of owning a TR6.



Mark's TR6 looked fantastic



Most got the memo about dress requirements!



*Members enjoy a delightful meal.
Alan, "Photo Bomber" McLennan strikes again!*

Club Event: Rotary Park - Chicken in the Afternoon! 26 Oct 2025

18 club members made the trip to Rotary Park Ulladulla to enjoy chicken & salad in the late afternoon – kinda of a very late lunch or an early dinner? Fortunately, the weather behaved and we all had a relaxing afternoon. Thanks to **Tom Taylor, Joe Bowdler, Suzi & Bob Wilson, Vicki Weir & Yvonne Joice** who took care of all the preparations to make sure members were well fed and had a relaxing time. We had expected 26, so as a friendly reminder, please let our event organiser know if you change plans as it helps with catering.



Club Event: Visit from the Thoroughbred Sports Car Club Sydney - 29 Oct 2025

A couple of months ago, we were contacted by Peter Stefan of the Thoroughbred Sports Car Club (TSCC) of Sydney as they were hoping to meet with us on a south coast road trip. Peter was a real gentleman, taking the time to meet with Kevin Gibson and DJ to finalise trip details. The TSCC were staying at Mollymook, but took the time to visit Ulladulla Harbour to meet with members of the MUVCCC. Unfortunately, weather conditions were rather inclement impacting some of the conversations and plans. However, we do hope that we can have further opportunities to meet with the TSCC as they are a great group of people and have some rather impressive motor vehicles!



Club Event: Australian Motorlife Museum Dapto

On the 22nd October, a small expedition gathered early for 9am departure from Milton to the Australian Motor Life Museum at Dapto. Weather predictions of 38C and gale force winds were no deterrent! Along the way, we picked up Colin & Dawn Spicer for the 100 minute drive to Dapto. Well, it would have been 100 mins if we had used our “car navigators” rather than old technology being “Memory”. So after a couple of wrong turns, we finally made it. Dave & Kathy Chapman had already arrived to make it a tour group of 10.

Upon entering the museum, you are struck by the abundance of historic motoring on display, along with other items of equipment from yesteryear to trigger the memory. We saw typewriters, radios, mowers, telephones and a wide assortment of many other things. In some ways it was like going into an enormous version of Tom Taylor’s Shed. (Yes – Tom was familiar with many of the items on display...as was Joe Bowdler!) Vicki Weir & Kathy Chapman took the opportunity to be taken for a ride in an old Austin, which had very comfortable suspension. Afterwards, we made our way to the local bowling club for a quick lunch and headed off home. A great day had by all and well worth the visit!





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Club Event: Wheel Nuts – November 2025

What a stunning day! We had about 52 members in attendance. Last month's poster boy, Jim Casey made a drive through appearance in his freshly detailed Buick Skylark. However, you have to give credit to birds – of all the cars, they chose Jim's beautifully polished car to target. It was also great to see Tim Kay with the Gordini, whilst poor Steve Thomas was attacked by his own car leaving a nasty scratch to the head. Fortunately, all is well.

Of course, as editor, I try do to get things right, but happy to admit if there is a mistake or typo. So, within seconds of his arrival, Mr. King confronts me explaining his name **Gary** (oops) **GaRRy** has 2 "R"s ... and that his Mustang is not new...he has just been polishing it at home for more years than he is prepared to admit! My deepest apologies!



Club Event: Wheel Nuts – December 2025

December 7th saw a cooler day after the exceptionally hot Saturday and, as a result, we had a great turnout with 43 attending for the final edition for Wheel Nuts 2025. Mitch brought out his beautifully restored Valiant. Wayne has his 2008 Shelby Mustang, and Jacko provided the climax to the day with a Ford Capri Mk1 that was near perfection.



Jacko presented his stunning example of a Ford Capri Mk 1



The Capri interior is perfection



Peter's Riley was a real treat to see



Wayne brought along his 2008 Shelby Mustang



Mitch has just restored his VC Chrysler Valiant and is rightly proud of his achievement. It is a work of art inside & out!!



This lot were wandering around the area causing mischief!

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Member News

On 12 Nov 2025, the Club held its General Meeting at the Milton Ulladulla ExServos Club with 19 members in attendance & 11 apologies. Minutes have been sent to all members. The next General Meeting will be held at:

Leaning Oak Lake Conjola

Sunday 11 January 2026 @ 10.30am

Come along & join us for a meeting and BBQ!!

New Members

The MUVCCC is pleased to welcome new members to the club:

Sebastian White

David & Claudine Maude

We hope you enjoy the camaraderie and become a regular participant at club events. *It's all about "Having Fun!!"*

Vale Heather Thomson

It is with deep sadness that we advise of the passing of Heather Thomson. Heather and her husband Ron joined the club in 2024. Our thoughts are with Ron and his family at this sad time.

Vale Allan Burns

It is with the sorriest of hearts that we advise of the passing of Allan Burns. Allan passed away Friday morning (14 Nov) after a long battle with cancer. Allan and Vivienne (Viv) have a long history with our club including many stints as committee members.

Allan, member **number 10**, was instrumental in the formation of our club, from a handful around a table at the Star Hotel in Milton in 1991. Today, the club boasts a membership of almost 200 members - a legacy that we continue to enjoy today. The Club extends its deepest condolences to Viv and family.

We were also saddened to learn that Kathy Chapman lost her sister in November. Our thoughts are with Kathy & Dave Chapman and their family at this difficult time.

Thoughts for members who are unwell

Unfortunately, our "Morris Minor Man" Les Whale has been unwell. We wish Les a speedy recovery.

Our Club President, Bob Wilson also spent a bit of time in hospital, but he is back on his feet and looking great.

Registrar Update

Our Registrar, Joe Bowdler has reported that the MUVCCC has **247 vehicles & 192 members** as at **December 2025**.

*Don't forget, members should also ensure the appropriate **Certificate of Approved Operations** is with the vehicle (or a copy) at all times. We have been advised that many vehicles are being checked by police and they will immediately look for this document.*

Member Contributions

Geoff Cooper's observations on driving an older car!!!

- **On a cold day, you hope it starts**
- **The radio takes a minute to warm up**
- **There's 8 inches of play in the steering wheel**
- **You're being passed by a semi going up Mt Ousley**
- **There is a choke on the dashboard**
- **You keep a cloth in the glovebox as your demister**
- **There's no footrest next to the clutch**
- **The floor is covered in vinyl**
- **You can seat 3 in the front**
- **The rear-view mirror does not have "night tilt"**
- **There is no left-hand mirror**
- **You stick your hand out of the window to adjust your outside mirror**
- **You give hand signals**
- **The high-beam switch is on the floor**
- **The car boils when it's hot, you freeze when it's not!**
- **You have to stop to put it into first**
- **You use 20-50 oil and you keep some in the boot**

Ho Ho Ho - Happy Motoring!!!

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Coffee Break Time!

Folks, it's Christmas so I thought you could relax and do a spot the difference! In this puzzle, I was impressed with the qualities of Kevin Gibson's Dodge Victory 6. However, the photo on the right has **8 things missing!!** See if you can spot them! (Solution Page 2)



Neville Storey shared this contribution!!

Apologies in advance for any perceived "stereotyping"!

A brunette goes into a doctor's office and says that her body hurts wherever she touches it.
"Impossible," says the doctor.
"Show me." She takes her finger, presses on her elbow, and screams in agony. She pushes her knee and screams, pushes her ankle and screams, and so it goes on; everywhere she touches makes her scream with pain. The doctor says, "You're not really a brunette are you?" She says, "No, I dyed my hair. I'm naturally blonde." "I thought so," he says. "Your finger is broken."

Editor's Message

As 2025 concludes, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have contributed to Torque Talk. We have had a variety of contributions by members, together with those who have bravely participated in interviews for the magazine. Of course, I must thank all who have tolerated my enthusiasm for photographing members (whether they knew it...or not!). I hope you find Torque Talk enjoyable and I very much appreciate the positive feedback regarding our Club Magazine.

In addition I would like to thank our committee members during 2025 for the support they provided, particularly when my wife Yvonne suffered her knee injury. Both Jane McLennan and Joe Bowdler deputised in being my photographer. Thank you!! Good news is that Yvonne is 100% recovered.

Christmas and New Year can be challenging on the roads, so please be *VERY* careful, patient and tolerant of other road users who may not be as considered in their conduct as you. Lastly, may I wish you and all your family a wonderful Christmas and a joyous, healthy and safe 2026!

Cheers

DJ



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Upcoming Events

Please consider our event organisers. If you wish to attend an event, please advise the Events

Director of your participation as soon as possible, so as we can cater for all attendees - Thank You

Month	Event
January 2026	2 events
11 th - Sunday 10.30am	Annual Picnic Day and Club Meeting. Location: Leaning Oak Lake Conjola 485 Lake Conjola Entrance Rd Lake Conjola. Meat & BBQ Supplied, but BYO everything else.
26 th - Monday (Aust Day) 8.30am	Australia Day Static Display at Mollymook Beach Car Park. Meet on site preferably by 8.30am. Australia Day events commence 9.00am so please be early. Note: We need volunteers to man the barricades from 7am
February	4 events
1 st – Sunday 10am – 12pm	Wheel Nuts at Ulladulla Harbour. Meet on site and catch up with fellow members.
11 th – Wednesday 10.00am	Coffee Run – Emersons On Main 391 Princes Hwy Ulladulla Meet at Venue
15 th – Sunday	Car Show – Static Display in conjunction with "Mollymook Splash & Dash" (More details to follow)
22 nd Sunday 10.30am	Narrawallee Reserve – Picnic Lunch. BYO Everything Electric BBQ on site a Narrawallee Reserve. Arrive 10.30am
March	4 events
1 st – Sunday 10am – 12pm	Wheel Nuts at Ulladulla Harbour. Meet on site and catch up with fellow members.
11 th – Wednesday 10.30am – 11.30am	General Meeting – Ulladulla Ex-Servos Club 212/222 Princes Hwy Ulladulla
14 th - Saturday 5pm	Tea by the Sea – Mollymook Beach Meet on site. Evening catchup. Grab your favourite takeaway (Pizza, Fish & Chips etc) and join us for a warm autumn evening.
22 nd - Sunday	Sussex Inlet Car Show – Lions Park Sussex Inlet <i>More details closer to event</i>

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