



Tamworth Vintage Car Club Inc.  
Committee for  
2014-2015

President		
Peter Wright	6761 6510	
Vice President		
Cliff Bird	6761 8709	
Secretary		
Alan Early	6762 4744	
Treasurer		
Lyn Hession	6760 8343	
General Committee		
Brian Orman	6760 5105	
Brian Chesterfield	6762 5928	
Michael Jeanes	6766 1787	
Plate Registrar		
Bob Hession	6760 8343	
Rally Director		
Roly Morgan	6760 8280	
Ladies Committee		
All Lady Members		
Magazine Contact		
Michael Jeanes	6766 1787	
Inspections & Public Officer		
Brian Orman	6760 5105	
Property Officer		
Ken & Emily Brooks	6761 3679	

# The Tamworth Spark

Official Newsletter of the Tamworth Vintage Car Club

September - October 2014

Feature Article ~ Merv Sippel's 1955 Austin Healey 100/4



**The Club Magazine** is printed Bi-monthly and members are invited and encouraged to submit articles to the Magazine Editors.

**General Meetings** are held on the third Thursday of each month, at 7.30pm in the Salvation Army Complex on Goonoo Goonoo Road Tamworth

**Club Runs** are held on the Sunday after the monthly meeting.

Runs depart from the White Street car-park, unless otherwise advised.

Members of clubs receiving this magazine are cordially invited to participate in the activities of T.V.C.C. To satisfy regulations, the receipt of the invitation must be recorded in your club minutes and acceptance forwarded.

**Address all correspondence to:**

**The Secretary  
Tamworth Vintage Car Club  
PO Box 3275  
TAMWORTH NSW 2340  
or**

[www.TamworthVintageCarClub.com.au](http://www.TamworthVintageCarClub.com.au)

or

[tamworthvintagecarclub@gmail.com](mailto:tamworthvintagecarclub@gmail.com)

## TVCC EVENTS CALENDAR – OCTOBER 2014 ONWARDS [25/9/14]

The following events have been categorised to assist those vehicles on Conditional Registration:

**CLUB EVENTS:** These are events which are organised by our club and details of participating vehicles will be automatically recorded in club documents. Carry Club magazine or events calendar with you:

DATE 2014	DETAILS
19 Oct	Monthly Run – Tamworth Lookout + Model Trains + Short Run to Dungowan
2 Nov	TVCC members welcome to join Rolls Royce Club at Lookout at 10.00am.
6 Nov	Pie Run to Manilla Weir
20 Nov	7.30 - Monthly meeting, then at 8.00 address by Bush Council representatives
23 Nov	Monthly Run – Walcha Road Hotel. Morning tea at Bendemeer.
29 Nov	Inspection Day at Manilla Road from 9.00 to 1.00. Also draw of Christmas hampers
4 Dec	Pie Run to Kootingal
14 Dec (Sun)	Christmas Party and Lights Run and Trophy Presentations. Each person please bring wrapped gift to value of \$5 for placement in barrel for Santa Draw.
2015	
18 Jan (Sun)	<b>President's Breakfast –</b>
5 Feb	Pie Run to Dungowan Hotel
22 Feb	Bobs Shed, Quirindi.
5 Mar	Pie Run - TBA
6-8 Mar	Bob Hessions Annual Attunga Campout. BBQ Dinner, not camp ovens, on Sat night
2 April	Pie Run to Big Fish at Manilla
3-6 April	Bush Council Easter Rally at Armidale. See Invitation Events for more details.
19 April	Progressive Lunch

Unless otherwise notified, our Sunday monthly runs leave from Bicentennial carpark at 9.30, and our Thursday Pie runs leave from Viaduct carpark at 11.00

Roly Morgan is our Rally Director. Please contact Roly if you have any queries.

**INVITATION EVENTS:** It is essential to advise the Club before participating in these events. This can be done at a meeting, or ring the Registrar. Carry Club magazine or events calendar with you:

DATE 2014	CLUB	DETAILS
25 Oct	Bush Cncl	Bush Council Half Yearly Meeting at Dubbo.
30 Oct-3 Nov	RROCA	Rolls Royce Club Tamworth in Spring Tour. Includes Werris Ck, Armidale, Oxley Lookout, "My Fair Lady" & Nundle. TVCC members are welcome to join RR Club on Sun 2 Nov at Lookout at 10.00 for Morning Tea. Michael Jeanes 67661787
9 Nov	UHMA	Upp Hunt Mot Assoc. Village Motorfest at Musl'brook. Geoff 65432269
2015		
3 - 6 April	Armidale	Bush Council Easter Rally. Sec has Entry Forms.
30-31 May	Dubbo	50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations of Dubbo Club. Matt 0428 827 287
June	Moree	North West Rally
29-30 Aug	Coffs Har	Smoke on the Water Festival (Centenary of Rail) John Bojarski Ph ?
2-5 Oct	CVV&RC	Condobolin Club 1915 Ford T Rally at Condobolin. John 0427 953 399

### FOR WEDDINGS, SCHOOL FUNCTIONS, EXTENDED OR INTERSTATE TRIPS, ETC:

You will need a Permit to Move. These must be obtained at a meeting prior to the event, and carried to the event. In extenuating circumstances, separate arrangements can be made with the Clubs Office Bearers to obtain a Permit to Move.

### SERVICING AND MAINTENANCE:

Ring the Registrar and advise details before proceeding.

## MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING 21 AUGUST 2014

**OPEN:** At 8.20pm following AGM. 21 members present, plus 1 visitor called for membership application.

**APOLOGIES:** 8 apologies recorded in the Attendance Book. Paul Boyd / Margaret Campbell

**MINUTES:** Minutes of the July Meeting were presented. Brian Chesterfield / Greg Campbell

**BUSINESS ARISING:**

Sec to make inquiries for representative from Bush Council to attend Club meeting

Sec to reply to Bush Council with Clubs interpretation of eligibility for Historic Vehicles.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**IN:** W & P Thompson & M Crawley / M Skarnavides – cheques; Aberdeen Neigh'hood Ctre – Big Boys Toys & family Day; Moree Motor Enthus Club - Moree Motor Fun Run; Narrabri & Gunnedah Clubs - N West Annual Swap Meet; Kootingal Motor Club - Dungowan Fair & Old Machinery; Shannons - Coffs harbour Show & Shine; Michael Jeanes - Rolls Royce Club Tamworth Tour; Upper Hunter Mot Assoc - Motorfest & Fair at Muswellbrook; Domain Register - Website Renewal; Holroyd City Council - Linwood Heritage Estate; Ronald McDonald House - dates for activities; Nat Motor Racing Museum - Matters of the Mount; Shannons - Sydney auction; Bush Council - Modified Vehicles questionnaire. 9 magazines.

**OUT:** Noel Klepzig - Get well card; Bush Council - Clubs interpretation of RMS requirements for Historic Vehicles, plus Prelim request for rep to attend Club at meeting on 20 Nov 14.

Margaret Campbell / Greg Campbell: the correspondence be received and dealt with as required.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Treasurer's report was presented and seconded by Roly Morgan

**PAST EVENTS:**

20 July. Monthly run to Lookout for morning tea, then to Currabubula Pub for lunch. 13 cars set off being: Brian & Heather – Holden, Stuart & Josie – Holden, Brian, Betty & Michelle – Morr Minor, Alan & Maree – Dodge, Roly & Trish – Ford, Merv & Amy – Mod, Kevin Jamie & youngsters – Mod, Terry & Lyn . Holden, Bob & Lyn = Chev, Carl & Beryl – Holden, Kevin & Mary – Parisienne, Michael & Mary – Mod. Cliff & Phyllis; Chrysler.

26 July Cruising 4 Cancer. Invitation event introduced by Bob & Lyn Hession.

7 August. Pie Run to Somerton Roadhouse for lunch. Peter Wright provided summary.

10 Aug Five Way meet at Bingara. Greg Campbell advised he and Margaret, Michael Jeanes, Peter Wright & Brian Orman & family attended. Numbers down which may have resulted from mix up with date. Noted Arthur Ackland was only representative from Armidale.

**FUTURE EVENTS:**

21 August. Annual General Meeting at 7.30, followed by normal Monthly Meeting.

24 August. Monthly Run. Roly: Hallsville markets, M/Tea at Attunga, lunch at Manilla Weir.

4 September: Pie Run to Currabubula Hotel

18 September: Monthly Meeting

21 September: Monthly Run. Walcha Road being considered.

2 October: Pie Run to Werris Creek Pharmacy

Chesty advised the following Pie Runs: 6 Nov – Manilla Weir; 4 Dec – Kootingal Bowl Cl.

30 Oct – 3 Nov: Michael Jeanes: Rolls Royce Club 'Tamworth in Spring' Tour. Club welcome.

6-8 March 2015: Bob Hession advised he has organised annual Campout at Attunga.

A possible future Club run to the relocated Inverell Motor Museum was raised.

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

**Modified Vehicles & HCRS.** Appears push by some organisations to have modified vehicle plates to include non-original vehicles. Discussed. Questionnaire attached to this issue of Magazine & members urged to complete and return to Bush Council by end of August.

**Supper:** Roly & Brian moved we revert to all members bringing a plate. Not carried.

**Bush Council attend meeting.** Confirmed 20 Nov suitable. Short Club meet at 7.30. Bush Council at 8.00

**RAFFLE:** Won by Phyllis Bird.

**CLOSE:** There being no further business for discussion the meeting was declared closed at 9.25pm with the next monthly meeting to be held on 18 September 2014 at 7.30.

## MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING 18 SEPTEMBER 2014

OPEN: 7.30pm with 23 members present, plus 1 visitor, John Staples who has a 1976 Kombi.

APOLOGIES: 6 apologies recorded in the Attendance Book. Greg Campbell / Carl Casson

MINUTES: Minutes of August Meeting presented: Greg Campbell / Carl Casson.

### BUSINESS ARISING:

From previous Ordinary Meeting: Members to submit responses on modified vehicles.

Secretary to confirm 20 Nov as date for Bush Council visit and contact other Clubs.

From AGM: Sec to lodge Annual Summary of Financial Affairs with Fair trading.

Consider unfilled positions from AGM being magazine editor and Assistant Secretary.

### CORRESPONDENCE:

IN: Marg & Greg Campbell - Thank you card for flowers and wine; Wine Country Motor Inn - accommodation at Cessnock; Bush Council - Confirmed 20 Nov as suitable date to visit Club. Half Yearly Meeting at Dubbo on 25 Oct 2014. Delegates reqd; J Smith & J & S Cox – cheques; Pitstop Motoring Bookshop - Sept 2014 catalogue of books and DVDs. 6 magazines.

OUT: Bush Council - visit to Club on 20 Nov. Invitations to other Clubs; Fair Trading - Annual Summary of Financial Affairs & fee. RMS & Bush Council - Advising change of Office bearers; Kevin Turner & family - Sympathy card following Marys passing; OAMPS Insurance Brokers - Payment of insurance renewal; Rodney Casben – membership enquirey.

Michael Crawley / Michael Jeanes correspondence be received and dealt with as required.

TREASURERS REPORT: The Treasurer's report presented and seconded by Roly Morgan.

### PAST EVENTS:

24 August. Monthly Run. Hallsville markets was the first stop. Then morning tea at Attunga, and then on to Manilla Weir for a picnic lunch on the banks of the river. Attending: Barry & Marissa – Fairlane, Brian, Phil & Betty Orman – Morris Minor, Brian & Heather – Holden, Alan & Maree – Dodge, Peter (New President) – Mercedes, Roly & Trish – Buick, Michael – Rover, Bob & Lyn – Chev, Kevin, Jamie & youngsters – Falcon, Merv & Amy – Jag.

4 September: Pie Run to Currabubula Hotel. 24 members attended being Stuart & Josie – Modern, Arthur & Kay – Modern, Barry Johnson - Fairlane, Alan & Maree – Dodge, Michael & Mary – Jag, Peter – Humber, Brian & Heather – FB Holden, Roly & Trish – Ford, Michael – Chrysler, Carl, Beryl & Lindy – Holden, Terry & Lyn – Kingswood, Paul & Tod – Chev. Bob & Lyn – Chev & Neal - Saab.

Roly Morgan advised that last Sunday he attended a British & European Club meeting.

### FUTURE EVENTS:

20 September (Sat): Monthly Run. Gunnedah Porchetta Festival. No normal run on Sunday.

2 October: Pie Run to Werris Creek Pharmacy

19 Oct: Monthly Run – Tamworth Lookout + Model Trains + (Short Run Dungowan)

25 Oct: Sat. Bush Council 2014 Half Yearly Meeting at Dubbo.

30 Oct – 3 Nov: Michael Jeanes: Rolls Royce Club tour. Join them on Sun 2 Nov for M/Tea at Lookout. 6 Nov Pie Run to Manilla Weir

20 Nov. Monthly meeting at 7.30. At 8.00 address by Bill Waddell & Ray Ives from Bush Council.

23 Nov. Monthly Run to Walcha Road hotel

### GENERAL BUSINESS:

Insurance: Additional \$40 optional premium paid to cover people up to 75.

Mary Turners passing. Alan Early, Brian Chesterfield & Heather, and Michael Crawley attended. Committee Meeting held earlier this evening:

Registration Inspection Day is Sat 29 Nov.

Christmas Hamper Raffle – will start selling tickets from October meeting.

Xmas Lights Run will be on Sun 14 Dec, and will include trophy presentations.

Requested that trophies be returned at Oct meeting.

Magazine: Greg & Margaret thanked for previous editions. Michael Jeanes new editor.

Bush Council reps attending November meeting. Please advise of any queries.

Bush Council Half Yearly Meeting at Dubbo on 25 Oct 2014. Sec intends to attend as delegate.

RAFFLE: Won by Brian Chesterfield.

CLOSE: Meeting 8.40pm. Next monthly meeting to be held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at 7.30.

## FROM the PRESIDENT'S DESK

This is my first opportunity to write as club president. Although I have been involved with car clubs since the mid 1980s and having served on committees in many roles, including president, for over twenty years, every club is different and I must confess that I am still coming to terms with the "culture" of our club. Hopefully my actions won't disappoint too many as the year rolls on. I certainly know I have large shoes to fill following Greg Campbell's long reign.

It is always sad to hear of a member's passing and Mary Turner was no exception. I only had the pleasure of meeting Mary on three occasions, but I was impressed by her fighting spirit and it goes without saying the obvious enjoyment she derived from riding in the Pontiac. Our thoughts remain with Kevin and his family.

Recently our secretary, Alan Early's mother passed away. What an innings and what a marvellous life she must have led to finish two weeks short of her 105<sup>th</sup> birthday! I suppose this means we can expect Alan to follow in his mother's footsteps and to be around for a long time to come. You might need a new computer or two, if you remain as secretary for another thirty years. Our condolences are extended to Alan, Maree and their family.

Over the long weekend a group of our members supported the Tamworth & District Antique Car Club in their hosting of the Great Eastland Hub Rally. Val and Gary Grout did a wonderful job as rally convenors - never any easy task. It was fascinating to see the extended range of cars participating. It was the first time I had visited Ricky Glass' "Everything Gasoline Collection". Its probably a sad reflection on me, but I was one of the last to leave and am looking forward to a return visit. Sunday's run to the Dungowan Machinery Day and on to lunch via Lindsays Gap Road at Wallabadah Community Hall was very relaxed, particularly with the country side looking so good. I suppose this leads me to me sentimental favourite car of the rally - Col Parry's 1911 "T" Model Ford. Col did the full round trip on Sunday which was around 170 kms. This was the longest he had ever driven the "T" on a single day.

Our events committee is busily trying to put together a mixed calendar, which we hope over the year, will have several events of interest to you. Certainly we have been getting a good attendance at

our Thursday pie run. It has been commented to me how relaxed these runs have become, as evidenced by the number of members now lingering on. It's easy to assume that a car club is about cars but I actually believe it is about the people in, the interest in cars being what draws us together. If you have any ideas please talk to one of the events teams - Roly Morgan, Brian Chesterfield, Michael Crawley or myself.

I know it seems a long way off, but our Christmas Raffle tickets are now on sale and will be drawn on Inspection Day on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November. This year we will be presenting our Club Trophies at our Christmas function, commencing at the Truck Drivers Memorial from 7.00 pm on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December. We will have a "special visitor" this year and you are encouraged to join in the festive spirit by bringing a suitably wrapped gift (up to \$5 in value). Bringing a gift will entitle you to a surprise from Santa's sack. As in previous years we encourage you to bring along your picnic or bbq. After dark we will have our Christmas Lights Tour finishing back at Maccas for an ice cream.

Looking forward to seeing you at our club activities.

Peter Wright

## SECRETARYS OBSERVATIONS

The AGM brought about some changes to the Club which will lead to more changes as we continue on. The best way to pay tribute to outgoing President Greg (and Margaret) is evidenced by the amount of additional people we now need to cover their activities. What they were doing was far and beyond the call of presidential duties, and we extend our utmost gratitude.

Events are by far the biggest aspect of our Club as they are where we get our old cars out and meet each other on a social basis. We now have 4 people actively involved in organizing the events which should ensure a good cross section of short runs, long runs, pubs, picnics, and everything in between. As I'm not on the Events Committee I, like the rest of you, can feel free to scatter a few seeds around - such as: why don't we go out for an evening meal somewhere sometime? Needn't involve the old cars and needn't be costly. Just a social get together. And what about a Ladies Choice run? They are a very important part of our Club and it would be a nice to reward them. And what about some long

excursions? Modern cars, or bus, or train. Places like Temora Aviation Museum come to mind.

Many thanks to Michael Jeanes who is prepared to take over most of the production of the Magazine with some assistance from myself. To make it as interesting as possible we need your input to make it a member's magazine, not just an editors publication. So give us articles about trips, holidays, humor, places of interest, cars, whatever, so we can put it together for you to proof read before we put it in the magazine.

It will be interesting to see what happens with the M (Modified) plate proposal. Such a system, together with the Victorian log book system, would enable us to expand our base considerably. The log book system turned out to be a shambles. We need to preserve what we have got, and be very wary about who we open the door to. It is listed on the agenda of the Bush Council Half Yearly meeting I will be attending as your Delegate on 25 October, so feel free to discuss any aspects of it with me before then.

Alan Early

### Vale - Mary Turner

It was with considerable sadness that members from our Club attended Mary's funeral on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2014.

Mary and husband Kevin were long time Club members with a great compassion for cars, especially their blue Pontiac Parisienne. Although Mary's health had been deteriorating for some time, she regularly came on our runs even though she was unable to leave the car.

Our sympathies go to Kevin and family for the sad loss of a lovely person.

### AUGUST MONTHLY RUN 2014

After the AGM and with the new President at the helm our first stop was the Hallsville markets. Besides the usual bric brac they also have yum yum cakes, slices and biscuits.



Line up at Hallsville

So with morning tea the next stop at Attunga why not help out the local charities with some good old rich chocolate slices?

It was nice to have Barry Johnson and Marissa Sheelan along with us as prospective new members. They were made very welcome,



and the 77 Fairlane 500 isn't bad looking either.

Then off over the range to Manilla with a picnic lunch at the Weir. With the weir as a backdrop and the river bubbling past, this quiet, serene area is a favourite with everyone.

9 vehicles participated being: Brian, Phil & Betty Orman – Morris Minor, Brian & Heather – Holden, Alan & Maree – Dodge, Peter (New President) – Mercedes, Roly & Trish – Buick, Michael – Rover, Bob & Lyn – Chev, Kevin, Jamie & youngsters – Falcon, Merv & Amy – Jag. (Yeh...someone put Ameha on your form)





Picnic area on the banks of the river at Manilla, with the weir in the background. Magic.

### PIE RUN SEPTEMBER 2014

Currabubula Hotel was the destination for 24 of us which was a good turn out. Yours truly was running a bit late and looked like being the last there but behold – up pops a dirty big 12 cylinder blue jag in the mirror. My names Early not late so the old blue Dodge suddenly got a bit wider so we weren't the last ones there after all. Anyway, first or last, the pies slid down OK followed by chips, gravy, sauce, salad whatever. Good tucker and well recommended. And reasonably reasonable prices. Good to see new member Barry Johnson along in the Fairlane, and also nice to see long time members Stuart and Josie joining in, plus Arthur & Kay back from a trip.

Also attending were: Alan & Maree – Dodge, Michael & Mary – Jag, Peter – Mercedes, Brian & Heather – FB Holden, Roly & Trish – Ford, Michael – Rover, Neal, Carl, Beryl & Lindy – Holden, Terry & Lyn – Kingswood, Paul & Tod – Chev.



*Pie eaters supremo*

### SEPTEMBER 2014 MONTHLY RUN

We changed our monthly Sunday run to the Saturday in order to attend the annual Porchetta Day at Gunnedah. After morning tea at Carroll 14 cars arrived at the Gunnedah Showground. Just in case you are wondering what Porchetta actually is it is a savoury, fatty, and moist boneless pork roast of Italian culinary tradition.

So what about this big Italian snorker!



The day was quite well organised with about 12 different types of Italian food available, including the traditional pasta and pizza based dishes. A bar was available to wash it all down, and there was plenty of yummy gelato to go out on a sweet note. Face painting was all the go and a rather noisy band beefed out traditional music, together with a fabulous female opera singer called Gino who you would have been able to hear back in Roma.

Good to have Merv and Amy along in the Austin Healey:



The cars were parked in a somewhat hap hazard manner but we found a nice convenient shady area to set up the chairs and tables for a base.



It was a good day and as it's an annual event we will probably return to next year. Will be a little bit better prepared though with better pre-organised parking, and we will bring some additional food along with us to supplement the rather silvery cost of the festival tucker. It was good quality with plenty of taste, but they obviously underestimated the crowd and rationed it out fairly thinly.

The 14 vehicles comprised: Roly & Trish – Modern, Michael C & Mary – Jag, Michael J – Rover, Merv & Amy – Austin Healey, Neal – Saab, Brian, Phil & Betty – Corolla, Arthur & Kay – Modern, Carl & Beryl – Holden, Brian & Heather – Modern, Peter – Humber, Alan & Maree – Dodge, Barry & Margaret – Modern, Paul, Ben & Gwen – Chev, Gerard & Margaret – Modern.

#### OCTOBER 2014 PIE RUN – WERRIS CREEK



Another bright and sunny day allowed for a very enjoyable run from Tamworth to Werris Creek where lunch had been arranged at the Pharmacy. This interesting emporium styled store carries a wide range of items as well as the expected medical supplies.

The proprietors had set up tables on the shady sidewalk, allowing traffic and truck spotting as well as conversation with the passing locals. The meals were consumed with relish and many took

advantage of the array of homemade gelatos and good coffee to round things off.

The outing entailed so much socialising that no one thought to take any photos so an Internet derived photo of the pharmacy will have to suffice for those who were unable to attend.

The attendees were:

Cliff & Phyliss Bird (modern MB)  
 Carl & Beryl Casson (Holden HQ)  
 Brian Chesterfield and Heather (Holden FB)  
 Bob & Lyn Hession (1979 Mustang)  
 Michael Jeanes & Tod Foster (1960 Rover)  
 Roly & Patricia Morgan (Modern MB)  
 Arthur & Kay Ramsey (Modern)  
 Peter Wright (1977 MB 280SE)

#### **Merv Sippel's 1955 Austin Healey 100/4 (BN1)**

##### Background:

The "Austin-Healey 100" is a sports car built from 1953 until 1956. It was developed by Donald Healey to be produced in-house by Healey's small car company in Warwick and based on Austin A90 Atlantic mechanicals. Healey built a single "Healey Hundred" for the 1952 London Motor Show, and the design impressed Leonard Lord, managing director of Austin, who was looking for a replacement to the unsuccessful A90. Lord struck a deal with Healey to build it in quantity at Austin's Longbridge factory. The car was renamed the "Austin-Healey 100".

The "100" was named by Healey for the car's ability to reach 100mph (160km/h); its successor, the better known Austin-Healey 3000, was named for the 3000cc displacement of its engine.

Production Austin-Healey 100s were finished at Austin's Longbridge plant alongside the A90 and based on fully trimmed and painted body/chassis units produced by Jensen in West Bromwich—in an arrangement the two companies previously had explored with the Austin A40 Sports.



The 100 was the first of three models later called the “Big Healeys” to distinguish them from the much smaller Austin-Healey Sprite. The Big Healeys are often referred to by their three-character model designators rather than by their models, as the model names do not reflect the mechanical differences and similarities well.

The first 100s (series "BN1") were equipped with the same 90 bhp (67 kW) engines and manual transmission as the stock A90, but the transmission was modified to be a three-speed unit with overdrive on second and top. The 2660 cc inline 4 engine featured an undersquare 87.3 mm (3.4 in) bore and 111.1 mm (4.4 in) stroke.

Girling 11 in (279.4 mm) drum brakes are fitted all round. Front suspension is independent using coil springs and at the rear is a rigid axle with semi elliptic leaf springs. The steering is by a cam and lever system.

A BN1 tested by The Motor magazine in 1953 had a top speed of 106 mph (171 km/h) and could accelerate from 0–60 mph (97 km/h) in 11.2 seconds.

A total of 10,030 BN1s were built from May 1953 until replaced by the BN2 model in August 1955.

<b>Production</b>	1953–1956 14,634 produced <sup>[1]</sup> plus an additional fifty 100S and five special test cars
<b>Assembly</b>	Longbridge, England West Bromwich, England
<b>Powertrain</b>	
<b>Engine</b>	<u>2660 cc inline 4 cyl</u>

<b>Transmission</b>	3-speed (series BN1) or 4-speed (series BN2) manual
<b>Dimensions</b>	
<b>Wheelbase</b>	90 in (2,286 mm) <sup>[2]</sup>
<b>Length</b>	151 in (3,835 mm) <sup>[2]</sup>
<b>Width</b>	60 in (1,524 mm) <sup>[2]</sup>
<b>Height</b>	49.25 in (1,251 mm) <sup>[3]</sup>

The above information is courtesy of Wikipedia.

### Merv's Car:

According to the certificate provided by the British Motor Industry Heritage Trust, Merv's car was manufactured on 18<sup>th</sup> February 1955. This Carmine Red car destined for export to Australia with the option of a laminated windscreen but the heater deleted.

Some time ago Merv decided that he would like to restore an Austin Healey so started a search that took several years. Eventually, in 1986, he found a British Racing Green car advertised in Wollongong which seemed suitable. The deal was done and after an incident packed journey the car ended up with Merv in Tamworth.

With the assistance of a TAFE course, friends, family and the occasional professional this generally sound car was restored over a five year period, being returned to its original colour of Carmine Red. Such was the quality of the restoration that the car won the Austin Healey Club concourse in 1991.

With all this good work done, Merv was able to enjoy the Healey for over 20 years. This came to an end in 2002 when our good friends at the RTA finally raised their fees and charges to unprecedented levels. The Healey was therefore deregistered and put into storage.

Through his old school friend Michael Crawley, Merv was encouraged to recommission the car, join our club and take advantage of the concessional registration scheme, thus returning this significant car to the road, and allowing fellow members to

enjoy Merv and Amy's company as well as the sights and sounds of a classic English sports car.

As well as this Austin Healey 100/4 Merv also has an Austin Healey 100/6 so stay tuned for further developments.

### Celebrations in 2014:

**110 Years of Rover:** this year marks the 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Rover production car. It was the single-cylinder 8hp Rover, designed by Edmund Lewis who had previously designed for Daimler. This design was revolutionary, with a backbone chassis and up to date fittings.

**100 Years of Dodge:** The two Dodge brothers, John and Horace were the ideal combination of automotive entrepreneurs, an organisational and financial whiz (John) and a mechanical genius (Horace). They quickly established their engineering and commercial credentials in Detroit before incorporating the Dodge Brothers Motor Car Company in July 1914.

**80 Years of the Citroen Traction Avant:** This automobile was produced from 1934 to 1957 in which time about 760,000 were manufactured. While not the world's first production front-wheel drive it was the world's first front-wheel drive steel monocoque production car and successfully pioneered front-wheel drive on the European mass market and consequently, the world.

**50 Years of the MG Midget and Sprite MKII:** The Sprite MKII replaced the hugely successful, cheap and cheerful "Bugeye" Sprite of 1958. The MKII kept its predecessor's unit body construction but received a complete make-over. A more conventional grill and headlight setup replaced the Bugeye's cheerful visage, with the car taking on styling that would be seen on the MG Midget sister car a few months later.

**50 Years of the Sunbeam Tiger:** The Sunbeam Tiger (affectionately known as the poor man's Cobra) fitted with the Ford 260 (and later 289) V8, was the fastest accelerating car in its class. This gutsy little car scored a class win on its maiden outing at the grueling Monte Carlo Rally and followed up with multiple race and rally victories.

**50 Years of the Mini Cooper "S":** to suit various racing classes, two versions of the Cooper S debuted in 1964. Built purely as an homologation special the Cooper 970S and 1071S were in production for less than a year. Their homologation requirement was satisfied, although it never reached the 1000 example minimum. The Cooper 1275S replaced these originals at the end of 1964 and was designed specifically to compete in the sub 1300cc class, which it did with great success. This giant killer remained hugely successful until it ceased production in 1971.

**50 Years of the Mustang:** No ordinary car, the Mustang has been one of the most successful automobiles ever produced and has been in continuous production for all of those 50 years. Available as a basic platform with a huge range of options it could be as spartan, muscular or as luxurious (for a 60s car) as your wallet could handle.

**50 Years of the Pontiac GTO:** Against GM policy at the time, a group of people in Pontiac decided that they could sneak a performance car past the management if they simply included it as an option on the newly engineered Tempest. They found that the full sized 389cu in V8 could be shoehorned into this "shopping trolley" and thus a legend was born. By the time management became aware the success was undeniable and the GTO option became a stand-alone series.

**40 Years of the Leyland P76 "Targa Florio":** The "Targa Florio" was actually an option pack on the P76 "Super" to commemorate the stage win of a nearly standard P76 in the 1974 World Cup Rally. Driven by legendary Australian rally drivers Evan Green and John Bryson the speed and ability of this four speed manual V8 surprised the world's best in the "Targa Florio" stage in Sicily.

