



Council of ACT Motor Clubs Inc.

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Council Communique

November 2024

Vale Graham Gittins

By Paul Sutton



Like many in the Jaguar Drivers Club, and the Canberra car club scene generally, I was terribly saddened to hear of the death of Graham Gittins earlier in October. His funeral was held on 21 October at Norwood Park, where a significant number of car club representatives were present. I was aware that Graham was ill and in hospital last month, but it was still a shock to hear of the passing of one of Canberra's most long-standing motoring club enthusiasts.

I got to know Graham (or G2 as he so engagingly named himself in emails!) through his keen involvement in Terribly British Days in the early 2000s, where he was not only an enthusiastic background organiser and "fixit" person, but undertook the PA task through many years of TBDs. Graham was a true gentleman and was a friend to everyone, both in his long and close club involvements with Canberra Antique and Classic Motor Club and the MG Car Club and in his organising and PR roles in ACT-wide events such as Wheels and National Heritage Day events. His ability to raise sponsorship \$s and encourage VIPs to undertake event presentations was without equal. I am sure he was born with a PR persona, and was able elicit Canberra Times coverage of car club events not imaginable in these days of ACT politician disinterest in local car club activities.

Graham was reserved and never sought prominence in anything he was involved in, but was content to enjoy the success of the numerous touring and display day events he was involved over decades, supported by his wife Heather.



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Graham and Heather in his MG Mquette, or occasionally their little Austin 1300, were to participate in many interstate driving tours such as to regional Victoria, Sydney or Snowy Mountains. Rarely agreeing to be photographed, I was unable to locate one in my personal collection, but this one was recorded by the CACTMC mag in 2022. G2 is on the left.



Graham was most heavily involved in Canberra Antique and Classic Car Club over many years as Minutes Secretary, and which was recognised for that and the incredible number of interstate and local touring events he organised, being awarded Life Membership. His record of tours include to Motorclassica, Car-nivale, and several National Motoring Heritage events here and elsewhere.



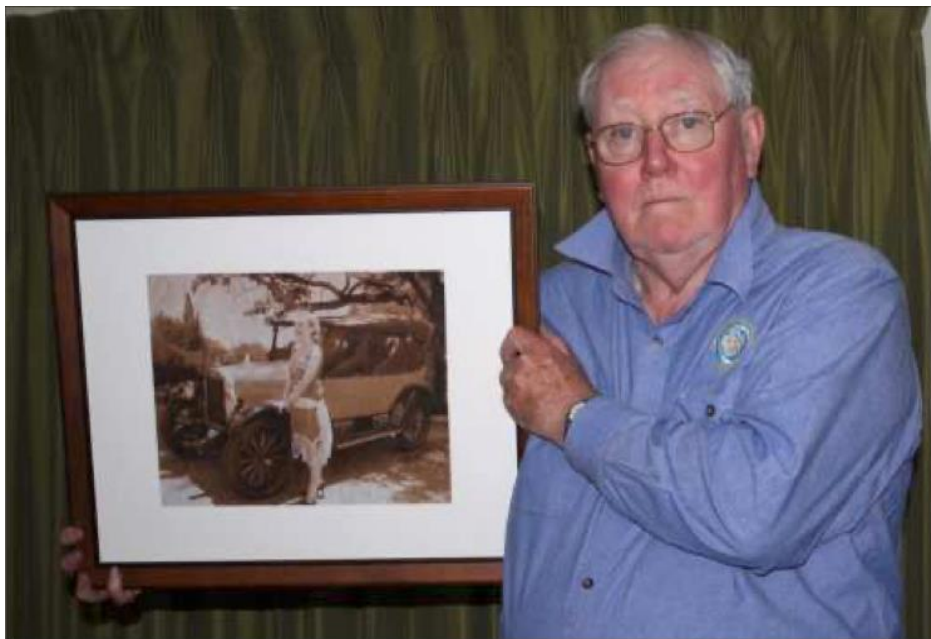
1955-MG-Mquette-Graham-Gittins-1



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Since the late 80s, Graham was a delegate to the Council of ACT Motor Clubs, where his contribution as the Council Secretary for about five years in the early 90s was invaluable. He was still a member of the Council Committee as the Public Relations/Communications officer when he passed away.

Graham's interests were not limited to classic cars though, and I remember coming across G2 at a number quite different events in Canberra, including National Trust (ACT) open days and a Classic Yass event in November 2012 when he won the Photographic Competition! The photo did, of course include a car, but featured a young lady in period outfit!



Graham always readily admitted he loved cars but his knowledge of things mechanical was very limited. He would often joke that putting a spanner on a nut was beyond him, but he was always surrounded by friends to help him out in any circumstances.

So, farewell Graham. Your friends in Canberra acknowledge your friendship and enthusiasm. Our thoughts go to Heather and family at this time and be assured Graham filled a very big place in the Canberra car clubs with which he was involved.



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IMPORTANT

Logbook Use for Servicing/Maintenance

The Council Registrar sought guidance from the RTA about testing CRS vehicles by garage servicing/maintenance staff. Unfortunately, the MOU is very clear in that EVERY use of the vehicle must be recorded in the logbook. This is a legal issue involving registration and insurance validity.

The RTA is currently investigating alternatives to having servicing staff complete logbook usage entries but until we receive further guidance, if you leave your vehicle with a garage or some maintenance or other business, this procedure is mandatory;

1. Advise the business, if the vehicle requires road testing, the logbook MUST be used to record the use.
2. Outline the procedure for the testing driver to use the 60 Day section of the logbook to complete the details required and sign the entry. (This is NOT optional)

The letter from the RTA follows.

Dear Mr Rogers,

Thank you for your messages about the use of Veteran, Vintage and Historic vehicles during times of service and/or repair and recording those periods of use in the vehicle's logbook as part of the 60 days use allowance.

We have done some investigating and, unfortunately do not have an immediate solution to the issue other than to advise that any use on roads or road related areas during service and/or repair would need to be recorded in the logbook and be counted as part of the 60 days use. All of the documentation, including the MOU and the conditions of use reference "use" with the only exception to recording private use within the 60 day allowance being club endorsed rallies and events. The conditions of use are more precise than the rest of the MOU in that they require recording of use on a road or road related area, rather than just use on roads.

Noting the above, and understanding the concerns, we will brief the incoming Minister and seek their views.

Please understand that if the Minister supports not including service and/or repair by a commercial organisation not to be included in the 60 days use, it will take some time to progress any change as while the MOU may be able to be amended relatively quickly, we expect we will need to negotiate with Access Canberra to amend the conditions for each vehicle registered under the arrangements and this may require system changes that will need to be agreed, planned for and included in the system enhancement program.



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In the meantime, any advice to club members should be that use of a vehicle on a road or road related area as part of servicing and/or repair should be recorded in the logbook as part of the 60 days use.

We will be in touch again once we have been able to obtain advice from our incoming Minister.

Yours sincerely

Rod Paule

Rod Paule | Director Road Transport Policy

CACTMC Wheels – Sunday 16th February 2025.

The Council of ACT Motor Clubs' annual **Wheels** car & bike show will be held on Sunday 16th February 2025 at the Queanbeyan Showgrounds.

This year Wheels is again being run in collaboration with the Queanbeyan Market. Wheels will be in the Showgrounds Arena, as usual, while the Market will be located in the western section of the Showgrounds complex – to the west of the Grandstand. The Market offers a wide array of food vendors as well as art, craft, fashion, jewellery etc.

This year Wheels will focus on automotive exhibits and automotive trade stalls as was the case in 2024. The event's theme is yet to be determined but may be:

Convertibles: Cabrios, Spiders & Targas?

The Wheels organisers are looking for automotive trades to set up displays at the event. \$150 buys a premium display space, with power if required. If you can assist, or know of a business that might be interested, please contact Greg: President@CACTMC.org.au

The arrangement for the vehicle displays will be a little different to last year as we try to improve the layout and the general enjoyment for the day. This year's event will be ticketed, but ticketing arrangements and prices are yet to be set.

A **Marshals' Briefing** will be held at the **Showgrounds** at **3:00pm on Saturday 15th**.



*Photo composite of **Wheels 2024**: photos by G Gittins*



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CACTMC Annual General Meeting

The Council of ACT Motor Clubs held its Annual General Meeting on Thursday 10th October in the Spanish Australian Club in Narrabundah.

Delegates present elected the following personnel to the Committee for 2024-25:

President	Greg Francis	French Car Club of Canberra
Vice President	Paul Hrynko	Canberra Torana Club
Treasurer	Garry Smee	BMW Motorcycle Club Canberra
Secretary	Peter Atkinson	Alpine Alfisti Association of Australia
Registrar	Dave Rogers	Triumph Car Club of ACT
Event Director and three Ordinary Committee positions remain vacant.		
Public Officer	Garry Smee	BMW Motorcycle Club Canberra
Web Admin	Peter Atkinson	Alpine Alfisti Association of Australia

The Spanish Australian Club

The Spanish Australian Club in Narrabundah has modern club facilities and a large outdoor space that is amenable to car shows and Club displays. The Club welcomes car clubs and their members to come and have a look at the facilities that it can offer.

This venue is becoming very popular for events like: Annual Skyline Day, Battle of Waterloo and German Cars & Coffee among others.

The Spanish Australian Club is also the regular venue for CACTMC's meetings.

If your club is looking for a suitable venue for a forthcoming event/display, then look no further than the Spanish - Australian Club in Narrabundah. It has all the necessary amenities to make your event a success. For further information and bookings contact Chris, Club Manager, on 6295 6506

Event information

Send event notifications to info@CACTMC.org.au for inclusion in CACTMC's calendar & Facebook. *If your event is promoted on Facebook, make sure that it is PUBLIC so that we are able to share the notification!*

CACTMC General Meetings

The General Meetings of CACTMC are held at 7:30pm in the Spanish Australian Club, Narrabundah, on the third Thursday of each month (except December).

Upcoming Events on the CACTMC Calendar

There are a number of events between now and the end of the year. Affiliated Clubs and their members are welcome to attend any or all of the following ...



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CITROËN PEUGEOT RENAULT

**French Car Club of
Canberra**

Display Times
10AM TO 3PM

**FRENCH CAR
DISPLAY**

**SATURDAY, 2ND NOVEMBER
2024**

La Grande Fete

*Telopea Park
School. Barton.*

CONTACT

club@fccoc.com.au

<https://fccoc.com.au>



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RADFORD COLLEGE
PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION INC



VINTAGE *Wheels*

**SAT 2
NOV
2024**



**FREE
ENTRY**

TIMELESS *Appeal*

Radford College Classic and Sports Car Show
At this unique exhibition, you'll witness a spectacular display of vintage wheels, each with its own story and history.

Mark your calendar and come to the Radford College Twilight Fete
2 November 2024 3pm to 7pm

RADFORD COLLEGE
1 College Street, Bruce

REGISTER YOUR CAR AT THE SHOW
<https://www.radfordcollegetwilightfete.com>



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THE NEW

MARQUES IN THE PARK

SUNDAY 12TH NOVEMBER START 8 AM

Deakin Football Stadium

HANNAH PLACE BEHIND DEAKIN SHOPS

FOOD & REFRESHMENTS ON SITE



ALL MAKES



ANYTHING AUTOMOTIVE



SHANNONS INSURANCE



-----OUR PROUD SPONSORS-----

ALL ENQUIRIES:
STAVRO DASCAROUS
0418624599
SD@HAMELIN.NET.AU



YOUR HOST CLUB



mens link
supporting young men in Canberra



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**Canberra Antique and Classic Motor Club - CACMC**
Mal Noad · 2h · 



Terribly British Day 2024



Join us at Queanbeyan Park, Campbell and Lowe St on 1st December 2024
to enjoy some fine British Cars and Motor Bikes.
Display from 10am to 2pm
\$5 per car entry
Hosted by the Canberra Antique and Classic Motor Club.
Contact: Malcolm Noad email: mwnoad@gmail.com



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To the Council of ACT Motor Clubs

I understand the Council is the custodian of the Canberra Pie Cart (aka Wilkie's Pie Cart) which has in the past been exhibited at the National Trust (ACT) Open Days.

The Kingston and Barton Residents Group (KBRG) is planning a celebration for the centenary of the Kingston Shops and the National Trust (ACT) is assisting with the event. It will be held on Saturday 7 December, around 100 years after the auction of the first business leases in Kingston (then known as Eastlake). It will run from 10 am to 2 pm at Green Square, Jardine St, Kingston. There will be stalls, entertainment and a display about the history of the shops.

The Pie Cart has connections with the area and would be a very fitting vehicle to be on display at this event (although not quite as old as the shops!).

We would be delighted if the Council is able to display the vehicle so please let us know if it is possible, so we can include it in promotion of the event.

In addition, if you can suggest any other vehicle that would be appropriate, it might be possible to organise this, although space is limited to street parking on Jardine St.

I look forward to hearing from you.



Mary Johnston

Tours and Events Committee

National Trust of Australia (ACT)



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GUNGAHLIN HOMESTEAD

Open Day

80 Bellenden St, Crace

**Sun 8 Dec
10 -2pm**

including an

Exclusive Showing of Period Vintage &
Veteran cars pre-World War 2
(from 10-12pm)

Come and join us and see some cars that have
never been shown in Canberra before!

Enjoy lunch and a taste of Canberra history

Contact Ian Oliver (Ollies' Garage) 0417260927
from 15/11/2024 or Peter Evans 0427699118



Connect with us at
[www.facebook.com/ Historic Gunghalin Homestead](https://www.facebook.com/HistoricGunghalinHomestead)