

# Brisbane Regional Register News

## Cat Chat

Edition 14

November/December 2018



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## Past Chairman's JDCQ Day Drive - Fassifern Valley

On Thursday 20th September 15 people from the Brisbane Register gathered at the Peak Mountain View Park. There was an interesting array of cars including Julio Machado's XK8 with top down. A great roar quieting to a growling rumble as Richard Andrews mean black John Player's special XJS pulled into the car park. Next came Allan Hillless's beautiful low mileage 2011 XK imported from Perth and many more Jaguars. Clive Arnolds E Type joined us almost outdoing the growl from Richard's car. A couple of interlopers including myself in a Land Rover and Don and Sandy Milner in a brilliant blue Ford



Fiesta ST3 which I am told can 'go like the devil' joined in, determined not to miss the drive. The weather was fine and the Fassifern Valley as beautiful as ever. Once we were all organised we headed off to our familiar haunt 'Flavours Cafe in Boonah' where most of us had a coffee and some hungry members also ate a late breakfast .



From there we travelled south to Coochin Coochin Station, an historic homestead dating back to the mid-nineteenth century. There we were met by Tim and Jan Bell. Tim is the last remaining member of the Bell family who could remember the 'old days' when his aunts entertained royalty back in the 1920's until the 1950's. The homestead was very traditional with dark heavily timbered walls and floors and gave the impression of ageing well. It had the usual musty smell of an old home, the antique furniture, the creaking floor boards, and the verandah where the landholder could sit and survey his property and stock.

On the walls were the usual photos of family members in uniform who had volunteered for both the first and second world wars, and some of whom no doubt had never come home. Allan Hilless presented Jan Bell with a bouquet of flowers as a thank-you for inviting us, donated by the Brisbane Register. Although Jan was only a Bell by marriage she had taken to the heritage with a vengeance and knew huge amounts of history regarding the homestead and its family. Jim knew a lot from first hand passed down from his family including his aunts' love of royalty, their trips to England and how they spent much of the original fortune. In the end they had to sell most of the vast estate to pay for their entertaining and travelling. Now there is only a small piece of the original farming land still owned by the family, plus the homestead.

In the garden at the back of the homestead were numerous trees planted by royalty and politicians. Each tree had a plaque at its base with the name and date of the planter. One of the oldest was planted by the Prince of Wales in 1922. He came to stay for a day and got caught in a flood and ended up having to stay for a whole week before the creeks lowered. There was another planted by a princess in the 1930's. One planted by the Queen Mother in 1951, another planted by Joh Bjelke Petersen in the seventies and one planted by Senator Flo Bjelke Petersen at around about the same time. There were other trees with notable politicians whose names I no longer recall, but if you are ever invited there I suggest you ask to see them. One thing which



surprised me was the poor size and condition of the trees considering their age. Jan Bell when asked, advised me that the soil was only a third of a metre deep and underneath was bedrock. Due to the nature of the Australian climate they couldn't put too much tank water on the trees during dry periods. We had overstayed our planned time at Coochin as the place was so interesting and we had to say our farewells and thanks before heading off to Kooroomba vineyard and Lavender Farm for our pre-booked lunch. There we enjoyed spectacular views towards the Great Dividing Range and south to Mount Barney over fields of lavender and grape vines whilst enjoying roast chicken and Pavlova and coffee.

We left suitably satiated with full tummies and enjoyed the drive home.

Thanks again to Allan Hilless who managed to obtain an invitation for us to visit Coochin Coochin Homestead and for organizing the whole very enjoyable event.



Jaguar Drivers Club of Qld Brisbane Register

## *Christmas Party*

Ipswich Turf Club

11.30 am

219 Brisbane Road

Bundamba

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November**



### **On Arrival-**

- **Drinks Canapes pre-lunch**
- **Main Course lunch – alternate drop**
- **Dessert – alternate drop**
- **Tea and Coffee**
- **Cost: \$57 same as last year**

Thank you to Lloyd & Lorraine  
Andersen for organizing this event.

Pre-payment by direct deposit before the 6th November to: The Jaguar Drivers Club of QLD Inc (include surname as a reference) BSB 484 799 Acc No 506117953 or cheques made Payable to "Jaguar Drivers Club QLD Inc" & write "Brisbane Register Account Christmas Party" on the reverse then post to: Brisbane Register JDCQ, c/- 3621/30 Hollins Cres, New Farm Q 4005

Also RSVP 6th November by phoning or emailing your acceptance and any dietary requirements to: [joy.cooper@cooperation.com.au](mailto:joy.cooper@cooperation.com.au) 07 3254 2880

# Upcoming events



## Brisbane Regional Register News

### Date Claimers



- 🐾 **Thurs 1st November. Chassis Based Register Meet** at Karalee Tavern—See page 6
- 🐾 **Tues 13th Nov—Combined Meetings**—AGM for JDCQ followed by Brisbane Register General Meeting See page 4
- 🐾 **Sun 25th Nov—Brisbane Regional Register Christmas Party.** See page 3 We still have some seats available.
- 🐾 **December recess**

### Brisbane Regional Committee needs you!

Why not make your opinion mean something? Have your say into how to run the register and decide its activities.

On the 22nd January at the Brisbane Regional Register AGM all Committee positions will be declared vacant. We need your contribution. Please volunteer to take a place on the Brisbane Register Committee.

To register early or for more information please phone Ian Lind 0438629598 or Joy Cooper 0419732091 now.



### Cat Chat Compiler needed.

Make this fine publication your own and at the same time learn new skills. This is a job you can do at home in our own time whenever you have spare minutes in the day. Tuition will be given if necessary. More info from Ruth Bodey 0418188090



### JDCQ AGM plus Brisbane register meeting combined—come and have your say!

Tuesday—13th November, 153a Kirby Rd, Aspley

Take the opportunity to view Colin Galley's special classic cars and attend both the JDCQ AGM and the usual Brisbane Register bi-monthly meeting. The meetings will commence at 7.30pm with Supper following so you can enjoy some fellowship and catch up with your Jaguar friends too.



**Please Note:** A reminder from Lloyd Andersen as JDCQ concessional registrations officer. Members with cars on special interest concessional registration are reminded that it is essential to maintain Club membership in order to retain the cheaper registration. If you do not renew your membership the Department of Transport and Main Roads must be advised and will require that you pay full registration.

## Kenilworth Hotel and Cheese Factory— Wednesday October 17th 2018

Just before 10:00am on a sunny day with a few small clouds and a light breeze, members started to arrive at the northern end of the BP garage on the M1 in Morayfield. After five days of quite heavy rain and wondering whether the event might have to be called off it was a relief to see a fine day. All arrived within the specified 15 minutes between 10:00 and 10:15am. We had some interesting cars from the All British Classic Car Club. A Riley Elf driven by Simon and Helga Schoonveldt and an MG Rover V8 driven by Rob Jones. Mark Pace had arrived at the wrong BP garage in Morayfield and met us in Cruice Park. Our faithful Jaguar members were all present including Barry and Joy Cooper in the red E Type coupe, Tony Herald and Dave Spence in Dave's newly acquired low mileage X Type, Col and Di Graham in the 'Blue Puss' and Stu and Wendy Gross in their immaculate Mark 2. There were a couple of ring-ins, Don and Sandy Milner in a Ford, and my white Land Rover. Phil and Ruth Sperryns E type met us at Cruice Park in a VW along with Helen and Ken Parmenter in their very nice XJS.



We left close to our 10:15am schedule, headed onto the M1 trying to stay together in traffic. A few kilometres up the road we headed left onto 85 the D'Aguilar Highway. It was sometime before I could find a safe spot to stop and try to get our convoy back together. The Mark 2 roared past with Stu nominating to do a solo burn. The rest of us carried on towards Woodford. One car diverted at Woodford to grab morning tea. We drove on another 2.5 kms or so and turned right onto Kilcoy-Beerwah road. Cruice Park was a couple of hundred metres further on. Here we enjoyed our 'bring your own' morning tea and had a good natter for 40 minutes.



Leaving the park with a left turn up Kilcoy-Beerwah road we headed off no longer in convoy at our own pace. Thirteen kms further north east we turned left onto Maleny-Stanley River Road. The traffic was very light and the countryside was quite scenic with Eucalypts and Sub Tropical hardwoods along the road giving nice shade as the temperature and humidity climbed. The road also began to climb quite steeply as we headed up the western side of the Blackall Ranges. Seven kilometres along this road the steep and winding climb continued until we reached the summit of the western range where we turned left again, this time onto Postman's Track.



This descent was very steep and was interrupted by bitumen ridges, like giant speed bumps. This allows water to run off the road in heavy rain. I was concerned about low exhausts and old brakes, so I took up the rear in the Land Rover in case my tow ropes might be required. However there were no problems even with the E Type and the little Elf which had the lowest exhaust. Happily everybody's brakes were functioning well. The descent was about 2kms of very steep narrow bitumen. Once we had descended, the valleys of the Stanley River, and the Mary River opened up to present pretty dairy-farming countryside. We continued along Ahern's Road and past Harpers Creek. After 18 kms the road ended at a T Junction onto Maleny-Kenilworth Road. During the whole run to the T junction from Postman's Track to Harpers Creek we saw only half a dozen cars coming from the opposite direction.

We anticipated 12 members from the Sunshine Coast Register organised by Bob Lewis, and a couple more members of the ABCCC were going to converge with us along the route, but because of my rubbery timing figures we didn't actually meet them until they arrived at Kenilworth. The reason my figures were so 'out of whack' was because when Jeanette and I did the reconnaissance we had encountered a ferocious storm and had to crawl at 20kph. That storm later became a super-cell and wiped out a town just west of Gympie. Fortunately we encountered no hail that day.

The remainder of the trip was through pleasant dairying countryside dotted with healthy Jersey and Friesian cattle along the roadside. Passing through Conondale and crossing the Mary River Bridge we arrived at Kenilworth at about 12:40pm instead of my estimated 1300. The Sunshine Coast members arrived a short time later. The Kenilworth Hotel had prepared two rows of



Kenilworth Pub

tables for us on the front veranda. The menu was excellent I enjoyed my beef lasagne and ogled the magnificent steak sandwiches. A beer went down exceptionally well after the drive. Thank you Bob Lewis for inviting the Prices, Greasley's, Vince Arrowsmith, Lou Delfos, the Jenkinsons and guests Bert and Lydia from the Sunshine Coast Register to join us. Thank you Mark Pace for organising the ABCCC members to attend. We must do this run again in the future.

Words from Ian Lind

## HIT MUSICAL TO COME TO BRISBANE IN 2019

Do any members wish to see this musical that critics have raved about in New York & London. ????????

Offered as a treat from our Social Club.



### BOOK OF MORMON

QPAC Wed 1st May 2019 - 7.30pm

Row P Stalls

Ticket price is \$120 (cheapest available) (Very popular show).

Money due Wed 28 November. Please pay Brisbane Register Jaguar Drivers Club of QLD.

Payment by direct deposit:

The Jaguar Drivers Club of QLD Inc  
(include surname as a reference)  
BSB 484 799 Acc No 506117953 or  
cheques made Payable to "Jaguar Drivers  
Club QLD Inc" & write "Book M "the  
reverse then post to : Brisbane Register  
JDCQ , c/- 3621/30 Hollins Cres New Farm  
Q 4005

## Congratulations

We see that a few Brisbane Register members won prizes at the recent All British Day - Jaguar Pride and Joy Competition -congratulations to them.

Winner - **Jonathan McLeod**

2nd place—**Allan Hilless**

3rd place—**David Spence**

**Col Galley** won the "owners choice" with his **Jensen Interceptor**

David Spence had an extremely good day as he also won the raffle prize of a Jaguar for the weekend sponsored by Springwood Jaguar.

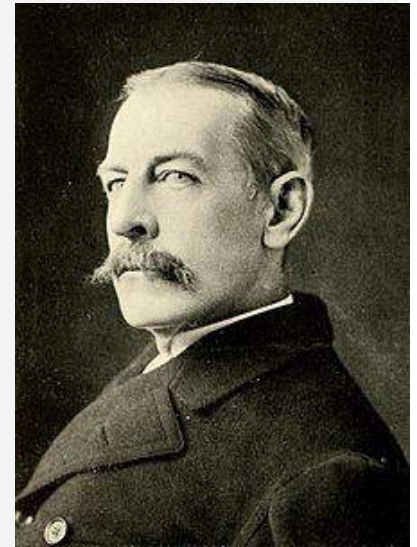
## Welcome to new Brisbane Register members

<b>Trevor Young</b>	<b>XJ6 S2</b>
<b>Cary Bielenberg &amp; Tracy Cliff</b>	<b>Mk2</b>
<b>Jackson Smith</b>	<b>XJ6 S3</b>
<b>Ian Luchterhand</b>	<b>X Type</b>
<b>Don Towerton</b>	<b>E Type S3</b>
<b>Carl Brown</b>	<b>XJS</b>
<b>George &amp; Yvonne Merriman</b>	<b>XJS, XK8</b>
<b>Mike &amp; Jan Gould</b>	<b>E Type S2</b>

Welcome

!! GORDON BENNETT we sometimes exclaim but what do we mean and where did the expression come from. Is there a connection with the Gordon Bennett Cup motor races in Europe from 1900? Well yes there is.

In 1795 James Gordon Bennett Sr was born in Scotland. As a young man he joined his friend who was sailing to North America. Eventually his literary abilities found him in New York as a freelance journalist. There, in 1835 he began THE NEW YORK HERALD—this paper was perhaps the first of what we could term the tabloid press. An early scoop was front page coverage of the grisly murder of some poor prostitute. The paper became a grand success and was handed down to his son James Gordon Bennett Jr. James Jr was hard working and inventive. Whatever the story—sensationalize it and sell more papers. He gave financial backing to a Mr Henry Stanley and for 6 months published reports in his paper of Mr Stanley's expedition to Africa. He was in search of the "supposedly" missing Doctor Livingstone. (At least that's what I presume.)



Promoting the newspaper James Jr. established various international competitions. The Gordon Bennett Cup for yachting—The Gordon Bennett Cup for ballooning, ditto aircraft racing and weighing in at 17kgs of solid silver was the Gordon Bennett Cup for motor racing. The motor racing cup's first competition was in France 1900. Nations could submit 3 cars built entirely in their own country and running under their own colours. The first teams came from France, GB, USA, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Belgium and Italy. The race ran from Paris to Lyon. Fernand Charon won the race with a Panhard and so France won the right to stage the next year's event. The 1901 race was run from Paris to Bordeaux but was quite a shambles—indeed 8 people were killed including 2 drivers.



*The first Gordon Bennett Cup was between Paris and Lyon*

Again in Paris 1902 for the 3rd Gordon Bennett Cup racing to Innsbruck. Australian entrepreneur and driver SF Edge took the victory in a Napier thus the 1903 was planned for Great Britain. At that time racing was illegal on British roads. Ireland was suggested as a venue. After the deadly accidents of the 1901 race and a recent Paris-Madrid race that had to be stopped

half way due to so many fatalities, safety was of the utmost importance in planning the Irish race. The circuit was a closed road course of 92 miles. 7000 police were enlisted as marshalls assisted by troops and club stewards, all instructed to keep spectators off the roads and away from corners. The eventual winner was the famous Camille Jenatzy driving the Mercedes in German colours.

Germany was host in 1904—won by Leon Thery from the French team. Another French winner so the 1905 race was back to France. Prior to the 1905 race the French Automobile Club decided that, whatever the outcome they would not be participating for the Gordon Bennett Cup in 1906. They would instead run their own race at Le Mans called the French Grand Prix. The Gordon Bennett Cup was not raced for in 1906 or ever again, supplanted by the upstarts of the Grand Prix brigade.

Gordon Bennett Jr lived it up just a tad. Party days and party ways. It seemed the young man had an infinite fortune and set to trying to spend it. One strange pastime was to drive his 4 horse coach as fast as he could late at night through the city streets only wearing his riding boots. He was engaged to be married to a New York socialite Caroline May. Unfortunately he arrived at a

cocktail party being thrown by Caroline's family roundly drunk. So under the weather was he that he mistook the fireplace for a toilet. The family was not amused and the engagement called off—what's more Caroline's brother challenged Bennett to a duel. Both men were very poor shots and completely missed their targets. Gordon Bennett left New York in shame and spent most of the rest of his life in France or travelling around the world in one of his many yachts. He owned lavish houses in New York, Newport, Paris, the French Riviera and Versailles. He did eventually settle down and married at the age of 73. 5 years later he died at his Villa on the Riviera.

So the exclamation "GORDON BENNETT" means— goodness gracious, whatever next, how could it be so, recalling some of the exploits of the man who gave the world international motor racing.



*Selwyn Edge driving in the 1902 Gordon Bennett Cup*

### JDCQ Chassis Based Register

Invite all Queensland Jaguar Drivers Club members and friends to join us for lunch at Karalee Tavern on the first Thursday of each month this month Thurs 1st November - Enquiries **Lloyd Andersen** 32948960

**Please** - remember to keep your contact details postal address and email address up to date and advise of change of cars to both the secretary Joy Cooper [joy.cooper@cooperation.com.au](mailto:joy.cooper@cooperation.com.au) and also please update your personal details on the website directly.

It is the database held with the editor of the website that is used for mailing out the club magazine and email correspondence such as membership renewals.

Please send your articles and contributions to Cat Chat to [phil.ruthb@gmail.com](mailto:phil.ruthb@gmail.com)