



JAGUAR DRIVERS' CLUB OF QUEENSLAND WIDE BAY BURNETT REGISTER NEWSLETTER

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20th October 2021

PREAMBLE

Gosh, I can not believe how quickly Christmas is approaching and this year I can tell you that I am totally disorganised – not my usual meticulous self and I am assuming that this is due to the fact that old age is starting to catch up with me! Our trip to Brisbane for the 'All British Day' became a very EVENTFUL and STRESSFUL experience for both Bob and I, when smoke began to appear billowing out of the bonnet of our 1983 XJS which apparently indicated that its Electronic Ignition had burnt out. Our XJS seemed to prefer to spend a few days at 'Classic Prestige Auto Services' in the very good hands of Aaron instead of being on display at the 'All British Day'. These things are sent to try us and try us they do!

I would like to say a very Big Welcome to our new members Robert and Beryl-Ann McGarry. It was so lovely to meet you both at our Outing on Sunday.



THE XJS STILL LOOKING GOOD ON THE BACK OF THE RACQ TRUCK

THE TARGA THAT WASN'T – WRITTEN BY BRIAN FOSTER

The entire Wide Bay Burnett Register will know how much I love racing, especially Targa Rally – Tarmac Racing and despite advanced age I am still very successful and always competitive. Just as a recap, I race multiple times every year in various parts of the country and I occupy what is called in the Rally Fraternity, the 'Silly Seat' – that is I am sat in a racing car without a steering wheel in front of me...

As with life in general in recent times, Covid19 has meant the postponement of many Interstate Events. Last year, I was due to race at Mount Buller in Victoria in November (Targa High Country) and in Adelaide in December (Classic Adelaide) both of which were delayed until early 2021.

Out of the blue, in mid-2020 I had got a call from a total stranger, a guy called Niki Tyson, who asked me to race alongside him in Targa High Country. Niki had raced before in 2015 but a split with his partner meant that he lost his co-driver and it had taken him all this time to want to get back and race again. Niki is a skilled Motor Engineer, ironically, I learned he had worked for Jaguar in the UK but now worked for Ford Advanced Vehicles in Geelong – he had built the car we would race, a 1999 Mitsubishi Lancer V1 over a couple of years and was eager to have experience guide him in Targa High Country. I didn't have an entry in that event so agreed to partner with him, but the rally was called off in November because of Victorian Lock-Down and re-arranged for early February 2021.



NIKI'S 1999 EVO V1



1995 NISSAN GT-R

In September, Geoff Bott who is very well known in Jaguar circles in NSW asked me to race with him in Classic Adelaide in his Nissan GT-R. Geoff and I have raced together since 2005 so there was never any doubt that I would agree, and we entered but December saw a problem with NSW and Classic Adelaide was re-arranged for late March 2021.

February 2021 came around and I headed off to Melbourne and then on to Mount Buller where Niki and I were lying a competitive 4th in our class – which was the position we had predicted for ourselves in our tactical discussions. Niki was quite rightly very proud of his car which looked spectacular, he even had the wheels powder coated. Targa High Country is a 3-day event which always exacts a toll on any car. On a long stage just after the lunch break on Day 2 the car began to vibrate and then suddenly the left front wheel decided to part company with the car and headed off into the undergrowth all on its own. The now 3-wheeled Evo was

running on the front disk for about 150 metres until we came to a juddering halt with the hot disk causing a small grass fire... When we retrieved the wheel, we discovered that the mating surface of the wheel had also been powder coated and when the wheel got hot, the plastic melted which meant the wheel nuts were torque released and slowly came undone... We were able to complete the event once another wheel had been fitted but we ended up in 12th place.

Classic Adelaide was re-scheduled to run in late March, but I was unable to compete on this new date. Our one and only grandchild (Abigail) had her 1st Birthday on March 25th and Dawn and I opted to meet the family in Byron Bay and celebrate that milestone rather than race in Adelaide, so I withdrew and got a mutual friend Glenn Evans to take my seat.

I had raced in Targa Tasmania 10 times and 2021 was going to be my 11th. At the last minute my plans for Tasmania had to be abandoned and I was left without an entry in this brilliant, world-famous event. I am usually like a bear with a sore head if I am not competing and people tend to give me a wide berth. I was watching the results coming through on Friday which was Day-5 of the event and suddenly the results stopped, and news of a major incident began to filter through. One of my long-time friends Shane Navin had crashed into a creek and Shane was unable to get out of the car and died as a result – Glenn Evans who had taken my seat in Adelaide was the navigator and gladly he survived unscathed. The next day even worse news was to come through. One of my favourite rally stages is Cygnet in Southern Tasmania. As a stage it has everything, high speed, a climb, a drop to the riverbank and lots of twists and turns. Two of my friends were involved in a horrible accident in Cygnet and both lost their lives – a tragic end to an iconic event and I have to say that for once in my racing career I was glad that I wasn't running in Targa Tasmania 2021.

Whenever we race, we know there is risk associated with the activity. Motor sport isn't alone as an extreme sport, the Sydney to Hobart Race has had its share of mishaps, surfers have become victim to Ocean Predators, as competitors we balance the risk against the result – but competing means everything to me. A number of acquaintances of my family incorrectly assumed that the tragic circumstances of Targa Tasmania will end my racing involvement, but that is not the case. All things being equal I have a full calendar of events to complete 2021, always assuming that Covid19 will not get in the way. In September I will be racing in Targa Great Barrier Reef based in Cairns, but this time I will be with another new team and will compete in a 2016 Porsche Cayman GT4.

2016 PORSCHE CAYMAN GT4



The weekend after Targa Great Barrier Reef I have been invited to race in the Imbil Rally which is based in the State Forest to the South of Gympie. This will be completely new ground for me as I will be racing on gravel for the very first time – and the event includes a night stage which will also be a first. The vehicle I will compete in will be amazing – it is a special vehicle which is prepared to tackle the Paris Dakar Rally, a Nissan Navara like no other in Australia (the vehicle pictured is not the actual car I will be in) – I can't wait for the experience.



PARIS DAKAR NISSAN NAVARA

When November comes around, I will be racing in the Alpine Region of Victoria in yet another type of car – this time it will be a 2004 Porsche 996 Turbo (4WD). First is Targa High Country which is based at Mount Buller. When I raced there in November 2019 it snowed and snowed (20cm) which made for a very challenging event – I hope there will be no snow this time around but the Porsche being 4WD will be fine in any weather conditions.

The weekend after Targa High Country is the Mount Baw Baw Sprint again in the Porsche 996 and then to finish off the year in December is another race in Victoria, the Lake Entrance Rally where I will be in a Mazda RX8. So, a nice, varied run to the flag in the rest of my competition year – as always, Covid19 permitting...



2004 PORSCHE 996 TURBO



MAZDA RX8

I would like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to Brian for this very interesting and informative Article.

I would also like to CONGRATULATE both Brian and his Driver for being placed 2ND in the TARGA GREAT BARRIER REEF in September 2021. WELL DONE BRIAN.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

Excitement was in the air in anticipation of our Outing in September to the 'All British Day' at Tennyson and the Wide Bay Burnett Ladies could hardly wait for their outing to the Wonderful World of Jan's Magical Glass Studio in October.

OUTING TO BRISBANE – 18TH/19TH SEPTEMBER 2021

Once again it was an extremely early rise for Bevin, Sandy, Bob and I and we all met with smiles on our faces in anticipation of what our day would bring. A couple of stops were required for fuel, morning tea and lunch and we had a good run without very little delay in relation to all the recent road works. We actually arrived ahead of schedule and our first port of call was to the Colin Galley Private Museum in Aspley.

My first impression as I walked through those Car Display Doors was **WOW** – it was truly amazing, and it totally blew me away. I wasn't the only member who felt this way – as I captured the looks on the other members faces; I knew immediately that they were completely awe-struck. Colin and Mark greeted us with such warmth and immediately offered us Tea or Coffee and supplied the most delicious little Cupcakes. This would have to be the best Car Museum that I have ever been to, and the hospitality that was shown by Colin, his wife and Mark was just wonderful. We were able to wander around at our own leisure as there were three Showrooms and Colin and Mark were both happy to answer any questions that we had.



A SMALL DISPLAY OF THESE ABSOLUTELY BEAUTIFUL CARS AT THE MUSEUM



YOU LOOK SO GREAT IN THIS BENTLEY GRAHAM; I THINK YOU NEED TO BUY IT!



GREAT PHOTO GUYS – LOOK AT ALL THOSE HAPPY SMILES

Unbeknownst to any of us, further excitement was yet to follow - if that is what you could call it!!! It was time for us all to jump into our cars, well that is what we would all like to think we were doing, when in fact we probably hobbled. After the turn of the key and the purring of the Jaguar, the sound of the idling very quickly ceased and, in its place, came a puff of smoke and then a moan from both Bob and I. This Jaguar was going absolutely nowhere – after much consultation and kindness from Colin and phone calls to RACQ it was decided

that the XJS would remain at Colin's Property until Monday morning. I would like to say a huge **Thank You** to Colin as this made life a lot easier for all concerned.

Our evening meal was held at the Rocklea Hotel which was very kindly organised by Wendy Gross, and it was so lovely to meet members from both the Sunshine Coast and Brisbane Registers. It was a very relaxing evening and there was lots of chatter and laughter and our meals were very tasty.



A VERY ENJOYABLE EVENING WAS HAD BY ALL

Once again it was an early rise the following morning as the gates opened at 7.00 a.m. for the 'All British Day' at Tennyson. Soon after we arrived it was time for an Egg and Bacon Muffin and that well deserved cup of coffee and it was so pleasant just sitting in the school grounds watching all the cars arriving in spits and spurts and people leisurely wandering around the grounds. The car display was huge with so many different varieties of cars. It was lovely at last to meet June Whitehouse, whom my only contact has been through emails – always good to put a face to a name and it was also great to catch up with Tony Herald who we haven't seen for quite a while.



THE FOUR AMIGOS!!



BOB CHECKING OUT THAT XJC





BEVIN AND SANDY WITH THEIR BEAUTIFUL 340 JAGUAR

OUTING TO BUNDABERG - 17TH OCTOBER 2021

Once again there were feelings of anticipation and excitement that gravitated as Bob and I greeted our members on Sunday Morning. There was a huge turnout of members and there was a long line of cars trailing behind us as we travelled the short distance in convoy to Studio 166 – it is always very easy to lose the tail enders due to changing of traffic lights and other hazards, but all went smoothly and fortunately we did not lose anyone which is always a huge relief.

A bright and bubbly Jan met us all on our arrival and of course there was heaps of hugs. The men then continued in convoy to the Bundaberg Railway Museum which I will report back to shortly.

LADIES MORNING

Walking into **Jan's World** is like walking into **Alice's Wonderland** – even as you walk along the bricked path into the **Magical Tea Room** you feel like you are in another world. It doesn't matter how many times you have been to visit you are still in awe of all the beauty and happiness that surrounds you. Jan is one of the loveliest ladies that you will ever meet – bubbly, gorgeous, and such a wonderful Hostess. As soon as we walk through those Tea Room doors we are pampered and totally spoiled, and we don't even have to pour our own cup of tea or coffee – it is total relaxation for two hours. Once again morning tea was stunning and it was a great feeling just being able to sit, eat and chat. Darling Jan even had a prize for the lady who had a spot under their saucer and the very lucky winner was Toni and she won a beautiful scarf. Congratulations Toni.

If you think it is a Wonderland in Jan's Tea Room then just wait till you venture into her Glass Studio – oh boy, I have been there quite a few times now, but I am still absolutely mesmerised, and it is truly like '**walking into a fairyland**'. Decorations hang from the ceiling, lamps, bears, plates, dishes, photo frames, glass flowers etc., (all made from glass) together with items for the garden are scattered all around the three rooms. Jan obviously loves Christmas as she had erected 5 Christmas Trees throughout the Studio. I could hear heaps of

oohs and **aahs** from the ladies as I wandered around the studio. I must say a massive THANK YOU to Jan. It was a fabulous morning of chatting, eating and spending money which is exactly what women **LOVE** to do.



WHAT AN ABSOLUTELY WONDERFUL MORNING



**LEE, SANDY AND BERYL-ANN LOOKING LOVELY
GENTLEMENS MORNING**



ARTHUR AND JAN AT STUDIO 166

As the ladies enjoyed a morning at Studio 166, the gentlemen headed to the Bundaberg Railway Museum, where they were met by an enthusiastic Jim (Chairman), Jillian (Secretary) and Holly (Granddaughter). While sitting around having morning tea, Jim delivered a knowledgeable history of the Bundaberg Railway from the Late 1800's to the current day. A tour of the small but extremely interesting buildings progressed from there. We even managed to be entertained by two fully laden freight trains travelling within metres of the Museum. I would like to say a big Thank you to my 'Roving Reporter Bob' for that interesting paragraph – a man of very few words when it comes to writing!



BILL WAITING PATIENTLY AT THE STATION



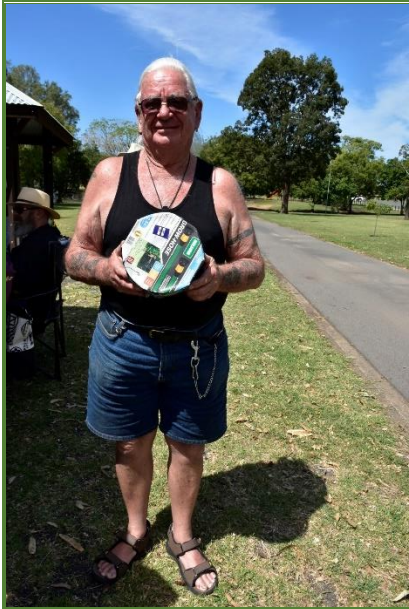
MEMBERS WANDERING AND CHATTING

Following our very exciting morning it was time to say our goodbyes to Jan and clamber back into our Jaguars to drive in convoy to Alexandra Park for a picnic lunch, but I can assure you that the ladies were certainly not hungry after the beautiful morning tea that they had consumed.

Raffle Draw

Over the last few weeks Bob has been busy making new purchases to stock up our Raffle Supplies for the next 12 months and with a little advice from me has successfully bought a few more gifts that are more female orientated. A great supply of gifts are now ready to be won.

Our winner for this month was David Ward who was able to choose whatever he liked, and he chose a Hose Reel – Congratulations David – It was also lovely to see you as I know that you are now working on a Sunday and are unable to attend our Outings. Peter was the lucky winner of the Scratchie – Congratulations also goes out to you Peter.



WINNERS ARE GRINNERS – CONGRATULATIONS DAVID, TONI AND PETER

WHAT'S COMING UP?

21st November 2021

10.00 a.m. – We will meet at 'Walker's Point' Woodgate for BYO Morning Tea and our ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. We will also arrange our Planning Meeting for the first 4 to 6 months of 2022. Lunch will be held at 'The Woodgate Bowls Club'.

4th/5th December 2021

On Saturday 4th December we will travel to Maryborough for our Christmas Weekend. Our Saturday Evening Christmas Dinner will be held at the 'Carriers Arms' Maryborough.

On Sunday 5th December we will travel to Hervey Bay for Brunch at 'Arkarra Gardens Cafe Restaurant'.

'Jag On'

Gaylene