

JAGUAR



TOWNSVILLE



REGISTER



MISSION BEACH

OCTOBER 2005

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

5 October	Meeting at Shelley's Diner, Norgate	7:30pm
22 & 23 October	Richmond Weekend	Details in this edition
23 October	Hervey's Range Road Run	Details in this edition
2 November	AGM at BP Truckstop, Cluden	7:30pm
26 November	Christmas Dinner at the Fels'	76 Robertson Street, Railway Estate
27 November	Christmas Recovery Breakfast	Details in next edition

***Subject to confirmation**

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MEETING – WEDNESDAY 5 OCTOBER 2005

Meeting opened 7:30pm

PRESENT:

Kevin Fitz Gerald; Michael Fitz gerald; Joe Pannia; Dick McInnes; Richard Dixon; Peter Simmons

APOLOGIES:

Alan Collins

MINUTES:

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 7 September 2005, having been previously distributed, were taken as read and were confirmed.

Dick McInnes / Richard Dixon

BUSINESS ARISING:

The club is still going to place an advert in the local paper calling for new members but if it's done this month will also include an AGM notice.

CORRESPONDENCE:

INWARDS:

1. The Running Board September 2005;
2. Cams Permit completion notice required for ABD;
3. Capricornia register notice.

OUTWARDS:

1. Statements etc. sent to JDCQ for annual audit.

Richard Dixon / Kevin Fitz Gerald

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The closing balance at 31 August 2005 was \$655.96

Joe Pannia / Michael Fitz gerald

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Richmond Weekend - 22/23 October

The proposed run to Richmond (Jim Lewis' haunt) is on!! Reg has expressed an interest in going and will take some of Dick's spares with him. Others possibly going are the Raw's (Tablelands) and the Munis' (Mt Isa). If you are interested please call Reg on 07 4721 3636 to organise times, accommodation, alcohol etc.

Hervey's Range - Sunday 23 October

For those boring Townsville based members not going to Richmond, a short run to the top of Hervey's Range is in the offing. Meet in the Willows carpark adjacent to McDonalds on Hervey's Range Road at 1:45pm for a 2:00pm departure. From here it is an easy half hour drive from the Willows to the top of the range to have a tea or coffee at the recently opened teahouse.

Closure of Shelley's Diner, Norgate

As mentioned in the last newsletter we are no longer able to use Shelley's Diner as the venue for our meetings because of the restaurant's closure. Kevin will organise with the management at BP Truckstop in Cluden (opposite the racecourse) to hold all our future meetings there.

Annual General Meeting

Our next meeting (Wednesday 2 November 2005) is the AGM. It will be held at the BP Truckstop in Cluden. The agenda will include such things as the formal name change to North Queensland (decided upon in Atherton), the 2006 calendar, election of office bearers, the Christmas party, Bent valve, best car and member of the year trophies. If you have an agenda item please let Richard know before the day. Please come along to support the club, voice your opinions and maybe even get yourself elected (joking). SEE YOU THERE!

Next Year's Calendar

Richard will prepare a draft calendar for 2006 for the AGM. This is so he can blame others for getting the dates wrong. If you have anything you want added to the calendar that you would like to do with other club members then please let Richard know.

OOPS - Last Months Newsletter

Those of you who receive and read emailed newsletters may have thought that the normally excellent standards had dropped somewhat in September's edition. Well, they had and I hereby tender my most humblest of apologies for any inconvenience that may have occurred. Somehow, what was emailed (an incomplete version) was not the same as what was posted (the correct version). This mix up had nothing (I repeat nothing) to do with a respectable weekend my wife had arranged in Sydney to celebrate our 20th wedding anniversary. Hopefully it won't happen again (at least for another twenty years or so).

Meeting closed 8:25pm

OCTOBER 2005 NEWSLETTER

COVER PHOTO – MISSION BEACH

23 & 24 September 2005

Story and Photos: Joe Pannia (Cover photo by Jan Fels)

No Jags left the Garbutt RAAF Base at the pre-arranged time of 9:30 AM on Saturday 24-Sep-05. Instead Reg and Jan's XJS V12 and Joe and Chris' X300 departed Townsville separately. Dick did our social secretary's duties by arranging this month's outing. Kevin had a gun shindig on, Richard had some plausible excuse for not showing, Alan and Margaret are still overseas, and John and Monica were at their daughter's wedding. Reg arranged to meet up with Craig at his boat at Port Hinchinbrook on the way home. We had a pleasant and scenic trip up the coast along the Great Green Way. It was perfect springtime weather in the tropics.

The Jags arrived at Mission Beach Resort just before lunch. Reg was not contactable on his mobile on the drive up since the original builders' version was so big that it had to be stowed in the boot. Well, you would struggle fitting it into a brief case if you had the last few Jaguar magazines in it. Dick and



Ann had driven to Atherton on Thursday in their XJ 6L S2 and were already at the Resort. They had signed on the dotted line for a house in suburban Atherton, just before driving down to the coast that morning. Dick couldn't remember if there were any cupboards in the kitchen, or what colour the house was, but he did know that there was enough room in the back yard for a shed. Jim and David came down from the Tablelands in Jim's XJ S3 and were ready to party. Kay was in the kitchen cooking lunch and slaving over the 82 different dishes being prepared for us that night, and also for the wedding, 50th birthday party and half of the local residents of Mission Beach. Paul has been recuperating well and was definitely coming to dinner.



We arranged a visit to see Ron and Wendy Burns and check what progress had been made on their several car restoration projects since last year. So after lunch a convoy of three Jags with eight members headed for Bingil Bay. What a mind boggling experience that turned out to be. Ron showed us into a well secured, air-conditioned workshop and dazzled us with his completed projects: a 1908 FH Fabrique Nationale painted

lime green with yellow wheels which he has worked on for 27 years, with materials alone costing \$25,000; and a 1912 Calthorpe, both with shining bronze radiators, lights and

other fixtures. What was left of the FH was bought home in the boot of Ron's car. The remaining parts were sourced far and wide but largely made from bits and pieces on a Taiwanese Kafco lathe. Wendy would be relegated to working at the lathe turning the



parts to their basic dimensions and Ron would finish them off. Sounds like a good bit of teamwork there.

Other projects waiting for Ron were a 1955 BN1 Austin Healey and a 1964 Series 1 E-type. Ron's dedication, enthusiasm and detailed knowledge was very humbling. But that was not all. We were invited into the house for a cuppa, and to see the current project. A partially restored 1914 Morris took pride of place in the lounge room. The

garage turned workshop was in the adjacent room. Ron has his priorities sorted. Wendy didn't seem to mind a car in the house. It was a definite photo opportunity.

Dinner at the Resort was a wild affair with people partying all around us. Ron and Wendy were there too. Paul had the most fun – especially after the resort management gave him four free bottles of wine. Paul and Kay won their court case and although nothing compensates for the traumatic events of the last few years, the extra zeros in the bank balance, a unit down south with a 1982 Rolls Royce, and a TV as big as a movie screen are a good start. No more working on Jags meant that Paul's hydraulic hoist was redundant. Reg mediated a sale of the hoist to Ron, which was sealed by a spit on the palm and a handshake. That was very delightful Paul! Other machines and gadgets like mowers and tools were going out for sale - with Manuel from Barcelona. We eventually clicked that it was Paul's Faulty Towers speak for "it comes with a manual".



Much more reminiscing and story telling occurred after dinner. Dick impressed all of us with his exhaustive work history which included owning a mechanical workshop and running an airline. That was totally opposite to Joe who has worked for the same company for 30 years. Paul announced that the only XJ worthy of owning was the Series 1,

simultaneously insulting Reg, Joe Dick and Jim in one foul swoop! We arranged to go to the Markets the next morning and Paul promised to be there in his white Jag with his two

dogs. He even did the spit and handshake bit with Joe to confirm he was going to show up. Luckily it wasn't very far for most people to stumble back to their units at the end of a very entertaining evening out. Joe used a whole cake of soap to clean his hands that night.



Ron and Wendy were having so much fun they joined us again at breakfast, and also came down to the Markets. No Paul though. Reg dropped in and said Paul was nursing a headache. Was that too much wine or too many handshakes? The Monster Markets were fairly tame compared to the Tolga Markets we had visited during the club's Atherton

weekend. Chris and Jan bought plants. Avocados were a dollar each – you could get six in a bag for that price at Tolga. But paw paws were a bargain – big ones for a dollar. And they were tasty too.

Everyone went their separate ways home after the Markets. Dick and Ann shot through early to have Sunday lunch with their children from whom they are escaping to Atherton. Joe, Reg, Jan and Chris met up at Port Hinchinbrook for lunch – but no Craig. Unfortunately Craig was feeling ill and had stayed home. It was a pity we missed out on seeing Craig's boat. We hope you get better Craig. The café looking out into the Hinchinbrook channel was a very pleasant place to have lunch. Keith Williams, the King of Port Hinchinbrook, was entertaining guests for lunch on the rear deck of his huge cruiser which was moored directly opposite us. Well some people have the means to live it up. I bet it still hurts though when the 6,500 litre fuel tank needs filling. Who said Jaguars use too much fuel?

JAG GETS THE CLAWS OUT

Kevin Hepworth
The Daily Telegraph
23 September 2005

Waiting for a saviour: the all-new S-Type is due here in 2008 and in the meantime Jaguar is fighting to maintain sales

Dressed up X-Types, an oil-burning S-Type, and a spanking new pair of top-end sports cars are the key weapons in Jaguar Australia's arsenal as it prepares for the fight of its life.

"At the moment we are doing OK," says brand boss David Blackhall, who recently visited Jaguar's Castle Bromwich facility in the UK.

"We are meeting the numbers and I don't get too many phone calls from headquarters wanting to know what is going wrong.

"This year I would be happy with 900 [sales] but I think we may do 1000 ... we did 1000 last year and in a segment that is losing numbers that would mean we have taken a little extra share."

Despite that optimism, Blackhall is honest enough to concede that the next couple of years are going to be a hard graft to keep the numbers in the black.

Jaguar's new model roll-out begins with the XK Coupe and Convertible, which Blackhall is hoping to introduce as a pigeon pair mid 2006 but sales numbers will be small, probably less than 100 a year.

The volume car the Australian operation is desperately waiting on is the all-new S-Type, due in 2008, along with the next generation of the XJ, a model, which will no longer be restrained by attempts to make it look like heritage XJs.

"The first thing we have to do is get through 2006 and 2007," Blackhall says. "We have to meet the numbers for those years and to do that we are going to have to create some products of our own here that will keep the sales ticking over.

"If I hit a home run with XK then that is going to about eight cars a month. S-Type diesel is maybe 20 to 30 cars a year ... we are waiting on the new cars (S-Type and XJ) and in the interim it up to us to come up with something different to keep the customers interested."

Blackhall says that while diesel is one of the ideas the company will run with, he has serious reservations about whether the strategy will successfully transfer to the luxury XJ market.

"To be honest I am not sure about whether a diesel XJ would be suitable," he says. "I am still thinking about that one ... we will see how the S-Type is accepted and think about it some more."

Another of the strategies Blackhall is considering is a dressed up X-Type carrying a Sport badge.

"It will not be anything like the previous model, which wore the Sport badge," he says.

"There will be no cloth trim or anything like that but it is an idea for next year ... a \$60,000 car that looks good, looks a little different.

"Mercedes-Benz and BMW have done it well with the C Class and 3 Series dress kits.

"All the bits we need are available in the UK, it is just a matter of sorting out exactly what we want – wheels and the bits to stick on the car – and then getting it at the right price.

"We may even do a bit of sports suspension but there won't be any performance increases offered."



Blackhall says the 2.7-litre bi-turbo diesel S-Types have been ordered as January builds and should be available in showrooms around March.

"The cars will come in a single specification and that will be exactly the same as the petrol V6 luxury being sold now," Blackhall says. "Price parity with the V6 petrol car [\$99,990] is certainly what we are looking at. It is not quite settled but it is on the top of the pile on Geoff's [Polities, the boss of premium automotive group] desk."

Blackhall concedes the plan to offer the diesel model – which costs more to manufacture – at the same price as the petrol car will cause short-term pain to Jaguar Australia's bottom line but this is something he is prepared to absorb.

"We will take a bit of a hit in March [if the diesels are sold at the same price as petrol] as the diesel is a bit more expensive to get out of the factory, but that will be the deal and we will get over it," he says.

CLASSIFIEDS:

These classifieds are free to advertise and items don't have to be Jaguar related. Ring or email Richard to have your items inserted in next months issue. Photos are welcome for inclusion too.

For Sale: **Mini DeLuxe 1969** One owner 55,000 miles. White with blue interior. One of the best and most original in Australia. \$6,600.00 Contact **Glenys** - Mount Isa **07 4743 5290** or **0419 657 774**

Full LP gas conversion. Complete tank, regulator and all fittings for a series I or II XJ6. Asking \$500. Contact **Dick** on **0419 757456**



Series 3 XJ6 1984 Red 165,000km Owned for past 11 years. Engine and gearbox rebuilt at 153,000km \$8,500 Contact **John** on **4771 5673**



1967 Daimler 2.5 V8; 43000 miles; Roadworthy; BEIGE; \$15,000 Firm. Contact **Earl Church** - Cairns on **0417412666** or **0740576029**

Wanted: Pair of Rear Jaguar mudflaps in good condition to suit Series 3. Contact **Craig** on **4778 8004**

JOKE OF THE MONTH

Some light-hearted stuff to start the month....

- 1) Triangular sandwiches taste better than square ones.
- 2) At the end of every party there is always a girl crying.
- 3) One of the most awkward things that can happen in a pub is when your pint-to-toilet cycle gets synchronised with a complete stranger.
- 4) Sharpening a pencil with a knife makes you feel really manly.
- 5) You're never quite sure whether it's against the law or not to have a fire in your back garden.
- 6) Nobody ever dares make cup-a-soup in a bowl.
- 7) You never know where to look when eating a banana.
- 8) You always feel a bit scared when stroking horses.
- 9) The smaller the monkey the more it looks like it would kill you at the first given opportunity.
- 10) Every bloke has at some stage while taking a pee, flushed half way through and then raced against the flush.
- 11) Its impossible to look cool whilst picking up a Frisbee.
- 12) Driving through a tunnel makes you feel excited.
- 13) Old ladies can eat more than you think.
- 14) You can't respect a man who carries a dog.
- 15) Despite constant warning, you have never met anybody who has had their arm broken by a swan.
- 16) You've turned into your dad the day you put aside a thin piece of wood specifically to stir paint with.
- 17) Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.