

# JAGUAR

NORTH QUEENSLAND



REGISTER



CYCLONE LARRY

APRIL 2006

## 2006 COMING EVENTS

Wed 5 April	<b>Meeting at BP Truckstop, Cluden</b>	7:30pm
Sun 9 April	<b>Sunday Run departing McDonald's (Willows)</b>	3:15pm
Sun 23 April	<b>CASUAL CASSOWARY RUN (INGHAM)</b>	See this issue
Wed 3 May	<b>Meeting at BP Truckstop, Cluden</b>	7:30pm
Sun 14 May	<b>Sunday Run departing McDonald's (Willows)</b>	3:15pm
Sat 27/Sun 28 May	<b>ATHERTON WEEKEND</b>	See this issue
Wed 7 June	<b>Meeting at BP Truckstop, Cluden</b>	7:30pm
Sun 11 June	<b>Sunday Run departing McDonald's (Willows)</b>	3:15pm
Sun 18 June	<b>ALL BRITISH DAY</b>	10:00am – 3:00pm

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

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## MEETING – WEDNESDAY 5 APRIL 2006

Meeting opened 7:30pm Members of other interested car clubs (as noted below) were also in part attendance (prior to the meeting) to discuss All British Day.

### **PRESENT:**

Kevin Fitz Gerald; Joe Pannia; Craig Scholz; Richard Dixon; Alan Collins; Reg & Jan Fels; Michael Fitz gerald.

Kevin Warren, TOWNSVILLE VETERAN VINTAGE & HISTORIC MOTOR CLUB INC.

Josh Guinea, QUEENSLAND MINI CAR CLUB INC.

Warren Skimmings (and Alan & Josie), MARQUE SPORTS CAR CLUB

### **APOLOGIES:**

Ian Williams, NQ MACHINERY PRESERVATION SOCIETY


Mick Herron, TOWNSVILLE RESTORED MOTORCYCLE CLUB INC.


### **MINUTES:**


The minutes of the previous meeting held on 1 March 2006, having been previously distributed, were taken as read and were confirmed.

Alan Collins / Craig Scholz

### **BUSINESS ARISING:**

 **All British Day.** See General Business below.

 **Atherton Tablelands** weekend 22/23 April. The club decided that because of the cyclone and the cleanup efforts it would be better to change dates for the Atherton weekend to 27 & 28 May when things were a bit more 'normal' Further details are in this newsletter.

 **Casual Cassowary Run to replace Atherton weekend.** Sunday 23 April 2006 is now designated as a run up and over the Cardwell Range to the Casual Cassowary teahouse. Magnificent views of Hinchinbrook Island and the surrounding channels can be seen from the veranda of the teahouse. Departure time is 11:00am from the RAAF base roundabout. ETA at the teahouse for lunch is approximately midday. See you there!

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

#### **INWARDS:**

1. Flying Doctors magazine;
2. Greenfield's Optical Centre;
3. Leukaemia Foundation, Worlds greatest Shave;
4. 2006 Jaguar National Rally information;
5. Cyclones Rod & Custom Club Show and Shine invitation;
6. Thuringowa City River Festival Invitation;
7. TVV&H Motor Club 'The Running Board'; and
8. Variety club classic cruise invitation and magazine.

#### **OUTWARDS:**

1. **All British Day** committee invitation letters to:
  - ✉ Townsville Veteran Vintage & Historic Motor Club Inc;
  - ✉ Queensland Mini Car Club Inc;
  - ✉ Marque Sports Car Club;
  - ✉ NQ Machinery Preservation Society; and
  - ✉ Townsville Restored Motorcycle Club Inc.

Richard Dixon / Alan Collins

## TREASURER'S REPORT:

Closing balance at 28 February 2006 was \$947.96 with a \$100 cheque outstanding.

Joe Pannia / Michael Fitz gerald



## GENERAL BUSINESS:

### All British Day, Sunday 18 June 2006




Thankyou to everyone for participating and wanting to be involved in setting up this years All British Day. General consensus was to keep the day as a display for British marques and not to invite their European counterparts. It was also noted that the 'informal and relaxed' format helped make ABD an enjoyable day.

The following is a list of comments and things to do that were discussed:






Prior to the meeting:

-  Telephone advice received from Peter Vollugi, Cathedral School naming Sunday 18 June 2006 as suitable for the school and its canteen staff.
-  Telephone advice received from Bill at 4tttt radio stating that the station will support and provide music for the day.




Sponsorship:

-  Shannons Insurance (Todd Martin) to be contacted to see if they are:
  -  able to set up an information stand;
  -  willing to provide a trophy and judge best vehicle (car/bike) on day





Advertising / promotion:

-  Bulletin newspaper, Karla Pincott (or Jeanine) to be contacted for inclusion in weekend features;
-  Channel 10;
-  Community Billboard's;
-  Place cars in Willows markets Sunday before ABD (Joe Pannia to organise);
-  A4 flyers to be redesigned for readability and distributed (Kerry Guinea expressed interest in helping to deliver)

Signage:

-  Sandwich board for Ross River Road median to be made and permit organised;
-  Hanging sign to be located and strung up week before ABD
-  Parking signs to be made up for Ross River Road and Thompson Street

Other:

-  Townsville Photographic Society (Kevin Fleming) has expressed an interest in taking photographs on the day. There were no objections raised;
-  If possible (and available) we would like the Denis fire engine displayed;
-  Incorporate a 'boot sale/swap meet' for British vehicle parts only; and
-  Charities to be approached for interest in selling raffles

If there are any comments, changes or additions to be made, please advise Richard Dixon by email: [rg.dixon@bigpond.com](mailto:rg.dixon@bigpond.com) or another committee member listed at the front of this newsletter.

Meeting closed 8:40pm

## APRIL 2006 NEWSLETTER

### CYCLONE LARRY

Elma Raw, 9 April 2006



Spent 19th battenning down at home then went to David & Wendy's. They moved into a secure cyclone room on cowshed at neighbours to spent a sleepless night while winds & rain arrived, while we were save at home with their important possessions. With a cyclone rating house, we felt pretty safe but were appalled at how much damage the winds did in just a couple of hours. Rainforest was denuded and we can now see into it! Roller doors

are useless apparently so James backed the precious Jag hard up against door to brace it and despite Larry, it held. Our lovely S3 made a good door stop. Car and door both well! Rain fountained through the windows on one side of house as rain was horizontal, so we have to replace carpet, parquetry flooring, shop carpet and have structural damage to barbeque area. Pool looked unusual as book leaf pine tree fell into it and it turned a lovely shade of green. St Patrick would have been pleased. After 3 weeks we finally got power back on and so life feels normal nearly. At this time James has dismantled the big shed and cleared yard with assistance from good Samaritans Anne & Dick McInnes, who also provided showers and food at their place.

Meantime, at Andersons farm milking was being done via a diesel motor in appalling wet conditions. Andersons took refuge in neighbours house without power but with gas hot water and gas cooking facilities but no phone and their own house with half the roof gone and everything they owned ringing wet and ruined! They had to pour out the milk as their road was



blocked with trees for 3 days, and with no way to chill the milk and no tanker pickup it had to go! Family members walked in to check on them on day 3 and then they all combined to clear the road which allowed a small generator to be provided for a small fridge. David's main car shed had window damage which allowed some water in but not



too much. Trees in the front yard all came down as did all the boundary fence ones. In consequence there is a lot of fencing and track clearing must be done asap to keep cows in. The house is unliveable so David and Wendy have now moved into an old caravan behind house and have finally got power organised so have basics restored. Daughter Debbie has come home from Melbourne to assist and son Maurice is arriving at end of

month from New Zealand to help. Hats off to Dick who did a fantastic job in locating problems and repairing David's Holden car damaged in cyclone, so that Debbie could be picked up by mum at airport. We are continually discovering his multi talents and we all appreciate his being here! Anne has had a couple of weeks packing avocados etc so we no doubt will be able to learn all about her experiences when she recovers the use of her fingers and can use the computer. All of us are happy up here but very very very sick of wet weather!!!!!! Please send sky loads of sunshine immediately to cyclone relief appeal.....



### **ATHERTON WEEKEND & CYCLONE LARRY**

Firstly, on behalf of the club we sincerely wish our cyclone affected northern members well and hope they can return to some sort of normality sooner rather than later. Secondly, there's even more bad news..... Obviously the cyclone clean-up is up and running and will be a massive operation. As much as we want to come up at the end of the month the club decided at its April meeting that the Jags would probably 'get in the way' of the cleanup. Because of this the club changed the dates and moved the Atherton weekend to 27 and 28 May 2006. Hopefully this is acceptable to all concerned.

The Yungaburra markets are on the 4th Saturday of each month and will coincide with our visit. For those who don't travel up on the Friday night, there is a market at Ravenshoe on Sunday morning 8:00am to 11:00am.

### **EUNGELLA ADVENTURE**

Craig Scholz

24, 25 & 26 March 2006

G'day Jag Lovers. The weekend trip to the Broken River Mountain Resort at Eungella was a beauty, even though we did get rained out on Sunday, thanks to Cyclone Wati. Twelve members and six cars took a punt on Cyclone Wati disappearing down south and we drove down in two convoys, one on Friday and another on Saturday morning.



On Friday it was the luxury grand tourer convoy, consisting of Richard and Debbie in their Series 3 Sovereign, Joe and Chris in their X300 Sovereign and Virginia and myself in our Series 3 Daimler Vanden Plas.

On Saturday morning it was the turn of the sports cars, with Reg and Jan and Frank and Glenys in their XJSs, with Bill and Jean bringing up the rear in their Falcon (honorary Jag).

On the way down on Friday, we stopped at Bowen for a coffee and twinkie break. Virginia took over and that was the last time I got my hands on the wheel for the rest of

the trip. Chris took us on a Cook's Tour of Proserpine looking for a certain trendy craft shop. After a lengthy search, which is worth a story in itself, we located the shop and trooped in en-masse. It certainly turned out to be a trendy shop, unfortunately it had become too trendoid, with price tags that wouldn't be out of place in Toorak. Of course, this didn't stop the girls and while they were fossicking for treasures, Joe and I spotted a likely looking opportunity shop across the road.

It was here that I discovered Maurice Moo Cow, a very appealing stuffed Friesian bull. For \$2.50 I rescued him from a life of drudgery and boredom. He now spends his days strapped into the passenger seat of the Daimler, revelling in his role as navigator and chick magnet.



It was dark by the time we reached the resort, so we didn't see anything on the way up into the mountains but I could certainly hear something. It sounded very much like a dreaded mechanical fault....a humming or a drone. What the bloody hell was it? A bearing....a fan belt....horror of horrors, the diff? I wound down the window and strained my ears...yes, it was definitely something. I noticed that the sound varied in intensity, especially when the road veered away from the tree line. This gave me some hope, which turned into cold relief when we pulled up in the resort car park. When the engine was shut down, the noise continued. You bloody beauty...it was Cicadas...zillions of the bloody things.

After booking in and sorting out our rooms, we all headed for the dining room and bar. The chef was Austrian and the food excellent but it had been a long day, so after a good feed and a few sherbets, we all trotted off to bed.

I would like to report that on Saturday morning we awoke to the peace and solitude of the mountains but the bloody sulphur crested cockatoos made sure that didn't happen. The screeching, squawking, tree chewing, pooping feathered fiends made me think I was back in the Flinders Ranges. However, forgiving them their sins, we piled into the dining room for breakfast. Whilst everyone else had a brekkie that wouldn't sustain a finch, I had the cook dish up a monster brekkie. By the time I finished, I was as full as a butcher's cat and had to sit out on the veranda with a coffee to let it all settle down.

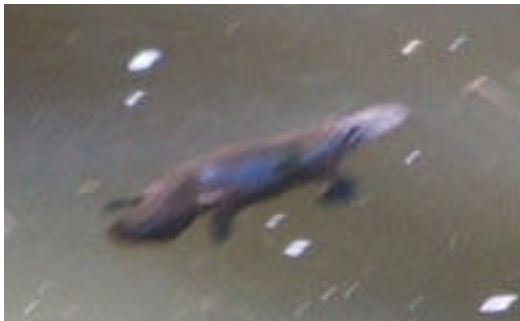


Everyone else geared up and piled into the resort bus for a rain forest bushwalk and platypus hunt, but I had every intention of being a lounge lizard, so I politely declined. Being a cripple has definite advantages. When they got back they were all knackered but had seen a real Eungella platypus. Chris was complaining about how it took them three hours instead of the advertised two. I can't understand why she would complain about getting three hours of torture for the price of two. I thought women liked bargains. *(Editors note: We had actually asked to be dropped off at the two hour walk which we figured even pseudo-cripples like Craig could easily complete in an hour. Unbeknownst to us however, we were dropped off at the three our walk's starting point. Was this the work of an overfed butcher's cat to get an extra hour's nap? We will never know.....)*

Once they got their breath and their blood pressures back to normal, we headed off to the Hideaway Café for lunch. What an interesting place. A little cottage café and craft shop with excellent views of the valley. Once again, the host was German and the food



excellent. She even explained to us the proper and genuine method of making Sauer Kraut. Virginia and I had the best Apple Strudel in our whole lives and considering I have a German heritage, that's saying something. At the back of the café is a unique landscaped garden with little winding paths, statues, knick knacks and all sorts of gnomes, frogs etc etc. It is like a little fairy garden and almost everything that is not animal or vegetable is covered in coloured glass beads.... millions of them. It must have taken years and a king's ransom in glue to do it all.



When we got back to the resort, Reg, Jan, Frank, Glenys, Bill and Jean had arrived. On the way from the Isa, Frank and Glenys slaughtered so many locusts, that when looking at the front of the white XJS, it was hard to see where the locust guts finished and the paintwork started, or visa versa. I'm sure there are cleaner, more effective ways to deal with a

locust plague.

That afternoon, some of us went platypus hunting whilst the rest of us had a kindly nap. Arising fresh and frisky and with a strong coffee under our belts, Virginia and I went platypus hunting. I have seen them before in the Snowy Mountains but Virginia had never before seen a real live, furry, worm-chewing platypus. Knowing how timid they are, I wasn't all that hopeful but would you believe it....as soon as we got to the designated spot, there he was and he entertained us for over half an hour. I reckon it's a tame one that the resort has under contract for morning and afternoon floorshows.

After platypus went on his way, Virginia and I drove into Eungella for a look....next! It became very apparent that there is nothing in Eungella. That is until we found the chalet. What a top spot. It is an old wooden building, not at all flash and the dirt car park was full of



utes, Falcons and Commodores....not one Jaguar. But the location, location, location. Virginia and I sat out on the lawn with a couple of beers and looked in awe as the valley just fell away in front of us. On one side of the lawn is a hang glider launching ramp and

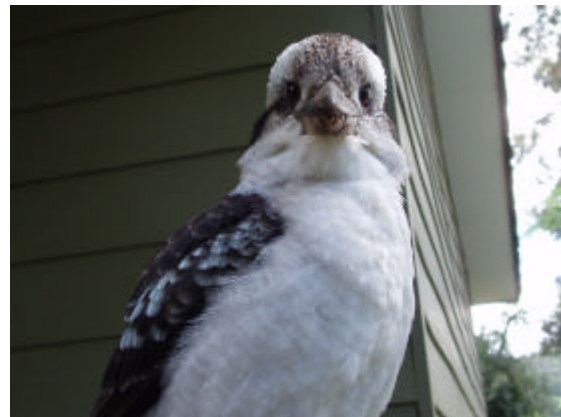


we are definitely going back in the hang glider season. We've even convinced each other that we'll do a tandem flight.



That night back at the resort, we all got together for a dinner of Romanesque proportions. Good food, good wine, good company, flirting with the staff and generally having a huge time. That's what Jag Club outings are all about and that's why Virginia and I love going. The only thing that would make our trips even better, is if more members would come. So all you members that we never see on our trips....come along.... and you'll keep coming back for more.

The next morning the weekend turned pear shaped. It rained and rained and kept raining. All our plans for the day were dashed and it was even too wet for the obligatory Jag photo shoot. Cyclone Wati had shagged us after all. Things got even worse, because thinking that Reg and Jan were heading south with Frank and Glenys, the grand tourer group headed back to Townsville, leaving Reg and Jan to have a wet brunch with Frank and Glenys before returning to Townsville by themselves. We'll get our act together next trip.



### **JAGUAR NATIONAL RALLY**

Newcastle, 14 to 17 April 2006

By the time you read this, Reg & Jan Fels should be well on their way to the Jaguar National Rally in Newcastle. And if they haven't already arrived, Frank & Glenys Munis should be just about there.

We hope you have a great time down there and of course, a safe trip home. Try not to disgrace the North Queensland Register's good name too much – Reg in particular. We are looking forward to some photos and maybe even a story or two.

### **DAIMLER UPDATE**

Craig Scholz

G'day Jag Lovers. After our Mackay run last month, I can now report on the results of the conversions in more detail. As you know, my beloved 1981 Daimler Double Six Vanden Plas (the old girl) has received a few upgrades over recent times, designed to increase her life expectancy, performance and driveability.

She now sports a TH 700 transmission, an Autronics SM2 ECU, a multi-flow air-conditioning condenser and a 2.5" stainless steel Growler air induction system.

TH 700 transmission. It is now as smooth and precise as the old TH 400. However, being a 4 speed with over-drive, it has reduced the cruising RPM by 26%. This has contributed to my overall fuel savings.

Conclusion: Thoroughly recommend, although I wouldn't pull out a good working TH 400 just for the sake of it. The most important factor with this conversion is to source an experienced and competent specialist. Unfortunately, you will not find one in Townsville.

Multi-flow (parallel) air conditioning condenser. It has made a huge difference to the cooling capacity of the Jaguar air conditioner. It now copes more than adequately with the NQ heat and humidity.



Conclusion: Thoroughly recommend.

Growler air induction system. They look really good and because they take up less room than the original system, there is more room around the engine for air to circulate, thereby assisting the engine to cool down faster. However, I still lift the bonnet when I get home. Rubber, plastics and prolonged heat saturation don't mix. The extra air being fed into the engine provides a noticeable increase in power, which I am yet to quantify on a dyno.

Conclusion: Thoroughly recommend. Have them made locally. You will get an excellent product for about 30% of the cost of a US import. They do increase the amount of induction noise, hence the "Growl", but it is not excessive or unpleasant and would definitely suit an XJS.

Autronics SM2 ECU: This is the bee's knees. Being state-of-the-art and totally adaptive, there is almost no tuning variation it cannot handle. The software is being continually rewritten and up-dated. It has made a huge difference to the performance of the V12 and has provided reliability and better economy. Once tuned, unless you vary the air/fuel parameters, you can forget about it.

Conclusion: If your priority is reliability and driveability over originality, this is a must do conversion. The only downside is that the SM2 cannot replicate the legendary smoothness of idle that V12s are famous for. However, this is about to be rectified with a software up-date and the fitting of an Idle Air Control valve. This will also further improve the economy and I expect to smash the magical (for me), 20 mpg barrier.

The Mackay trip demonstrated that the conversions were definitely worth the time and money. There are demonstrable improvements in power, performance, driveability and economy. Only time will tell about the expected reliability. An added bonus is that the upgrades are largely responsible for the re-kindled love affair between Virginia and the old girl. Virginia drove from Bowen to Eungella and I was only able to prise her out of the driver's seat because hunger got the better of her.

So Jag Lovers, if any of you want to inject new life into your Big Cats and further enhance the Jaguar driving experience, these upgrades are certainly worth considering.

## 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:**     **White sheepskin seat covers** to suit Series 3 XJ DAIMLER.  
                  Contact Richard 0428 524827  
                  **Daimler MkII 1964.** Contact Don 0407244825

**Wanted:**     Items for these classifieds

Stories and other items for this newsletter.

## DON'T STEP ON THE DUCKS

Three women die together in an accident and go to heaven.

When they get there, St. Peter says, "We only have one rule here in heaven: don't step on the ducks!"

So they enter heaven, and sure enough, there are ducks all over the place. It is almost impossible not to step on a duck, and although they try their best to avoid them, the first woman accidentally steps on one.

Along comes St. Peter with the ugliest man she ever saw.

St. Peter chains them together and says, "Your punishment for stepping on a duck is to spend eternity chained to this ugly man!"

The next day, the second woman steps accidentally on a duck and along comes St. Peter, who doesn't miss a thing. With him is another extremely ugly man. He chains them together with the same admonishment as for the first woman.

The third woman has observed all this and, not wanting to be chained for all eternity to an ugly man, is very, VERY careful where she steps.

She manages to go months without stepping on any ducks, but one day St. Peter comes up to her with the most handsome man she has ever laid eyes on . very tall, long eyelashes, muscular, and thin.

St. Peter chains them together without saying a word. The happy woman says, "I wonder what I did to deserve being chained to you for all of eternity?"

The guy says, "I don't know about you, but I stepped on a duck!"

