

SPROUTING FORTH

December 2011



The Magazine of the Sprite Club of South Australia

CLUBMAN NATIONALS 2011



Flames!



Parked Sprites!!



Elvis!!!



SPRITE CLUB of S.A Annual Dinner 2011



The Beijing Restaurant on Angus St hosted our club's annual dinner, very well attended by a good number of members, including the Southern contingent of founding members. This venue usually plays host the arts community as they drift in and out of the theatre next door. They aren't the only ones who appreciate good food. The photos clearly demonstrate that not only was the event an informal one, but one where no one walks away empty handed. Well worth the journey!



What happens down South, stays down South...

Minutes of meeting of the Sprite Club of SA 10th October 2011

Meeting opened at 8pm.

Michael welcomed everyone to the October meeting.

Apologies - Neil and Lynn Kirk, David & Elva Fitzner, Barb Ridge, Miles Jackson, Mike & Anne Schmidt, Kevin Caire, Gordon Boyce, Chris Brine

Minutes of the September meeting read and accepted by: Alan Symonds and Paul Doube all member in favour

Correspondence in: Usual magazines

- Letter from CAMS Junior development Program thanking the Sprite Club for their donation in memory of Catherine Dodds.
Correspondence Out : Letter to Bentleys thanking them for their sponsorship of \$500.00. Get well card to Sally Quest.

Treasurers' Report [as received]

Income	\$1,258.15
Expenses	\$349.75
General A/c	\$6,510.35 as @ 3/10/11
Invest. A/c	\$6,701.26
YTD	\$13,211.61

General Business:

Paul Doube spoke about the upcoming Clubbies nationals event. At this late stage CAMS have withdrawn their ability to be the nominated club so they can hold their come and try hill climb. He asked if the Sprite Club Of SA would be willing to step and be nominated club. Paul explained that it would be a zero risk to the club. Supplementary regs have been approved by CAMS. All insurance has been set in place. Full risk assessment as been done by Sean Power. After some discussion and check to see if we had enough members present as per out constitution it was moved by Les Felix and seconded by Gary Brock that the Sprite Club of SA be the nominated club for the Hillclimb.

Paul thanked all the members and will send all documentation to the club.

Upcoming Events:

Display Day 23rd October at Civic Park:
1st Annual Inspection will take place by Gordon and Don.
Don Doug Observation Run is on the back burner for the time being, but it will be held in a new format
27th November Cruise Run. TBA
5th December BBQ Christmas Meeting 6-6.30pm
10th December Christmas Party at the Low's
18th December Cherry Picking at the Beatons (Subject to Cherries being available)

Past Events: Annual Dinner Fabulous night, great turnout of members.

Bay to Birdwood ; Excellent weather and good roll up of Sprites. Good lunch at the Gumeracha Hotel. Lots of atmosphere around the hotel.

Classic Targa.: Club members met to wander and look at the cars, then dinner at the Whitmore Hotel.

Web : All going well with change over, site will be much more user friendly. Festival of Sprites early bird payment due 30th October Thanks Patrick for doing Emails whilst we were away.

Editor: New magazine format will be good , new site almost ready for trial run.

Regalia : open for business

Library: open.

3 New Club Banners have been ordered.

Michael closed the meeting at 9.00pm and asked that members keep in mind next meeting is the AGM and that we will be looking for new officer bearers, please consider standing for one of the positions.

Next meeting November 7th.

VINTAGE COLLINGROVE 2011



Vintage Collingrove has had a tendency to clash with the Bathurst V8 race, usually causing a fair conundrum for me. Does one sit on their arse for an entire day with a few mates in front of the big screen and make wise cracks all day or spend a day fighting for air trudging up and down that great big hill in the Barossa Valley?

This year no clash, so off I went, camera in the passenger footwell of the Sprite, taking the long and winding road up to Collingrove. Our membership was represented in both competitor and administration ranks with Troy Ryan running his well known Mark 2, and Gordon Boyce, acting as Chief Steward.



Top - Trevor Cole lining up in his Austin Seven Special

Middle Left - Clem Smith chugged up the hill in his Hudson Terraplane

Left - Kent Patrick in the supercharged Bugatti

Above Left - Troy Ryan puts some heat into his tyres

Classic Targa Adelaide

14-17th September 2011



Left - Lamborghini Gallardo Superleggera spitting flames near Montacute. You couldn't dream up a more exotic sounding name for a car.

A welcome return to Adelaide for tarmac rallying this year, replacing the now defunct Classic Adelaide event. Some familiar and some new closed special stages were used for Targa including a prologue warm up event through the streets of Tanunda. Over the next three days, almost 200 competitors, [some of whom were 'touring'], covered 130 miles of competitive closed stages on some of our favourite stretches of public roads through the Adelaide hills.

Targa is also the first round of the 2011 Australian Targa Championship. Parc ferme, [a fancy French way of saying car park] was at Goyder Pavillion, from where our intrepid friends would launch themselves each morning to do battle with stages like the Corkscrew, Castambul, Chain of Ponds, and Chapel Hill. Less evocatively named stages like Scott Bottom and Cudlee Creek nonetheless produced similar chances of dropping off the edge, or becoming an unwilling tree surgeon.

It was the usual crowd in the usual places, all of whom armed with the necessary refreshments and gathering around eskies and BBQ's. We enjoyed the Porsche Carrera GT, and the flaming Gallardo Superleggera, a gaggle

of Porsches, and from the British stable, a Big Healey, an MGB GT, and much to my bemusement, a Rover SD1. Not that there is anything wrong with that...

On the Friday night, the competitors gathered in Gouger Street, so as tradition demands it, Sprite Club members gathered to inspect and discuss, periodically entertained by dancing girls in the street, before retiring to the Whitmore Hotel for a feed.

Back to serious stuff early the next morning with everyone chasing Kevin Weeks' 1974 Porsche 911 Carrera RS for outright victory. Kevin and navigator Toni Feaver had a reasonable lead by Saturday, but it was not over yet. Locals Matt Selley and Claire Ryan, also in the same year 911RS were chasing hard. A contingent of Capri Perana's also proved competitive, one of them driven by Chris Ralph, who last year rolled his BMW 2002 eight and three quarter times at Winton.

By the middle of Sunday however, it was clear that former three time winner of Classic Adelaide Kevin Weeks had won again. According to all of the interviews I heard, Kevin felt that he had worked for it, which after all is how it should be.



BAY TO BIRDWOOD CLASSIC 2011



Over a cheesburger and Coke Elvis and I caught up on rumours of his passing. Then he sneezed and his wig fell off.



Left - Loris and Claire washed theirs too.

Clockwise - Club convoy; John gives a two fingered tribute; squint really really hard and you can't tell the difference; 2 Stroke Wundercar; ex STASI company car.

I still say it's a great big traffic jam with lots of old smoky cars, but it's still good fun. For those of you who missed it, here's how it went down. Washed the Sprite the day before, getting three months of road grime and dead bugs off. Meet up with the rest of the gang on Anzac Highway on Sunday morning bright and early. On the way I get dwarfed by a '59 Cadillac as it rolls by me like a land based aircraft carrier. I still overtake it, but only because mine can actually go around corners without inducing sea sickness.

The lawn at West Beach soaked up about eight hundred cars and around a dozen Sprites and Midgets. As I stepped out of the car I realised that I had parked next to Ray Eastwood's 300SL Roadster - see pic - predictably the crowds gathered around Ray's car. A good look around over the next hour at the rest of the entrants and swapping half truths with some of the owners, you know, "it's got no rust", and "despite the little drum brakes, it actually stops quite well". You get the picture.

And we are off at nine-ish, dribbling past the assembled waving kids on Anzac Highway, barely out of second gear, before it all jammed up in the North Eastern suburbs. Straight up to Birdwood to collect the plaque [no Fruchocs this year...], and turn around to have - you guessed it, a meal at a pub.



CLUBMAN NATIONALS - BAROSSA VALLEY 2011



Sponsored by **Hahn SuperDry**, and held in the heart of wine country, the Nationals were clearly going to cater for all tastes. Our brothers in Clubman [count them, 95 of them], put on a great display in the grounds of Chateau Tanunda on their Sunday to top off the four day event. A select (!) group of Sprite reps made their way in, gate crashing and generally making BMC related noises and smells.

An irrepressible group of enthusiasts them Clubbies, normally in cars that leave them more exposed to the weather than one could normally tolerate, they set off to do a Hillclimb on the Friday, only to be thwarted by a total fireban, and again done in by the weather the next day in the rain during an 'observation' run following some 'Targa' stages in the Barossa. The one thing you do get to do in a Clubman is observe - usually at a bloody healthy rate of knots! Smiles all round despite the lack of cooperation by the weather.

Sunday relented and as the presentations got underway, there was an air of comradeship and genuine kinship. Lots of friendly faces and amongst them some genuine craftsmen / women / persons (insert correct term here) that have found ways of utilising small spaces that would make your average Tardis look lame.

So, if you haven't already, go to the website, www.clubbiessa.com buy one, get exposed to some flies in the teeth motoring and join a pretty colourful group!



Below - Reading was never my strong suite....

John Blanden's

Climb to the Eagle Thanks Gordon Boyce



During the 11 years that the Formula One Grand Prix was held in Adelaide, the Climb to the Eagle on the Friday was an important off-track activity for the motoring enthusiast. The "Climb" started at Wakefield Street in the city and wound its way to the Eagle on the Hill Hotel on the main freeway out of town (there was no Heysen Tunnels in those days).

The cars were the special cars here for the GP, quite often ex-F1 racing cars (Brabham, Talbot Lago, Bugatti, Alfa Romeo, etc), Car club vehicles from the Wakefield Garage (the Sprite Club was one of these clubs in 1991) and the cars that had completed the Grand Prix Rally from Melbourne all ascended to the "Eagle". The racing cars were given a temporary registration permit for the day so they could be driven on the road. During 1991 we had a rotary and a 2 litre Toyota powered, slick tyred racing Sprites in the "Climb", driving up to the Crafrers Interchange to turn around, before returning to the GP Circuit....A great sight!!

Many would park on the roads and then join this procession for a quick run up the hill. The Sprite Club used to meet in Hutt Street and join in the run. It was a great motoring morning.

Reliving this event after the GP disappeared over the border, the Climb to the Eagle has remained on the motoring calendar on the first Friday in November for 27 years. Seeing it was twenty years since I was last officially involved with the "Climb" I decided to enter and have a bit of father and son bonding and an excuse for a day of work!

Over 220 cars had entered for the 2011 "Climb" and we all met on the Pit Straight at the GP/Clipsal 500 circuit in Victoria Park. The range and variation of cars was impressive including Bugatti, Alfa Romeo, Ferrari, Aston Martin, Porsche, MG and Jaguar. The Sprite Club proudly represented most models from Bugeye to Rubber-nosed MG Midget. The Clubbies were also well represented joining at the start after their traditional breakfast at Sean Powers home.

At 9.00am we were flagged off by Glen Dix (the famous flagman from the Adelaide GP's). After negotiating the Adelaide morning traffic we headed up the old road to Eagle on the Hill. The hotel is now a private residence so we headed past, rejoining the new road and exiting at the Crafrers Interchange. Turning right the procession journeyed along Upper Sturt Road to the Belair Country Club for morning tea. Here was a chance to see more of the cars, have a coffee or make some minor adjustments to their cars. David Low's Bugeye was keeping the brakes on, so a couple of



turns to the master cylinder pushrod relieved the pressure build-up.

After about an hour we returned to the Sprites and headed to Victor Harbour for lunch. The "Climb" has now included a further run to extend the day for those if they wish. While you can purchase the run sheet, we Sprite club members prefer to follow someone who we think is going in the right direction. The best bit is some follow us because they think we know where we are going!

With the Low's, the Jackson's and the Boyce father and son on this part of the run, we all took turns in leading (meaning we tried to keep up and follow the person ahead who we thought was going the right way)

Every road we travelled there was someone going the opposite way with a Climb to the Eagle sticker on their windscreen, this helped to confuse us even more. After Willunga Hill we seemed to be following the right person and headed via many different roads to Victor Harbour. Here we parked in the car park at the end of the main street near Granite Island and headed for something to eat.



Sitting on the lawns enjoying a healthy fish and chips lunch is the best way to spend a Friday, viewing the various cars that were still coming into Victor and enjoying the day. We soon parted company with Kieran and I having a visit to the playground and ice cream shop before returning to Adelaide.

The Climb to the Eagle is a great morning run or if you can spare the time a great day run with a huge range of other cars. Something to mark on your calendar for 2012. Kieran said he wants to do the "Climb" again, but I think he just wants another day off school!! I might also need another day off work!!

Sprite Club cars entered for the Climb to the Eagle:

David and Di Low, Chris Brine - withdrawn due to loose generator fan (and excessive resultant foul language - Ed), Peter Emes, Gordon and Kieran Boyce, Patrick Kukla - had to go to work after the start, (also language - Ed), Miles Jackson, Garry Beaton, Peter Rebers. in Clubbies Member David Tyes LHD Midget

Clubbies members included Sean Power, David and Clare Tye and Phil Kies



Left - Not quite a LeMans start.....



And Finally... **A Reminder to all Historic Registered Vehicle Holders**

To comply with the new Historic Registration Regulations there have been some changes to the process for renewing your membership and Registration – Please read the following information.

Sprite Club membership expires on the 31st December 2011.

If you have a Historically Registered Vehicle the requirements for this registration system are:

- **You must be a Financial Member of a recognised Car Club.**
- **The Car Club's Authorisation Officer must inspect the vehicle.**
- **You must have your Log Book signed and stamped to show you are a Financial Member.**
- **You must have the current Registration Paper Signed and Stamped to state that you have a Log Book and you are a Financial Member. Without these completed you are deemed to be driving an Unregistered and Uninsured Vehicle.**

The Current Fine for this offence is \$750.00.

Vehicles can be inspected and Log books can be signed at Monthly meetings by either GORDON BOYCE or DON CARDONE.

Please Bring the Following Items:

- Membership Subscription**
- Current Log Book**
- Current Registration Papers**
- \$5.00 for the New Log Book (If required)**

If unable to attend the meeting the above items can be posted to the Club Register for processing.

If mailing Please enclose a Stamped, Self-Addressed Envelope for Return Mailing.

Log Books and Registration Papers can be posted to:

GORDON BOYCE
46 AYTON AVENUE
FULHAM SA 5024

Due to the 80 Log Books currently in the Sprite Club these are the only methods for Processing Log Books and Registration Papers.

For vehicle inspections please contact:
GORDON BOYCE Ph: 8356 4594
DON CARDONE Ph: 83317865

EDITORS NOTE...*actually its a disclaimer*

G'day all. Usually this bit goes at the front, but seeing as it's probably not that interesting anyway, I thought I would put it at the back where by now, having read this cover to cover, you are either ready to doze off, or have done your business on the bog and are ready to move on. Either way, thanks for reading it through to the end.

I hope you have enjoyed reading this new look Sprouting Forth. If you haven't tell me why and send me an email - paddykukla@gmail.com. Better still come to a club meeting and tell me in person.

I have taken my time in getting this to you, mainly because my bank account is depleted from all the money I put in the f****ing swear jar putting

this together. I reckon it turned out OK for a first effort....I couldn't agree with me more on that one...

So there it was, Sprouting Forth in a new look form.

In the future you can look forward to contributions about members' cars, club events, history, Sprite related motor sports, and anything related that can be dragged out of archives, you as the reader, or from the Inter-web-net-thingy.

Cheers

Paddy



Just an idea for club sponsorship...