

May 2023**Official Bulletin of the Sprite Club of SA**

Another really busy month, with events at The Sporting Car Club, MG Nationals and the McLaren Vale Vintage, so what is May all about? Well, it's the 65th birthday to the Austin Healey Sprite. Yes, that's right, 20 May 2023 marks 65 years since of the most recognised cars was introduced to the motoring world! Described by Wheels as having *"Prominent headlamps and a small oval grille (giving it) the air of a small, friendly, frog. A really small frog for it is little more than knee high!"* The Wheels reviewer went on to give it a glowing performance review, except for the horn which he described as *"rather squeaky"*! They must have fixed that as my Midget is rather loud!!

Two years later Sports Car World described it as *"No sugar, no spice – but much that's nice"*. They finished their article with *"... the smallest Austin Healey is basically as nice a little package as you'll find anywhere ..."*. And the rest, as they say in the classics, is history! Not bad for a car that took much of its mechanical underpinnings from one of the least sporty cars ever to emerge from Britain, the Austin A35!

Peter Hall Memorial Six Hour. After some concern that there were not enough teams, the event now has some 18 teams entered across a variety of clubs, including the Austin Healey Sprite Drivers Club from Victoria. If you can help out on the day (Sunday May 7), please talk to Sean or Pat as I'm sure all and any help on the day would be greatly appreciated!

Winter Hibernation. The days are getting shorter and there is a real nip to the air now but let's not let that cause our cars to go into hibernation for the next 3-4 months! I'm keen to have a couple of winter runs and would love to hear from anyone with suggestions or organise a run to a pub or the like! The cooler denser air makes our cars run better, a good reason to take the roof off and crank up the heater on a clear winter's day (for those not blessed with a heater I'll let you put your roofs up...)!

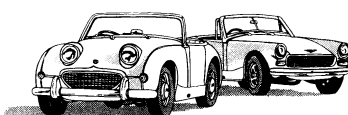
Constitution Update. A dreaded topic I know; however, the rules governing the SA Conditional Registration program have been updated in a few areas and our current Constitution needs to be updated in a few areas to keep it aligned with the current regulations. The committee has also taken the opportunity to make a few other minor changes which will be outlined in an email to all current Club members along with a draft for consideration. In accordance with the Constitution two calendar months' notice is required to convene a Special Meeting where the Constitution can be amended. A Special Meeting will therefore be held following the July General Meeting (3 Jul) where the update will be discussed and voted on. The proposed draft will be forwarded via email to all current members within the next seven days. To make the process as seamless as possible, members are encouraged to forward their concerns or suggestions to the Secretary and/or myself after reviewing the proposed update.

Happy driving!

Robin Dunk
President, Sprite Club of SA

Technical Tip (#5)

With winter now officially one month away (yes, it's May already – where has the year gone??) you may be wondering if you need to 'winterise' your car, in particular your fuel system. There's been a lot written about unleaded fuel and how long it lasts. To be honest, there is no accurate answer, except that it does go stale over time. You don't know how long it's been sitting in the storage tanks at the petrol station and no two fuel companies use exactly the same additives when creating their standard and premium blends, and that's before you consider the ethanol blends that are available. A good rule of thumb is the fuel is at its best for about a month after going into your car's tank.

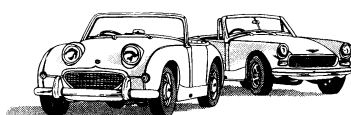


As the fuel 'goes off' the affect is not just the fuel in the tank, but throughout the entire system and if left for too long the orifices and passages of the carb can 'gum up' as the fuel slowly evaporates off. If you are going to park your pride and joy up over for an extended period, consider adding a fuel stabiliser to the petrol tank, take the car for a short run to draw the mix all the way through and then top the tank up before you put a cover over it. If you enjoy a run on a crisp clear winter air once every 4-6 weeks, you can buy additives that will largely replace the evaporated components or you can just put about a 1/3rd of a tank of fresh fuel in before you head out. Given my car averages 20mpg that's at least a 46 mile run every few weeks through the hills. I think I can manage that!

Next Two Months Events.

For full schedule, refer to the events calendar

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| 1 May
Monday | General Meeting
Fullarton Park Community Centre, 411 Fullarton Road, Fullarton Park.
<i>Remember to sign in the attendance book! Refreshments will be served.</i> |
| 7 May
Sun | SCCSA Collingrove Challenge Trophy (Round 2)
Collingrove |
| 7 May
Sun | Peter Hall Memorial 6 Hr Relay
Mallala Raceway
<i>Along with our friends at ClubbiesSA and we have two teams in this event again. And those pesky Austin Healey Sprite Drivers Club types are all heading over to plunder the silverware yet again. Will the AHSDC teams notice if we steal their wheels for a few hours during the event to put them off their game? Come along and see the fun!</i> |
| 7 May
Sunday | First Sunday Breakfast Run
Time for a run out to Mallala and, whilst you are there, pop in and catch the action at the Peter Hall Memorial 6 Hour! |
| 7 May
Sunday | ClubbiesSA 1st Sunday of the Month
Perfect Note Café, 168 Main Road, Blackwood |
| 7 May
Sun | British Classics Tour
McLaren Vale to Victor Harbor
<i>Details ca be found here: https://britishclassicstour.com.au/</i> |
| 17 May
Sun | Midweek Run
Details to follow. |
| 21 May
Sunday | ClubbiesSA 3rd Sunday at the Rezz Hotel
The Rezz Hotel, 0830 |
| 28 May
Sunday | Winery Run
Winery and weather TBC! |
| 4 Jun
Sunday | First Sunday Breakfast Run
Winter's first Breakfast Run so let's pick a great café and head out for coffee and breakfast! |
| 4 Jun
Sunday | ClubbiesSA 1st Sunday of the Month
Perfect Note Café, 168 Main Road, Blackwood |
| 5 Jun | General Meeting |



SPRITE CLUB OF S.A.

Monday	Fullarton Park Community Centre, 411 Fullarton Road, Fullarton Park. <i>Remember to sign in the attendance book! Refreshments will be served.</i>
11 Jun Sun	SCCSA Ray Pank Hillclimb (Round 2) Collingrove
18 Jun Sunday	Winter Solstice Lunch Run A Spritely Run to a pub in the Adelaide Hills to celebrate the coming Winter Solstice! <i>Easy Mid Winter's run up into the Adelaide Hills, ending at a nice warm pub for a counter lunch and a natter. Who will brave the cold and drive up in style, top down??!</i>
18 Jun Sunday	ClubbiesSA 3rd Sunday at the Rezz Hotel The Rezz Hotel, 0830
25 Jun Sun	SCCSA Collingrove Challenge Trophy (Round 3) Collingrove
25 Jun Sun	MSCA Super Sprint Round 2 The Bend (West)
3 Jul Monday	General Meeting and Special Meeting Fullarton Park Community Centre, 411 Fullarton Road, Fullarton Park. Following the General Meeting, a Special Meeting will be held to consider amendments to the Club Constitution and vote on its ratification. <i>Remember to sign in the attendance book! Refreshments will be served.</i>

Upcoming Events to Note:

16 Jul Sun	Sprite Club Slot Car World Championships Scalex World <i>Think you've got quick reflexes and hot wheels? The most hotly contested racing event on any calendar is back in 2023, bigger and better than ever. Meet at the Rezz Hotel for a coffee with the Clubbies and the meander over to Ridgehaven where the rubber will hit the road at Grant's Scalex World complex. It's rumoured that one member has pulled their slot car track out of the attic to practice and is building a special car for the event. \$25 charge per person.</i>
26th Aug Saturday	Pie and Peas Dinner Fullarton Park Community Centre, 411 Fullarton Road, Fullarton Park. <i>Pie and peas. Who would have thought it was a classic South Australian meal. Rumoured to have originated in Port Augusta of all places, the Sprite Club has well and truly embraced this culinary institution with a night dedicated to pies, floating upside down, in a bowl of peas!</i>
16 Sep Sat	51st Annual Dinner Venue TBA
1 Oct Sun	Picnic Run to Collingrove Historic Hillclimb Run details TBA
3 Nov Fri	John Blanden's Climb to the Eagle Victoria Park
5 Nov Sun	Annual Sprite Club Display Day Wigley Reserve



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