

April 2022

SPRITE ON

The newsletter of the
Sprite Car Club of Qld Inc



Day 1 of A Spritely Adventure around Australia by Ian and Wendy Gibbs.
See page 17

The Sprite Car Club of Queensland Inc is open to and welcomes owners & drivers of all vehicles. Our marque is Austin Healey Sprites, MG Midgets and all of their derivatives.

Club Information

Website

<https://www.spritecarclub.com/> Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1737942263157816/>

Correspondence

All correspondence is to be address to The Secretary: By mail:
Sprite Car Club of Qld Inc,
PO Box 252,
Salisbury, Qld, 4107
By email: secretarysccq@yahoo.com.au

Meetings

Club Meetings are held on the 2nd Friday of each month at The Mustang Rooms, Jean Howie Drive, Morningside.
The formal meeting starts at 8pm but you are welcome to arrive anytime after 7pm for a sausage sizzle and a chat.
Sausage sizzle and refreshments are available subject to the Covid safe plan. Contact the President for more details.

Membership

Joining Fee:

New members pay a joining fee of \$100.00 paid pro rata depending on the date of joining. This fee includes the joining fee, annual membership fee for all family members residing at the same address up to May, and 2 name badges.

Types of membership -

Full membership is for current owners of Sprites &/or Midgets.

Associate membership is for all others.

Annual membership:

Continuing members pay an annual membership fee which is currently \$72.00 and is payable in May of each year. This fee includes all family members who reside at the same address.

Club Banking

Details for direct deposits for membership fees, payments for events, purchase of regalia, etc: BSB: 034 002

Account Number: 613033

Account name: Sprite Car Club of Qld Inc

NOTE: Please use your surname, initial and reason for payment as the reference when making a payment.

Advertising

Members may place "For Sale" or "Wanted" ads in the Classifieds section at no charge. Classified ads will be removed automatically after a 3-month period, unless the editor is notified to either delete or extend the advertising period. Ads should be emailed to the newsletter editor. Contact the newsletter editor for further information.

For paid commercial advertising please contact the Treasurer.

Newsletter contributions

The cut-off date for contributions for the next newsletter is the 15th of each month but check with the editor for late inclusion possibilities.

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PLEASE NOTE:

The committee are having some problems with the club yahoo email accounts. If you send an email to any of these accounts please contact the member and tell them so they can confirm receipt. - Ed

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Vacant

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President's Report

Hello Sprite Car Club Members,

It is great to see we are finally starting to get back to some sort of normal with runs and events happening in our club, let's all hope the rain stays away for future events coming up. It was great to see the return of Mike Millard's Midweek runs starting back up with a good turnout from members.

This month on Sunday April 24th, David Chapman and myself will be organising a navigational run on the southside of Brisbane starting at Underwood for all club members to attend, more details will be emailed out in the next week.

Next month will be a major event for all club members to attend, we will be returning to Pelican Park at Clontarf for Sprite Expo 2022. It will be fantastic to see as many Sprites and Midgets come along on the day. We will also be joined by the Austin Healey Owners Car Club, the Southside Morris Minor Car Club, The QLD Mini Car Club, as well as other British Classic Cars on the day. This year will also see the return of the club sausage sizzle and morning tea being available on the day as well as plenty of great raffle prizes. If any members or club sponsors wish to donate any raffle prizes please let me know. Keith Gordon will also be there on the day to collect membership fees, EFTPOS will be available. As Club President I would like to see as many members as possible attend with their cars. If you would like to help out on the day with parking of cars, helping in the food area or judging of cars, please let me know.

This month, there is a change in venue for the North Coast Chapter Meeting they will now be meeting at The Glasshouse Mountains Tavern, the Gold Coast Chapter Meeting is being held at The Gem Hotel.

At the May General Meeting we will be having a guest speaker attend on the night and we will also be holding the vote to change two sections of the current club constitution. One change is for the top four senior positions in the club can be held from 3 years to 7 years maximum. The other change is that the Membership Manager can ask for approval of new members by email & social media instead of just email. The club committee are looking to have these changes passed to move the club forward.

Lastly, I would like to mention that in March, Scott Counsell resign from the Facebook and Email Committee position in the club. This position is now currently vacant. If any member would like to look at taking on this role please let me know. This role is to keep the club's Facebook Page up to date and sending out emails to all members and sponsors keeping them informed of any club events and runs coming up and advising them of any changes that may come up.

I look forward to catching up with members at the next club meetings or events in the future.

Thanks Mark Gillman
Club President



Mid-Week Run Report - 24 March 2022

*Ridin' along in my automobile
My baby beside me at the wheel
I stole a kiss at the turn of a mile
My curiosity runnin' wild
Cruisin' and playin' the radio
With no particular place to go*

Chuck Berry



The first mid-week run for 2022 started at Mt Coot-tha with 6 cars and headed to Chapel Hill for morning tea and a tour of some of Peter Gross's cars: a Karmann Ghia (body in primer and all other bits waiting to be refurbished) and an MG TC with its chassis looking good, but much work to be done on the wooden frame and body).



From Chapel Hill we travelled to Pullenvale where the rest of Peter's collection lives alongside Matt Gross's cars in a rather nice shed. Father and son have some very projects underway. (Note to self: STOP being envious of other people's sheds).

Here we got to see Matt's magnificent Holden ute on the hoist showing off the detailed work under the car. Alongside it was a 1966 Jaguar E Type Series 1.25 with the 4.2 litre motor, a lovely Mk 1 Sprite, a 1947 Jaguar Mk IV, a 1923 Galloway and a 1926 Galloway. And outside, under the veranda, was a FJ Holden ute looking in need of a bit of work. Matt is also building an older Honda motorbike. Busy people these Gross boys.



The Galloways have a unique history. They were manufactured in Dumfries, Scotland in a factory with a predominantly female workforce including the General Manager. Peter understands that there are only 8 cars left in the world and he hopes to take the tourer to Scotland in 2023 for the 100th anniversary.



One earlier model made it to Antarctica with the Shackleton expedition and some parts still remain there.



From Pullenvale we took another short run to a café at Anstead where lots of conversation took place and many problems were solved over lunch. A very good day thanks to Peter, Robyn and Matt Gross.

Participants for the run were:

Peter and Robyn Gross (firstly in a Mercedes and then a Mk 1 Sprite)

Wayne and Glenda Rabnott (BJ8 3000)

Rod Constable (MX5)

David Chapman (Mk 1 Sprite)

Gary Crocker (Mk 1 Sprite)

Mike Millard (Volvo 740 GL)



The next Mid-week Run is scheduled for Thursday 28 April. This time we will include a visit to Wayne and Glenda Rabnott's 'shed' before taking a run through the cane fields

Run details will be on the Events section of the SCCQ Facebook page soon.

Mike Millard

Sunshine Coast Report

The Sunny Coast dinner meeting was held on 15th March at the Bribie Island Surf Club. We had 12 people in attendance and had a lovely meal and chat. The Surf Club gained a few more members when our members realised that by joining they would get the membership fee back with savings on drinks and food on the first visit, and thereafter have cheaper drinks and food on subsequent visits. It's always good to save a dollar to spend on cars (men) or clothes, jewellery, and other important things (women). The trivia was hotly contested with 2 couples declared winners – Gary and Bronwyn and Alex and Annie taking the biscuits. We discussed how great Rod's run had been on the previous weekend, it was a fantastic day out and it only rained a tiny bit. Wonders will never cease. We've decided to change the next dinner from the Landsborough pub to the Glasshouse Mountains Tavern, as the wait time to order at Landsborough on Tuesday nights is way too long and we are too old to stand in line for an hour. See you all soon

Chris

Gold Coast Report

March Meeting Thursday 17th.

This month's meeting was held at the Dog and Parrot Tavern, Robina. Why it's named this I don't know as there is no sign of a dog let alone a parrot!! Maybe next time we will bring along one of each....Six members attended including local members David and Kozie Rhodes for the first time. Southern GC members Richard and Vickki Dutton were unable to attend as Richard was volunteering at Lismore for the flood clean up. We are looking forward to hearing Richard's account of the disaster from a first hand view at our next meeting in April.

Our next meeting is at the northern end of the coast, The Gem hotel, Alberton, Thursday 21st April.

Gary Stevens.

SPRITE



NEW Summer Shirts

With the hot Queensland Sun and the importance of Sun Protection, we have added some Long Sleeved Shirts to our Regalia Collection.

These shirts have UPF 30 sun protection. The Polo shirts are the same as the Life Guards wear.

The Mens and Ladies button up shirts can be ordered individually, but the Polo shirts, I need an order of at least 5.

If you would like a shirt, please contact me on 0412 658 415.

If you want the sizing measurements please contact me.

All shirts will have our Sprite Car Club Logo embroidered on them.

Karen

Polo
Shirt

\$45



Button
Up
Shirt
\$85



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2022 Club Runs

So far we have the following run dates penciled in.

WEEKEND RUNS

Sunday 24th April (Mark Gillman and David Chapman's Run)

Sunday 29th May (Sprite Expo)

Sunday 12th June (Gary Hawkins Run)

Sunday 3rd July (Michael Dix's Run)

Remainder of year has not be settled yet.

Of course, all are subject to confirmation closer to the dates, but hopefully that is enough to help members make plans.

MIDWEEK RUNS (Mike Millard)

Thursday 24th March

Thursday 28th April

Thursday 26th May

Thursday 23rd June

Thursday 28th July

Thursday 25th August

Thursday 22nd September

Thursday 27th October

Sunday SCCQ Xmas Party
4th December

THE CUT-OFF DATE FOR NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES AND REPORTS
IS THE **SIXTH** OF THE MONTH SO THE
NEWSLETTER IS OUT BEFORE THE NEXT
COMMITTEE MEETING - WITH THE MINUTES
FROM THE LAST MEETING INCLUDED



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CLASSIC CAR CLINIC IS NOW OPEN

Classic Car Clinic is now open with all new facilities more space and of course our continued affection for all things classic Sprite. You'll be welcomed by some new faces and familiar ones too.

Should it help in getting back from the new location, courtesy transport can be provided and we can also offer a pick-up service for your car too. We continue to operate during these times and we welcome your business and support. Please like us on Facebook and keep an eye on our feed for updates and invites to future events. Call us or email to make a booking and we look forward to seeing you and your car here soon.

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Our new phone number is 5659 1455
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• We also service instruments from to-day vehicles

Regalia



Men's Maroon Polo Shirt

(Small to 5 XL)

Ladies' maroon polo shirt:

(8 to 18) **\$35**



Dress Shirt

(Special Order Only)

\$50 approx



Car Flag \$20



Cap (Two Styles)

\$25



Sticker \$4



Key Ring \$15



Old Style Grill Badge

\$35



Flat Caps

\$20



Button Badge



\$4

Cloth Badges

(Black or White)

\$10

Also Available -
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RAFFLES



SPRITE EXPO

29TH MAY

2022

PELICAN PARK

CLONTARF

TROPHIES

**\$5 ENTRY PER
SHOW CAR**



**PAY YOUR
MEMBERSHIP**

8AM TO 1PM

**HUGE REGALIA SALE
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MARCH MONTHLY MEETING

Meeting: Sprite Car Club of Qld

Mustang Club Room – Jean Howie Drive Date: 11th March 2022

Chairperson: Mark Gillman Minute Taker: David Chapman

Present: As per Attendance Book – 13 total members attended

Apologies: Carole, Alex, Miles, Scott and Leona, Terry B.

Next Meeting Date: 8th April 2022

Minutes of Last Meeting No matters arising. Minutes for February meeting accepted by Karen.

President's Report Mark welcomed everyone.

Mark would like to discuss the Sprite Expo but this will be discussed in General Business.
Rod C's run is still on tomorrow, 12th March. Here's hoping the weather will be good as a total of 23 people have enquired about going. Mark G
Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer detailed the financial status of the club to everyone who attended the meeting. This included income and expenses for the month and balances of the General account, Challenge account, Term Deposit account and Petty Cash.
If anyone requires any information regarding the club's financial position, please contact the treasurer.

Treasurer's report accepted by Keith. Matt C

Secretary's Report

Mail received March:-
5 x Bank Statements
1 x Goblin magazine
1 x renewal for Post Box
1 x Healy Torque magazine
1 x Spite magazine – S.A.
1 x email from Matt, Treasurer.
1 x email from Michael Dix re: Prizes at the club meetings. This will be discussed at the next committee meeting
1 x email from The Moreton Shire Council re: Expo at Pelican Park – The Moreton Shire has accepted our request to hold our Sprite Expo on 29th May 2022 David C

Sunshine Coast Chapter

The members attended the meeting at the Morayfield Tavern. Approx 12 people attended. It was a very pleasant evening with a great meal and great service.
Next meeting at the Bribie Island Surf Club on Tuesday 15/3/22 6pm.

Gold Coast Chapter

9 members attended the meeting at Dublin Docks at Harbour Town. It was a good night.
Next meeting at the Dog and Parrot at Robina on Thursday 17/3/22.

Club Captain Report

Mid-Week Run Report Gary reported no news.

Alex is unable to look after the run on 30th April as he is caravanning around Australia with his wife.
After much discussion David C and Mark G will take over this run. Gary H

Membership Report

Keith reported no change. 108 members. Karen & Keith G.

Web / Forum

Mike D advised that the current website is up and running. Mike organised to have the website fixed. Everything is functioning correctly and Mike is working on the additions discussed at the previous meeting. The meeting also had a big discussion regarding the website re having a section on lending of equipment etc. It was suggested that this be placed under a section named "Members Forum". Mike to continue working on and finishing the website. Mike D

Newsletter

If any members have anything to add to the newsletter please let Carole know, she is always looking for articles. Carole C

GENERAL BUSINESS

General Business

Mark thanked everyone for their concerns and best wishes for his Dad on Facebook. His dad is doing really well.

Carole is still helping Peter with his recovery as it taking a bit longer than expected, she is hoping he comes home soon from hospital. Our thoughts are with them at the moment.

Condolences to Gary Hawkins about his brother passing away.

Mark reminded everyone that Mike Millard will have his first mid week run on 24th March. Please support Mike and attend.

Sprite Expo:

Mark said we would need volunteers on the day for the setup, parking of cars, organising the raffle, helping get the marquees erected etc. The meeting discussed purchasing 2 Coleman domed 3 x 3 marquees for the Expo. These marquees roll up and fit into a Sprite easily for transportation and Karen mentioned they were on special at Tentworld for around \$170 reduced from over \$350. Mark Gillman and Keith said they would investigate on Saturday and advise. Mark said he would organise the coffee van and at the next committee meeting we will have a discussion regarding food. We would like to invite other clubs – Mini Club, Morris Club and the Austin Healy Club.

Neville said there was a good mechanic for Sprites operating at Brendale. His name is Barry Evans. Mark G

Facebook/Emails Scott C reported nothing exciting on Facebook/Email front this month. A small clean up of the emails and facebook group with the addition and removal of names. Hope all members are receiving emails and notifications in a timely manner. Scott C

Raffle Drawn

First prize: David C – 36 pce socket set (organised by Michael D) – a lovely prize.

Second prize: Matt C – Wolf Blass bubbly, strawberries + chocolate sauce

Third prize: Neville M – Wolf Blass bubbly, strawberries + chocolate sauce

Meeting Closed 8.50 pm

“I have sighted this document and believe it is a true and accurate record of the meeting”.

Signed:



Photos - Michael Dix



Cars & Coffee Events – held monthly.

View or bring your own muscle, classic, vintage, exotic, historic, rare and/or race cars and bikes. It is a great opportunity for like-minded enthusiasts to meet and enjoy a delicious cup of coffee and talk about all things motoring related. All types of cars and bikes are encouraged and welcome to join these family orientated events.

BRISBANE

Coorparoo: 1st Saturday of each month, from 7:30am, Samios Foods, 37 Turbo Drive Coorparoo
Taigum: 3rd Saturday of each month, from 6:30am, Taigum Square, 217 Beams Rd, Taigum. <https://www.carsandcoffeebrisbane.com/>

BRISBANE NORTH & NORTH WEST

North Lakes: 3rd Saturday of each month, 7-9am 21 Torres Cres North Lakes <https://motoring-diary.com.au/event/cars-and-coffee-north-lakes/>
Samford: 2nd Sunday of each month, from 7:30am, Shop 14, 19 Main Street, Samford Village <https://www.bgsclassiccars.com.au/carsandcoffee>

SUNSHINE COAST

Coolum: 1st Saturday of each month, 7-10am at the German Bakehouse, 54 Junction Rd, Coolum Beach. (Also open next door for a \$5 entry fee is the private car collection of Frank Carroll and the Sir Henry Royce Foundation.) <https://www.facebook.com/carsandcoffeesunshinecoast/> <https://www.facebook.com/germanbakehousecoolumcafe/>

GOLD COAST

Currumbin: 1st Sunday of each month, 8-11am, 639 Currumbin Creek Rd, Currumbin <https://cartorque.co/car-shows/cars-and-coffee-currumbin-valley-qld-3535>
Ormeau: Last Saturday of the Month 8-10am Lahrs Road. All British Car Club

NORTHERN NSW

Byron Bay: 2nd Sunday of each month, 8:30-11:30, The Farm at Byron Bay, 11 Ewingsdale Rd, Ewingsdale (approx. 5 minutes drive from Byron Bay). There is a \$2 donation per car to cover costs. <http://byronbayspeedshop.com/cars-and-coffee-byron-bay/>

NOTE: Always check with the Club Website and/or Facebook page for any last-minute changes to the events or any new events which may not be included here. COVID 19 may have affected these events

Five surgeons are taking a coffee break...

1st Surgeon: "Accountants are the best to operate on because when you open them up, everything inside is numbered."

2nd Surgeon: "Nah, librarians are the best. Everything inside them is in alphabetical order."

3rd surgeon: "Try electricians! Everything inside THEM is colour coded."

4th Surgeon: "I prefer lawyers. They're heartless, spineless, gutless and their heads and their butts are interchangeable."

5th Surgeon who has been quietly listening to the conversation: "I like British car restorers... they always understand when you have a few parts left over at the end."

Mike D

A Spritely Adventure.

A lap of Australia by Wendy & Ian Gibbs.

Long- time Sprite owners, Wendy and Ian chose the appropriate date of April the first to begin their big lap adventure. They departed from Grafton that morning, to spend time with family on the Gold Coast before venturing northwards.

You can follow their adventure on the SCCA Facebook page.

Esme, their trusty blue Mk 3 Sprite is their vehicle of choice for the trip, and Ian built a lightweight camping trailer to tow behind the Sprite. In Ian's typical fashion, his construction of the trailer was meticulous, down to Sprite suspension, aircraft quality thin plywood and a place for everything built into the trailer. The whole thing only weighs 340 kilograms, including bed, shower, loo and cooking gear. There is also a solar charging set up to provide power to keep the wine cold.



They arrived at our place in Yandina on Sunday 3rd April for a sleep in a real bed and a meal with some Spritely friends. We fired up the wood fired pizza oven and opened a bottle or two of appropriate beverages.

Carole, Gary, Bronwen, Greg, Terri, Anne and I settled down with Wendy and Ian to a fine pizza meal after Ian had demonstrated many of the features of his new trailer for us. Some time later, with full bellies and lots of tall tales about our Spritely life, the evening came to an end.

Early Monday morning Esme and her owners were ready to depart for Hervey Bay and Fraser Island. Of course, Esme's bonnet had to be opened to check her vital statistics. Some hose clamps were tweaked, the fan belt was tightened, water and brake fluid were added as needed. Esme started first pop, eager to be under way through the Queensland countryside once more.



We will follow northwards ourselves soon after Easter, but at a more sedate pace than Esme, and in a larger vehicle. I doubt that we will catch them though. Their trip is about 4 months duration, ours is going in the same direction but for a year or so.

Yours Spritely, Alex

