



2024
August

Classic LINES



Cars & Places

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Contents

August 2024



Sandy Bolton MP



FRONT COVER:

The connection between women, cars, and places is a powerful one that is deeply rooted in the experiences and emotions that come with exploring the world around us. Whether it's a classic Beetle that reminds you of carefree road trips or a luxury sedan that takes you to elegant destinations, the cars we drive and the places we visit have the power to shape our memories and create lasting impressions that stay with us for a lifetime.

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Patron
Robert J Abbot (OAM)

Presidents Corner

WELCOME TO OUR Diva 2024 ISSUE



Editors desk

Every August it is time for our Club Divas to tell their stories.

From sleek convertibles to rugged off-roaders, each vehicle has its own unique history and personality, and the Club Divas are proud to share them with the world. From the first car they ever owned to the painstaking restoration process they undertook, each story was a testament to the dedication and passion that these women have for their vehicles. Thanks to the Club Divas who shared their car stories!

As we look forward to future editions of Classic Lines, let us remember the Club Divas and the important role they play in our Club.

Please read and enjoy...

Marina Schwartz
Editor

Email:
editor@noosacarclub.com.au
any ideas, articles - many thanks!

Our Classic Car Show was a GREAT SUCCESS!! My thanks to all the volunteers, without YOU it could not happen! Over 1600 show visitors came through the gate. Lets keep on building and supporting our fantastic club!

Upcoming events

September 20th 'Cars & Caffeine'
Maroochydore Golf Club

October 4th '2 Events- Your choice'
Big Kart Racing at Landsborough OR
Coffee at Flying West Café, Doonan

October 18th – 20th Noosa Hill Climb - 2024
Entries NOW OPEN – ON LINE

November 8th 'Cars & Caffeine'
'Spot on Café', Cooroy

For details on all events, see the SOCIAL PAGES on the NBCCC website.

Other reminders:

Membership is ONLY \$75 for 2 people. Please Renew your Membership as it becomes due. We always send out 3 reminders for your renewal.

PLEASE NOTE: Under QLD LAW; If you have an SIV registered Car, you MUST maintain a current financial club membership, or your insurance will be void, & A Big FINE is possible.

Lynn
Shaw

Jaguar



Bagara



Since I married a young bloke in the 60's who always had a passion for old English cars, mostly sports cars, I experienced a constant coming and going of these machines. In the early days I didn't love any of them, as they were a challenge to drive and had no boot space for shopping, so he bags had to go on the passenger seat and floor. After 20 years of this, we bought 2 businesses in Noosa in the early 80's and by then had fallen in love with Jaguars. I thought these might be a welcome change and embraced the idea of the arrival of the 1968 Mk11

I drove it to work sometimes but that all changed once the restoration began. I called her "Queen Elixabeth" as she cost a lot and didn't seem to do a heck of a lot. Then came the 2nd one, then the 3rd and eventually the Daimler XJ40. I loved her. Her name was "The Queen Mum" who rode around in the same model. She was regal, elegant and well upholstered, like a floating armchair. A few more followed, but it was the sedan that bring back the treasured memories.

We were a very active part of the Sunshine Coast Chapter of the Qld Jaguar Drivers Club and went on many long weekends away to attend a few National Rallies in these Jags. All memories.

One in particular was to Bagara to stay in a motel there and every day and evening there were events to enjoy. On the way there from home, we met up with others with older Jags they all worked on and restored themselves- and it was a hot day. Our Mk11 had the exhaust running under the passenger seat, no air con of cause and by lunchtime my feet were on fire. One wife had to stop at a servo to buy ice put on the floor on their Mk11 on a tray, and another wife in their XJ 12 Series 11 in dark green had a lovely experience with a broken aircon and electric windows that would not wind down.

Lunch stop was at a pub where nearly everyone in the convoy, around 30 to 40 people, ordered cold water and ice which a few of them then poured over their heads.

We arrived at the motel, and all made it straight to the pool. Now, for some mysterious reason the heating was on in the pool and with a dozen of hot bodies immersed in it, the experience was rather like standing shoulder to shoulder in soup. De to skilled organizers the rest of the weekend was a great hit, but the place and the people, the heat and the laughter will always be linked to lovely old Jags and their enthusiastic owners. Every time we go to Bagara this memory causes reminiscences and smiles.

Mercedes-Benz

Luxury & Style

Lucille
Cameron



When it comes to iconic luxury cars, few hold a candle to the Mercedes-Benz SL. This exquisite roadster has captured the hearts of car enthusiasts and casual drivers alike with its sleek design, powerful performance, and unmatched elegance. But what sets the Mercedes-Benz SL apart from its competitors is its unique ability to appeal to the adventurous spirit of women drivers. From the car's stunning exterior to its luxurious interior, the Mercedes-Benz SL is a perfect match for women who appreciate quality, style, and excitement on the road.

One of the reasons why the Mercedes-Benz SL is such a popular choice among women drivers is its striking design. The car's sleek lines, bold curves, and dynamic profile make it a head-turner on the road. Women who love to make a statement with their cars will appreciate the attention to detail that went into crafting the Mercedes-Benz SL. This roadster radiates confidence and sophistication, reflecting the personality of the women who drive it.

In addition to its stunning exterior, the Mercedes-Benz SL also offers a luxurious and comfortable interior that is ideal for long drives or quick trips around town. The car's high-quality materials, ergonomic design, and advanced technology features create a driving experience that is second to none. Women who value comfort and convenience will love the thoughtful touches that the Mercedes-Benz SL offers, from the plush leather seats to the intuitive infotainment system.

But what truly sets the Mercedes-Benz SL apart is its performance on the road. This roadster is a true powerhouse, with a range of powerful engines that deliver exhilarating acceleration and nimble handling. Whether cruising down the highway or taking on winding country roads, the Mercedes-Benz SL offers a driving experience that is both thrilling and refined. Women who love the thrill of the open road will find plenty to love about the Mercedes-Benz SL.

When it comes to places to drive the Mercedes-Benz SL, the options are endless. From scenic coastal highways to twisting mountain roads, this roadster is equally at home on a leisurely Sunday drive or a spirited weekend escape. Women who enjoy exploring new destinations or simply taking in the sights and sounds of their own city will appreciate the versatility and agility of the Mercedes-Benz SL. This car is a true joy to drive, no matter where the road may take you.

In conclusion, the Mercedes-Benz SL is a perfect match for women drivers who appreciate luxury, performance, and style. From its stunning design to its luxurious interior and thrilling performance, this roadster offers a driving experience like no other. Whether embarking on a cross-country road trip or simply running errands around town, the Mercedes-Benz SL is sure to turn heads and make every drive a memorable one. Women who crave quality, excitement, and elegance behind the wheel will find everything they desire in the Mercedes-Benz SL.



*Kate
Rider*

I became the proud owner of my little new car just two days before the wet, wet, wet HillClimb two years ago.

It was a rainy day like no other. Just two days prior, I had proudly driven off the dealership lot in my sleek new car, red ribbon and all. Little did I know that this car, my trusted companion, would soon face its ultimate test at the HillClimb event.

As the rain poured down relentlessly, I braved the elements to prepare my car for the impending mudfest that awaited us. Seat covers, rubber floor mats, and a waterproof sheet became my armor against the muddy onslaught that awaited. The Pit area, usually bustling with activity, was now transformed into a sea of mud, threatening to swallow anything in its path.

Loading up sponsor signage, corflutes, fence banners, programmes, driver numbers, cable ties etc into the back of the car was no easy feat in the pouring rain. Every item had to be meticulously secured to prevent it from being swept away by the unforgiving weather. As I squeezed everything in, I couldn't help but feel a sense of determination - we were in this together, my car and I, come rain or shine.

The weekend unfolded with non-stop monsoonal rain, testing our resilience and fortitude. The muddy terrain proved to be a challenging obstacle, but we navigated through it with grace and determination.

Kia


Noosa Hillclimb

My car, a true trooper, bore the brunt of the mud with unwavering stoicism, proving to be more than just a mode of transportation - it was a companion on "the Hill"

And as the sun finally emerged, casting its warm glow on the now drying landscape, I couldn't help but feel a sense of pride. My car, my "Gyndier Hill Girl", had weathered the storm and emerged victorious, a true testament to its strength and resilience.

Looking back, I realize that the HillClimb was more than just a race. And as we drove off into the sunset, mud-splattered and weary but triumphant, I knew that our bond had been solidified in the crucible of that rainy weekend.

So here's to the women, their cars, and the unforgettable journey they embark on - may their adventures continue, come rain or shine.



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Angela
Anderson

Citroen



Philip Island



Growing up in Victoria, one of my earliest memories revolves around a shiny, elegant car that my father brought home. This car became a focal point of our holidays spent at Philip Island, a place where my family and I created lasting memories. The car, a Citroen, held a special place in my heart and sparked a lifelong love for vehicles and the places they can take us.

As a young girl of around 7 years old, the Citroen became a source of fascination and joy for me. Its sleek design and pristine exterior captured my imagination, and I was eager to assist my father in keeping it clean and polished. Our trips to Philip Island were marked by hours spent by the river, collecting water to give our car the perfect shine. The process of washing and scrubbing the car with soapy rags turned into a fun family activity, with the occasional playful water fight adding to the enjoyment.

Sitting in the back seat of the Citroen, I felt like a queen surveying her kingdom. The elevated vantage point offered by the car's windows allowed me to take in the scenic beauty of the countryside as we drove through lush green fields and winding roads. The gentle hum of the engine and the comfort of the seats made each journey a delightful experience, whether we were heading to the beach or exploring new parts of the island.

Despite my young age, I developed a deep appreciation for the elegance and charm of Citroen cars. Their timeless design and smooth performance left a lasting impression on me, paving the way for a lifelong passion for automobiles. Over the years, my husband and I have been fortunate enough to own and drive several Citroen cars, each one evoking memories of those carefree days spent with my family in the countryside.

The connection between cars and places is a powerful one, as vehicles have the ability to transport us to new destinations and create lasting memories along the way. For me, the Citroen will always be more than just a mode of transportation – it represents a cherished part of my childhood and a symbol of the adventures that await when we embark on a journey.

In conclusion, my early experiences with the Citroen car have left an indelible mark on my life, shaping my love for vehicles and the places they can take us. The memories of those carefree days spent at Philip Island will always hold a special place in my heart, reminding me of the joy and wonder that can be found in the simple act of driving. As I continue to explore new places and create new memories, I carry with me the enduring love and appreciation for cars that was sparked by that shiny, elegant Citroen of my childhood.



*Lyn
McGloin*

MG

UK - Abingdon

Nestled in the heart of the United Kingdom lies the picturesque town of Abingdon, a place steeped in automotive history and charm. Abingdon may be small in size, but its significance in the world of automobiles. This quaint town is home to the original MG factory, a place where automotive dreams were brought to life from the 1920s onwards.

In 2018, we had the opportunity to visit Abingdon during our holiday in the UK. Just a short drive from the bustling city of Oxford, Abingdon captivated us with its cobblestone streets and historic buildings. As we wandered through the town, we couldn't help but feel the palpable sense of nostalgia that permeated the air. The original MG factory, though now closed, stood as a testament to a bygone era of automotive innovation and craftsmanship.

The roads of Abingdon, once used by the MG factory to test drive their finished cars, now serve as a reminder of the town's illustrious past. It's easy to imagine the roar of engines and the thrill of speed as MG vehicles raced along these very streets, leaving a trail of automotive excellence in their wake. Walking in the footsteps of automotive giants, we felt a deep sense of reverence for the history that unfolded in this charming town.

Our visit to Abingdon left an indelible mark on us, sparking a newfound appreciation for the artistry and ingenuity that went into creating these iconic vehicles. As we explored the town and marveled at its heritage, we couldn't help but feel a sense of connection to the rich legacy of the MG brand.



Fast forward to the present day, and the spirit of Abingdon lives on in the MG cars that still grace the roads of the world.

Driving our own MG through the Sunshine Coast hinterland, we draw parallels between our trips and our past visit to Abingdon. We carry a piece of Abingdon with us, a reminder of the enduring spirit of adventure and discovery that defines the world of MG.

Our visit to Abingdon was more than just a trip down memory lane – it was a celebration of automotive heritage, a testament to the enduring legacy of the MG brand. As we traversed the roads of the Sunshine Coast and beyond, we are reminded of the passion and craftsmanship that went into creating these iconic cars, a legacy that continues to inspire automotive enthusiasts around the world.



*Barbara
Morris*

Cadillac



Father's Veteran Cars

Traveling down the open road in a luxurious Cadillac, my mind drifts back to memories of my younger days. Reminiscing about my father's Veteran car, a 1908 Clement Bayard, which, much like the Cadillac, commanded attention due to its size. However, the Cadillac exudes a certain sleekness and power that the older car could only dream of. As I navigate the road in this elegant vehicle, I can't help but appreciate how far automotive technology has come since my father's time.

The Cadillac represents an era when style and sophistication were paramount. Its imposing presence demands admiration from all who lay eyes on it. From my first car, a 1952 Morris Minor, to now cruising around in a Cadillac, the evolution is staggering. The thrill of owning my own vehicle before I even had a driver's license seems like a distant memory compared to the comfort and power that the Cadillac offers.

Having been converted to a right-hand drive in Alabama, USA, my rides in the gold '61 Cadillac are nothing short of luxurious. The smooth V8 engine provides ample power for overtaking, making every journey a pleasure. However, the transition to left-hand drive cars can be disconcerting, especially when faced with oncoming traffic. Despite this, the Cadillac remains a comfortable sanctuary on wheels, akin to a plush lounge chair on the go.

As a woman navigating the world of classic cars and memorable places, each ride in the Cadillac feels like a journey back in time. The nostalgia of driving such a timeless vehicle is juxtaposed with the modern conveniences it offers.



Whether exploring scenic hinterland roads or bustling Noosa streets, the Cadillac stands out as a symbol of luxury and refinement. Its timeless design and powerful engine capture the essence of sophistication and style, reflecting a bygone era where every drive was an opportunity to showcase class and elegance.

As a woman who appreciates the finer things in life, each ride in this classic car is a reminder of the glamour and grace of a bygone era.

So, the next time you hit the road, why not do it in style with a Classic Cadillac like ours? Join our Club come for social drives, for you won't just be driving; you'll be making memories that will last a lifetime.

Sharon Alexander

Marjory the Mercedes



My South African Adventures

When it comes to memorable moments involving cars and places, Johannesburg Airport stands out as the setting for a particularly unique and unexpected scenario. Imagine arriving at the bustling airport, anticipating the usual hustle and bustle, only to be greeted by a surprising turn of events involving a beloved family member and a luxurious vehicle...

Upon arriving at Johannesburg Airport, complete with a slab of Toohey's Old Beer (for my brother), thrust on me unexpectedly by my parents at Sydney Airport, I was duly presented by brother Lynn with a Mercedes car that I apparently owned. Lynn had already christened her 'Marjory the Mercedes', or Marj for short, and had bought her with the money I had lent him, so he reckoned she actually belonged to me. I was expecting the loan to have been repaid in cash, not being presented with a light green Mercedes Benz 300SEL, but that's another story! Just love family

My very first car was also courtesy of brother Lynn, who owned a dark blue Fiat 850 that he wanted to keep until getting on the plane for his big overseas adventure. Foolishly I said I'd buy it off him to help him out and this was before he asked if I could loan him some extra cash as he was straight out of Uni and wanted to travel to Africa to complete his medical internship over there. My nursing colleagues called my little Fiat 850 the Pregnant Rice Bubble, but she was extremely good for parking in small spaces, unlike Marj that seemed at least three times as long ...

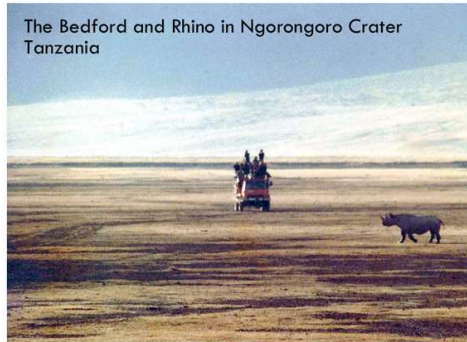
Going from a Fiat 850 (two door) to a Mercedes 300 SEL 6.3 (four door), is sort of like transitioning from having your parents holding onto your tricycle and then being given the freedom to peddle like mad on your big girl's bike. Or so I thought as I drove carefree along the very extremely flat Little Karoo desert at 120 kms, with white knuckled Lynn in the passenger seat, who was frantically advising that the maximum speed limit is 90kms throughout South Africa in order to save on fuel consumption. Just as he was telling me about the maximum speed limit, we came to a sudden crest in this long stretch of desert with a 60km sign perched just over the top of the decline and two burley policemen sitting near the bottom, under the shade of the only Acacia tree for miles, holding up the proverbial speed gun.



Brother Lynn next to "Marjory the Mercedes"



Sharon (with brother Lynn) before she heads off through Africa on a Bedford Truck



The Bedford and Rhino in Ngorongoro Crater Tanzania



The Bedford in the Sahara



*Glen
Sheahan*

BMW

Friendship

As a seasoned woman driver who has navigated through the twists and turns of life's road, I can proudly say that I have experienced my fair share of automotive adventures. With a track record that includes writing off not one, not two, but three cars in my stellar career behind the wheel, I've learned a thing or two about the highs and lows of life on the road. And let me tell you, it's been quite the ride.

They say that with age comes wisdom, but they never mention that it also comes with a few challenges when it comes to enjoying the car of your dreams. By the time you've finally got that sleek, shiny beauty parked in your driveway, you might find yourself questioning whether you can still pull off that effortlessly elegant entrance and exit that you had always envisioned. But fear not, because when it comes to the joys of being a woman behind the wheel, age is just a number.

For me, the true pleasure of owning a car lies not in how I look getting in and out of it, but in the freedom and independence that it brings. Sure, I may not turn heads like I used to, but the thrill of the open road and the wind in my hair is a feeling that never gets old. And what better way to enjoy it than by embarking on car runs to charming destinations like the Sunshine Coast, for a leisurely drive.

One of my favorite pastimes is meeting up with fellow club members for delightful lunches in quaint coffee shops, where we swap stories and share laughs about our shared passion for all things automotive.

The camaraderie and friendship that I have found within our club have greatly enriched my life, giving me a sense of community and belonging that is truly special.

My husband Terry and I take great pleasure in the events and activities organized by our club, from car shows to charity drives. There is something truly magical about seeing the impressive array of cars that our members own, each one a reflection of their unique personalities and tastes. Whether it's a classic beauty from days gone by or a sleek modern marvel, there is a car for every kind of enthusiast in our midst.

And let's not forget the joy of being able to help out and contribute to the success of our club. Whether it's lending a hand at an event or offering advice and support to fellow members, the sense of fulfillment that comes from being part of something bigger than ourselves is truly priceless.

So, to all the women drivers out there who, like me, have seen a few bumps in the road along the way, I say this: embrace your journey, celebrate your victories, and never lose sight of the joy that comes from being a part of the wonderful world of cars and places.

And remember, no matter how many cars you may have written off in your lifetime, the road ahead is always full of new adventures waiting to be explored. Drive on, my friends, and enjoy the ride.

Joanne Harcourt-Tate



Mustang America

As a teenager, many of us have dreamt of owning that one iconic car that captures our hearts and imagination. My love affair with classic cars, particularly the timeless Mustangs, has been a lifelong dream that finally came true.

From my teenage years, I harbored a deep admiration for classic Mustangs. The sleek lines, the rumble of the engine, the sense of freedom that comes with cruising down the open road – all of these elements combined to create a deep-seated desire to one day own my own piece of automotive history. This dream stayed with me through the years, resurfacing each time I caught a glimpse of a classic Mustang on the streets.

It wasn't until a trip to America that my passion for classic cars reignited with full force. The sight of vintage Mustangs roaming the streets only served to fuel my desire to finally own one. And so, the search began. Late last year, my quest for the perfect Mustang led me to Cairns, where I found the car of my dreams. The moment I laid eyes on it, I knew it was meant to be mine.

Since acquiring my beloved Mustang, I have found joy in driving it every chance I get. The thrill of hitting the open road, the wind in my hair, and the powerful roar of the engine are experiences that bring me immense pleasure. For me, my Mustang is more than just a car – it's a symbol of freedom, individuality, and passion.

It's no wonder then that Jo's friends have affectionately dubbed her "Mustang Jo." Her love for her classic car is evident to all who know her, with even the local cafe joining in on the fun by using her nickname. To Jo, being associated with the Mustang isn't just about owning a car; it's about embodying a lifestyle, a sense of adventure, and a deep appreciation for automotive craftsmanship.

As "Mustang Jo" continues to cherish her beloved car and share her passion for classic cars with the world, she serves as a reminder that some dreams are worth chasing, and that the love of a classic car can truly transcend generations. So here's to Jo, to her Mustang, and to the timeless allure of classic cars that will never go out of style.

KENNARDS

HIRE

Wendy Gordon

The bond shared over a mutual love for cars can truly spark a beautiful friendship. The Car Club has acted as a catalyst for many such connections, one of which blossomed between Wendy and Kate. Their friendship, nurtured through a shared passion for cars and exploration, serves as a testament to the camaraderie that is ignited through the joy of driving.

Wendy and Kate's friendship is a tale of serendipity, starting at a Social Club function where their paths crossed. It didn't take long for them to realize the striking similarities in their backgrounds, instantly forging a deep connection that transcended mere acquaintanceship. Living in close proximity further facilitated their bond, making impromptu coffee outings, leisurely lunches, and spirited drives through the hinterlands a regular affair.

For Wendy, her infatuation with cars dates back to her early years in the UK, where she navigated the bustling streets as a young adult in the swinging '60s and '70s. Owning a 'Mini' during that era was not just a trend but a cultural statement. The nostalgia of those carefree days, intertwined with the spirit of Carnaby Street, the revolutionary fashion of Mary Quant, and the timeless music of The Beatles, still lingers in her heart.

The enchantment with the iconic British car, the Mini, has endured the test of time for Wendy. It was a moment of destiny when she first laid eyes on the 2016 two-litre turbo Mini Cooper S soft top in the mesmerizing shade of Caribbean Aqua.



The allure of the sleek design, coupled with the promise of exhilarating drives, sealed the deal for Wendy. "I just loved it!" she reminisced, her eyes bright with excitement and nostalgia.

Embracing the Mini as her daily drive, Wendy found a perfect companion that encapsulated both style and performance. As she cruises through the roads, each journey becomes a delightful reminiscence of a bygone era intertwined with the contemporary allure of the present.

The story of Wendy and Kate stands as a testament to the transformative power of cars in forging connections and fostering friendships. In the realm of the Car Club, where enthusiasts converge to celebrate the joy of driving, stories like theirs serve as a beacon of camaraderie and shared passion.

As Wendy navigates life's twists and turns in her beloved Mini, she not only cherishes the exhilaration of the ride but also the companionship of a dear friend like Kate. Here's to the countless shared miles ahead for these two Club friends, embarking on a journey fueled by friendship, laughter, and the love for cars.

Mini  UK

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Christine Loveday



Porsche Targa Tasmania

When it comes to owning and driving luxury cars, there is often a misconception that it is a domain predominantly reserved for men. However, Christine's journey with high-performance vehicles proves that women can be just as passionate and skilled behind the wheel of a powerful machine.

In 1996, Christine had her first encounter with a Porsche when her husband purchased a 996 model as a work car. While she didn't drive it much, this initial introduction sparked her interest in high-end sports cars. Over the years, Stuart would go on to acquire various impressive vehicles, including a Ferrari 360 and a 964 converted to full rally specification for the Targa Tasmania, where Stuart surprised her by asking her to act as the co-driver and navigator.

Despite the noisy and harsh driving experience of the rally-prepped 964, Stuart's passion for cars continued to grow. This was evident when he purchased a dark blue 993 Carrera 4S, a car that Christine fell in love with and enjoyed driving. However, the love affair with the 993 came to an end when it was exchanged for a Ferrari 575, yet another exhilarating vehicle in their collection.

It wasn't until Stuart suggested that she have a Porsche of her own that things changed. The search led them to a stunning 718 in Sydney, a car that captured her heart with its beauty and impressive speed. While she admits she doesn't drive it frequently, the thrill of stepping on the gas and feeling the power of the engine is an experience she relishes, especially when challenged by younger male drivers in their Toyotas.

Christine's story is a testament to the fact that women can have a deep appreciation for luxury cars and possess the skill to handle them with confidence and finesse. Her journey from being a passenger in high-performance vehicles to owning her own Porsche exemplifies how women can break stereotypes and embrace their love for speed and style.



Beyond the thrill of driving fast cars, her story also highlights the bond that can be formed between a person and their vehicle. The emotional connection she feels towards the 718 showcases that owning a luxury car is not just about the horsepower or the brand name, but also about the joy and passion it brings to the driver.

So, the next time you see a woman behind the wheel of a luxury vehicle, remember that she may have a deep-seated love for cars and a thrilling story to tell.

Mary-Alice
Jones

Alfas

Timeless places



Images of travel and classic cars, particularly Alfas, are intertwined in my memory, not only the memorable rallies in Africa and the Australian Outback in our Spider and Quattro, and our attendance at almost thirty Alfa Club National Conventions, but also several visits to the Alfa Museum in Milan, the Goodwood Revival, Pebble Beach and Concorso Italiano in Monterey.

Now we are about to embark on new memory-making adventures in a new car – we have sold our trusty high-mileage 2006 Alfa 147 Diesel for a 2016 Giulietta Veloce 1750. It has very low mileage which we expect to climb rapidly - in the first three weeks we have added almost ten percent to its total.

We drove to Northern NSW for the funeral of my 99-year-old Aunt, then continued on to Lismore where I once worked in the CBC Bank and lived through the '74 flood, and visited childhood holiday spots at Kingscliff, Ballina and Lennox Heads.

Next week we travel to Roma to see our group of long-time friends from the Great Endeavour Rally off on their ten-day adventure to the Simpson Desert, then we return to the Coast for some relaxation at our favourite destinations of Agnes Water and Hervey Bay.

Then the good times continue with friends from our Noosa and Brisbane Car Clubs – you might not see the Spider for some time until the new car novelty wears off!



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Clara
Robertson

Ford

Memories



As the saying goes, some things in life just never change. For Clara and husband Graeme, that constant has been their unwavering loyalty to Ford vehicles. From the nostalgic beginnings of their marriage in 1964 to the present day, the Ford brand has been a cornerstone in their automotive journey.

Clara recalls the early days when her husband, Graeme, was a passionate participant in car rallying in North East Victoria. The thrill of the races, the camaraderie among fellow enthusiasts, and the adrenaline rush of speeding through rugged terrains were all part of their vibrant life back then. However, as time passed, their focus shifted towards raising a family, and the priorities naturally evolved.

But their love for Ford never wavered. Fast forward to the present day, the couple made a significant milestone by purchasing the "phantom," a special 50th-anniversary model released in 2010.

What makes their Ford experience unique is not just the brand loyalty but the sentimental value attached to each vehicle. Clara fondly reminisces how Graeme took the lead in choosing the car while she had the exciting task of selecting the color. Purple her favourite colour! This collaborative decision-making process reflects the mutual respect and harmony that has defined their partnership over the years.

With over 235,000 kilometers on the odometer, the "phantom" still boasts impeccable performance, effortlessly gliding on the roads like a finely tuned instrument. The mechanical reliability of the Ford vehicles has not only been a testament to their durability but also a reflection of the enduring bond shared by the couple.

Ford cars have witnessed the growing years of the children, the laughter-filled road trips, the moments of silence during contemplative drives, and the occasional breakdowns that turned into stories for the family folklore. They have been a silent companion through thick and thin, weaving themselves into the fabric of the family's narrative.

It is a testament to the enduring legacy of a brand that has seamlessly woven itself into the fabric of their lives, standing the test of time and still driving their dreams forward.

As the "phantom" continues to clock in more miles and create new memories, one thing remains certain – the Ford legacy will endure, carrying forward the spirit of adventure, resilience, and togetherness that has defined this remarkable journey on wheels.

GT COLLECTIVE.

Ferrari & Fiat



Fond Memories

Karen
Ho



Since my earliest memories from childhood are of my father tinkering with cars, and going to speedway, it's hard for me to think of a memory that's NOT car related!

Plus of course, I have 46 years of memories built up with my little Fiat 500 (my first car!). Some awesome images and some hair raising - like the time, not long after I got my license, the brakes failed on a steep downhill when I was in the right hand lane intending to turn right into a street (with a council bus stopped in front of me)! Luckily the bus moved, there was space for me to follow around and a bit of handbrake and being able to heel & toe back to second gear got me through...

Then there was the time I came back from a stint working in Hong Kong and rocked up to my mechanic's workshop to pick my car up. "It's not here," said Johnny in his matter-of-fact way. "Um, so where is it?" I enquired. "They took it," he replied. "Who's 'they'?" I wanted to know. "Someone from the Fiat Car Car Club - it's in the museum!" I'd forgotten I'd ticked the 'available for events' box, and the car was part of a history of motoring display at the Queensland Museum.

Lifting the rear wheel of that little swing axle car on the track at Lakeside is also a fond (if scary) memory.

The 308 of course has its own set of (much more recent memories) - the best of which are of course from the Targa Tasmania Tour in 2017. My co-driver Colleen Berry and I were so buzzed and laughing so hard after the first closed stage that we forgot we had to navigate for the transport stage! Possibly the best week of my life...

A cute combined memory is when both my cars were part of a cavalcade for a Fiat friend's sister's (big Italian) wedding taking the grooms-men to the church. The groom led in the 308, while a trio of green, white and red (mine) Fiat 500's carried the other grooms-men. We had to travel from Kangaroo Point to Wilston in busy Saturday morning traffic; through Fortitude Valley. We had crowds of people cheering and clapping everytime we came to a stop at an intersection!

Three Fiats with the Ferrari lurking behind!



SCHNEIDER MOTORS
Greg Reason & Wolfgang Schneider

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Sue
Schmidt

Mustang
Family



In the heart of every family, there lies a story waiting to be told—oftentimes intertwined with cherished memories and passed down through generations. For our family, that story comes in the form of a Mustang, lovingly named "Sally," a car that serves as the glue connecting four generations of our lineage.

Born on November 4, 1964, in the bustling city of Dearborn, Michigan, "Sally" holds within her sleek exterior an enduring legacy that transcends time and space. At almost 60 years old, this vintage beauty is a symbol of resilience, strength, and the unbreakable bonds that tie us together as a family.

The journey of "Sally" is not just about a car; it's a tale of restoration, love, and the unwavering commitment of a family patriarch. In the mid-1990s, when "Sally" was on the brink of being lost to the passage of time, my father-in-law, then in his 70s and seeking a new purpose following the loss of his beloved wife, took on the challenge of restoring this classic automobile.

With unwavering determination and meticulous care, he poured his heart and soul into reviving "Sally" from her almost terminal state. Every nut, bolt, and curve was meticulously attended to, breathing new life into the aged beauty that had once roared proudly on the open road.

"Sally" boasts a formidable C-code 289 V8 engine and a 3-speed floor shift transmission, a testament to the engineering marvels of a bygone era. Her sleek lines, vibrant color, and timeless allure make her a sight to behold—a true embodiment of American automotive history.

But "Sally" is more than just a vehicle; she is a conduit through which our family's stories, triumphs, and sorrows have traveled. From road trips across the country to everyday commutes, she has been a silent witness to our joys and trials, a steadfast companion through the ebb and flow of life's journey.

As each generation takes the wheel of "Sally", a new chapter will be written, weaving together past, present, and future in a tapestry of shared experiences and enduring love. She is not just a car; she is a member of the family, a link that binds us across time and space.

From grandparents to parents, siblings to children, Sally's presence is a constant reminder of the strength and resilience that run deep in our family's veins. Through her, we honor the legacy of those who came before us and pave the way for those who will follow in our footsteps.

As the engine roars to life and the wheels turn beneath us, we are reminded of the power of connection, of the lasting impact a simple car can have on the lives of those who cherish it. "Sally" is more than just a vehicle—she is a symbol of heritage, unity, and the enduring spirit of family.



Lynn
Jones



Nissan

Datsun 1600

In the fast-paced world of automotive industry, where innovation and style go hand in hand, there are certain cars that stand out not just for their design and performance, but also for the statement they make. One such car is the Nissan Z Proto, a limited edition model that has captured the hearts of enthusiasts and collectors alike.

For Lynn, a passionate car enthusiast, the announcement of the Nissan Z Proto in 2021 was like a dream come true. Having shared a special bond with their first new car, a manual 1972 Datsun 1600 in safari yellow, the news of the upcoming release of the Nissan Z Proto in a similar hue ignited a spark of excitement within her.

As 2022 marked the 50th anniversary of husband Ron's first new car purchase, they wasted no time in placing an order for the coveted Nissan Z Proto. The criteria were simple - it had to be yellow, a colour that exudes vibrancy and energy, and a manual transmission for that old-school driving experience that Lynn cherished.

After a nerve-racking wait of fifteen months, the day finally arrived when Cricks Noosaville rushed through the delivery of the prized possession. On December 30, 2022, they finally got behind the wheel of their yellow Nissan Z Proto, a moment that was nothing short of exhilarating. The sleek lines, the powerful engine, and the unmistakable roar of the exhaust - they knew they made the right choice.

As Lynn cruises down the streets in their yellow Nissan Z Proto, she feels a sense of empowerment, a rush of adrenaline that can only come from driving a machine that is so bold. The car may attract attention and yes, even the occasional bee, but for Lynn, the thrill of the open road and the freedom it brings far outweigh any minor inconveniences.

In a world where cars are often seen as mere modes of transportation, Lynn's love for their Nissan Z Proto serves as a reminder that a car can be so much more. It can be a symbol of passion, a reflection of identity, and a source of endless joy and excitement.





Marina Schwartz

The mere sight of a white Nissan X-Trail brings back memories of the breathtaking landscapes and unforgettable experiences we had while traversing the outback.

From the iconic Uluru to the mysterious Devil's Marbles, and the majestic King's Canyon to the tranquil gorges, every destination has left a lasting impression.

The giant granite boulders of the Devils Marbles Reserve, scattered across the desert landscape, create a surreal and captivating sight. Camping under the starlit sky surrounded by these ancient rock formations is a truly magical experience that stays with you forever.

Kings Canyon, with its towering sandstone walls and breathtaking views, is another must-visit destination for nature lovers. The Nissan X-Trail was excellent in navigating the challenging terrain around the canyon, exploring hidden gorges and winding paths.

Places like Katherine Gorge and Windjana Gorge beckon adventurers to immerse themselves in the natural wonders of the Australian wilderness.

Nissan X-Trail Outback



With the Nissan X-Trail as our trusted vehicle, we could venture off the beaten path and discover hidden gems inaccessible to larger vehicles.

Whether camping under the stars, hiking through rugged terrain, or simply enjoying a peaceful moment by a remote watering hole, the Nissan X-Trail enhanced our outdoor experience.

In conclusion, the Nissan X-Trail is more than just a vehicle; it is a gateway to adventure, freedom, and unforgettable experiences in the Australian Outback.

So, the next time you see a 4x4, let it be a reminder of the boundless possibilities that await when you set out on the open road towards new horizons.



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'The gear to get you there
and the power to get you home'

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Marilyn
van Wegen



Alpine

Noosa Hillclimb

The allure of classic cars transcends mere transportation; it embodies a sense of nostalgia, elegance, and a unique connection to a bygone era. When Marilyn van Wegen, alongside her husband Rob, cruises down the open road in their prized possession, the Alpine A110, a flood of memories and emotions come rushing back. Their Alpine is not just a car; it's a symbol of passion, dedication, and a shared love for the art of driving.

The moment Marilyn slips behind the wheel of the Alpine A110, a rush of excitement envelops her. The distinct pops and crackles that emanate as the car changes gears, whether she chooses to do so with the paddles on the steering wheel or lets it run on automatic, create a symphony of power and precision. It just wants to go! There's a button on the steering wheel that beckons her curiosity, a button that transforms the Alpine into an untamed beast, eager to unleash its full potential. Out of the sixty Alpines in Australia, Marilyn and Rob's A110 proudly bears the number 46, a special edition in striking French blue that commands attention wherever it goes.

The Alpine A110 is no ordinary car – it's a masterpiece crafted with care and precision. Made predominantly of lightweight aluminum, from the chassis to the engine components, the A110 weighs a mere 1100 kilos. The 7-speed DSG gearbox propels the car from 0 to 100 kilometers per hour in just 4.4 seconds, accompanied by a thunderous roar that resonates with the soul of an enthusiast. The engine, nestled snugly in the rear, fills the cockpit with a symphony of mechanical melody, each note a testament to the precision engineering that defines the Alpine A110.

As Rob gears up to take the Alpine out for one last hurrah at the Noosa Hillclimb, a tradition he's cherished for years, Marilyn can't help but feel a pang of bittersweet nostalgia. This time, he'll be joined by their son Ben and grandson Marnix, continuing a legacy of passion for racing that spans generations. The Renault Megane, once Rob's trusted companion on the track, now finds a new driver in Marnix, a 17-year-old with a thirst for speed and a reverence for tradition.

The van Wegen family's presence at the Noosa Hillclimb is not just a race, but a celebration of heritage, camaraderie, and a shared love for the road less traveled. The rarity of the Alpine A110 attracts a chorus of admirers and enthusiasts, drawn to its timeless beauty and unparalleled performance. As the three generations of van Wegens line up at the starting line, ready to take on the twists and turns of the hillclimb, there's a sense of pride that transcends mere competition – it's a testament to a love that knows no limits, fueled by the roar of engines and the thrill of the open road.



IT'S ALL ABOUT THE WHEELS



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NOOSAVILLE
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I WANT TO GET INTO
MY CAR AND DRIVE
UNTIL I FIND WHAT
I'M LOOKING FOR.
MAYBE IT'S PURPOSE
OR MAYBE IT'S A
NEW START OR
MAYBE IT'S JUST A
SKY WITH
UNCLOUDED STARS.