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SEPTEMBER 2025

A triangle sign with a red tree

Description automatically generated



1962 Triumph Spitfire Bob Harwood

**P.O. BOX 120 SHELLHARBOUR CITY CENTRE, N.S.W. 2529**

**Website:** [**www.illawarravintagecarclub.com**](http://www.illawarravintagecarclub.com)

**Email: illawarravintage2025@yahoo.com.au**

Text

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P O Box 120

SHELLHARBOUR CITY CENTRE

NSW 2529

Reg No. Y2064930

ABN No.59 048 511 460

***SEPTEMBER 2025***

**IVCC CONTACT NUMBER: 0430 916 081**

**COMMITTEE**

**President/Publicity Officer/Plates Registrar Ron Hillard** 02 4272 41200411 724 120

**Vice President** **/Treasurer Tom Irvine** 0433 916 267

**Secretary/Public Officer** **Dianne Irvine** 0430 916 081

**Minutes Secretary Carol Hillard** 02 4272 4120

0411 724 120

**COMMITTEE POSITIONS**

**Committee person 1, Plate Registrar Gary Harrison** 02 4256 4308

**Committee person 2, Trip Organiser Marie Laughton** 0481 720 229

**Committee person 3 John Fletcher** 0407 704 853

**Committee person 4, Uniform & Regalia Officer Brenda Fletcher** 0407 704 853

**NON-COMMITTEE POSITIONS**

**Plates Registrar Paul Blanksby** 0403 701 788

**Editor VACANCY**

**Send magazine articles to illawarravintage2025@yahoo.com.au**

**SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

**Suppers/Catering John Fletcher** 0407 704 853

**Brenda Fletcher** 0407 704 853

**Welfare Dianne Irvine** 0430 916 081

**Raffles Marie Laughton** 0481 720 229

**CLUB BANK DETAILS:**

**BSB 062 528 Account number 1029 9383**

**Reference: Your surname & event/membership**

*ILLAWARRA VINTAGE*

#### COMING EVENTS AND CONTACT NUMBERS:

**Phone numbers and contact names in the front of the magazine ar e for members to use if they wish any further details about the event and/or if on the day of the event the weather looks doubtful. It is up to each member to make contact and check as it is not up to the organiser to ring members.**

**Contacts are Marie Laughton or Ron Hillard**

**phone numbers on page one.**

If you want to attend an outing of a club that you have listed as a secondary club on your 1259 form, please either notify the daybook co-ordinator or have it minuted at a meeting.

If you want to attend an outing organised by a club that you are not a member of then please make sure you have an invitation from that club and this invitation has been minuted by this club.

**Meetings:** Normally are held every third Wednesday in the Laurel Room, Heineger House, Ribbonwood Centre, Dapto at 7.30pm.

**Committee meetings are usually held the first week of each month. If you wish to discuss anything with the committee, please see Secretary Dianne Irvine to arrange this.**

Opinions and comments in this magazine are not necessarily those of club members, the committee or editor.

**CLUB UNIFORMS & REGALIA**

**Polo Shirts and Jackets can be ordered individually from the club.**

**Contact the Uniform Co-ordinator**

**

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**Happy Birthday to our Members**

**Celebrating in August!**

******

***Phil Holdup***

***John Fletcher***

***Joke of the Month!***

***What do you call a paper airplane that doesn’t fly?***

***Stationery***

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*ILLAWARRA VINTAGE 3 SEPTEMBER 2025*

***Motorkarna and rocker***

***cover races***

***Saturday October 17th 2025***

***Dons Farm 560 Avondale Rd, Avondale 9:30am***

***BYO morning tea and lunch***



***Presidents Run***

***Saturday 25th October***

***Details announced soon***



***Melbourne Cup Day***

***Tuesday 4th November at Marie’s house***

***3-32 Mattles Way Bomaderry***

***Lunch provided @ cost of $15 a head.***

***Let Marie know if you’re coming***



***SCVCC Run around the lake***

***Sunday 9th November***

***Join South Coast Vintage car club for Fish ‘n’ Chips.***

***Meet at Berkley Fish ‘n’ Chip shop at 10:00am***

***General Meeting***

***Wednesday September 17th at 7:30pm***

**Laurel Room, Heineger House,**

**Ribbonwood Centre, Dapto**

***Robertson Picnic BYO***

***Wednesday 24th September***

***Meet at Albion Park***

***Opposite Bowling Club***

***9:15am for 9:30am***



***Berkley Picnic BYO***

***Saturday 4th October***

***Meet at William Beach Park***

***9:15am for 9:45am start***

***BBQ available***



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**Members!**

**Please keep track of all the trophy runs. A lot of work goes into these runs. We would really appreciate your support.**

**JOE – M: 0412 064 620**

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*ILLAWARRA VINTAGE 7 September 2025*

**Shannon's Sydney Classic 17/08/2025**

Attendees were Matt Cox, his brother in law and daughter (Centura), Garry Harrison (Austin Healy), Tom and Dianne Irvine. (S type Jaguar).

We met at 7.15am at Mt Ousley.

It was freezing cold there. It is every time I go there!

Garry had the top down on his car but had a change of heart when he realised just how cold it was and put the top on before we left Mt Ousley.

After this was accomplished, we set out for Eastern Creek.

However, by the time we got to Eastern Creek the weather had started to

warm and by 11.00am it was a beautiful sunny day.

We had morning tea a short time after we arrived and then set out to explore. There were some beautiful exhibits there!

Many beautiful cars from a bygone era that had been lovingly (and expensively, no doubt) restored to their former glory.

We wandered around and enjoyed looking at all the cars then returned to the place where we were parked which was a long way from the main track area, but it was quite nice when you finally arrived back there.

We then had lunch and sat and chatted until it was our turn to drive around the track (1.40pm).

After that we set our goodbyes and headed home.

It was a very enjoyable day, and I would encourage others to think about going next year. I know it is a fair way to travel but I consider it is worth it.

If you are thinking about going next year, please tell me as soon as you decide so I can order tickets early. Maybe by doing that we may get parked closer to the track area.

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*ILLAWARRA VINTAGE 8 September 2025*



Matt Cox, Garry Harrison and Tom and Dianne Irvine’s cars at Eastern Creek.

Story by Dianne Irvine

NSW Seat Belt Detection

Seat beat detection cameras are now operating across NSW. The cameras detect if drivers or passengers are wearing seat belts.

So What does this mean for historic or classic cars that may not have seat belts fitted?

NSW transport will consider whether the vehicle complies with Australian Design Rules (ADR). This means fines will not be applied for cars fitted with lap seat belts or no seat belts at the time of manufacture.

For further information see the Transport NSW website.

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*ILLAWARRA VINTAGE 9 September 2025*

**Birthdays for Special club members**

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Club Legend Marj Tweedie celebrating her 100th birthday last month with family and friends.

A person hugging a child

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A happy birthday was celebrated by Betty Visman last month

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*ILLAWARRA VINTAGE 10 September 2025*

**Solar World Challenge**

Once again, the World Solar Challenge was run this year. Its a bi-yearly event meaning its run once every 2 years. 2025 was different for several reasons. Firstly, it was set 2 months earlier than usual running in August instead of October. Secondly there were rule changes with the battery size and the size of the solar panels.

To recap, the event is to push the limits of solar technology and innovation. Teams must travel 3021km from Darwin to Adeliade using purely solar energy to power their vehicle. On the journey the teams must stop at 11 control points where they must spend 30 mins. During this time only the driver can touch the vehicle. Normally they align the solar panels so that they can charge their battery during the 30 min stop. Start time is 8am. Stop time is 5pm. It usually takes 4 to 5 days to complete the distance.

This is a global event so many teams from around the world attend. As usual there was a large presence from European countries. Multiple Dutch and German teams participated. As well as Asia and America. Australia had several teams from multiple states. I should mention these teams are represented by universities with the actual team members mostly comprising of students.

In 2023 the winning Belgium team was Innoptus and they introduced and used a fin / wind sail. As they won the event this feature did not go unnoticed, so in 2025 4 teams incorporated fins. All 4 teams had a fin that could retract behind the driver’s seat, although I could not verify this with the Hungarian team. However, one Dutch team, Brunel, decided to go with 2 fins. The second and much larger fin had to be manually installed by the driver whilst the car was stopped. It was nicknamed the sword fin.

2025 race was the closest event I have participated in and I have been involved since 2005. The top 3 teams often within a minute of each other even after 2500km! The next 7 teams were only 75km apart. The biggest drama was at the last control stop in Port Augusta. Team Brunel was in first with a 3 minute 5 second lead. At 25 mins into their stop the driver was observed installing the large sword fin. This was the first and only time it was deployed on the whole challenge.

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*ILLAWARRA VINTAGE 11 September 2025*

However, that wasn't the most dramatic point. As they drove out of the control point, they pulled over and proceeded to change the driver’s side front tyre. Time was ticking down. Each second meant the second team, team Innoptus from Belgium, would be reducing the gap between 1st and 2nd. Somehow Brunel, replaced the tyre before Innoptus left the control stop, but they were immediately behind. The gap was literally seconds!

My roll is to document via video and photos all the teams and excitement for event organisers. So we would stop in front of cars and film as the drive by. We often over take them many times over the duration of the challenge to be in ideal positions for filming. In this situation we sat behind the 2 lead teams. Why? We wanted to film the overtake attempt.

Now in an ordinary car overtaking we just do. But consider this. The solar car convoy has 3 cars. The pilot which is a normal car, the solar car followed by a normal chase vehicle. Any over taking needs to consider this extra time and distance for the convoy to pass. We waited for this to happen but both teams were right up at the speed limit of 110km/h and with only 35 mins until 5pm it never happened. But they set up camp on side of the road, less then 1km apart. Thats after 2750kms.

The last day was to be an exciting event, but alas this did not happen. The day before clouds and rain came in and really disrupted the ability for the cars to charge. So much so Innoptus had depleted their battery. They had to wait around 45 mins to charge their battery, to provide enough energy to reach the finish line. During this time, team Twente overtook and moved into second place. Brunel won the 2025 race. Then Twente followed by Innoptus.

Story by Guy Kempny

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*ILLAWARRA VINTAGE 12 September 2025*



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