

Brisbane Regional Register News

Cat Chat

Edition 28

June/July 2020



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Jaguars Break Isolation

The first outing for Jaguars after easing of the restrictions on group gatherings happened on Friday 6th June when several Jaguar cars and owners met for lunch at Colleges Crossing in the Ipswich suburb of Churwar. The run was initiated by Lloyd on be-



half of the Chassis Based Register. The café was quite busy upon arrival and it looked like we would have to meet in the park to ensure that maximum numbers were not exceeded in the café. Fortunately, while we were ordering, the numbers cleared and we were able use the tables. Conversations of course included discussions of how did people cope with the restrictions. We must be an insular lot as most were not severely impacted in their daily routines but many travel plans were disrupted and there was general agreement that the interaction with other Jaguar owners was missed. The perfect winter weather and the good company meant that lunch was an enjoyable drawn out affair.

Comparing the E-Type styling with the XK120s I wonder whether there were then comments that the "E-Type doesn't look like a Jaguar", as happened when



the current X351 Jaguar XJ replaced the earlier XJ sedans?

Barry Cooper

Cat Chat compiler (non-committee)

Ruth Bodey

P: 0418188090

Pls forward your contributions to

phil.ruthb@gmail.com

Upcoming events



Date Claimers

- * **Mon 29th June—Coffee and a Natter**—more info pg 4
- * **Thurs 2nd July—JDCQ Chassis based register**—Hopefully back to normal but phone Lloyd to confirm 32948960 More info pg 2
- * **Sun 30th Aug—Peak Crossing—A day in the country** - More info pg 3—We recommend early registration as numbers may be limited.
- * **Watch this space—Trade Coast Centre**—more info pg 4
- * **BBQ breakfast and workshop tour** hosted by Aaron Goldman from Classic & Prestige Auto Services followed by coffee and inspections hosted by Ben Hutchines at Classic Rentals and Storage 33 on a Sunday morning More info still to come
- * **Planned meeting at Yeronga Services club**—Date to be confirmed.
- * **Sept or Oct** – British Marque clubs with Coffee— by Autohouse Storage Darra—possibly Sept or Oct—more info to come
- * **TBA—Clay Target Shooting—Postponed**

WELCOME TO NEW BRISBANE REGISTER MEMBERS

Tony & Terri Iuvalle

Rebekah Hearder

Dave & Nikki Nolan

Emma & Andrew Golder

Welcome

Please - remember to keep your contact details postal address and email address up to date and advise of change of cars to both the secretary Joy Cooper joy.cooper@cooperation.com.au and also please update your personal details on the website directly.

It is the database held with the editor of the website that is used for mailing out the club magazine and email correspondence such as membership renewals.

A message from our secretary

"Thank you to all members who responded to the poll seeking interest in coffee run and most suitable days of the week.

Yes there is definite interest in these runs, which is great.

Whether to hold them on a week day or weekend was basically evenly spread among the respondents, with a few of you indicating days you can and cannot attend, which is appreciated.

So your Committee will look to hold some coffee runs on both a week day and a weekend in coming months.

With COVID-19 restrictions changing by the day, those applying on the day of the run will need to be observed.

The first of these will be a run to Sutton's Beach, thanks to Ruth and Phil. See elsewhere in this Cat Chat edition for details.

Plans for others are in progress, but should you wish to organise a mid-week run or a weekend run, please just contact a Committee member to co-ordinate and promote it."

PEAK CROSSING

Sunday 30th August 2020

A DAY IN THE COUNTRY



Mark Buchanan
www.markbphotography.com.au

Members of **The Jaguar Drivers Club of Queensland** are invited to an "Invitation Only" Charity Day on Sunday 30th August 2020 at Peak Crossing from 10am onwards hosted by the Jaguar Drivers Club of Qld.

Neil and Jenny Summerson will again generously open their property for this event with all funds raised going to The Rotary Club of Fassifern Valley.

This is a unique opportunity for invited car clubs to mix with other like minded car enthusiasts, without general public, to view a diverse range of vintage, classic and inspirational cars whilst supporting a great charity.

The Rotary Club food van will be serving refreshments and a bbq lunch at reasonable prices. Your support of their efforts is greatly appreciated.

A coffee van will also be available.

Entry fee at the gate will be a donation of \$25 per car.

Please RSVP before 31st July 2020 to:

Contact: **Tony Nelson**

Email: **eandftyperegister@gmail.com**

In your acceptance please advise the vehicle you will attend in, year of manufacture, colour and number of attendees.

Once registered, expect an email reply from your marque coordinator around mid August giving address and timings etc.

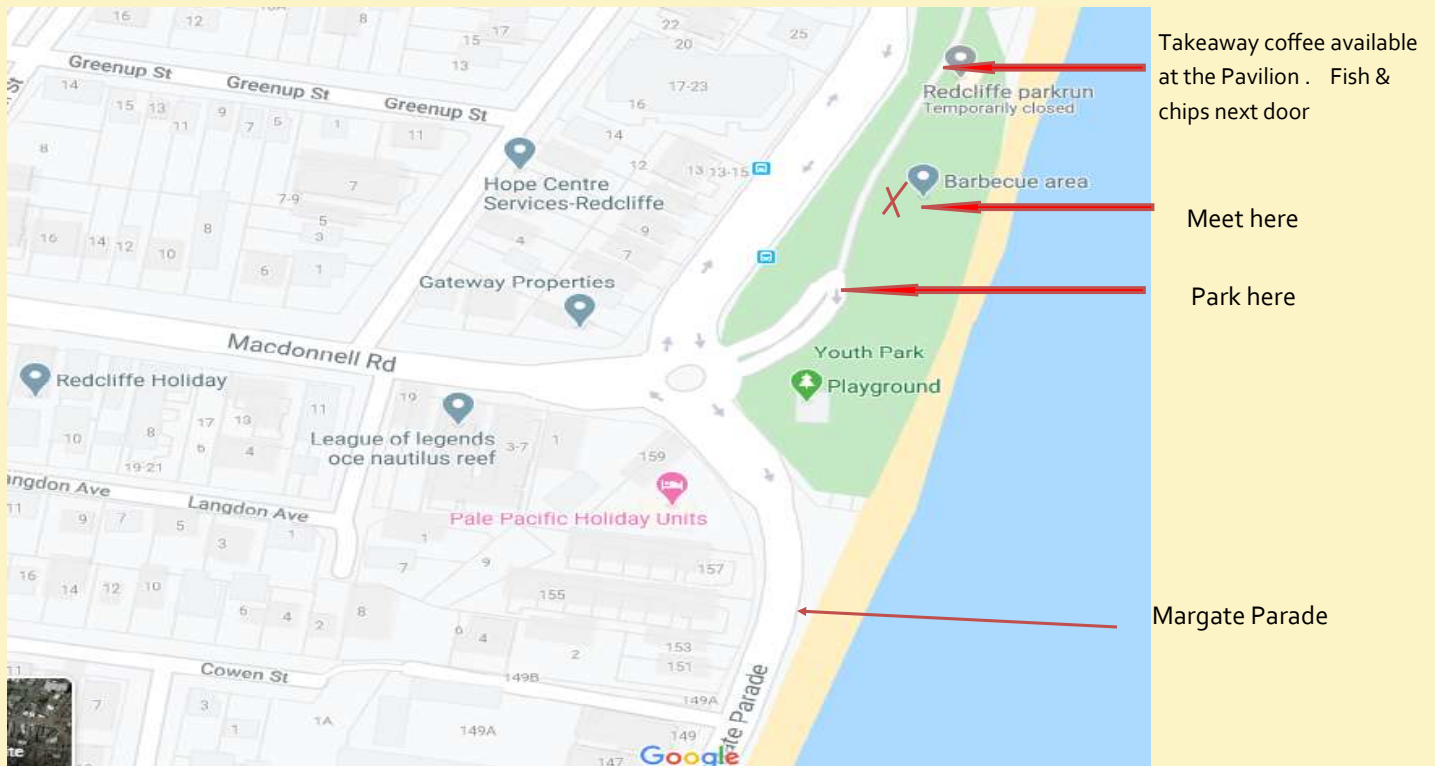
Entry is restricted to 200 cars on a first come basis. An early reply ensures you don't miss out on this great event and we look forward to your acceptance as soon as possible.

Please help us keep this event exclusive by not disclosing date or details.



Coffee and Natter at Margate

How long has it been since we have had a get together to discuss Jaguars—or anything else? —Phil and Ruth are suggesting a simple meet for a takeaway coffee in Sutton Beach Park— Pavilion at Margate on Monday 29th June at 10.30am. Please BYO chair so that we can sit where ever we wish (sun or not sun) and social distance at the same time. The Pavilion coffee is available nearby or if you prefer bring the thermos. After your coffee you may wish to stay longer for take away fish and chips purchased next to the coffee shop. More info phone Phil 0412187130 phil.ruthb@gmail.com - otherwise we will see you there.



Three heritage sites at one location – do you know about them?

You'll find them at the former Eagle Farm Airport

Hopefully, times can be agreed and we'll have a guided tour led by the person responsible for ensuring this history is not lost

The three heritage sites combine stories of Brisbane's convict era as the Moreton Bay Penal Settlement and two surviving World War Two sites – Allison Engine Testing Stands and Hangar 7.

There's an interpretative centre and lots to see and do all with large lawned area suitable for a BYO picnic.

So if you're interested, please 'watch this space' for details when they become available.

JDCQ Chassis Based Register

Invite all Queensland Jaguar Drivers Club members and friends to join us for lunch at Karalee Tavern on the first Thursday of each month - Thursday 2nd July—hopefully, but please phone Lloyd to check.

Enquiries **Lloyd Andersen**
32948960

As you are no doubt well aware—the JDCQ and Brisbane register have seen an almost total shut down of our usual activities. Therefore as Cat Chat compiler I have been short on car and Jaguar events so in the interim we would like to hear stories from our members about their pre Covid 19 trips away. To start the ball rolling here is a piece from long term Jag club members Col and Di Graham who are also very keen boaties—This is their story on visiting the Royal Bombay Yacht Club. *Please forward your input on your memorable trip to phil.ruthb@gmail.com*

A Taste of India by Col and Di Graham

This time last year my wife Diane and I were on a cruise down the west coast of India.

This trip started with a road trip through northern India visiting Delhi, Agra and Jaipur and beautiful palaces, temples, forts and markets and the magnificent Taj Mahal.

Arabian Peninsula

After a flight to Arabia, avoiding Pakistan airspace, We then joined a ship in Abu Dhabi and toured the UAE and were astounded by the extreme oil wealth extravagances, palaces, mosques, high rise buildings and luxurious hotels and shopping centers especially the Souks markets. Di was in her element!

Crossing the Arabian Sea we arrived in Mumbai passing moored yachts adjacent to the entrance channel, all looked promising..

Combining our travels

Travelling to distant places, cultures and countries can be very rewarding. But to make it more interesting we have tried to combine trips with our hobbies and interests which are sailing, classic cars and light aviation.

Organised cruises and tours are a good way to experience other cultures but there are only so many palaces, mosques and churches and being "devout Agnostics" it all seems to blend into a blur after a while.

So we use the Net to "explore" the possibility of combining a trip with our hobbies.



We bombed out with Jag clubs in

India.. can't understand why when Jaguar Land Rover are owned by the massive Indian conglomerate Tata group?

Disappointing since we were traveling with Jaguarnought friends including a US couple who have owned an E Type since new! (mid '60s, glutton for punishment? but a joy to drive)

However, we had better luck with sailing. Initially slow results until Royal Bombay Yacht Club "hove into view"

Royal Bombay Yacht Club

Previously when visiting different lands we would write to the club requesting a visit and find out if there was a regatta or sailing event and maybe be invited to crew. So we found out who the RBYC Commodore was and sent e-mails. Armed with an introduction letter from our QCYC Commodore Jack, we made contact.

We were delighted to receive a welcoming reply from Commodore, Captain Homi Motivala, who turns out to be a national sailing world champion in dingy sailing.

He welcomed us to visit the Club and we would be afforded every courtesy upon our arrival...



RBYC was established in 1846 and is a magnificent, 4 story stone building on the shore of the bay which was later reclaimed and features an impressive arched monument, Gateway to India, built to welcome King George V and Queen Mary, in 1913, now a major tourist attraction.

The world famous ketch yacht Suhaili was built there by RBYC member Philip Braggs and was successfully sailed in '63 by Robin Knox-Johnstone in the non stop around the world, singlehanded, unassisted race (although there were pictures of Sir Robin sitting on many cases of whiskies in Suhaili! ..unassisted indeed?), The Ketch was based on the Norwegian sailing life boat design of Colin Archer who was a member of the pioneering Archer Family of Rockhampton Qld. my mother's home town...small world.

We had arrived in Mumbai on Saturday and had pre booked organised tours and enjoyed the professional expose of Mumbai and the heritage of former Bombay and all its British Raj, Colonial history.

On the Sunday we decided to do our own thing and taxied to the Taj Mahal Palace Tower Hotel for coffee, morning tea, (real Indian tea).

The old Hotel and the new modern Tower were the scene of the Mumbai terrorist attack in '08, but it was certainly magnificent for our visit with top of the range Jaguars parked in the forecourt for guests use.

The old hotel is a monument to the founder, Jamsetji Tatar and has strong links to the RBYC next door. (its believed Tata donated the land!)

About noon we wandered over to the RBYC clubs historic entrance and were greeted by their "Sargent at Arms" (all ceremonial of course) and our group of six escorted to the reception desk, where we presented our letters of intro, requesting we were here for lunch and to "explore" and enjoy the Club.

Sign in forms were produced but there seemed to be some confusion from our correspondence as to our presents there being no sailing on this Sunday!?

Much discussion took place...no doubt lots lost in translation as I had shown my QCYCs club membership card, and suddenly another flurry of paperwork appeared (legacy of the British formal bureaucracy no doubt) and suddenly I realised I was accidentally becoming a member of the RBYC !!! What's this going to cost!?

Not to panic...it was all very reasonable. So I signed everyone in!

Our steward guided us through the beautiful verandahs up the banister to the dining terrace and the Dolphin bar. We had just stepped back in time.

The Club

Dolphin Bar, recently renovated, retained the old teak wooden beams, original fittings and artefacts and the walls are adorned with burgee flags from clubs from all over the world. We presented a Burgee from QCYC which is now prominently displayed, and received the RBYC burgee displaying a crown and the Star of India on a blue background.

Drink and food menu was extensive, food was both Indian and western including mutton! A jug of beer costs around A\$2 -, with wines from all over including Aus, lots of spirits and gin!

Legal age for drinking is 25 in India with a limit of consumption of only 12 units, so we stayed sober?

You can stay at the Club with 36 fully serviced suites in the three upper floors, order ' bed tea and breakfast ', and there is an ancient lift including a lift 'waller' to drive it. The grounds are magnificent as you would expect. And functions, parties and conferences can be catered for. .. see web site www.rbyc.co.in for photos, information.

Unfortunately all good things come to an end, time to bid our farewells, and head back to the ship.

Today, in this afflicted world, we look back fondly on our brief enjoyable experience and hope to visit again one day. If you are ever over there recommend a visit.

Hope you enjoyed our story

Regards Col and Di Graham - be well.





“1985 Jaguar XJS Sports Coupe in excellent condition. Owner selling this car simply because he is moving home and won’t have enough garages to store it. The car was in the one family for 35 years . It has travelled 235,000 klms and been regularly serviced and always garaged. It runs beautifully and is just like a modern sedan in comfort, quietness and style. A pleasure to drive. Phone owner to discuss price— Ph. 0417 607 084.”



Impromptu Drives—a reminder

My husband Phil and I and two other members of the club took a drive to Redcliffe two weeks ago for fish and chips— Phil was anxious to drive the Etype and our friends drove their MK11. As the Etype is on historic concessional registration we needed to mention our drive on the website JDCQ calendar as an impromptu drive. This ensures we are not breaking any rules due to the concessional registration. It only took 2 minutes before leaving the house and I printed off the calendar page in case we were questioned (which we were not).



It was such a simple task to add it to the calendar so thought I would remind everyone of the instructions that Paul Lucas issued in February 2019.

So here they are:-

Log into the JDCQ website with your user name and password.

1. Hover your mouse pointer over the "CALENDAR" tab in the top menu line, a drop-down box opens - click on "IMPROMPTU CALENDAR"
2. Another page will open with an events calendar, hover your mouse pointer on the required date and a small "+" box will appear in the square for the selected date - click on "+"
3. This opens another window, under the open tab "Common", enter a title in the "Title" block.
4. Click on down arrow in Events Calendar and select "IMPROMPTU"
5. Leave "Access Level" as "Public" and "State" as published
6. Go down to description block and enter short event description i.e. "Run for Lunch"
7. Go down to "Location" and enter destination i.e. "Sandgate"
8. Now click on "Calendar" tab next to "Common"
9. Check that "Start date" is correct and enter start time
10. Go to "End date" and change if event is more than one day, then set end time or click on "No specific end time" box
11. Leave "Repeat type" boxes with "No Repeat" highlighted in green
12. Click on "Save & Close" wait until software confirms event is saved
13. As a check you can go back to the Impromptu Events calendar to confirm that your event is being displayed

I know this sounds complicated, but it only takes a couple of minutes once you are familiar with it

No doubt many of you are aware that Rod and Sue Greasley embarked on an epic journey from Redcliffe (north of Brisbane) to Perth and the Margaret River area of WA to attend the National Rally to be held late March and early April. Quite a journey even for a modern day car but as Rod and Sue's car is 80 years old this was to be a remarkable journey in more ways than one. This particular National Rally was to celebrate eighty-five years since the Jaguar name was first used on a motor car and introduced to the world at the Mayfair Hotel in London in September 1935.

Rod and Sue have been motoring in their beloved '1939 SS Jaguar 2½ Litre Drophead Coupe' nicknamed "Catherine". Well, as you the know the WA National Rally was cancelled due to the Coronavirus (bad enough you may think after driving all that way) but worse was to come as then State borders closed and Rod and Sue found themselves not being able to return to Queensland and being forced to extend their stay by staying in hotels. As you would know Rod and Sue are now home.

Rod has sent us a few emails to let us know how he is surviving and more importantly—how Catherine is surviving. Last Cat Chat we published the first 4 emails Rod sent—now here for your enjoyment are the remaining 5 emails.

Keep reading.....



Email No 5 : from Rod and Sue Greasley

Date: 14th April 2020

Subject: **Tuesday 14th of April Catherine goes from Albany to Esperance**

Today we awoke to find out it was raining and so typical of when I clean the car for the return journey! I should be grateful at least I got one day in without any rain.

So today we had to travel 480 km from Albany to Esperance and it was fairly uneventful except for two police roadblocks and a couple of explanations on the fact that we were travelling home.

That reason seemed to be OK with the local police, as they were more interested in checking your license to see that there were no warrants outstanding.



The small town of Ravensthorpe we thought would be an ideal stop for coffee and a break, but we had difficulty finding anything open. The whole town had "locals only, road closed" signs on all the side streets so it made it difficult to even look at the town. so it was coffee at the local BP service station.

Rod and Sue

Email no: 6 Rod and Sue Greasley

Date: 15th April

Subject: April 15th Catherine goes from Esperance via Norsemen to Balladonia all on the main highway As today was a reasonably short day at only 400 km, we decided to leave a little later at 8 am.

We hadn't gone very far, in fact only to the little town of Gibson where the police had a roadblock again, stopping all traffic both ways and taking details and license checks. Just by chance we got the same young constable who had seen us on the way into Esperance yesterday.

As there was no one on the road and she wanted to have a chat, we had quite a discussion on our trip and how disappointed she felt for us that we couldn't experience all the wonderful sights that we'd missed out on in Western Australia. We assured her we'd be back when everything was back to "normal".

For the first part of the journey we had a slight headwind of around about 30 km an hour. I was surprised when we got to Norseman that we had probably got near the worst economy for such a cool day, that we've achieved on the total trip.

It was quite the opposite when we went from Norsemen to Balladonia, in that we had a tailwind and the fuel economy was just over 30 miles to the gallon, which is probably the best we've got on the trip.

This just goes to show how aerodynamic the SS Jaguar "isn't"!

The highway was very quiet today, and on the way from Norsemen to Balladonia, we only had one car pass us. It wasn't because we were going exceedingly fast as we sat on 90 km per hour. Coming towards us we only had a half a dozen trucks and three or four vehicles during the 2.5 hour trip.

On the trip we enjoyed a really white Salt Lake close to the road so we've taken a photograph of that lake.

The photograph does not do the lake justice, in that it was just ultra white, glistening in the sunlight.

We encountered one other vintage car on the road sign as we came into Grass Patch. We didn't quite find the grass patch though!



On our vigilant lookout for camels, as they can be found in numbers around this area, all we managed to find was plenty of camel droppings by the side of the road. Some wild goats were jumping through the grass, very close to the side of the road. Because of the COVID-19 the only Norseman service station was deserted. I did not see any other vehicles fill up for fuel. All of the side roads in Norsemen had "closed roads" on them to stop people from going into those areas and the town.

This was very similar to a lot of smaller towns we've been through to stop people from going into the town, but in fact they need not have bothered because there's almost no travelers on the road.

Tomorrow we're off to Border Village, where we cross into South Australia and say goodbye to Western Australia. There are lots of sights and experiences we've missed out on in Western Australia, and we've decided we'll be back to check them all out sometime in the future.

Stay safe

Email no 7: Rod and Sue Greasley

Date: 17th April

Subject: April 16 and 17 we travelled from Balladonia to Border Village and from Border Village to Ceduna.

We started the sector of the journey by leaving by Balladonia road-house quite early in the morning and anticipating we would be able to get fuel and food on our journey to Border Village.

This was not necessarily going to be the case. We chose to by pass Cockabiddy and go onto Madura, only to find that Madura had decided to close, because of Covid 19. There was no fuel or food available there, so onwards we progressed to Mundrabilla where we



thought we'd stop for food and fuel. As it turned out part of the theory was good, in that there was fuel, but there was no food.

So by late in the afternoon we arrived in Border Village, and had to wait for the food to be prepared after 5 pm. It was a fairly long day with very little food and no coffee for the weary and hungry travellers and very little fuel for Catherine. We anxiously watched the kilometres increase as the fuel gauge decreased.

At one of our fuel stops on the day at Caiguna, we took a photograph of the car near some of the big rigs that were parked. It shows just how small our Jaguar looks on the road to the truck drivers. From Border Village we stopped at a couple of locations to do our exercise. These locations were the stops where the cliffs of the great Australian Bight come closest to the Eyre Highway. The scenery is spectacular.

We had a few records set today, one was for Catherine passing one of the longest road trains we had seen at a length of 49.7m and also for the total trip across the Nullarbor from Border Village to where the hills start to Ceduna, no car passed us at all!

In the past two days we've had two police checks, one at Border Village where a policeman was interested in having a look at our car as the photo shows, and another at Ceduna where it was combined with the quarantine check for fruit and vegetables. We were given documented paper work by South Australian Police.

We arrived at Ceduna around 3:30 PM local time and after cleaning the car, sorting out our breakfast and dinner menu, we took a stroll along the foreshores and along the jetty for our exercise as allowable by the local rules.

Some of the local birds sitting on the front balcony of the motel were also photographed as they were the only inhabitants at the time.

The further we go the better the fuel economy Catherine seems to get. I can only assume it must be downhill around here, because today overall we achieved just over 30 miles per gallon.

I have noticed a correlation for those technically minded, in that the exhaust temperatures seem to be directly affected by inlet air temperatures.



It was noted that when the inlet air temperature was around 30°C that the exhaust temperature was around 280° C. As the inlet air temperature increases during the day to around 40°C the exhaust temperature goes to around 310°C. , for the same speed.



It was also noticed that the direction of the wind plays a part in how much the air cleaners collect a degree of hot air from that going through the radiator. It was seen on the same day that at ambient temperature of 25°C the inlet air temperature changed from 25° C to 45° C depending on the change of prevailing wind direction .

After having two big interesting and tiring days driving across this part of the Nullabor, we are settling in for an early night after our meal of King George Whiting chips and salad. Yum!

Tomorrow we are off to Port Augusta.
Stay safe, keep positive and healthy.

Sue and Rod. Rod and Sue.



Email no 8 : Rod & Sue Greasley

Date: 18 April 2020 at 20:01:34 GMT+10

Subject: April 18th. Ceduna to Port Augusta

So in summary over the last three days we've traveled 1500km and anyone who has traveled from Westin Australia to South Australia knows the roads don't have a lot of action on them and with the corona-virus the amount of traffic on the roads was significantly less than normal.

Yesterday we were passed by only a handful of vehicles but there was a considerable number of trucks coming towards us today as obviously the supply chain from South Australia to Western Australia is now opening up.

So today we passed a few more trucks and we had numerous large trucks come towards us and overall it was a very uneventful day.

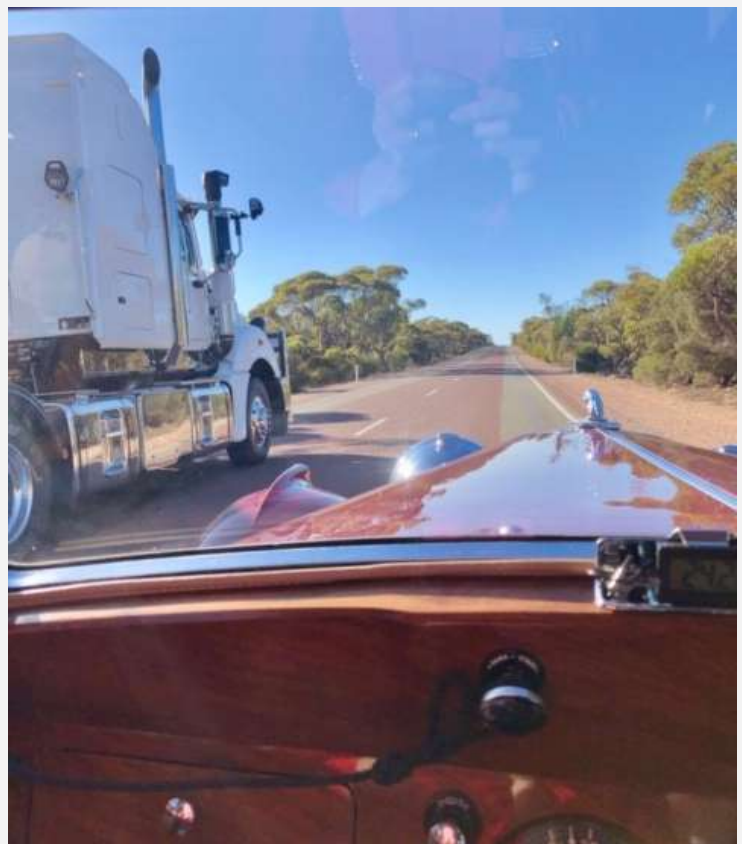
We felt a little bored today as there was not many stops and at the stops we had made for coffee and fuel and they were in an understatement—not elegant.

We went into Iron Knob to have a look because someone said there was still a café available and was open ,but that was wrong also. We did photograph a little bit of Iron Knob ,as it's now pretty well a Ghost Town.

It is interesting to note that "Buckingham's Shack" ,which we assume might be owned by an English person had Rover Cars and Jaguars, yes Jaguars in the backyard lined up.

As today's temperatures were quite low in the low 20s and the road was reasonable ,Catherine returned around 28 miles per gallon and everything ran fine.

There were no roadblocks today but a noticeable regional police presence at lots of locations.



It was interesting to note that we filled up with fuel up Wudinna (260km from Port Augusta) at \$.97 a liter and when we get to Port Augusta the cheapest we could find for 91 unleaded was \$1.20 per liter.

Just goes to show that with fuel ,the further you have to freight it , the cheaper it gets, perhaps not always the case.

We are at Port Augusta tonight and we are traveling to Mildura tomorrow.

Regards
Rod & Sue



Email no 9 : Rod and Sue Greasley

Date: 23 April 2020 at 21:21:31 GMT+10

Subject: **21st & 22nd April Griffith to Moree**

For the last two days 21st and 22nd of April, we have travelled from Griffith to Moree.

We left Griffith early in the morning to find the main road was closed. A short detour of 50 km and we were back on the main road again. The outback country of New South Wales is very flat and usually very dry. We were pleasantly surprised to find that most of the landscape was very green and water flowed in the rivers and filled the billabongs. It made a huge difference to the surroundings and with pleasant touring temperatures around 24 degrees C we thoroughly enjoyed our country drive.

As the temperatures have dropped below 10°C in the mornings in these areas, we have noticed a few of the autumnal colors appearing on the trees around here.

Catherine is enjoying the cooler temperatures and her oil pressure has been up to 60 PSI when the engine is cold.

She has been going exceedingly well, unlike the truck that we photographed with its head off.

So far on the trip we have gone past about 20 vehicles that have broken down on the road. Luckily our old girl



is still going strong and has not missed a beat yet.

We were entertained by an unusual sight, a crop duster doing aerial acrobatics many times over the road we were travelling.

On April 22 we left Dubbo and we elected to take a B class road out of town for a while to Coonabarabran, as we didn't have to compete with the huge number of trucks on the main highway.

Most of the local towns have wrapped up the park benches with nylon barrier fencing, so it makes it difficult for us when we get a coffee and sandwich or have a break to sit down and relax. When we stopped in Narrabri for lunch, there was an amazing park right on the river with plenty of seats and benches, with a huge array of bird life surrounding us. It was just so pleasant and made us feel so welcome in that town.

We are hoping tomorrow will be our final chapter of our journey where we travel from Moree NSW to Redcliffe Queensland!



It's so reassuring to wake up each day and Catherine starts up first time and runs just as well as on the first day of our trip to Perth Western Australia some 10,000 kilometres ago. Everything is going amazingly well!

Rod and Sue

Email no 10: Rod and Sue Greasley

Date: 26 April 2020 at 14:34:01 GMT+10

Subject: **23rd April The final day. Catherine goes home from Moree to Brisbane**

As we set off on the last day of our trip, we reflected back on the adventure and it was really hard to believe that about 6 weeks ago we'd set off on the 10th of March to travel 12,000 kilometres to Perth and back, to the National Jaguar Rally. Little did we know it would be cancelled, just before we arrived in Perth.

We were totally disappointed of course, after driving to Perth, to find the rally had been cancelled. We were also more saddened by all the massive amount of work and effort, that had been done by the West Australian Jaguar Club. The rally and activities, and post rally tour looked amazing, and the amount of planning for this event



We had to cross a COVID-19 border check at Goondiwindi to go into Queensland. The transport officials looked at our border pass and license, admired Catherine and sent us on our way, without any problems at all. As we had not been to any Covid hotspots, we were not requested to isolate for the two weeks when we return home.

We took the road through to Toowoomba, which goes from Goondiwindi through Millmerran to Toowoomba and then down the range.



We were told this road was smooth, but I'll let everybody know that it was the worst(A class) road on our total trip to Perth and back. **Some interesting statistics from Catherine's trip across and back to Perth, Western Australia.**

By the time you go up the road for food, fuel and necessities at each destination, and find our accommodation we'd travelled just under 12,000 kilometres.

In that 12,000 km we used approximately 1400 L of fuel and completely wore out a set of tyres.

The tyre wear was quite even and not unexpected; the tread just kept on disappearing as we did the kilometres. Thankfully no flat Tyres!

This seems to be the case with all vintage tire manufacturers, in that the tyres are not built for very long distances, and the total kilometres expected from the Excelsior radials on Catherine, I estimate to be less than 18,000 km.

Catherine consumed 3 L of oil for the total trip and running on fully synthetic Penrite 10/50 oil, there was no discernible notice of oil discoloration or deterioration in oil pressure for the total trip.

I was concerned about using full synthetic oil as it may have been too thin for the engine, but the oil pressure, if anything on cold mornings was a little too high.

On arriving home, Catherine had a debug, bath and a total clean. She was placed up on the hoist to check everything was OK underneath, and to my surprise everything was absolutely perfect, just like when she left to go to Perth some 12,000 kilometres ago.

From a navigator perspective, my heartfelt thanks goes to my husband/ driver/ cleaner/ mechanic, who spent a great deal of time to preparing Catherine for her long journey and to make it such an enjoyable experience.

Catherine has amazed me beyond my expectations, and she has proved not only to be mechanical impressive, but very comfortable to travel in over those vast distances.

I can only hope that when I'm 81 years old, I'm looking as elegant and incredible as she does and that I have the stamina that she shown! Thanks to all those Australia-wide club members and Friends that wished us well on our trip, and also to all the people that put in the effort to spirit us along the way with their comments and assistance. To all the Jaguar members in Western Australia who attempted to put on an exceptional rally, our heart felt thanks, and I'm sorry that Catherine wasn't able to be a full participant in the planned events.

Rod and Sue Greasley.

