



ERCA NEWS

July/August 2017

From the Editor.

Hello fellow rally enthusiasts. There's been lots of organising going on behind the scenes over the past few months, and while we haven't been in touch for a while, we've got lots of great stuff to tell you about in this newsletter.

Let's start off with the big one, our Classic Outback Trial Tour in 2018. At the time of writing I'm very pleased to report we have 25 cars/teams committed to our event in August 2018, which is fantastic. We have a cap of 30 places so if you are thinking about joining us on this great adventure, let us know ASAP as there are only 5 spots left.

We are also pleased to announce that 9 of these 25 teams are internationals which we are thrilled about. Plus we have some very special sweep and administrative support, more on this later.

If you follow the links later in this newsletter you can download our latest event brochure, which includes the updated route and more details on our event, and you can also follow the link to see who has signed up to participate in our COTT rally.

Another few events are coming up on the rally calendar this year that ERCA members have been invited to.

Pete Washington, our intrepid ERCA Events Manager also run the Australian Tarmac Rally

Championships. Pete has added a special regularity section for ERCA Members in his **Great Tarmac Rally** which takes place over the weekend of 14 & 15 October 2017 around Marysville in Victoria's Yarra Ranges.

The Historic Rally Club of NSW and ACT have invited ERCA Members to participate in their **Black Stump Touring Road Event**, which is incidentally to be held on the following weekend of the 21 & 22 of October. If you are based in NSW, this is a great option to give your endurance rally car a run.

Finally, based on the success of our ERCA Dinner earlier this year we are looking ahead to our annual get together in early 2018. This time we are looking at potentially tying our ERCA event to the Phillip Island Classic, which is one of Australia's best Historic Motor Racing festival held each March at the iconic Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit.

Our club continues to grow, and we now have a healthy contingent of international members. Please feel free to pass on our newsletter to your endurance rally friends.

Hope you enjoy the read!

Paul Kirkham



The Classic Outback Trial Tour 2018 – The ERCA COTT 2018



Latest News.

The planning for our 2018 COTT continues and from our last newsletter we have made quite a few changes to improve the overall experience for everyone who takes part. Some key changes include:

- Increasing the overall tour length from 22 to 28 days to reduce some of the long drives, improve the route and to take in more sights
- Increasing the number of rest days to give everyone more time to explore
- Changing the route to include more iconic Australian scenery and experiences

We have recce'd much of the course and locked in most of our accommodation. We are confident it's going to be a great Aussie experience for all.

A few other things to let you know about:

Andy Inskip has volunteered to join us and head up our Sweep Team for the rally. We are thrilled to have Andy along. His experience and whacky sense of humour will certainly add to the fun!

Kim and Nikki Bannister, who most of you will know, have also volunteered to join our Tour to help with admin and marshalling. Once again we are very lucky to have Kim and Nikki on board with their wealth of experience and it will also be a great chance for us all to catch up with them.



Costs - Unfortunately the overall costs have increased from those we originally advised due of the extra days added and firmer pricing on most of our accommodation, and other extras. We have also elected to prepay quite a few of the dinners in the more remote locations to ensure there are no issues in feeding us all. However we believe the tour still represents fantastic value, and as we have previously pointed out, this is a not for profit undertaking so you basically paying the cost price for everything, with most of the admin, planning etc. done on a volunteer basis by our club members. A full breakdown is provided in our COTT brochure.

Download the updated COTT Brochure by [clicking here](#) and follow the link.



The Great Tarmac Rally – 14 & 15 October 2017

Peter Washington who is our ERCA Events Manager, is also the Promotor of **The Australian Tarmac Rally Championships**. One of their best Victorian events each year is **The Great Tarmac Rally**, held around the Upper Yarra Valley including the challenging Reefton Spur section.

This October Peter has included a special regularity section that will be open only to ERCA Members. **This is a fantastic opportunity for everyone to sharpen up their regularity skills before the COTT in 2018**, and also just to have a lot of fun with other club members and participants.

Starting in Marysville, the Great Tarmac Rally travels through Cambarville and Cumberland Junction in a stage many considered as a highlight of any Rally in Victoria, the Reefton Spur. With a 95% corner ratio along its 37km length, the road follows ridge-crests which look out over The Upper Yarra Catchment Basin, surrounded by alpine forest, although you are likely to be too busy to catch more than a glimpse of it.

The highlights of this rally are the monster 37km stages incorporating the Reefton Spur to Lake Mountain Summit run and Marysville to Reefton on the Saturday as well as the included Saturday night 'get together' dinner, where tall tales are told of the day's event.

Peter is also offering a special price for ERCA members. When registering choose the **Target Time** Category (regularity), which has been discounted for ERCA members and is only \$1,100.00 for the weekend (normally \$2100) - which is great value.

[To register please go to this link](#), fill out the form and mention on the form that you are an ERCA member. Please also choose **2017 Individual Event Entry** and then select **Great Tarmac Rally**



ERCA 2018 Annual Dinner, Saturday 17th March 2018

Reserve this date in your diary now.

We are planning to align our dinner in with the annual Phillip Island Classic Festival of Motorsport to allow ERCA members to enjoy 2 great events over one weekend – MORE DETAILS COMING SOON!

The Black Stump Touring Road Event, 19 – 21 October 2017

The Historic Rally Club of NSW and ACT has invited ERCA Members to the “The Black Stump Touring Road Event” from Thursday 19th to Saturday 21st October 2017.

This event is located around the Central Coast of NSW and is a great event for NSW based ERCA Members who are looking for a fun event to give their endurance rally car a good hit out.

The Black Stump TRE will comprise two separate events.

1. **Road-Runner** will have all the Closed Road Sections, Khanacross and other Autotests
2. **The Barry Ferguson Classic #2** will be for serious navigation (both Masters and Apprentices).

Competitors will be able to compete in **one event or the other or both** for the same overall cost.

Event registration and a prologue will be at the Westlake Khanacross track at Awaba on the Central Coast and overnighting at Taree We will be going out each day for Closed Road Sections, Khanacross and navigation tests.

We will base the HQ in Taree for the entire event and will have a presentation dinner there on the Saturday evening

We will be running the maximum number of Closed Road Sections that CAMS permit each day (2) and if they approve changes being currently considered to the regulations for this style of event in time for this event then we will be able to fit a few more in as well.

By starting before lunch on Thursday and reducing our travel distances each day we will get almost 50% extra over the SMTR and keep the costs at or below the \$600 the entry from that event.

Supplementary Regs will be available soon and will be circulated to ERCA members when available.

As a guide for prospective competitors the navigation for the Road Runner will be route charted sections for all liaison sections while the navigation tests for the BFC are being conducted, route charts for the CRSs and, diagrams and arrows for the Khx tests and reference to place names on the official maps and route charts on the combined Road Touring Sections.

Any navigation past that level is reserved only for those doing the BFCs navigation tests. You may enter for both events if you wish but the navigation tests are NOT part of the Road Runner awards.

The Club Facebook page is here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/562484073899443/>

FOR SALE – Turn Key Endurance Rally Car

Spotted by James Killingsworth on Car Sales:



1929 Chev Tourer - participated in the 2007 Peking to Paris

This Australian icon was the oldest entry to represent Australia in the 2007 Peking to Paris Car Rally - celebrating the 100th anniversary of the original event. Prior to the event, it underwent a 2 year restoration, with special emphasis on making it fully rally prepared for the gruelling journey ahead.

For more information:

<https://www.carsales.com.au/private/details/Chevrolet-Tourer-1928/SSE-AD-4648628>

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