



THE CAPITAL LETTER

Quarterly journal of the Rolls-Royce Owners' Club of Australia ACT Branch Incorporated
Serving the Australian Capital Region



DEDICATED TO ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY ENTHUSIASTS

Autumn 2026



SRH19525

1974 Silver Shadow

Prue & Ken Wedgwood



‘Wheels’ 2026

From the President

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Since the last edition of *The Capital Letter* and the beginning of this year, we've held the usual bi-monthly meetings in February, April and June. Ten cars participated in the annual 'Wheels' display day in March and a Club run to Goulburn which coincided with the June meeting was also well attended.

Fellow Federal Registrar Martin Bennett and I have organised a joint 'SMARTing with the CLOUDS' run in Victoria in October. Further details of it were included in the latest PRAECLARUM.

"Behind the scenes" the Club's web-page hosting has been renewed and the annual renewal of the Club's affiliation and associated return of members' concessional registrations have been completed with the ACT Council of Motor Clubs. These activities are essential and I thank the members concerned for their efforts in completing them.

Also behind the scenes, there have been some unfortunate developments within the Committee resulting in the withdrawal of my own resignation as President, but acceptance of the Secretary's resignation. It is hoped that a renewed, fully functional Committee will be elected at the forthcoming AGM in August (see details elsewhere).

Until next issue, happily proceeding!
Peter Hyland



Left: This Bentley Continental GTC joined our display at 'Wheels'. Perhaps we can hope for a new member.



Front Cover: Only the best-maintained Silver Shadows have survived in really outstanding condition. Prue & Ken Wedgwood's 1974 Silver Shadow SRH19525 is one of these. It is seen here at the recent 'Wheels' Day at Thoroughbred Park. For more photographic coverage see pages 4 to 11 inclusive in this edition. Photograph by the Editor.

From the Editor

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While every care is taken to check information published, no responsibility can be accepted for errors. Views expressed by the Editor and contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Club. Nothing in this journal, including any advertisement, should be construed as endorsement by the Editor or the Club of the quality or suitability of any product, service or procedure.

Not much to report for this edition, or at least little that falls within the Editorial scope.

Our Goulburn Lunch Run, incorporating the June General Meeting, was very productive, even if it was a cold and drizzly day. Probably the most significant decision reached was that we will, in our turn, in 2028, host the Federal Rally, and that under no pretext will any volunteering member be excluded from the Rally organising committee. We have successfully hosted several of these Rallies in the past and there is no reason to suppose that we cannot do it again. We can and we will.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 9th August in conjunction with a lunch run to the Loaded Dog hotel in Tarago.

Martin Bennett



Branch Events Calendar

Members should note that events dates and details listed here are in some cases indicative only and are subject to change. Timely notice of each forthcoming event is provided by group email and/or text message but in the event of doubt please contact the Secretary or President to confirm.

JUNE

21st June: Battle of Waterloo, Spanish Club, Narrabundah. Entrants arrive by 9.00 a.m. please, open to public 10.00 a.m. This is the annual friendly competition between British and French car marques, showcasing the cars of both nations.

AUGUST

Sunday 9th August: 12.00 noon Lunch run and Annual General Meeting, Loaded Dog hotel, Tarago.

OCTOBER

5th - 9th October: SMARTing with the Clouds – combined Register tour based on Wangaratta, Victoria. All Rolls-Royce and Bentley models welcome. Please contact Martin Bennett or Peter Hyland.



Above: Sonny Pirotta's recently acquired 1990 Bentley Turbo RL, BPL31363. See also page 10.

‘Wheels’ 2026

Thoroughbred Park, Canberra

Sunday 22nd March



Left: Rolls-Royce and Bentley in miniature – Corniche and Continental GTC.



Above: Prue & Ken Wedgwood's 1974 Silver Shadow SRH19525 and (*below*) a glimpse of the lovely red leather of its interior.





*Above: Ian & Tina Oliver presented their two Bentley 'Speed' models which are 100 years apart. This is their 1924 3-Litre with, **below**, its magnificent engine. Note the characteristic S.U. 'sloper' carburettors. See also opposite page, **top**.*





Above: A hundred years newer than the 3-Litre is this Continental GT – one of the limited final series powered by the famous but now discontinued W12 engine. Ian & Tina purchased this car new.

Below: Paul James's 1998 Bentley Turbo RT, BPW66365, is a long wheelbase model.





Above: David Kimmorley's 1986 Silver Spirit ASG14563.

Below: This coachwork, owned and displayed by Garry Scorgie, was built in 1949 by H.J. Mulliner & Co. for Silver Wraith chassis WDC65. The original Rolls-Royce engine, drive-train and other mechanical components have been replaced by those of another make.





***Above:** Bryce Ronning's 1949 Silver Wraith WFC67 with touring limousine coachwork by Hooper & Co., and your Editor's 1960 Bentley S2 B25CT.*

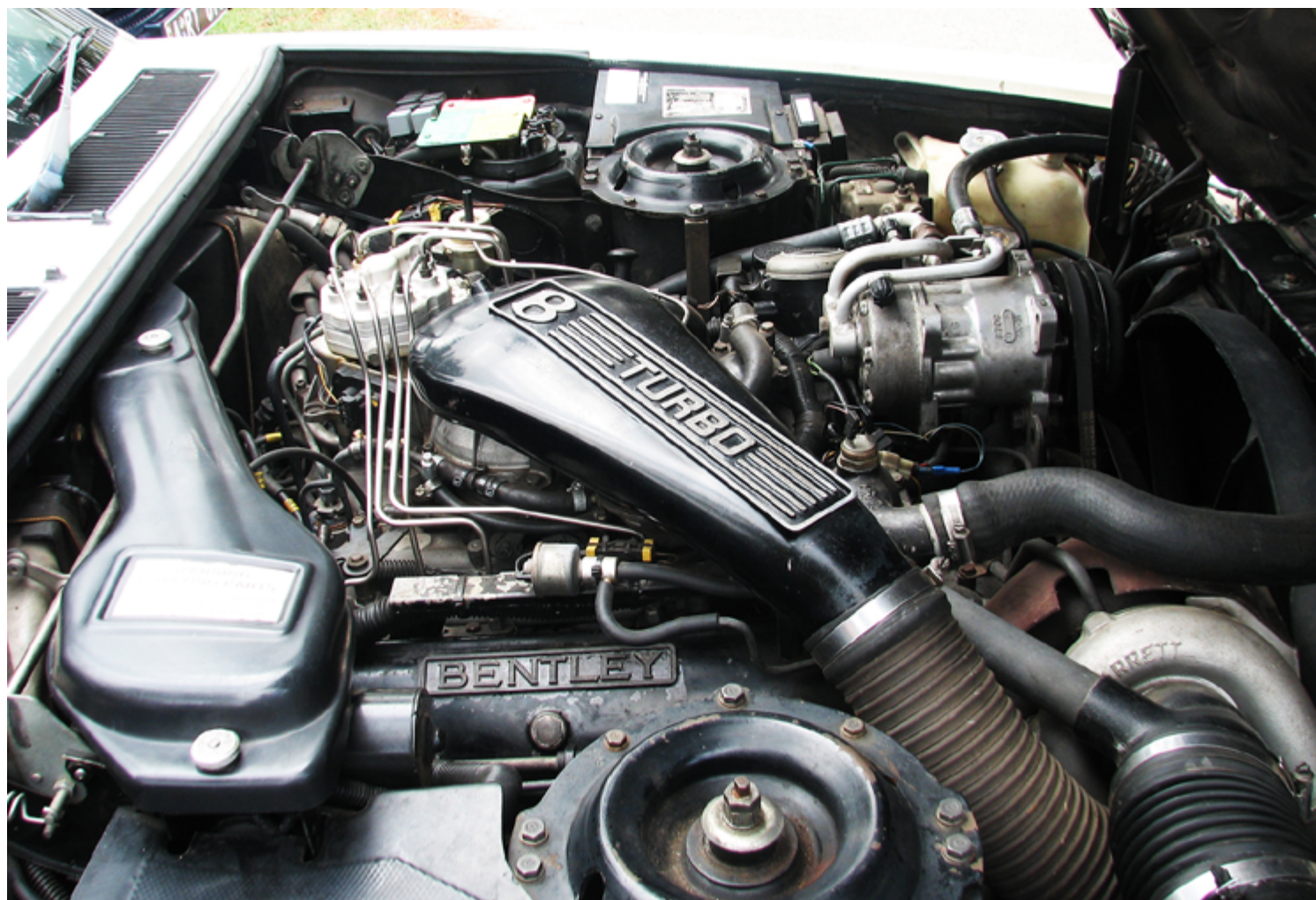
***Below:** Luke Drady's 1981 Silver Spirit ASB02236.*





Above: Sonny Pirotta's recently acquired 1990 Bentley Turbo RL, BPL31363. Like Paul James's car on page 7 this is a long wheelbase model.

Below: The mighty 6.75-litre turbocharged V8 engine.





Above: Our President Peter Hyland's 1994 Silver Spirit III ASR54357.



Below: Stephen Beer exhibited his very impressive modern Aston Martin.





Above: David Kimmorley (seated) and Mike Mulvihill.

Mid-Week Lunch Run and General Meeting

Goulburn Workers' Club

Wednesday 3rd June





Above, left to right: Joe Quattrocchi, Mike Mulvihill, Ian Irwin and Peter Hyland.

Below, left to right: Narelle O'Rourke, Chris O'Rourke and Marcia Ronning.





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Tailpiece . . .



A brace of Silver Wraiths. On the left is WHD101, a 1950 H.J. Mulliner touring limousine then owned by your Editor and now returned to its original home city of Melbourne, and on the right Bryce & Marcia Ronning's WFC67, a Hooper touring limousine. They were photographed at Bryce's garage where we carried out servicing on both.



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